

Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme Update – August 2020 (claims to end July)

Introduction & Caveats

The most recent local area Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) data were released by HMRC on 21st August 2020 showing the number of claims for furloughed “employments” made up to 31st July 2020 (the last date for claims for the period to 30th June and the last day before the introduction of flexible furloughing). It is important to note that the data are cumulative totals since the start of the scheme and therefore do not show how many people / jobs in Cumbria are currently furloughed, how many have been furloughed at any one time or how long individuals have been furloughed for.

It is also important to note that the way in which businesses have managed furloughing has an impact on the statistics – for example:

- Employer A furloughs 20 individuals for a single 3-week period and then brings them back into work – this equals 20 furloughs;
- Employer B furloughs the same 20 individuals for 5 x 3-week periods – this also equals 20 furloughs;
- Employer C furloughs 20 staff for 5 x 3-week periods but chooses a different 20 individuals each time – this equals 100 furloughs.

Individuals who are furloughed from more than one job will have each furlough counted separately. Furlough data relate to the residential address of the employee which may not be where the job is located. No data on the characteristics of furloughed workers or the businesses they work for are available for local areas.

Local Area Data

In claims made up to 31st July 2020, 78,200 eligible employments held by Cumbrian residents had been furloughed at least once since the start of the CJRS scheme. This is an increase of 4,800 claims since the end of June, a rise of 6.5% compared to 2.4% nationally. Copeland saw the highest % increase in the number of furloughs claimed for since June - a rise of 13% which is also the highest increase of any district nationally. However, this was from a low base and despite the increase, the furlough rate in Copeland remains significantly below the national average.

The furlough rate in Cumbria (% of eligible jobs furloughed at least once since the start of the scheme) is 34% compared to 32% nationally. South Lakeland (42%) and Eden (41%) have the highest furlough rates in the UK while the rates in Allerdale (36%) and Carlisle (35%) are also both above the national average. Barrow (24%) and Copeland (25%) have rates that are among the lowest in the UK. The furlough rates in Allerdale and Copeland both increased by 3 percentage points from June (to 36% and 25% respectively).

Employments Furloughed										
	Eligible	May-20		Jun-20		Jul-20		Change June-July		
	No	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
UK	30,353,200	8,696,000	29%	9,373,900	31%	9,601,700	32%	227,800	2.4%	1%
Cumbria	227,200	64,000	28%	73,400	32%	78,200	34%	4,800	6.5%	2%
Allerdale	42,900	12,400	29%	14,200	33%	15,300	36%	1,100	7.7%	3%
Barrow	31,600	6,300	20%	7,400	23%	7,700	24%	300	4.1%	1%
Carlisle	52,200	15,100	29%	17,200	33%	18,200	35%	1,000	5.8%	2%
Copeland	30,600	5,800	19%	6,800	22%	7,700	25%	900	13.2%	3%
Eden	23,600	8,000	34%	9,200	39%	9,700	41%	500	5.4%	2%
South Lakeland	46,200	16,500	36%	18,700	40%	19,600	42%	900	4.8%	2%

Source: HMRC

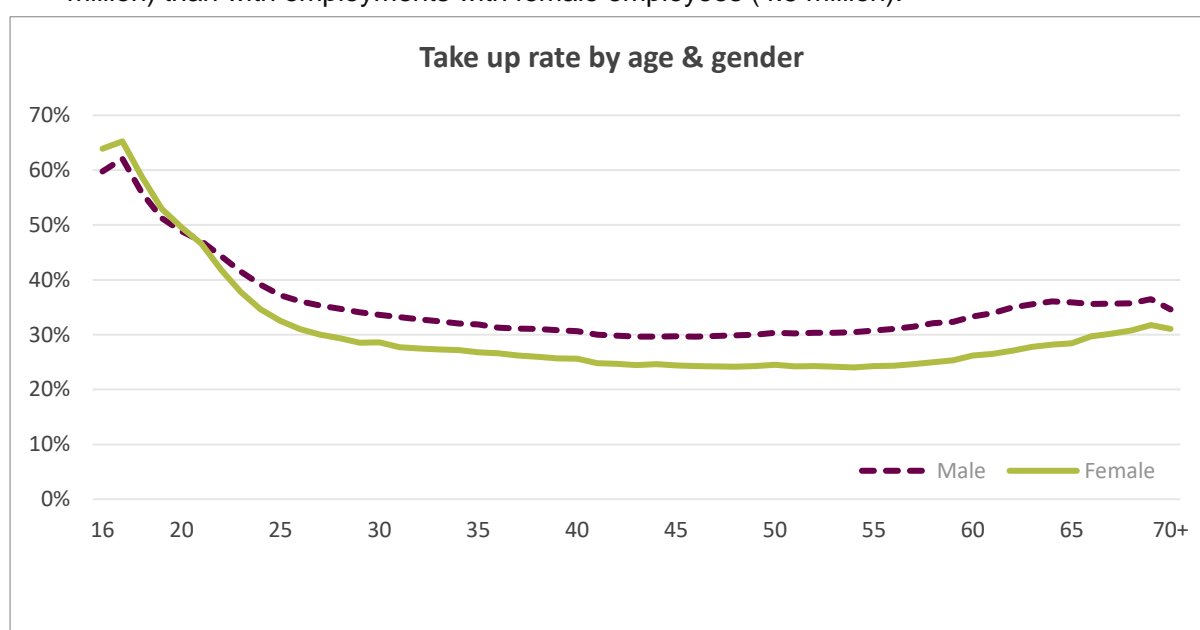
National Data

Key headlines

- an additional 228,000 employments have been claimed for under CJRS since the previous CJRS statistics;
- in total, 9.6 million employments have been furloughed through CJRS (32% of eligible employments) for at least part of the period between March to June. These claims have been made by 1.16 million employers, with 61% of eligible employers claiming;
- 73% of employers with more than 250 employments have made at least one claim, but have furloughed 21% of their employments;
- the accommodation and food services sector has had the highest furlough rate of 77%;
- the wholesale and retail sector furloughed the highest number of employments, at over 1.9 million;
- there has been broad consistency in furlough rates across the nations of the UK. The West Midlands region has the highest take-up rate of 34% against the UK average of 32%;
- men have been furloughed at a higher rate than women: 34% and 29% respectively;
- the number of employments furloughed peaked at 8.9 million on 8 May, then reduced to 6.8 million by 30 June. This peak is lower than the 9.6 million mentioned above since furloughed staff have been furloughed for different periods (and not all at the same time).

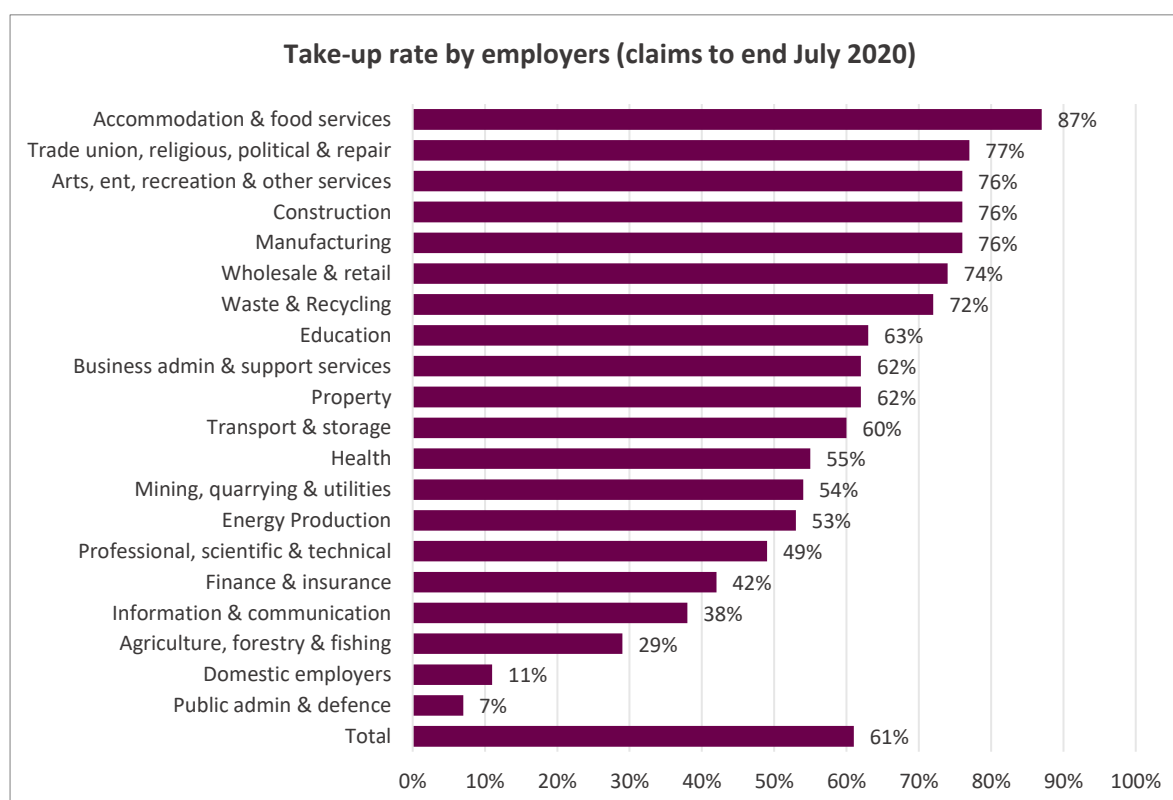
Age & Gender of those furloughed

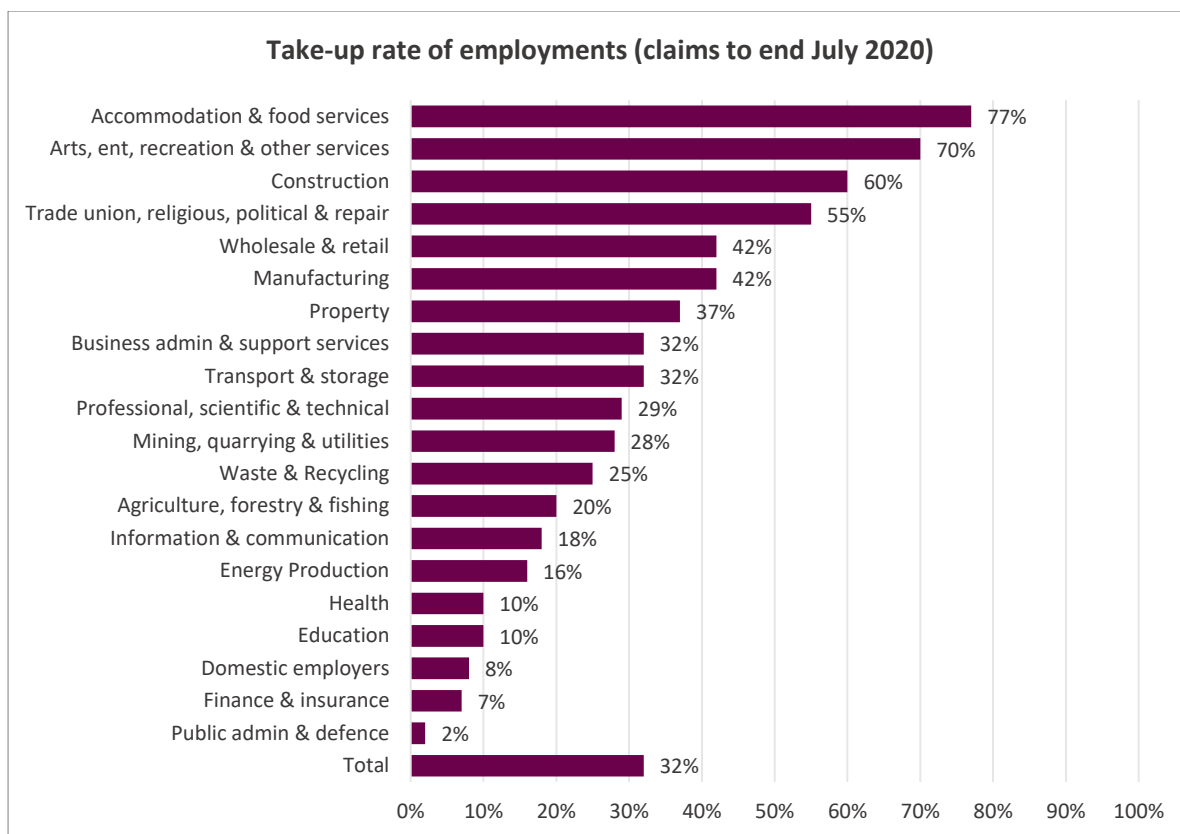
- employees aged 17 were most likely to be furloughed, 64% of those eligible had been furloughed at least once. 65% of employments with a female employee aged 17 were furloughed, the equivalent figure for males was 62%;
- at age 22 and above, females were less likely to be furloughed than males. In part this reflects the sectors that men and women tend to work in, for example, relatively more women work in the education and health sectors which have experienced a relatively low level of furloughing;
- across the age bands and by gender, employments with male employees aged 41 to 54 were least likely to be furloughed (30%), while for females, employments where the employees were aged 43 to 56 were the least likely to be furloughed (24%);
- employees in their 60s and above were more likely to be furloughed than those in their 40s and 50s;
- in absolute terms more employments with male employees have been furloughed (5.1 million) than with employments with female employees (4.5 million).



Sector take-up rates

- the accommodation and food services sector has seen 77% take-up rate in terms of employments, with over £4.7 billion claimed through CJRS. With 87% of employers in this sector furloughing at least one employment;
- wholesale and retail employers have claimed £6 billion through CJRS, with an employment furloughed take-up rate of 42%;
- arts, entertainment, recreation and other services, has seen 76% of employers in this sector furlough at least one employment. With a total of 474,000 employments furloughed in this sector with a take-up rate of 70% claiming £1.3 billion in total;
- not all sectors have seen as high rates of furloughing, with the professional, scientific and technical sector and business administration and support services sector having furlough rates of 29% and 32% respectively;
- 80% of eligible employments within the sale of motor vehicles sector have been furloughed for at least one period of time, amounting to over 184,000 employments furloughed, with £780 million claimed;
- retail sale in non-specialised stores has a take-up rate of just 9%, out of a possible 1.29 million employments eligible to be furloughed;
- the restaurants and mobile food service activities sector has claimed over £2 billion in support through CJRS for furloughing up to the end of June, with 77% of employments furloughed at least once;
- beverage serving activities has seen 96% of employers making use of the scheme, with over 419,000 employments furloughed, and a take-up rate of 85%;
- in the pre-primary education sector 77% of employers have furloughed at least one employment with a total of 34,900 employments furloughed under the scheme and a take-up rate of 62%;
- 87% of furniture manufacturers furloughed at least one employment, with 62,600 employments furloughed in total, a sector take-up rate of 77% of employments.

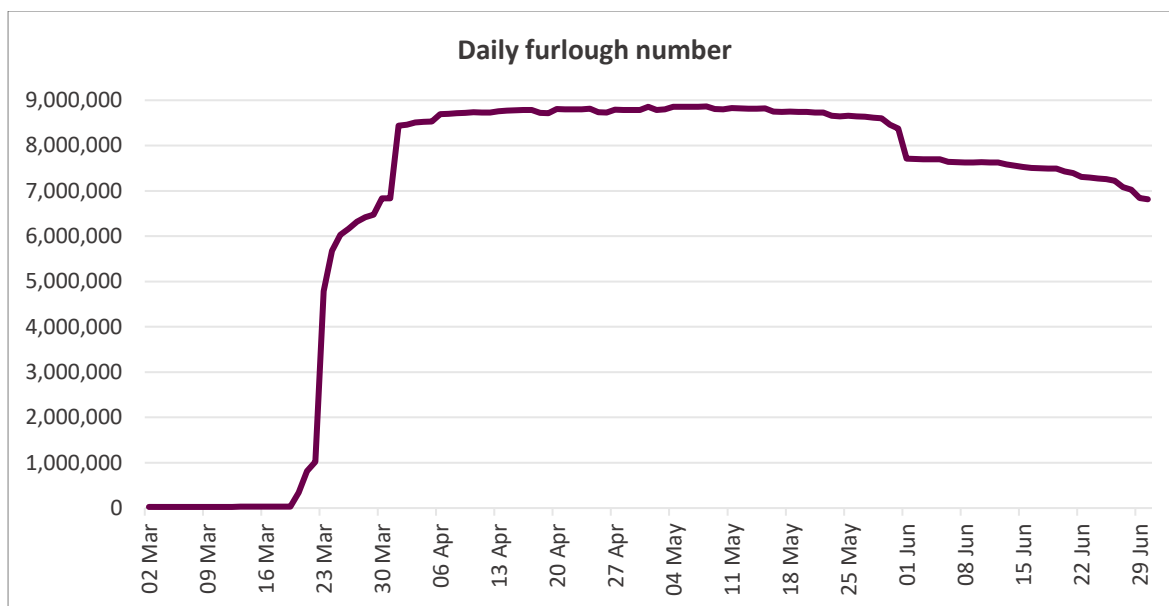




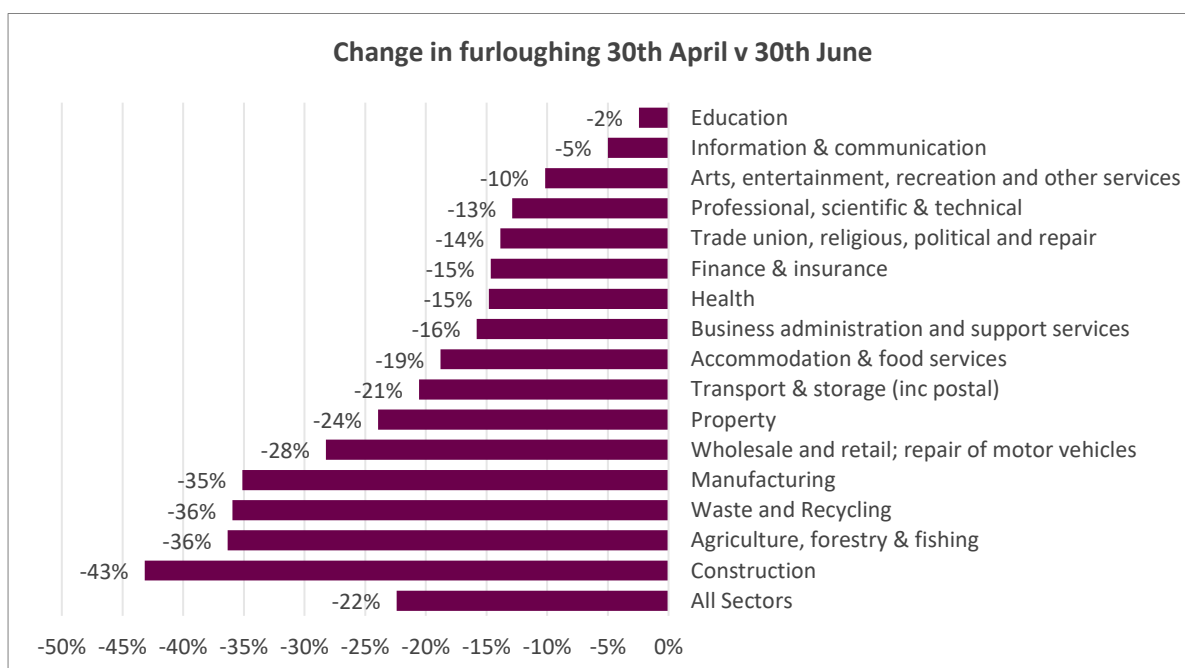
Daily furlough numbers

Although local area data on furlough numbers at a point in time are not available, daily furlough numbers at national level are now provided up to the end of June, including by sector.

- initially the number of employments furloughed increased quickly following the announcement of the scheme, reaching 4.8 million on 23 March and 6.8 million by the end of March;
- following further strong growth at the start of April the number of employments furloughed increased gradually peaking at 8.9 million on 8 May 2020;
- after the early May peak, the number of employments furloughed decreased slowly before a fall of around 670,000 employments at the start of June;
- the number of employments that were furloughed then continued reduce throughout June to 6.8 million on 30 June;
- furloughing of staff in the wholesale and retail sector peaked on 24 April at 1.84 million employments. By 1 June 2020 there had been a net decrease of 361,000 in this sector dropping further to 1.32 million employments furloughed by 30 June;
- accommodation and food services peaked at 1.6 million employments furloughed on 10 April, with a net decline of 319,000 employments to 1.3 million furloughed by 30 June;
- the manufacturing sector had a peak of 908,200 employments furloughed on 17 April, this reduced to 582,600 by 30 June;
- in construction, furloughing peaked on 14 April with 721,000 employments furloughed, with this falling to 403,000 employments on 30 June. This is net decrease of 318,000;
- furloughing in arts and entertainment sector peaked later than other sectors on 15 May 2020 with 461,000 employments furloughed on that date. To 30 June there was been a net decrease of 62,000 employments furloughed in this sector.



Different sectors have peaked at different times but comparing the change in the number of employments furloughed on 30th April with the number furloughed on 30th June gives an indication of how different sectors have reduced their use of the furlough scheme. Overall, furlough numbers fell by 22% but this ranged from a fall of 43% in the construction sector to a fall of just 2% in education.



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Source data: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/coronavirus-job-retention-scheme-statistics-august-2020>