

# Introduction

This briefing contains the most recent data from the standard Claimant Count and Universal Credit registers (both counts taken on <u>8<sup>th</sup> June 2023</u>). The briefing also the latest available data on payrolled employment, job postings, NEETs, business start-ups and active companies.

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, Cumberland Council. Email: <u>ginny.murphy@cumberland.gov.uk</u> Tel: 07826 859026. Copies of this and other briefings can be found on the Observatory website: <u>www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk</u>.

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#### 1. KEY FINDINGS FOR CUMBRIA

- There were estimated to be 222,991 <u>payrolled</u> employees resident in Cumbria in June 2023, an increase of 207 from the revised May figure (0.1%) in contrast to a fall nationally. This means there are 2,584 more residents in payrolled employment than this time last year (1.2%). Note: these data measure those on PAYE payrolls which is not the same as total employment as it doesn't include self-employment or other non-PAYE employment.
- Median monthly payrolled earnings in June 2023 in Cumbria were £2,197 which is 95% of the UK average. They were highest in West Cumbria (103% of UK) but lower in East Cumbria (91% of UK) which is partly to be expected due to the sector balance and the prevalence of part time jobs in the latter area (NB: these are the ITL area definitions which are not the same as those for the new unitary authorities (see page 4).
- Median payrolled earnings growth in Cumbria compared to a year ago was 12.0% which is above the UK (9.7%) and has been stronger in West Cumbria (13.6%) than East Cumbria (11.4%).
- Survey estimates for the year ending March 2023 suggest that the proportion of 16-64 year olds in employment in Cumbria was 76.8% which is above the national average of 75.5% although this is not statistically significant due margins of survey error. The employment rate was higher than a year ago but still lower than before the pandemic.
- The economic inactivity rate (those aged 16-64 who are not working or actively looking for work) was estimated to be 19.7% in the year to March 2023, lower than the national average of 21.7% but within statistical variation.
- There were 6,680 claimants of JSA / UC (out of work and seeking work) on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 which is 60 fewer than the revised May figure. This is in contrast to a rise in claimants nationally. The count rose by 40 in the former district of Carlisle, was unchanged in Copeland and fell elsewhere.
- Compared to the same time last year, the claimant count (actively seeking work) is 395 lower, a fall of 5.6% compared to a rise of 0.2% nationally.
- The claimant rate (actively seeking work) in Cumbria was 2.2% in June 2023 unchanged from May and it remains below the national rate of 3.7% in all the former district areas. The claimant rate in Cumbria is 0.1 ppt lower than a year ago).

- Claimant rates (actively seeking work) are below the national average in all age groups at Cumbria level. However, rates for 18-24 year olds remain above the national average in Barrow (6.2% v 4.8%) but have fallen below the national average again in Allerdale.
- There were 36,267 claimants of Universal Credit in Cumbria on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 (in work, out of work or not required to seek work), a rise of 356 (1.0%) from the revised May figure. This is 2,659 more than a year ago (+7.9%).
- The number of claimants rose in the searching/planning/preparing conditionality group (+26), the working conditionality group (+62) and the no work requirements group (+273).
- The claimant rate for all UC claimants was 12.1% in June 2023 compared to 14.7% nationally and the rate was below the national rate in all 6 former districts. However, UC claimant rates for 18-24 year olds were above the national average in Allerdale, Barrow and Copeland and were also above the national average for 25-34 year olds year olds in Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle and Copeland as well as for 35-44 year olds in Allerdale and Copeland.
- 27,600 of the UC claimants had been claiming for more than 12 months in June 2023, an increase of 372 from May and 2,048 more than a year ago. This means 76% of UC claimants have been claiming for more than a year.
- Data for households on Universal Credit is published quarterly and the latest is for Feb 2023. This shows that in Feb there were 30,644 households in receipt of Universal Credit, up by 1,822 (6.3%) from a year previously.
- There were an estimated 26,230 children/young people under the age of 20 living in Universal Credit households in Feb 2023 which is 2,757 (11.7%) more than a year ago.
- There were 324 young people (aged 16/17) classed as NEET (inc not knowns) in May 2023, down 7 from April. There were 188 NEET/NKs resident in Cumberland and 136 resident in Westmorland & Furness.
- The NEET rate was 3.2% in Cumbria in May 2023, down 0.2ppt from April (England 5.0%). The rate was 3.3% in Cumberland and 3.1% in Westmorland & Furness with the highest rates in the former districts of Barrow (4.7%) and Allerdale (3.4%). NB: these data are now residence-based (previously they used location of the office responsible for tracking).
- The participation rate for 16/17 year olds was 89.9% in Cumberland in May and 92.6% in Westmorland & Furness compared to 92.0% nationally.
- There were 14,478 active online job postings in June 2023, 739 more than the May total (+5.4%) with increases in all former district areas. However, new postings fell by 553 (-11.3%) suggesting that whilst new demand slowed slightly, vacancies were remaining active for longer.
- The occupations most in demand were kitchen & catering assistants, care workers, nurses, cleaners & domestics and sales occupations.
- The sectors accounting for most postings were employment activities (often recruitment companies), health, retail, accommodation and food & beverage services.
- Job-related skills most in demand were housekeeping, nursing, housekeeping, auditing and risk analysis whilst the personal attributes most in demand were communications, customer service and management.
- The recruiting organisations with the most active job postings were the NHS, BAE Systems and Adecco.
- There were 602 small business start-ups in the quarter ending May 2023 which is 121 more than last quarter and 21 more than the same quarter last year.
- Start-ups were highest in real estate & professional services (128), recreation, personal & community services (111), construction (83), and wholesale & retail (78).
- There were 215 new Companies House incorporations in May 2023, a rise of 24 from Apr and 1 more than in May last year.
- There were 30,690 active companies in Cumbria at the end of June 2023, 45 fewer than in May.
- There were 187 businesses newly recorded as dissolved/in liquidation during June 2023.
- Of the active businesses in June 2023, 2,053 had posted financial results showing a 10% increase in employment and/or turnover in their most recent accounts (6.7% of businesses) whilst 1,346 had posted results showing a 10% decline in one or both measures (4.4% of all businesses) (note: the majority of businesses do not file detailed financial accounts).
- In June 2023, 60.5% of Cumbria's companies on the Red Flag Alert system that had a score were rated as having Red Flags or Provisional Red Flags. This is higher than the national average of 48%, mostly due to Cumbria having more provisionally rated companies (those with only one set of accounts on which to base a score).

# 2. NATIONAL LABOUR MARKET OVERVIEW (Source: ONS release)

NB: Unless stated otherwise, the unemployment figures in the national overview use a surveybased method of calculation which includes non-claimants and is measured over a quarterly period using the economically active population as denominator. This is very different from the monthly claimant-based method used for local areas and can produce different trends. Therefore these figures <u>should not</u> be compared to the local area data.

- March to May 2023 estimates show increases in the employment rate and the unemployment rate compared with the previous quarter (December 2022 to February 2023) while the economic inactivity rate decreased.
- The UK employment rate was estimated at 76.0%, 0.2 percentage points higher than the previous quarter and 0.6 percentage points lower than before the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic (December 2019 to February 2020). The quarterly increase was mainly attributed to part time employees.
- The UK unemployment rate was estimated at 4.0%, 0.2 percentage points higher than the previous quarter, and has risen to pre-pandemic levels. The increase was driven by people unemployed for up to 12 months.
- The UK economic inactivity rate was estimated at 20.8%, 0.4 percentage points lower than the previous quarter and 0.6 percentage points higher than before the pandemic. This was driven largely by those inactive for other reasons (not including ill health), looking after family or home, and those who are retired.
- Total hours worked increased in the latest quarter and is above pre-coronavirus pandemic levels.
- The number of vacancies in April to June 2023 was 1,034,000, a decrease of 85,000 from January to March 2023.
- Vacancy numbers fell on the quarter for the 12th consecutive period in April to June 2023, down by 7.6% since January to March 2023, with vacancies falling in every quarter of the last year.
- In April to June 2023, total vacancies were down by 265,000 from the level of a year ago, although they remained 232,000 above their pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) January to March 2020 levels.
- In March to May 2023, the number of unemployed people per vacancy was 1.3, up from 1.1 the previous quarter (December 2022 to February 2023) as the number of vacancies fell while unemployment rose.
- Growth in employees' average total pay (including bonuses) was 6.9% and growth in regular pay (excluding bonuses) was 7.3% in March to May 2023; for regular pay this equals the highest growth rate, which was also seen last month and then during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic period for April to June 2021.
- Growth in total and regular pay fell in real terms (adjusted for inflation) on the year in March to May 2023, by 1.2% for total pay and 0.8% for regular pay.
- In March to May 2023, average regular pay growth for the private sector was 7.7%, this is the largest growth rate seen outside of the pandemic period; for the public sector this was 5.8%, a larger growth rate was last seen in September to November 2001 (5.9%).
- The finance and business services sector saw the largest regular growth rate at 9.0%, followed by the manufacturing sector at 7.8%; this is the highest regular growth rate we have seen for the manufacturing sector since comparable records began in 2001.

# 3. PAYROLLED EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS

These data are from HMRC's Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) system. They cover employees payrolled by employers and not self-employment income or income from other sources such as pensions. This data is <u>not a measure of total employment</u> and can be influenced by administrative changes such as the IR35 reforms introduced in April 2021. Payrolled employees are recorded at their place of residence not work and latest month figures are a "flash estimate" and revised in the subsequent publication. Furloughed employees <u>were</u> included in the counts. Unless otherwise stated, figures here are seasonally adjusted.

NB: District data are released quarterly, the ITL areas of West Cumbria (Allerdale, Copeland, Barrow) and East Cumbria (Carlisle, Eden, South Lakeland) are released monthly.

#### 3a. Payrolled employees (seasonally adjusted)

There were estimated to be 222,991 residents in Cumbria in payrolled employment in June 2023, an increase of 207 from the revised May total and 2,584 more than a year ago, an annual increase of 1.2% compared to 1.5% nationally.

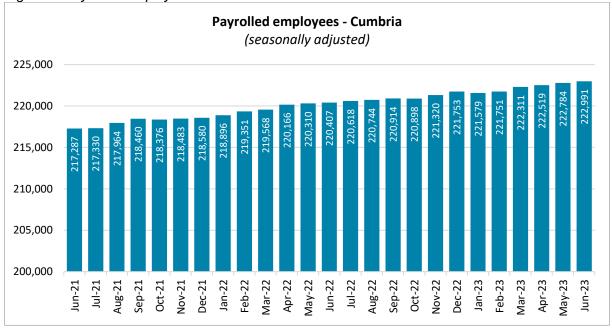


Figure 1: Payrolled employees - Cumbria

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	Payrolled	employees (	seasonally a	djusted)		
		June 2023	Month ch	ange	One year	change
		No	No	%	No	%
	UK	30,043,825	-9,261	0.0%	438,961	1.5%
	England	25,497,018	-11,589	0.0%	382,101	1.5%
	Cumbria	222,991	207	0.1%	2,584	1.2%
	West Cumbria ITL	103,430	146	0.1%	928	0.9%
	East Cumbria ITL	119,561	60	0.1%	1,656	1.4%

## Figure 2: Payrolled employees – Seasonally adjusted

Source: HMRC / ONS. District data are only released quarterly. Latest month data are provisional.

These charts show the % annual change in payrolled employees each month (seasonally adjusted) compared to the same month the previous year. NB: district / unitary data only updated quarterly.

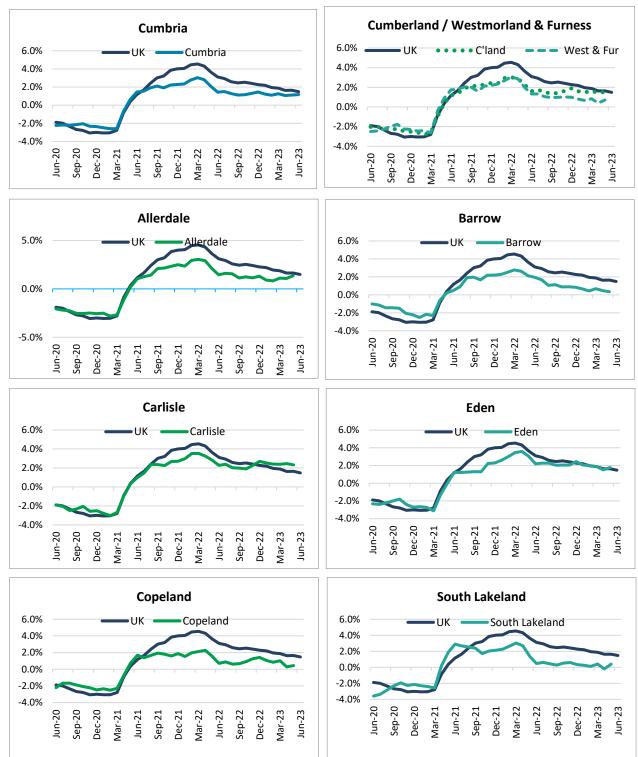
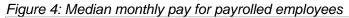


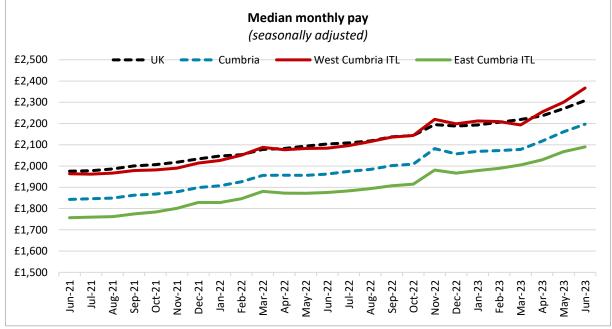
Figure 3: % change in employees from same month previous year (seasonally adjusted)

Source: HMRC / ONS. District data are released quarterly. Latest month data are provisional.

#### 3b. Median monthly pay (seasonally adjusted)

Median monthly pay for employees in Cumbria was £2,197 in June 2023 which is 95% of the UK average. There was a variation between West and East Cumbria with earnings in West Cumbria (Allerdale, Copeland, Barrow) above the UK average (103%) but those in East Cumbria (Carlisle, Eden, South Lakeland) only 91%. Median earnings data are not available for the unitary areas.





Source: HMRC / ONS. Latest month data are always provisional. Unitary data are not available.

	Median pay (seasonally adjusted)													
	June 2023	UK Index	Month	change	One yea	ar change								
No Index No % No %														
UK	2,308	100	38	1.7%	204	9.7%								
Cumbria	2,197	95	36	1.7%	235	12.0%								
West Cumbria ITL	2,367	103	67	2.9%	283	13.6%								
East Cumbria ITL	2,090	91	22	1.1%	214	11.4%								

#### Figure 5: Median pay for payrolled employees

Source: HMRC / ONS. District data are only released quarterly. Unitary data are not available. Latest month data are always provisional.

# 4. CLAIMANT COUNT (released <u>monthly</u>) – count taken 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**Important notes:** The phased rollout of UC means that claimant count trends over time can be misleading as a broader span of people are required to seek work than under JSA. In addition, the easing of UC claimant conditions in response to COVID-19 means that more people were able to claim than previously and in some (not all) cases, those who were furloughed or were self-employed were included in the "searching for work" category and therefore in the claimant count. It is not possible to identify the extent of this. Local area data are not seasonally adjusted and therefore the national data used in this part of the briefing is also not seasonally adjusted.

<u>Please see Appendix 1 at the end of the briefing for ward level data and data for Community Panel /</u> <u>Locality Board areas.</u>

There was a fall of 60 in the number of claimants seeking work in Cumbria in June compared to the revised May figure, down to a total of 6,680. This is a monthly decrease of 0.9% compared to a national rise of 1.5%. The count rose by 40 in the former district of Carlisle, was unchanged in Copeland and fell elsewhere. The claimant rate in June in Cumbria was 2.2% which is below the national rate of 3.7% and is unchanged from May. The claimant count at county level is 395 lower than a year ago and the rate is 0.1ppt lower.

	Mal	e	Fema	le	All Pers	sons		thly Cha I persor	•	Annual Change (all persons)		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% chg	Rate chg	No	% chg	Rate chg
UK	884,220	4.3	667,675	3.1	1,551,895	3.7	22,805	1.5	0.1	3,395	0.2	0.0
Cumbria	3,845	2.6	2,840	1.9	6,680	2.2	-60	-0.9	0.0	-395	-5.6	-0.1
Cumberland	2,390	2.9	1,775	2.1	4,165	2.5	-10	-0.3	0.0	-160	-3.7	-0.1
Allerdale	795	2.8	650	2.3	1,445	2.5	-50	-3.4	-0.1	75	5.4	0.1
Carlisle	995	3.0	740	2.2	1,730	2.6	40	2.3	0.1	-210	-10.7	-0.3
Copeland	600	3.0	390	1.9	990	2.4	0	0.0	0.0	-25	-2.4	-0.1
Westmorland & Furness	1,455	2.2	1,060	1.6	2,515	1.9	-50	-1.9	0.0	-235	-8.5	-0.2
Barrow	760	3.7	485	2.4	1,245	3.0	-5	-0.4	0.0	-35	-2.7	-0.1
Eden	255	1.6	225	1.4	485	1.5	-30	-6.2	-0.1	-85	-14.6	-0.3
South Lakeland	440	1.5	350	1.1	785	1.3	-15	-1.6	0.0	-120	-13.0	-0.2
of which LDNPA	145	1.2	115	1.0	265	1.1	-10	-4.0	0.0	-75	-22.6	-0.3

#### Figure 5: Standard Claimant Count – June 2023

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.

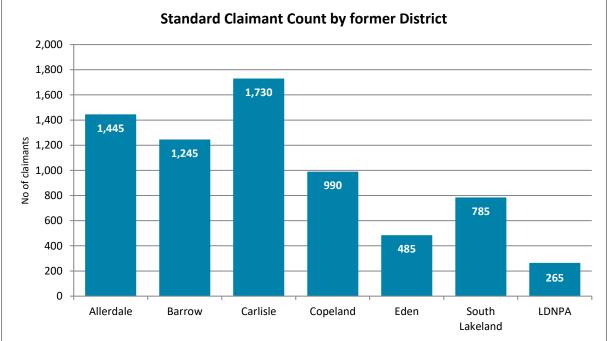
Figure 2 shows the claimant count and rate by broad age group in June. Claimant rates at Cumbria level are below the national average for all age groups and this is also the case for all districts with the exception of 18-24 year olds in Barrow where the rate remains well above the national average (6.2% v 4.8%). The rate in Allerdale has fallen below the national average again.

Figure 6: S	tandard Claimar	nt Count & F	Rate by	<sup>,</sup> Age Grou	o in	Cumbria – June	2023

	Aged 1	8-24	Aged 25-34		Aged 3	5-44	Aged 4	5-54	Aged 5	5-64	Total	
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate
UK	264,175	4.8%	412,650	4.6%	377,990	4.3%	259,425	2.9%	233,810	2.7%	1,551,895	3.7%
Cumbria	1,200	3.7%	1,850	3.3%	1,535	2.8%	1,005	1.5%	1,080	1.4%	6,680	2.2%
Cumberland	700	3.8%	1,205	3.8%	945	3.1%	615	1.7%	690	1.7%	4,165	2.5%
Allerdale	275	4.5%	410	4.0%	320	3.1%	195	1.5%	245	1.7%	1,445	2.5%
Carlisle	240	3.0%	535	3.9%	415	3.2%	275	1.9%	265	1.7%	1,730	2.6%
Copeland	185	4.2%	265	3.4%	215	3.0%	145	1.6%	180	1.7%	990	2.4%
Westmorland & Furness	500	3.5%	645	2.6%	585	2.5%	390	1.3%	390	1.1%	2,515	1.9%
Barrow	310	6.2%	345	3.9%	260	3.5%	160	1.8%	170	1.8%	1,245	3.0%
Eden	65	2.0%	105	1.9%	130	2.3%	90	1.2%	90	1.0%	485	1.5%
South Lakeland	130	2.1%	190	1.8%	195	1.8%	140	1.0%	130	0.8%	785	1.3%
of which LDNPA	25	1.1%	65	2.0%	75	1.9%	55	1.0%	35	0.5%	265	1.1%

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.





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

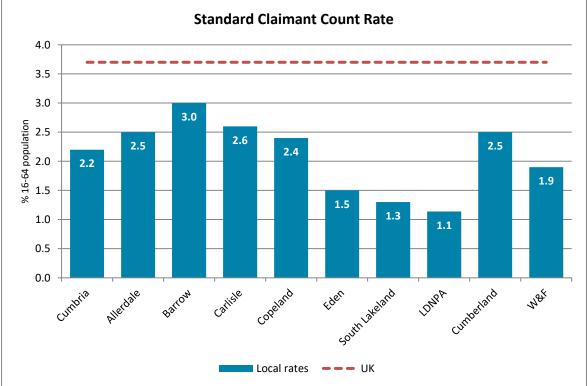


Figure 8: Standard Claimant Count Rate – former districts, June 2023

Source: ONS/DWP

Figure 9: Standard Claimant Count - timeseries

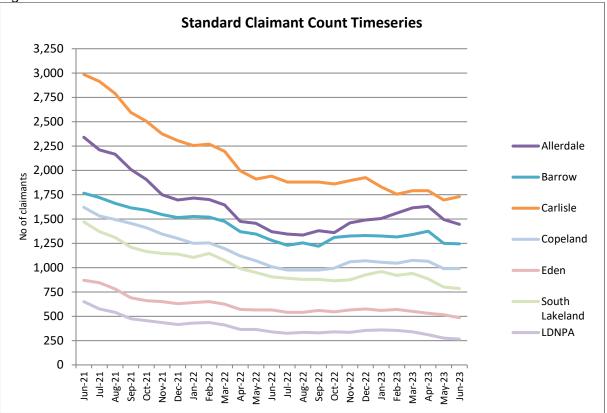
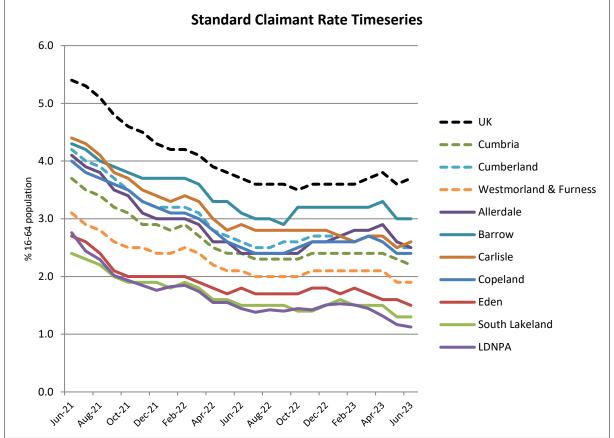


Figure 10: Standard Claimant Rate - timeseries



Source: ONS/DWP

# 5. UNIVERSAL CREDIT (released <u>monthly</u>) – count taken 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023

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. Note: due to the phased rollout of UC, care should be taken when comparing change over time.

<u>Please see Appendix 1 at the end of the briefing for ward level data and data for Community Panel</u> / Locality Board areas.

#### 5a. Individuals on Universal Credit

On 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023 there were 36,267 people on Universal Credit in Cumbria (both in work and out of work). This is a rise of 356 from the revised May total (+1.0%) and 2,659 more than a year before (+7.9%). The count rose from last month in all the former district areas. The number of people searching/planning/preparing for work rose by 26, the number claiming while in work rose by 62 and the number with no work requirements rose by 273. The latest total means that 12.1% of the working age population is claiming Universal Credit compared to a national rate of 14.7%. The overall rate is below the national average in all parts of Cumbria. However, UC claimant rates for 18-24 year olds were above the national average in Allerdale, Barrow and Copeland and were also above the national average for 25-34 year olds in Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle and Copeland as well as for 35-44 year olds in Allerdale and Copeland.

	Mal	е	Fema	ale	All Per	sons	Monthly Change (all persons)			Annual Change (all persons)		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% chg	Rate chg	No	% chg	Rate chg
Great Britain	2,573,200	12.8%	3,437,451	16.5%	6,010,704	14.7%	83,515	1.4%	0.2%	457,547	8.2%	1.1%
Cumbria	15,315	10.3%	20,950	13.9%	36,267	12.1%	356	1.0%	0.1%	2,659	7.9%	0.9%
Cumberland	9,715	11.9%	13,268	16.0%	22,983	14.0%	218	1.0%	0.1%	1,554	7.3%	0.9%
Allerdale	3,458	12.4%	4,827	16.8%	8,279	14.6%	55	0.7%	0.1%	482	6.2%	0.8%
Carlisle	3,760	11.3%	5,209	15.2%	8,975	13.3%	107	1.2%	0.2%	699	8.4%	1.0%
Copeland	2,495	12.3%	3,232	16.0%	5,730	14.2%	57	1.0%	0.1%	372	6.9%	0.9%
Westmorland & Furness	5,604	8.4%	7,684	11.4%	13,289	9.9%	137	1.0%	0.1%	1,114	9.1%	0.8%
Barrow	2,539	12.2%	3,220	15.7%	5,757	13.9%	49	0.9%	0.1%	500	9.5%	1.2%
Eden	1,043	6.5%	1,601	9.9%	2,645	8.2%	20	0.8%	0.1%	265	11.1%	0.8%
South Lakeland	2,018	6.7%	2,859	9.4%	4,878	8.1%	64	1.3%	0.1%	335	7.4%	0.6%
of which LDNPA	802	6.9%	1,130	9.8%	1,931	8.3%	24	1.3%	0.1%	109	6.0%	0.5%

Figure 11: Universal Credit Claimants – June 2023 and monthly / annual change

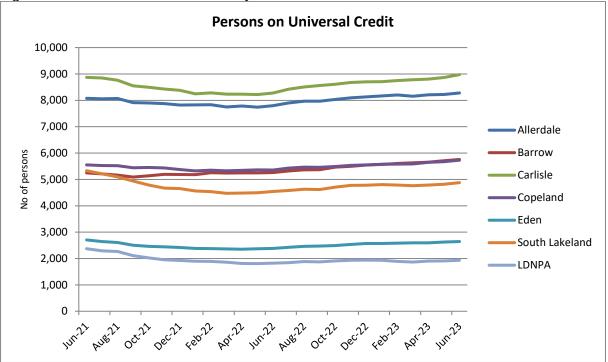
Source: DWP (due to disclosure control, gender totals may not sum to overall total): LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 12: Universal Credit Claimants by Age – June 2023

	Universal Credit Claimant Count and Rate by Age													
	Aged	18-24	Aged 2	25-34	Aged 3	5-44	Aged 4	5-54	Aged	55+	Total			
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate		
Great Britain	696,236	12.9%	1,676,966	19.1%	1,648,953	19.5%	1,070,876	12.4%	909,412	11.0%	6,010,704	14.7%		
Cumbria	4,248	13.0%	10,592	18.8%	9,478	17.4%	6,129	9.1%	5,764	7.5%	36,267	12.1%		
Cumberland	2,578	14.1%	6,809	21.4%	5,983	19.6%	3,843	10.4%	3,735	9.0%	22,983	14.0%		
Allerdale	977	16.1%	2,326	22.5%	2,079	20.4%	1,453	11.0%	1,439	9.7%	8,279	14.6%		
Carlisle	945	12.0%	2,843	20.7%	2,405	18.4%	1,471	10.1%	1,306	8.2%	8,975	13.3%		
Copeland	655	15.0%	1,642	21.4%	1,504	20.7%	913	10.1%	995	9.3%	5,730	14.2%		
Westmorland & Furness	1,668	11.6%	3,785	15.4%	3,501	14.7%	2,287	7.4%	2,027	5.7%	13,289	9.9%		
Barrow	895	17.9%	1,794	20.3%	1,397	18.6%	865	9.6%	804	8.4%	5,757	13.9%		
Eden	259	8.0%	717	13.2%	724	12.9%	484	6.3%	459	5.0%	2,645	8.2%		
South Lakeland	521	8.5%	1,270	12.4%	1,379	12.8%	939	6.6%	765	4.5%	4,878	8.1%		
of which LDNPA	142	6.0%	476	14.4%	587	14.7%	382	6.6%	340	4.8%	1,931	8.3%		

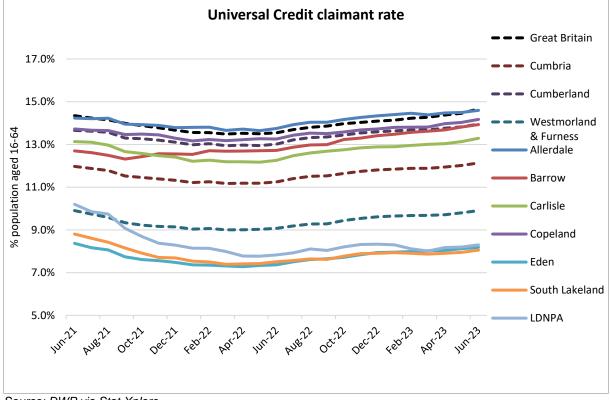
Source: DWP (due to disclosure control, age totals may not sum to overall total): LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.





Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore (LDPNA claimants are also included in the relevant district)





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 either the working conditionality group or the group with no work requirements (due to poor health or caring responsibilities). In June 2023 the number of people searching/planning/preparing for work rose by 26, the number claiming while in work rose by 62 and the number with no work requirements rose by 273.

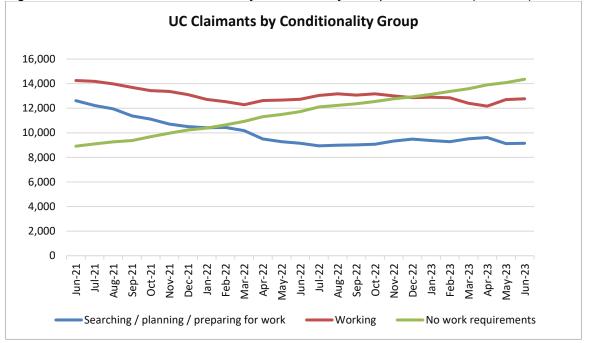


Figure 15: Universal Credit Claimants by Conditionality Group – timeseries (Cumbria)

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

In June 2023, three quarters of UC claimants (27,600) had been claiming for over 12 months an annual increase of 2,048 (8.0%). The highest proportions of these long term claimants were in the working and no work requirements conditionality groups (33% and 44% of the total respectively), although they may have been in different groups during their claim. Long term claimants now make up 76% of all UC claimants compared to 70% in June 2021.

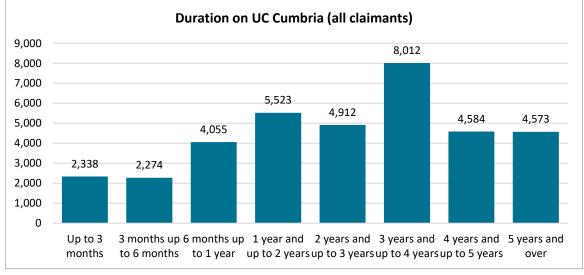


Figure 16: Duration on UC (Cumbria) – June 2023

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

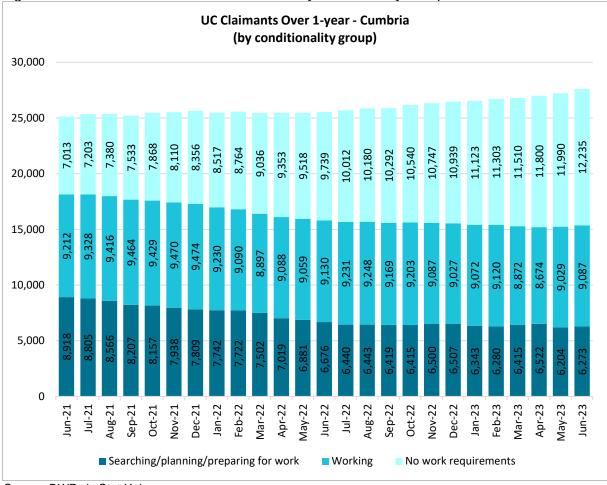


Figure 17: Claimants on UC for over 12 months by Conditionality Group

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

# 5b. <u>Starts</u> to Universal Credit (next data release Aug)

The data presented so far relate to the <u>stock</u> of Universal Credit claimants at a point in time (ie the total number of claimants irrespective of how long they have been claiming). The following data relate just to those who <u>started</u> claims in the period. Geographic analysis is based on the JCP office to which the original claim was made. These figures are only released once a quarter.

The number of starts on Universal Credit is primarily influenced by labour market conditions but there is also some element of administrative effect as claimants moving onto UC from other benefits also count as a new start (it is not possible to separate the two in the data). The data show that the number of UC claim starts varies from month to month and levels in Apr 23 were at the highest level since last October.

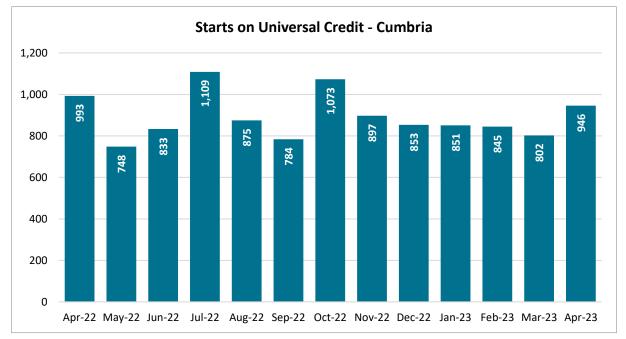
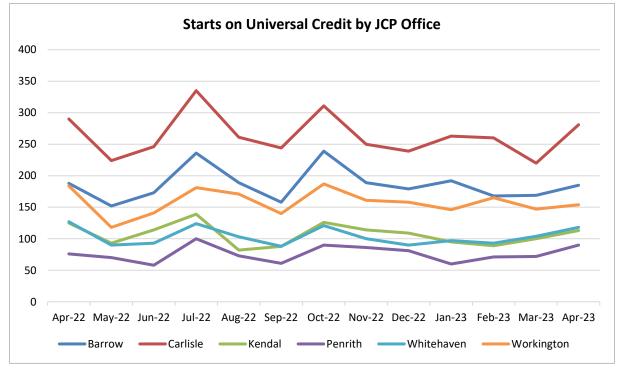


Figure 18: Monthly Starts to Universal Credit - timeseries

Figure 19: Starts on Universal Credit by JCP Office - timeseries



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

## 5c. Households on Universal Credit (next data release Aug)

Data for **households** on Universal Credit are only released quarterly which puts them out of line with the data for individuals. The most recent household data are for <u>Feb 2023</u> when there were 30,664 households on Universal Credit in Cumbria, a rise of 1,822 from the same month the previous year (6.3%). The number of households on UC rose year on year in all 6 districts in Cumbria with the biggest percentage increases in Eden (+9.5%), Barrow (+8.2%) and South Lakeland (+7.7%).

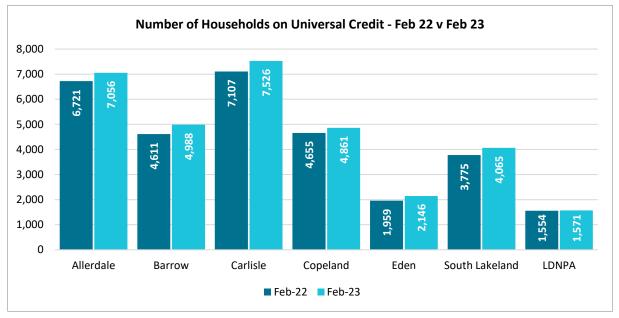


Figure 20: Number of Households on Universal Credit by former district

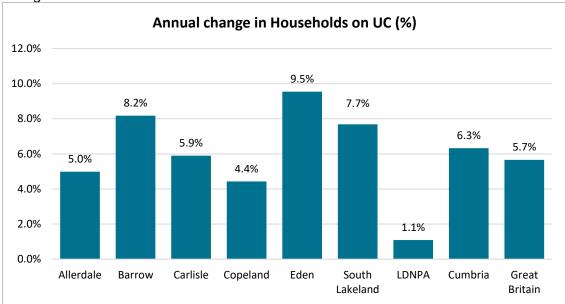
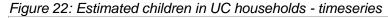
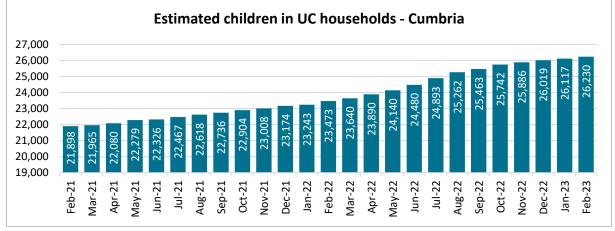


Figure 21: Annual % increase in Households on Universal Credit

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of area within NP. LDNPA claimants are also included in the relevant district

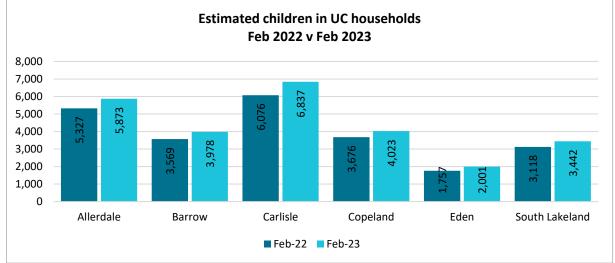
An estimated 26,230 children in Cumbria were living in UC households in Feb 2023. The number has risen by 2,757 (11.7%) from Feb the previous year. The number of households containing children has increased by 11% year on year compared to 3% rise in households without children. More specifically, single person households with children have increased by 13% year on year. Note: a child is anyone declared as living in a household on UC who is under 20 and whose details have been verified by DWP





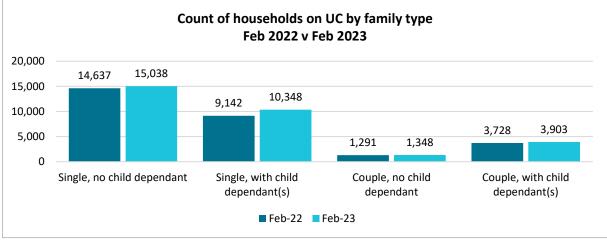
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore





Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore





Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

# 6. NEETs & Participation (released monthly)

## 6a. 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 also classed as NEET.

In May 2023, 324 16-17 year olds were classed as NEET in Cumbria (225 NEET and 99 whose status was Not Known). The highest number of NEET/NKs was in the former district of Carlisle where there were 74 followed by Barrow where there were 70. *NB: data are now based on the <u>resident location</u> of the young person which is a change from the previous method which used the location of the office responsible for monitoring. As a result, data prior to Sept 2022 are not consistent with the data shown here and these data may not be the same as those used in other publications.* 

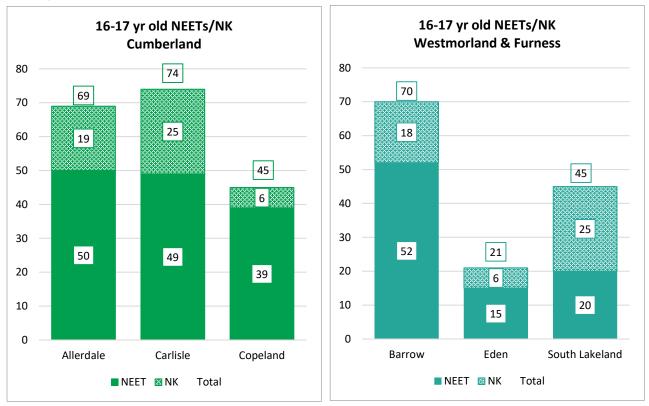
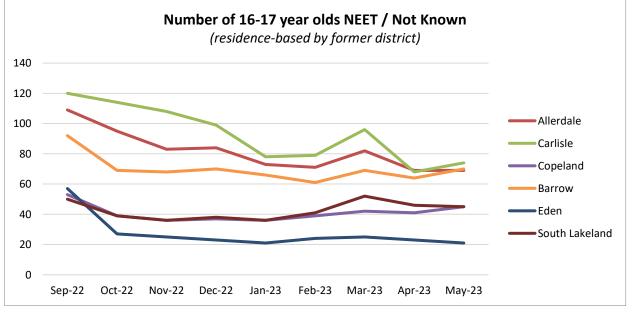


Figure 25: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, May 2023

Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory





Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

The county NEET/NK rate (% of cohort) was 3.2% in May 2023 compared to an England rate of 5.0%. The highest local rates were in in the former districts of Barrow (4.7%) and Allerdale (3.4%). The NEET rate in Cumbria was down 0.2ppt from April.

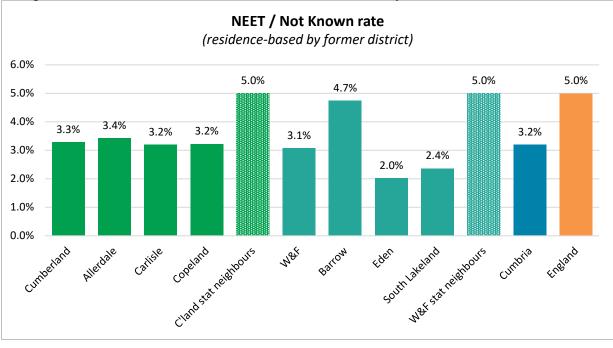
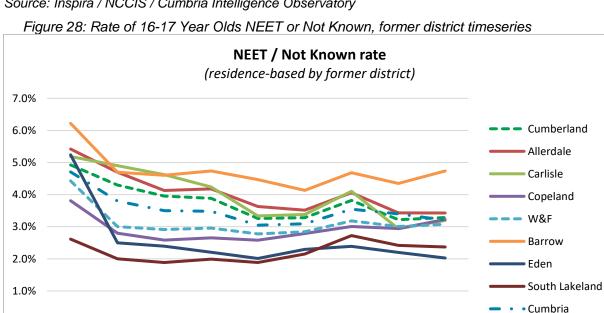


Figure 27: Rate of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, May 2023

Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory



Feb-23 Mar-23 Apr-23 May-23

Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

Sep-22 Oct-22 Nov-22 Dec-22 Jan-23

0.0%

#### 6b. Participation

The Education & Skills Act 2008 introduced a requirement for young people to remain in education or training until at least their 18<sup>th</sup> 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 May 2023, 91.1% of young people in Cumbria were classed as meeting the participation requirement compared to 92.0% for England. The highest participation rate was in the former district of South Lakeland (95.5%) and the lowest in Barrow (87.1%).

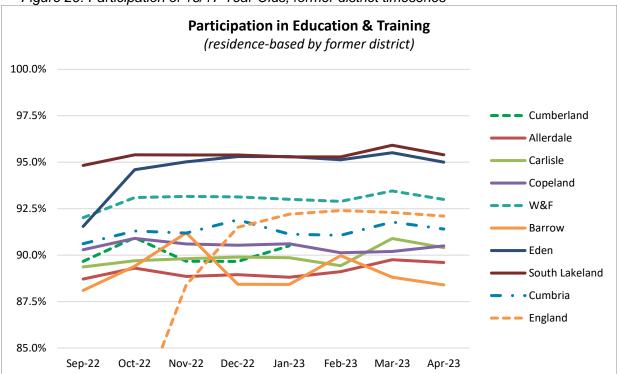
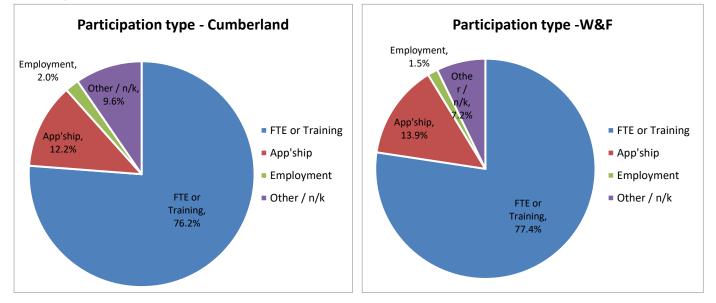


Figure 29: Participation of 16/17 Year Olds, former district timeseries

Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

Figure 30: Participation of 16/17 Year Olds, by activity type



Source: NCCIS

# 7. JOB POSTINGS

The following data are drawn from Lightcast<sup>™</sup> Analyst, 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 posting to provide analysis on occupations and skills.

During June 2023 there were 14,478 active job postings in Cumbria, 4,184 of which were new postings during the month. The number of active postings was 739 higher than in May (+5.4%) but the number of new postings was 533 lower (-11.3%) suggesting that once again vacancies are not being filled quickly as demand has risen.

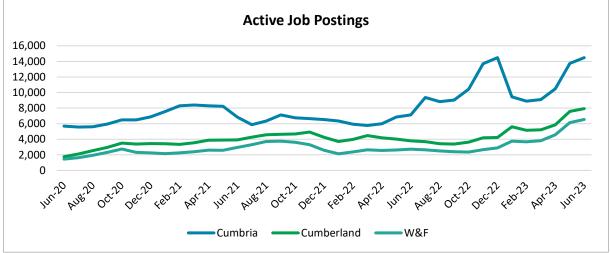


Figure 31: Active job postings by month

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst

The most commonly advertised jobs were for kitchen & catering assistants, care workers, nurses, cleaners & domestics and sales occupations.

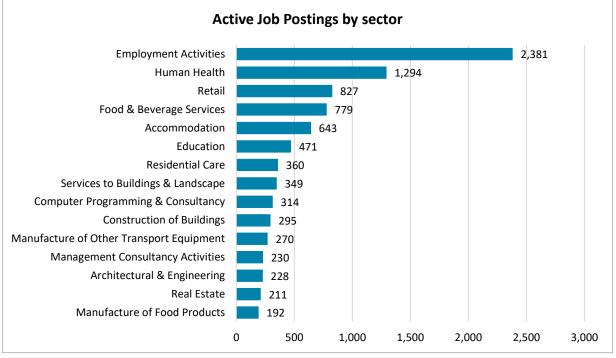
Figure 32: Job postings by occupation – June 2023



Source: Lightcast™ Analyst

The sector posting the most vacancies was employment activities (most of these will be recruitment agencies where the sector of the actual job cannot be determined). This was followed by health, retail, food & beverage services and accommodation.

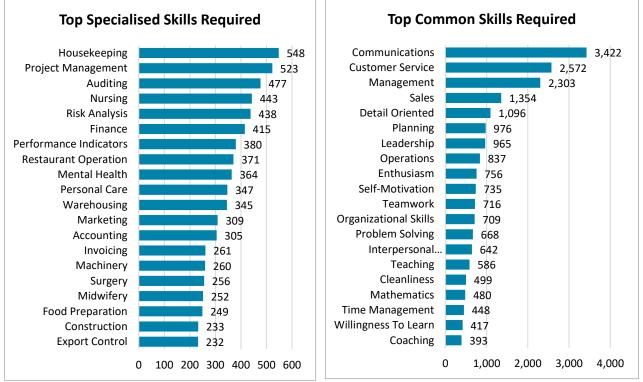
Figure 33: Job postings by sector – June 2023





The web scraping software analyses key words about job requirements and where possible classifies them as "specialised skills" which are those specific to a job role and as "common skills" which are typically self-developed / personal attributes that candidates need.

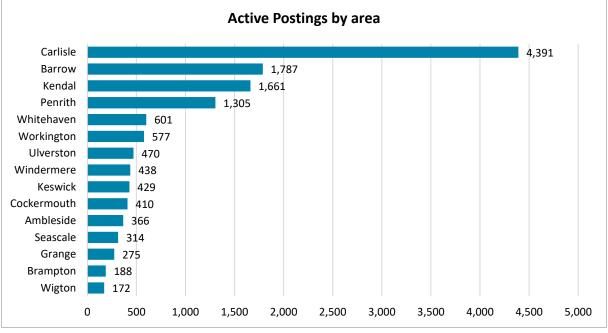
Figure 34: Skills required – June 2023



Source: Lightcast™ Analyst

Active postings rose in all of the former district areas in June and the specific locations mentioned most frequently in postings were Carlisle, Barrow, Kendal and Penrith.

Figure 35: Job location – June 2023



Source: Lightcast™ Analyst

As is usually the case, the NHS advertised the most vacancies during the month (1,034) followed by BAE Systems and Adecco.



Figure 36: Recruiting organisation – June 2023

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst

# 8. BUSINESS START-UPS

#### 8a. Small 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. In addition, the dataset now includes Neobank / Challenger bank starts. 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 institutions other than those mentioned.

There were 188 business start-ups in Cumbria in May 2023, a rise of 19 from April but 5 fewer than the same month last year. Over the quarter (Mar-May) there were 602 start-ups which is 121 more than last quarter and 21 more than the same quarter last year.

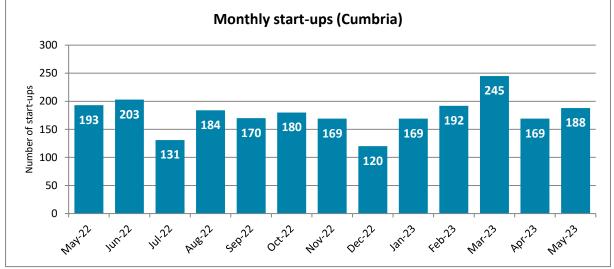


Figure 37: Monthly Start-Ups (number)

The highest volume of start-ups in the quarter (Mar-May) was in real estate, prof services & support activities (128) followed by recreation, personal & community services (111), construction (83) and retail & wholesale (78).

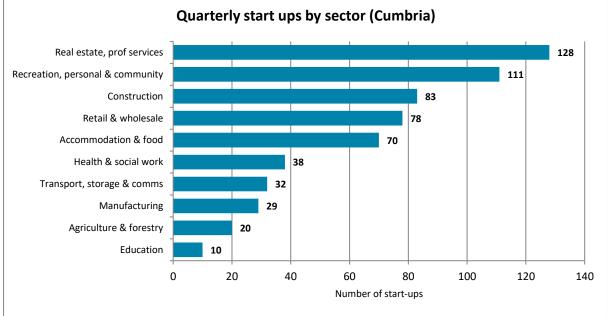
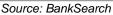


Figure 38: Quarterly start-ups by sector



Source: BankSearch

#### 8b: 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 businesses.

There were 215 new Companies House incorporations in May 2023, a rise of 24 from Apr and 1 more than the same month last year. New registrations rose from last month in all former districts except Barrow where they were unchanged and Eden where there were 3 fewer.

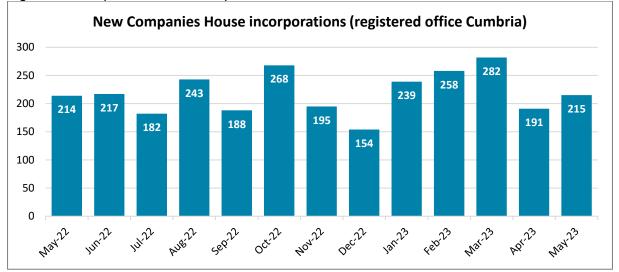


Figure 39: Companies House Incorporations in Cumbria - timeseries

Source: BankSearch, data relate to registered office address.

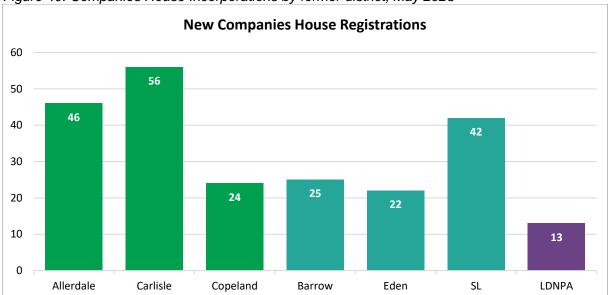


Figure 40: Companies House Incorporations by former district, May 2023

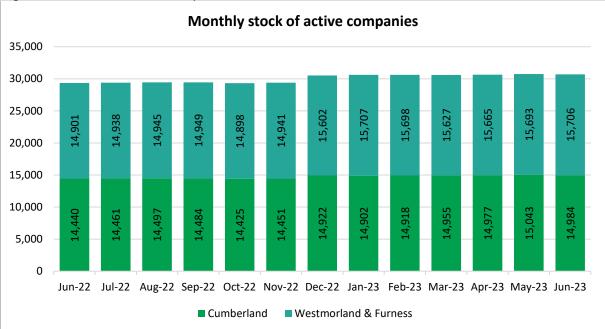
Source: BankSearch Note 1: LDNPA area is a "best-fit" comprising wards with 50%+ of area within NP. Note 2: LDNPA starts are also counted in the relevant district. Note 3: Data relate to registered office address.

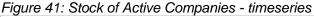
# 9. COMPANIES HOUSE STOCK – ACTIVE, DISSOLVED, FINANCIAL HEALTH

#### 9a Companies House stock, dissolved, growth

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.

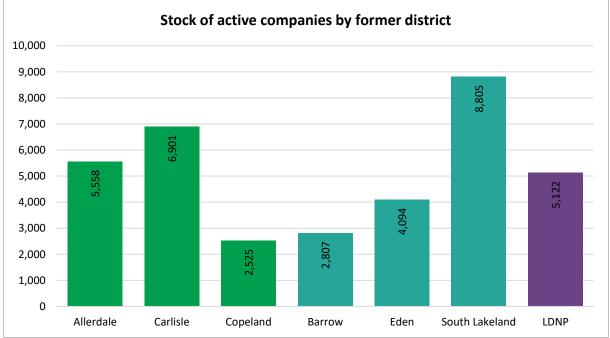
At the end of June 2023 there were 30,690 entries on the FAME database for Cumbria, a decrease of 46 from last month. There were 187 dissolutions/liquidations which is 6 fewer than last month and the average for the year to date compared to the the same period last year is slightly down.



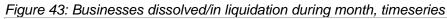


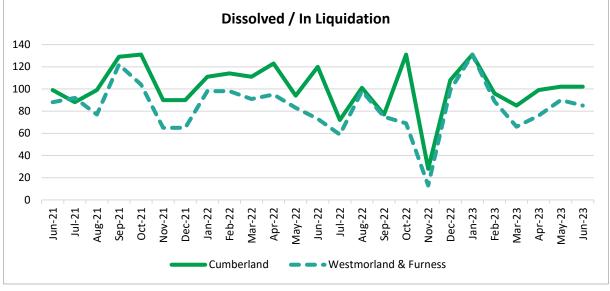
Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)





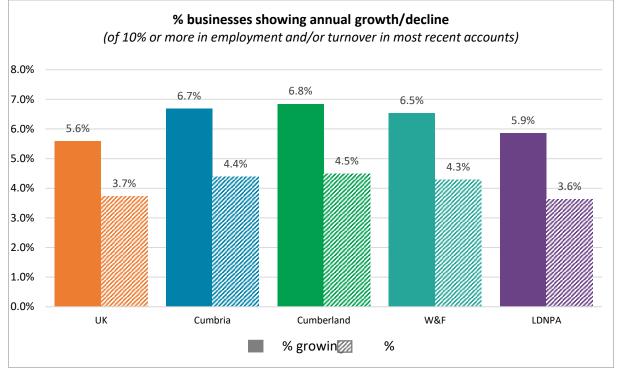
Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk) Note: LDNPA also included in relevant district





Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

Of the businesses which were active in Cumbria in June, 2,053 had shown an increase of 10% in either employment or turnover in their most recent accounts whilst 1,346 had shown a decrease. This repesents 6.7% of businesses growing on one or both measures and 4.4% declining. In both cases these percentages are higher than for the UK as a whole. (NB: the majority of businesses do not file detailed accounts at Companies House. Business may appear in both measures if they reported differing trends in employment and turnover.)



#### Figure 44: Businesses showing growth/decline

Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk) NB: % is of all active businesses including those without financial results

#### 9b Financial Health

These data are extracted from the Red Flag Alert database system which contains data on on over 3 million active companies nationally and 36,000 in Cumbria. Business are financially rated from Gold (stable, little risk) down to 3 Red Flags (highest risk of failure).

**Note:** In May 2023 RFA revised their scoring system which has resulted in major changes to the classifications and the introduction of "provisional" ratings for businesses with only one set of filed accounts which makes them a slightly higher risk than those with the equivalent non-provisional rating. Newly incorporated businesses without any data do not have a score.

Under the new rating system in June 2023, 60.5% of Cumbria's companies on the system with a score were rated as having Red Flags or provisional Red Flags compared to 48.0% nationally. This is partly due to Cumbria having a higher proportion of businesses with Provisional 1 Flags (based on just one set of accounts).

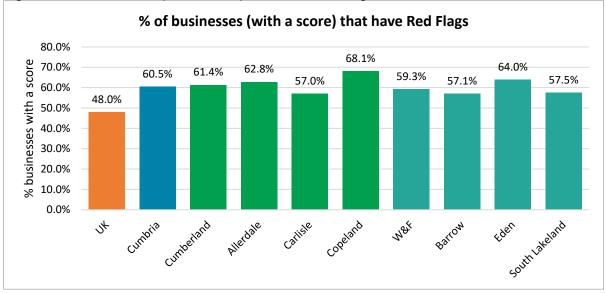
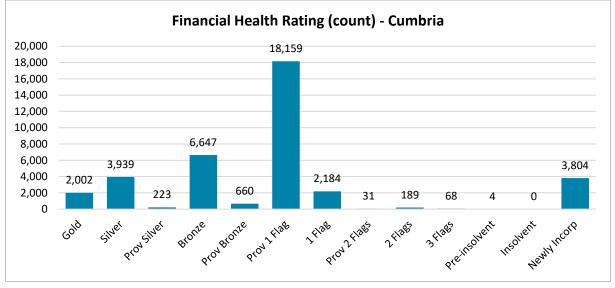


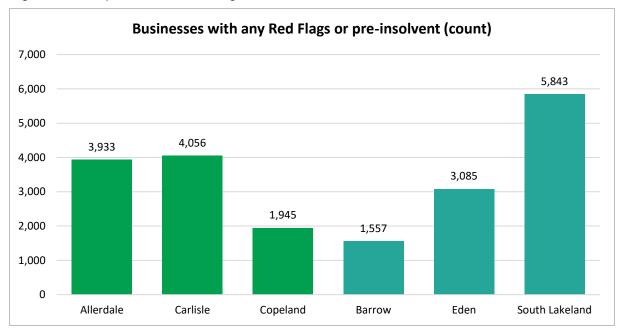
Figure 45: % businesses (with a score) that have Red Flags - June 2023

Figure 46: Number of companies with Red Flags – June 2023



Source: Red Flag Alert

Source: Red Flag Alert





Source: Red Flag Alert

Rating	Description
Gold	Strongest key financial ratios, excellent history of filing accounts on time, health all- round financials. Chance of failure less than 0.1%.
Silver	Strong financial ratios but may have slightly higher gearing or lower liquidity, efficiency or profitability ratios than idea. Unlikely to fail but less stable than gold companies.
Bronze	Some suboptimal financial ratios that prevent a higher rating. These companies are in acceptable health and nothing significantly detrimental is known so they are considered a fair trade risk and recommended for open credit.
1 Red Flag	May be in the process of an ongoing downward slide into insolvency or may have held a 1 Red Flag status for an extended period. There may be evidence of recent or significant legal notices and the risk is elevated so suppliers should seek suitable assurances or guarantees.
2 Red Flags	High chance of failure and represent a significant risk. May be able to trade back to financial but any credit offered is done so at extreme risk.
3 Red Flags	Represent the most significant financial risk and are on the verge of insolvency. Likely to be recent and/or significant legal notices and/or court judgements as well as a deteriorating financial position. No credit should be extended.
Newly incorporated	Newly incorporated and have not filed accounts therefore no data to score on.
Pre insolvent	Usually in the early stages of formally declaring or being declared insolvent and in 98% of circumstances will fail within 28 days.
Provisional	Can be applied to Silver, Bronze, 1 Red Flag and 2 Red Flags when a company has only one set of filed accounts. Should be considered as slightly more of a credit risk than a company with the equivalent non-provisional rating.

#### Figure 48: Ward claimant data

# Appendix 1

Figure 48: Ward clair		t Count	(JSA / UC s	eeking w	(ork)	Univ	oreal Cr	edit (all c	laimante	1
CUMBERLAND	June 2			from May		June 2			from Ma	
	No	Rate	No	%	Rate	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
GB	1,515,675	3.7	22,020	1.5	0.1	6,010,704	14.7	83,515	1.4	0.2
Cumbria	6,680	2.2	-60	-0.9	0.0	36,267	12.1	356	1.0	0.1
Cumberland	4,165	2.5	-10	-0.3	0.0	22,983	14.0	218	1.0	0.1
1.Carlisle West	600	3.2	5	0.8	0.0	3,092	16.5	38	1.2	0.2
2.Petteril	750	4.0	25	3.4	0.1	3,792	20.4	47	1.3	0.3
3.Border, Fellside & North Carlisle	345	1.5	15	4.5	0.1	1,819	8.0	1	0.1	0.0
4.Fells & Solway	400	2.1	-20	-4.8	-0.1	2,181	11.6	3	0.1	0.0
5.Lakes to Sea	515	2.1	10	2.0	0.0	2,979	12.2	4	0.1	0.0
6.Workington Together	570	3.0	-45	-7.3	-0.2	3,363	17.5	27	0.8	0.1
7.Whitehaven & Coastal	520	2.6	-15	-2.8	-0.1	3,047	15.0	30	1.0	0.1
8.South Cumberland	460	2.2	-10	-2.1	0.0	2,684	13.0	32	1.2	0.2
Aspetric	110	2.0	-5	-4.8	0.1	EOE	15.0	6	10	0.0
Aspatria Belah	110 60	2.8 1.8	-5 -5	-4.8	0.1	595 348	15.0 10.6	-5	1.0 -1.4	0.2
Belle Vue	105	2.6	-5 -10	-8.7	-0.2	674	16.7	-5 19	-1.4 2.9	-0.2 0.5
Botcherby	160	3.9	10	6.7	0.2	796	19.3	4	0.5	0.5
Bothel & Wharrels	25	0.7	-10	-28.6	-0.3	182	4.8	-8	-4.2	-0.2
Brampton	85	2.3	5	6.7	0.3	411	10.9	8	2.0	0.2
Bransty	125	3.1	0	0.0	-0.2	506	12.4	2	0.4	0.2
Castle	120	5.0	5	2.7	0.1	813	21.3	-2	-0.2	-0.1
Cleator Moor East & Frizington	80	2.1	0	0.0	0.0	540	14.3	-2	-0.4	-0.1
Cleator Moor West	90	2.5	-5	-5.3	-0.1	565	15.9	0	0.0	0.0
Cockermouth North	110	3.5	15	15.0	0.3	437	14.1	10	2.3	0.3
Cockermouth South	35	0.9	5	16.7	0.1	180	4.8	-5	-2.7	-0.1
Corby & Hayton	20	0.9	5	25.0	0.0	118	5.0	4	3.5	0.2
Currock	225	5.4	20	9.8	0.5	919	22.1	14	1.5	0.3
Dalston & Burgh	40	0.8	0	0.0	0.0	249	5.0	-6	-2.4	-0.1
Dearham & Broughton	50	1.3	-5	-11.1	0.1	352	9.4	4	1.1	0.1
Denton Holme	125	2.9	0	0.0	0.0	666	15.5	13	2.0	0.3
Egremont	110	3.0	20	20.0	0.3	672	18.2	23	3.5	0.6
Egremont North & St. Bees	60	2.2	-5	-7.7	-0.2	420	15.1	-1	-0.2	0.0
Gosforth	35	1.1	0	0.0	0.0	245	7.4	8	3.4	0.2
Harraby North	125	2.7	0	0.0	0.0	828	17.9	3	0.4	0.1
Harraby South	75	4.4	0	0.0	-0.3	353	20.6	5	1.4	0.3
Harrington	120	2.9	-15	-11.1	-0.4	721	17.3	4	0.6	0.1
Hillcrest & Hensingham	55	1.5	-5	-8.3	-0.1	314	8.6	10	3.3	0.3
Houghton & Irthington	30	1.1	0	0.0	0.0	127	4.6	-4	-3.1	-0.1
Howgate	80	2.6	0	0.0	0.0	508	16.4	11	2.2	0.4
Kells & Sandwith	110	3.2	-5	-4.8	0.1	712	20.7	-7	-1.0	-0.2
Keswick	45	1.5	5	12.5	0.2	287	9.6	-1	-0.3	0.0
Longtown	60	2.5	0	0.0	0.0	296	12.5	3	1.0	0.1
Maryport North	130	3.3	<u>5</u> -5	3.8	0.0	740	18.5	4	0.5	0.1
Maryport South Millom	120 110	3.9 3.2	<u>-5</u> 5	-4.0 4.5	-0.2 0.0	801 483	25.9	0	0.0 1.3	0.0
Millom Without	35	3.2 1.2	-5	-10.0	-0.5	179	14.0 6.3	-3	-1.6	0.2 -0.1
Mirehouse	90	2.7	-5	0.0	-0.5	587	17.7	-3	-1.6	-0.1
Morton	130	3.7	0	0.0	0.0	707	20.3	4	0.6	0.3
Moss Bay & Moorclose	230	5.9	0	0.0	0.1	1,309	33.5	7	0.5	0.1
Seaton	100	2.6	-5	-4.5	-0.3	552	14.4	5	0.5	0.2
Solway Coast	45	1.7	-5	-9.1	-0.3	288	11.0	11	4.0	0.1
St. John's & Great Clifton	75	1.6	-10	-11.1	-0.3	493	10.6	0	0.0	0.0
St. Michael's	135	4.3	-20	-12.9	-0.6	662	21.0	0	0.0	0.0
Stanwix Urban	45	1.4	0	0.0	0.0	212	6.7	-3	-1.4	-0.1
Thursby	15	0.7	0	0.0	-0.2	94	4.6	-2	-2.1	-0.1
Upperby	165	4.1	5	3.0	0.0	896	22.5	21	2.4	0.5
Wetheral	45	0.9	0	0.0	0.1	307	6.0	-2	-0.6	0.0
	100	2.2	0			581		5		0.1
Wigton	100	2.2	0	0.0	0.0	100	12.8	5	0.9	0.1

	Claimar	nt Count	(JSA / UC s	eeking w	vork)	Univ	ersal Cr	edit (all c	laimants	5)
WESTMORLAND & FURNESS	June 2	023	Change	from May	/ 2023	June 2	023	Change	from Ma	ay 2023
	No	Rate	No	%	Rate	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
GB	1,515,675	3.7	22,020	1.5	0.1	6,010,704	14.7	83,515	1.4	0.2
Cumbria	6,680	2.2	-60	-0.9	0.0	36,267	12.1	356	1.0	0.1
Westmorland & Furness	2,515	1.9	-50	-1.9	0.0	13,289	9.9	137	1.0	0.1
Westmorland North	485	1.5	-30	-6.2	-0.1	2,645	8.2	20	0.8	0.1
Westmorland South	785	1.3	-15	-1.6	0.0	4,878	8.1	64	1.3	0.1
Furness	1,245	3.0	-5	-0.4	0.0	5,757	13.9	49	0.9	0.1
Alston & Fellside	50	1.4	-10	-16.7	-0.3	270	7.3	2	0.7	0.1
Appleby & Brough	55	1.5	-10	-18.2	0.0	324	8.7	-20	-5.8	-0.5
Bowness & Lyth	30	1.3	0	0.0	0.2	180	7.7	14	8.4	0.6
Burton & Holme	10	0.6	0	0.0	-0.3	100	5.9	2	2.0	0.1
Coniston & Hawkshead	20	1.2	10	100.0	0.6	110	6.5	13	13.4	0.8
Dalton North	65	1.7	0	0.0	0.1	276	7.1	6	2.2	0.2
Dalton South	70	2.1	-5	-7.7	0.2	342	10.3	14	4.3	0.4
Eamont & Shap	30	1.2	0	0.0	0.2	162	6.6	1	0.6	0.0
Eden & Lyvennet Vale	50	1.7	-5	-8.3	-0.3	170	5.6	5	3.0	0.2
Grange & Cartmel	60	1.2	0	0.0	0.1	298	5.9	0	0.0	0.0
Greystoke & Ulswater	20	0.8	0	0.0	0.0	97	4.1	0	0.0	0.0
Hawcoat & Newbarns	90	1.5	0	0.0	0.0	377	6.1	5	1.3	0.1
Hesket & Lazonby	30	0.8	-5	-16.7	0.0	139	3.7	-2	-1.4	-0.1
High Furness	30	1.4	0	0.0	0.0	116	5.3	9	8.4	0.4
Kendal Castle	35	1.1	0	0.0	0.2	198	6.0	-4	-2.0	-0.1
Kendal Highgate	80	2.2	-10	-11.8	-0.1	496	13.7	14	2.9	0.4
Kendal Nether	70	1.8	-5	-7.1	0.0	431	11.1	-3	-0.7	-0.1
Kendal South	40	1.1	0	0.0	-0.1	291	7.8	-1	-0.3	0.0
Kendal Strickland & Fell	85	2.0	0	0.0	0.0	551	13.1	8	1.5	0.2
Kent Estuary	35	1.1	5	14.3	0.0	234	7.4	8	3.5	0.3
Kirkby Stephen & Tebay	45	2.0	-5	-11.1	0.0	256	11.3	-4	-1.5	-0.2
Levens & Crooklands	20	0.9	0	0.0	0.0	94	4.4	-8	-7.8	-0.4
Low Furness	10	0.4	0	0.0	-0.2	117	5.0	10	9.3	0.4
Old Barrow	540	6.9	0	0.0	0.0	2,364	30.2	12	0.5	0.2
Ormsgill & Parkside	220	3.3	0	0.0	0.0	996	14.8	30	3.1	0.4
Penrith North	90	2.1	5	5.9	0.1	504	12.0	16	3.3	0.4
Penrith South	130	2.3	-5	-3.7	-0.1	743	13.4	15	2.1	0.3
Risedale & Roosecote	140	2.2	-5	-3.2	-0.2	791	12.4	7	0.9	0.1
Sedbergh & Kirkby Lonsdale	40	0.8	10	28.6	0.1	225	4.8	2	0.9	0.0
Ulverston	115	1.7	-20	-15.4	-0.2	661	9.8	5	0.8	0.1
Upper Kent	35	1.5	0	0.0	0.0	209	9.2	9	4.5	0.4
Walney Island	130	2.1	5	4.2	0.2	624	10.2	-6	-1.0	-0.1
Windermere & Ambleside	70	1.1	0	0.0	0.0	569	9.1	4	0.7	0.1

Source: ONS/DWP – Cumbria Intelligence Observatory calculations, totals may not sum due to rounding & disclosure controls

# Areas contained in Cumberland Community Panels / Westmorland & Furness Locality Board Areas

Cumberland Community Panels				
Community Panel	Wards covered	Community Panel	Wards covered	
1.Carlisle West	Belle Vue	5. Lakes to Sea	Bothel & Wharrels	
	Castle		Cockermouth North	
	Denton Holme		Cockermouth South	
	Morton		Dearham & Broughton	
	Yewdale		Keswick	
	Botcherby		Maryport North	
2. Petteril	Currock		Maryport South	
	Harraby North	6. Workington Together	Harrington	
	Harraby South		Moss Bay & Moorclose	
	Upperby		Seaton	
	Belah		St. John's & Great Clifton	
	Brampton		St Michael's	
2 Davdar Fallsida 8	Corby & Hayton	7. Whitehaven & Coastal	Bransty	
3. Border, Fellside & North Carlisle	Houghton & Irthington		Egremont North & St. Bees	
North Canisie	Longtown		Hillcrest & Hensingham	
	Stanwix Urban		Howgate	
	Wetheral		Kells & Sandwith	
4. Fells & Solway	Aspatria		Mirehouse	
	Dalston & Burgh	8. South Cumberland	Cleator Moor East & Frizington	
	Solway Coast		Cleator Moor West	
	Thursby		Egremont	
	Wigton		Gosforth	
			Millom	
			Millom Without	
		_		
Westmorland & Furness Locality Boards		4		
Locality Board	Areas covered	4		
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South Westmorland	former South Lakeland district	4		
Furness	former Barrow-in-Furness district			

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