Leicester & Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership

LLEP Business and Economic Intelligence Update

Issue 28 – 31 January 2022

Contents

1. Economic Roundup

A summary of some key announcements since the last update together with a round-up of recently published research and insights from a range of organisations.

Announcements/ Press Releases/ News Stories

Businesses most impacted by Omicron variant to benefit from over £700 million as government delivers funding to local authorities – New grant funding for businesses impacted by the pandemic - 07/01/2022.

T Level action plan – How the government is reforming technical education and developing the T level qualifications for post-16 students – 17/12/2021.

Skills boost to support more people into jobs - Nine new Institutes of Technology and a multi-million-pound investment in skills and technical training to level up opportunities for everyone – 17/12/2021.

Research

Economic activity and social change in the UK, real time indicators - Early experimental data and analysis on economic activity and social change in the UK. These faster indicators are created using rapid response surveys, novel data sources, and experimental methods – 13/01/2022.

Business insights and impact on the UK economy - The impact of challenges facing the economy and other events on UK businesses. Based on responses from the voluntary fortnightly business survey (BICS) to deliver real-time information to help assess issues impacting UK businesses – 13/01/2022.

AI activity in UK businesses - An assessment of the scale of AI activity in UK businesses and scenarios for growth over the next twenty years – 12/01/2022.

DCMS Sector National Economic Estimates: 2011 to 2020 - The purpose of this publication is to report and compare economic measures for the DCMS sectors, where possible, for the past ten calendar years 23/12/2021.

Apprenticeships and traineeships: December 2021 - Official statistics covering the apprenticeship service and find an apprenticeship – 22/12/2021. December 2021

Retail sales, Great Britain: November 2021 - A first estimate of retail sales in volume and value terms, seasonally and non-seasonally adjusted – 17/12/2021.

New research reveals the most pressing opportunities and barriers to trustworthy innovation in data and AI - The CDEI has published the second edition of its AI Barometer, alongside the results of a major survey of UK businesses – 17/12/2021.

AI Barometer 2021 - The CDEI has published the second edition of its AI Barometer, alongside the results of a major survey of UK businesses – 17/12/2021.

2. Claimant Count

In December 2021 the claimant rate in the Leicester and Leicestershire area was 3.7%. This translates to 24,855 claimants. In November the figure was 3.7% (25,175). At a national level, the claimant rate in England was 4.5%. This is 0.8 of a percentage point higher than the local figure.

The picture is quite different in the city and county with Leicester having a claimant rate of 5.8% and Leicestershire 2.6%. This is a difference of 3.2 percentage points. Leicester's claimant rate is 1.3 percentage points higher than the England average (4.5%).

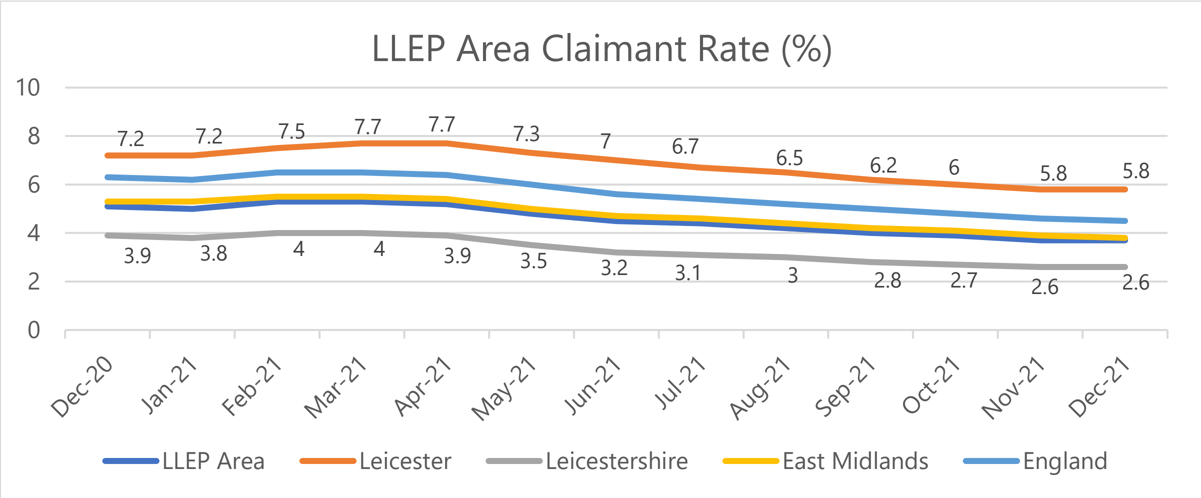

Figure 1: LLEP Area Claimant Rate (%) December 20 – December 2021
Source: ONS

Of the 24,855 claimants over half (54.4% or 13,525) were based in Leicester.

In March 2020 the claimant rate was 2.3% (or 15,145). Between March 2020 and the end of December 2021 the claimant rate increased by 1.4 percentage points to 3.7% (24,855). This translates to an additional 9,710 claimants or a percentage increase of 71.3%.

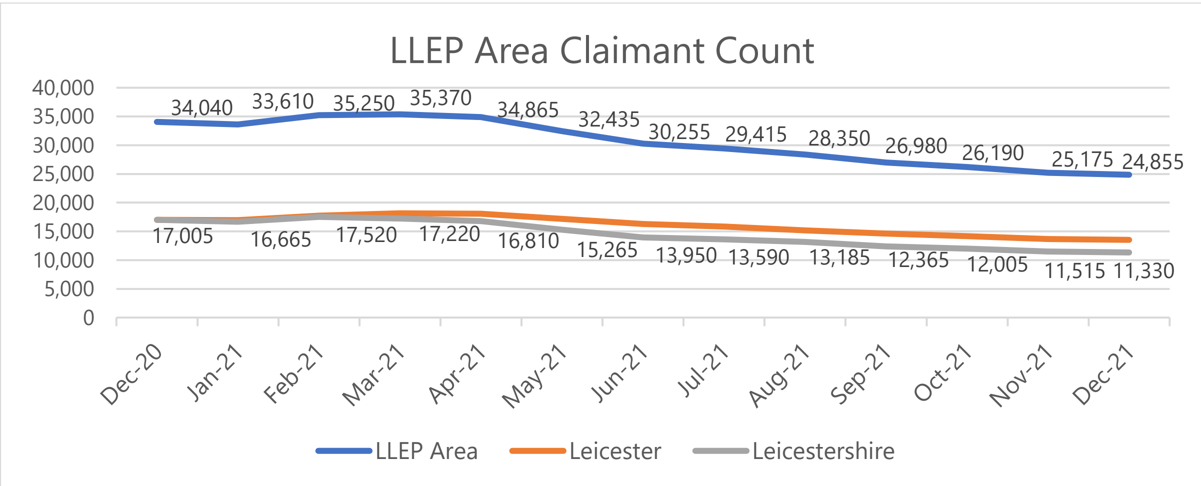

Figure 1: LLEP Area Claimant Count December 2020 - December 2021
Source: ONS

In the Leicester and Leicestershire area over the period March to August 2020 the number of claimants grew from 15,145 to 36,025 (it's peak locally). This was a rise of 20,880 claimants or 138%. When comparing the figures for August 2020 and December 2021 with those for March 2020 the difference has fallen from 20,880 to 9,710. Since March 2021 the number of claimants has fallen by 10,515.

Despite the continued reduction in the number of claimants (March onwards) the uncertainty caused by the Coronavirus remains a feature of the economy. There have been no visible negative impact relating to the withdrawal of the Job Retention Scheme as the economy continues to reopen.

At the end of 2021, the uncertainty caused by the virus increased with the identification of the Omicron variant, this led to the government introducing Plan B which again placed pressure on the business community. However, as evidence has emerged relating to transmissibility and the strength of the Omicron variant Plan B measures are being relaxed. Staffing and skills shortages remain problems amid record numbers of job postings. Skills and staff shortages have been further exasperated by those self-isolating after testing positive for the virus.

Figure 11 later in the report demonstrates the claimant rate over the period January 2021 to December 2021, the number of unique job postings (for the same period) and the total number of eligible staff that were furloughed (to September 2021).

Figures 3 and 4 below project claimant numbers forward to the end of December 2022. Projections are based on the last 3, 5 and 8 months and an average of these. These help to identify the direction of travel in relation to claimant numbers. The average figure for December 2022 is 13,493 or 2%. In March 2020 there were 15,145 claimants (2.3%). This demonstrates that in a year (based on current figures) claimant numbers are predicted to be in-line with/ below the pre-pandemic level.

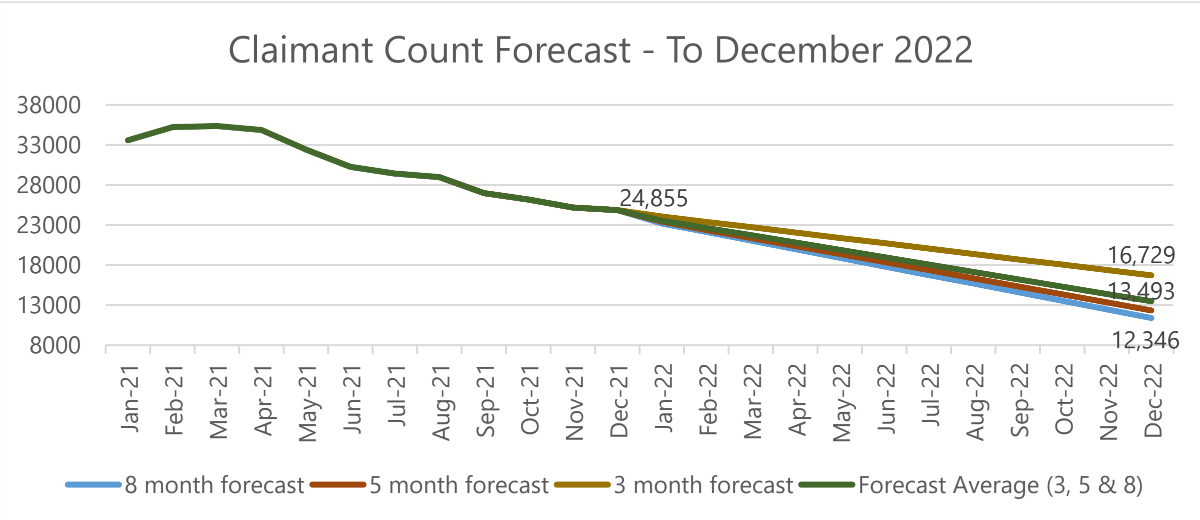

Figure 3: LLEP Area Claimant Forecast, 3, 5, 8 month and Forecast Average to December 2022. Source Data: ONS

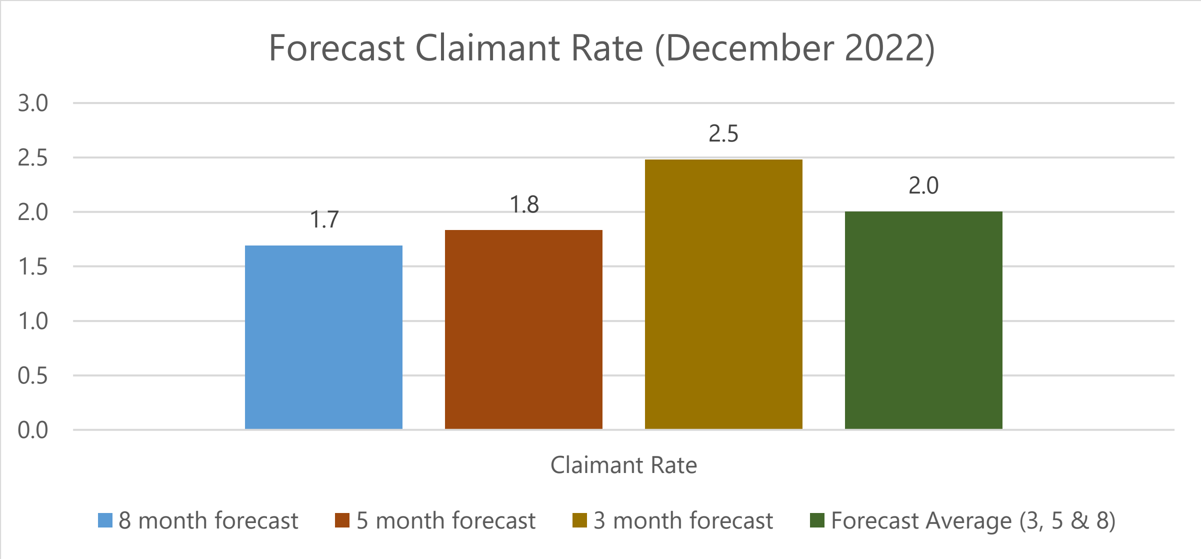

Figure 4: LLEP Area Claimant Rate Forecast, 3, 5, 8 and Forecast Average, December 2022.
Source Data: ONS

The pandemic has affected all age groups. Figures for December 2021 demonstrate that there were on average a larger share of 25-49 years olds (4.3%) who were claimants than 18-24 years olds (3.8%) and claimants that were 50 and over (3.1%). Nationally the claimant rates were significantly higher for 18-24 years olds (5.4%), 25-49 years olds (5.1%) and those who are 50 and over (3.6%). Nationally there also on average more 18-24 years olds than 25-49 years old.

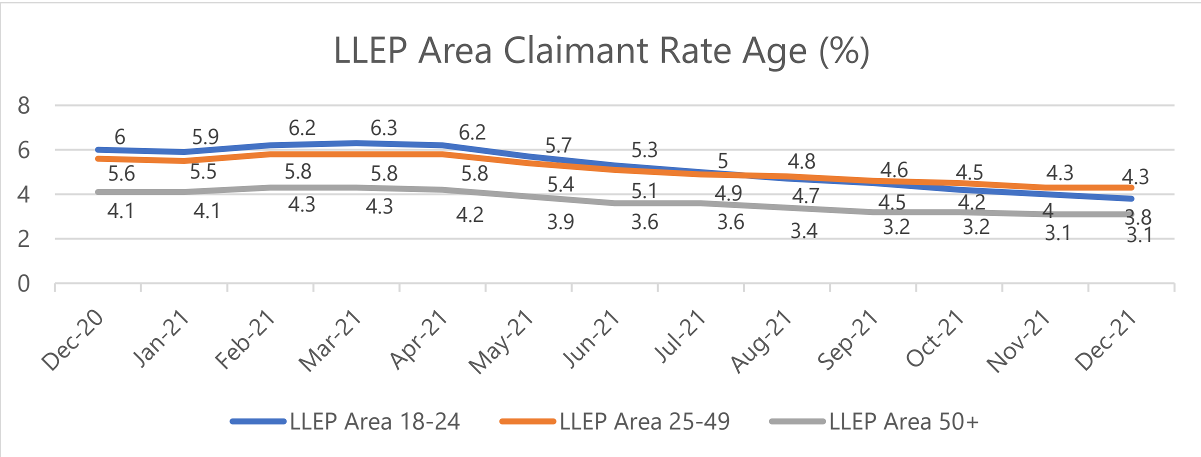

Figure 5: LLEP Area Claimant Rate by Age (%) December 2020 – December 2021
Source: ONS

Figure 6 below demonstrates the claimant rate for 18-24 years olds for the Leicester and Leicestershire area and its component parts.

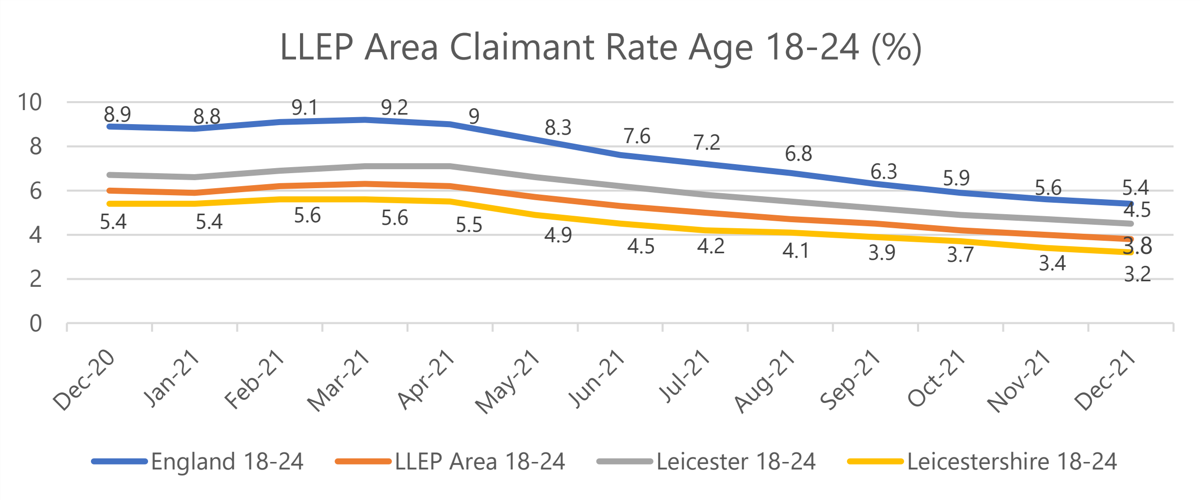

Figure 6: LLEP Area Claimant Rate by Claimants Aged 18-24 (%) December 2020 – December 2021
Source: ONS

Fourteen thousand one hundred and fifteen (57%) claimants were male and 10,740 (43%) were female. Figure 7 below demonstrates the male and female claimant rates for the Leicester and Leicestershire area from December 2020 onwards.

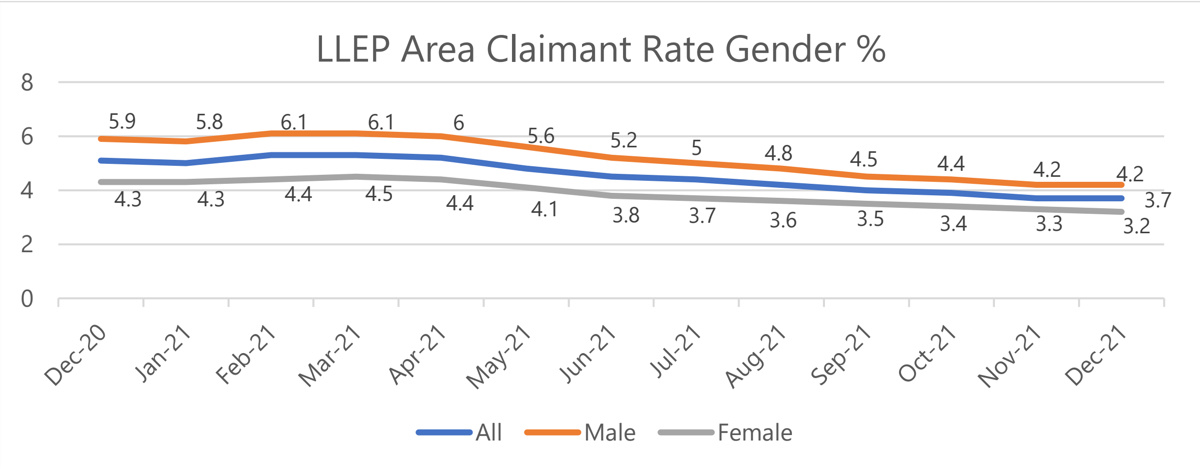

Figure 7: LLEP Area Claimant Rate by Gender (%) December 2020 - December 2021
Source: ONS

The figure below demonstrates the number of claimants in the Leicester and Leicestershire area over the period December 2013 to December 2021.

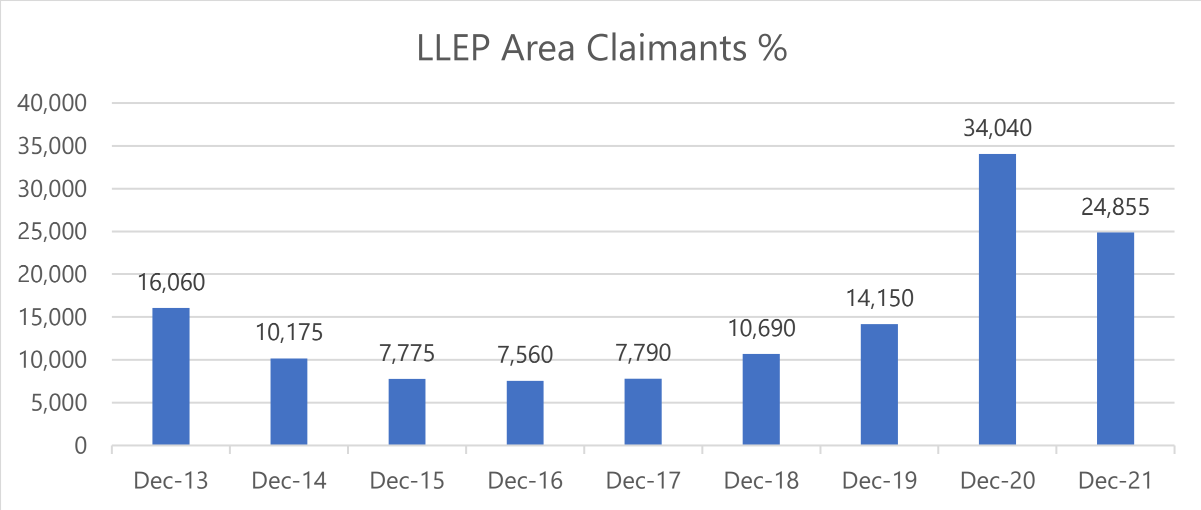

Figure 8: LLEP Area Claimant Count December 2013 – December 2021
Source: ONS

The figure below demonstrates claimant rates at a district level from December 2020 to December 2021.

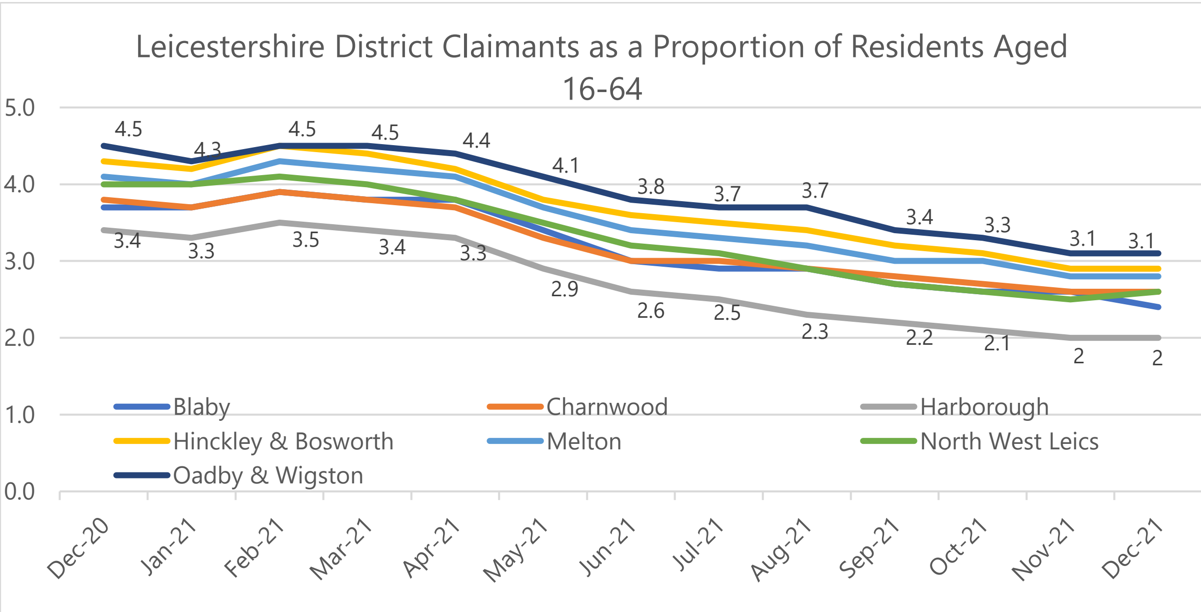

Figure 9: District Claimant Share of Working Age Residents December 2020 – December 2021
Source: ONS

Note: It must be noted that December figures will be revised by the Office for National Statistics. It is likely, as with previous months that numbers will be lower than those reported initially.

3. Universal Credit Claimants

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.

In the Leicester and Leicestershire area most claimants are in either the working conditionality group or the searching/planning/preparing for work group.

When compared to March figures for 2020 all three groups have seen significant growth in numbers.

Over the last month (November to December) the numbers searching, planning, or preparing for work has fallen to 29,525.

From January 2021 those searching, planning, or preparing for work has fallen by 5,765. Those with no work requirements grew by 4,653.

Since March 2020 there has been a steady but significant rise in the number of people who are not seeking work/ have no work requirements with numbers nearly doubling during the period. In March 2020, the figure was 10,997 and in December 2021 it was 20,194.

	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21
Search/ planning/ preparing for work	35,290	37,177	37,710	37,759	35,878	34,065	33,396	32,537	31,355	30,729	29,748	29,525
Working	36,155	34,639	34,236	33,531	34,823	35,750	35,428	35,530	35,640	35,560	35,639	35,799
No work requirements	15,541	16,049	16,509	16,982	17,469	17,903	18,364	18,731	19,000	19,415	19,760	20,194

Table 1: *LLEP Area Universal Credit Claimant Count by Conditionality Group January 2021 – December 2021*
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

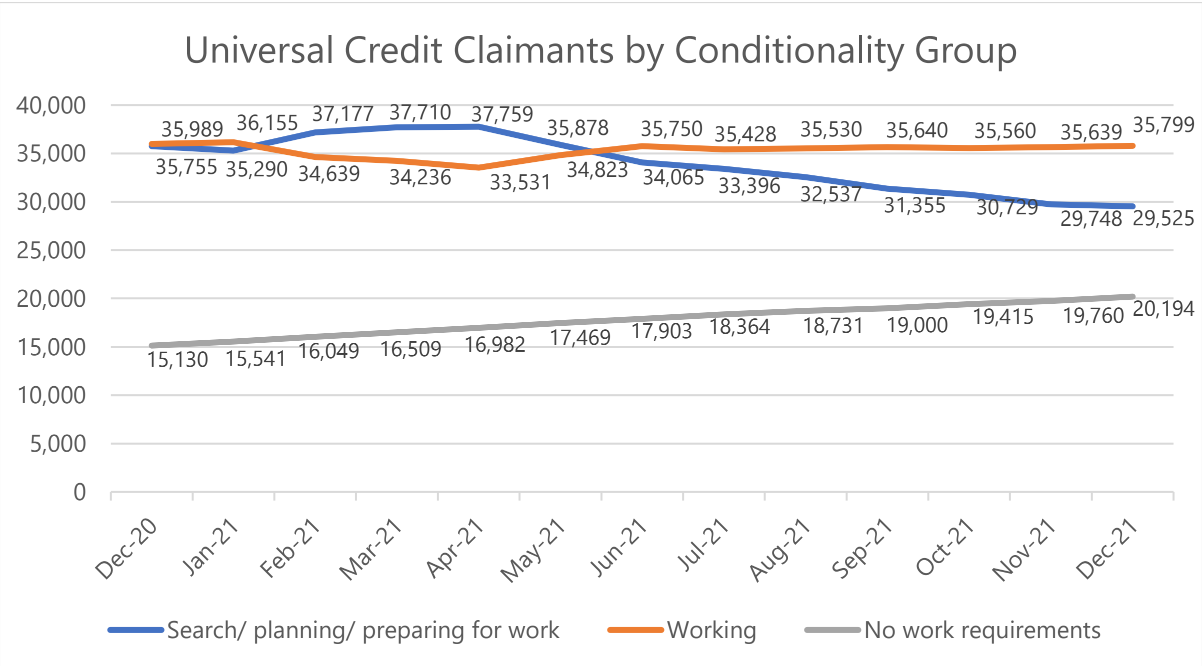

Figure10: LLEP Area Universal Credit Claimant Count by Conditionality Group December 2020 – December 2021
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

For more data on Job Seekers Allowance and the Universal Credit claimant count by district, visit the **Unemployment Dashboard** on the LSR Portal.

4. Furloughed Employees

The Job Retention Scheme (Furlough) has now closed.

The information below was provided by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and are statistics that relate to the governments Furlough Scheme. The scheme ended on the 30/09/2021.

Table 2 provides an understanding of the take-up of the scheme by showing the percentage of eligible employments furloughed for the months July 2020 to September 2021. Data is available for areas contained within the Leicester and Leicestershire geography and can be compared with the England average.

Area	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
Blaby	17%	13%	9%	8%	12%	12%	15%	15%	13%	11%	8%	6%	5%	5%	4%
Charnwood	17%	12%	9%	7%	12%	12%	15%	15%	14%	11%	8%	6%	5%	5%	4%
England	17%	12%	9%	7%	13%	13%	15%	15%	15%	11%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%
Harborough	17%	13%	10%	8%	13%	13%	15%	15%	14%	11%	8%	7%	6%	5%	4%
Hinckley & Bosworth	16%	12%	9%	7%	11%	12%	14%	14%	13%	10%	8%	6%	5%	5%	4%
Leicester	17%	12%	9%	7%	13%	14%	15%	15%	15%	12%	9%	8%	7%	6%	6%
Melton	16%	12%	9%	7%	12%	12%	15%	15%	13%	11%	8%	6%	5%	5%	4%
NW Leicestershire	16%	11%	8%	7%	11%	10%	13%	13%	12%	9%	7%	5%	5%	5%	3%
Oadby & Wigston	18%	13%	10%	8%	12%	13%	15%	15%	14%	12%	9%	8%	7%	6%	5%

Table 2: Uptake of Job Retention Scheme, % of Employments in the LLEP Area July 2020 – September 2021
Source: HMRC

Figures for September demonstrate that there were 20,300 employments on furlough when the scheme ended.

Blaby	Charnwood	Harborough	Hinckley & Bosworth	Leicester	Melton	NW Leicestershire	Oadby & Wigston
1,900	3,000	1,800	1,800	8,200	800	1,500	1,300
9.4	14.8	8.9	8.9	40.4	3.9	7.4	6.4

Table 3: Total Employments Furloughed at the 30 September 2021
Source: HMRC

Note: Figures have been subject to rounding. The overall figure for the Leicester and Leicestershire area is the total of those rounded figures.

It is estimated that when the scheme ended large pockets of those employments accessing the scheme were based within Arts, Entertainment and Other Services, Accommodation and Food Services, Manufacturing, Wholesale and Retail, Professional Scientific and Technical and Transport and Storage.

Despite the introduction and relaxation of measures by the government and calls for the reintroduction of the Job Retention Scheme there have been no related announcements.

For more detail including East Midlands comparators see the **Furloughed Staff Dashboard** on the LSR Portal. Through this link the user can also access data relating to the governments Self Employment Income Support Scheme.

5. Relationships

The figure below demonstrates the relationship between the claimant count, unique job postings, business closures and the Furlough scheme and its closure. Data is for the period 2021 for the Leicester and Leicestershire area.

In many ways this provides an understanding of the opening-up of the local economy and describes how the reduction and withdrawal of the Furlough scheme has impacted claimant numbers, job postings and business closures.

Because of the force of the pandemic and the introduction of measures such as social distancing, the closure of non-essential businesses etc. the government's introduction of actions such as the Furlough scheme resulted in fewer than expected businesses closing and the claimant count for some time remaining static, some thought that the introduction of these were a means of putting off the inevitable.

Up until the end of June this year, the Furlough Scheme ensured that the staff of those businesses that were eligible received 80% of their wages. This was paid for by the government. With the continued easing of restrictions, on the 01/07/2021 this was reduced to 70% and then on the 01/08/2021 to 60%. The governments contribution of 60% ended on the 30/09/2021 when the scheme closed. It was suggested that the reduction and closure of the scheme for some businesses would be a cliff edge that would result in business closures and rises in the numbers of benefit claimants.

At the time of the closure of the Furlough scheme there were 20,300 people still accessing it locally. On the 01/10/2021 those that were claiming Furlough on the 30/09/2021 either returned to work, started new jobs elsewhere, left the workplace or became benefit claimants.

Figures for October, November and December 2021 show that the claimant rate since September when the scheme ended has continued to fall from 4% to 3.7%. The suggested rise in the number of claimants has yet to materialise. This is likely to be a result of the number of businesses that are currently recruiting. In September 2021 there were 41,867 unique job postings locally and in December the number of job postings had climbed to 57,937.

The numbers of unique postings have had a positive impact on the numbers of claimants, it also reflects the skills and staff shortfalls that are being experienced across many areas of the economy.

Skills and staff shortfalls reflect a few things including and depending on the industry, continued underinvestment in people and skills, BREXIT, an aging workforce, people leaving the workforce and people accessing opportunities that lie in other industries. This has led some within the private sector to reassess how they reward staff as a means of retaining and attracting staff. This has for some resulted in higher operating costs. At a time when government support for businesses has been withdrawn, the increase in operating costs combined with for example fuel costs etc. places further pressure on businesses.

Note: December figures are subject to change and there are likely to be adjustments to those areas identified.

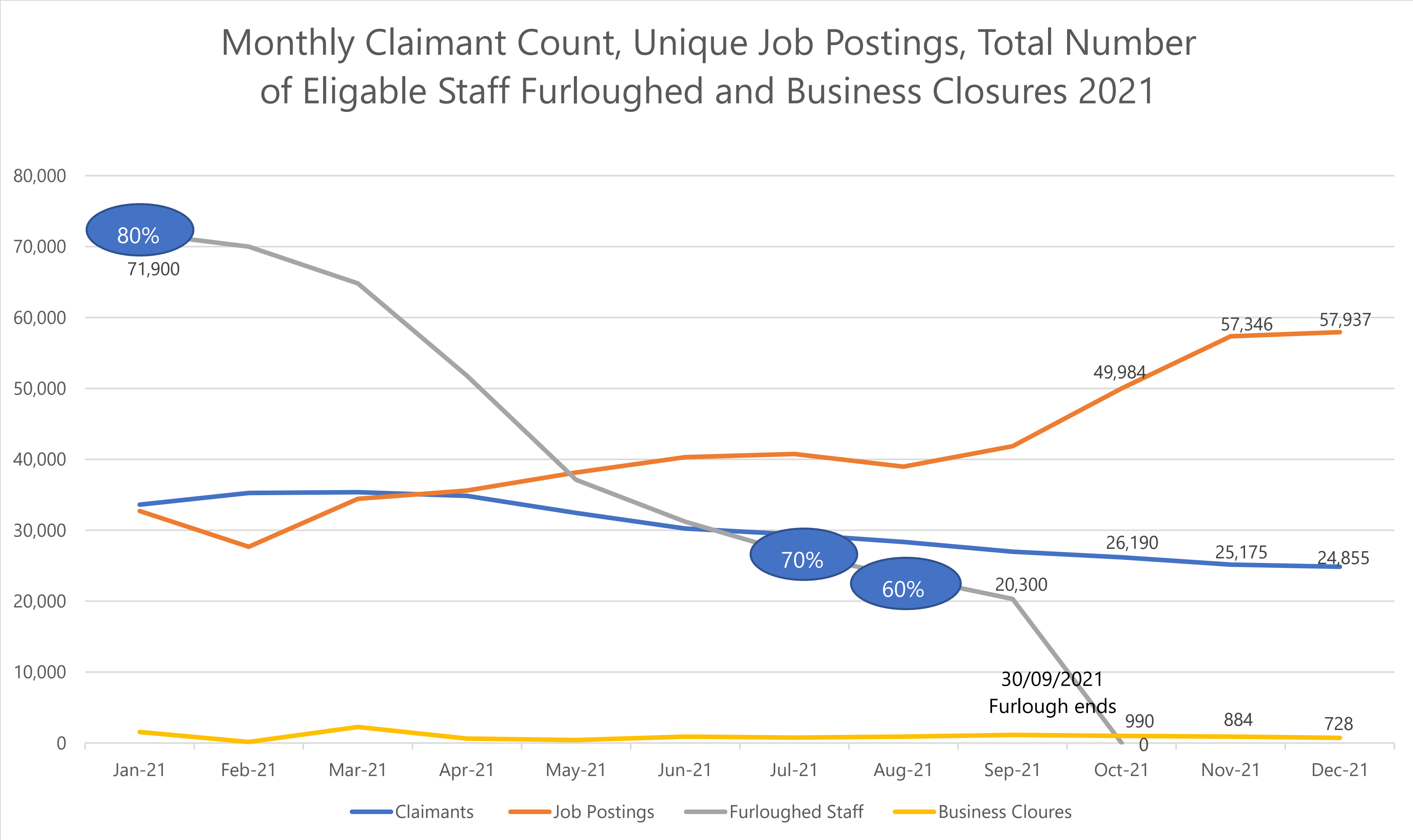

Figure 11: Monthly Claimant Count, Unique Job Postings, Business Closures and Total Number of Eligible Staff Furloughed January 2021 Onwards
Source: ONS Claimant Count, EMSI Unique job Postings, BVD Fame Business Closures and HMRC Job Retention Scheme

6. Job Postings

EMSI job posting data is drawn from a range of sources and provides timely data on how the trend in the number of live job adverts is changing in the Leicester and Leicestershire area by occupation and geography.

However, the number of job adverts being posted is not a direct measure of labour force demand. Job adverts may not be removed from online job vacancy boards immediately once a position is filled, so the data may not fully reflect companies who have halted active recruitment.

The data is compiled from multiple job vacancy boards and adverts may still be considered "live" if the posting is still live on any board, even when it has already been removed from an alternative source.

The scope of online job adverts does not fully capture the region's economic activity because of differing advertising methods, for example, casual work may be advertised by word-of-mouth.

Table 4 demonstrates unique job postings by occupation for December 2021. These are compared with March 2020, December 2020, and November 2021. Standard Occupation Codes are at a two-digit level.

The number of unique job postings for December 2021 is higher than December 2020 by 24,398 (57,937 compared to 33,539). This is a rise of 72.7%

Over the last month the number of job postings grew from 57,346 to 57,937. This is a rise of 591 postings or 1%.

In terms of numbers, over the last year there have been rises in job postings in all the occupation areas. In the last month 12 of the occupation areas saw falls the largest of which were Health Professionals, Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives and Elementary Administration and Service Occupations.

Over the last year the occupation areas that saw the largest growth in the number of unique job postings were:

- Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals
- Business and Public Service Associate Professionals
- Administrative Occupations
- Elementary Administration and Service Occupations

As a means of further understanding how the local jobs market is changing, Table 5 demonstrates the year to date (YTD) figures for 2021 for each of the occupation areas and compares these with YTD figures for 2019. Across the job market the number of postings has increased from 136.852 to 193,150. This is growth of 56,298 or 41.1%. All occupations areas have seen growth. As a result, each occupation areas share of job postings has been demonstrated for the years 2019 and 2021. Also included is each occupation areas share of growth over the period 2019 to 2021.

2 Digit SOC	Occupation	Mar 2020 Unique Postings	Dec 2020 Unique Postings	Nov 2021 Unique Postings	Dec 2021 Unique Postings	Annual Growth	Annual Growth %	Monthly Growth Nov to Dec 2021	Monthly Growth % Nov to Dec 2022	Dif Mar 2020 Dec 2021	% Dif Mar 2020 Nov 2021	Total Job Postings March 2020 Onwards
11	Corporate Managers and Directors	1,568	1,825	3,045	3,204	1,379	75.6	159	5.2	1,636	104.3	14,391
12	Other Managers and Proprietors	527	556	930	951	395	71.0	21	2.3	424	80.5	4,565
21	Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	2,698	2,782	4,442	4,692	1,910	68.7	250	5.6	1,994	73.9	20,665
22	Health Professionals	1,794	2,087	3,007	2,761	674	32.3	(246)	-8.2	967	53.9	14,117
23	Teaching and Educational Professionals	1,341	1,372	1,672	1,797	425	31.0	125	7.5	456	34.0	9,678
24	Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	1,734	1,918	2,719	2,830	912	47.5	111	4.1	1,096	63.2	14,247
31	Science, Engineering and Technology Associate Professionals	1,392	1,544	2,564	2,712	1,168	75.6	148	5.8	1,320	94.8	12,140
32	Health and Social Care Associate Professionals	373	457	732	660	203	44.4	(72)	-9.8	287	76.9	3,757
33	Protective Service Occupations	29	45	58	76	31	68.9	18	31.0	47	162.1	331
34	Culture, Media and Sports Occupations	413	331	543	588	257	77.6	45	8.3	175	42.4	2,896
35	Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	4,621	4,518	7,934	8,205	3,687	81.6	271	3.4	3,584	77.6	35,713
41	Administrative Occupations	2,943	3,001	5,958	6,098	3,097	103.2	140	2.3	3,155	107.2	26,294
42	Secretarial and Related Occupations	431	353	757	727	374	105.9	(30)	-4.0	296	68.7	3,364
51	Skilled Agricultural and Related Trades	34	38	54	53	15	39.5	(1)	-1.9	19	55.9	412
52	Skilled Metal, Electrical and Electronic Trades	1,965	2,217	3,425	3,627	1,410	63.6	202	5.9	1,662	84.6	17,625
53	Skilled Construction and Building Trades	507	633	849	947	314	49.6	98	11.5	440	86.8	5,482
54	Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	641	366	1,150	1,062	696	190.2	(88)	-7.7	421	65.7	4,135
61	Caring Personal Service Occupations	2,065	2,531	4,048	3,990	1,459	57.6	(58)	-1.4	1,925	93.2	20,552
62	Leisure, Travel and Related Personal Service Occupations	191	199	394	368	169	84.9	(26)	-6.6	177	92.7	1,715
71	Sales Occupations	667	654	1,403	1,370	716	109.5	(33)	-2.4	703	105.4	5,637
72	Customer Service Occupations	668	653	1,247	1,326	673	103.1	79	6.3	658	98.5	5,381
81	Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	449	550	1,003	999	449	81.6	(4)	-0.4	550	122.5	5,155
82	Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	1,592	1,900	2,853	2,643	743	39.1	(210)	-7.4	1,051	66.0	16,767
91	Elementary Trades and Related Occupations	283	425	795	750	325	76.5	(45)	-5.7	467	165.0	3,867
92	Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	1,942	2,584	5,764	5,501	2,917	112.9	(263)	-4.6	3,559	183.3	25,846

Total		30,868	33,539	57,346	57,937	24,398	72.7	591	1.0	27,069	87.7	274,732

Table 4: LLEP area Job Postings by Standard Occupation Codes
Source: EMSI

SOC	Occupation	Unique Postings from Jan 2019 - Dec 2019	% Share	Unique Postings from Jan 2021 - Dec 2021	% Share	Growth 2019 - 2021	Growth 2019 - 2021 %	Growth 2019 - 2021 Share
11	Corporate Managers and Directors	6,587	4.8	10,332	5.3	3,745	56.9	6.7
12	Other Managers and Proprietors	2,042	1.5	3,117	1.6	1,075	52.6	1.9
21	Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	10,372	7.6	14,611	7.6	4,239	40.9	7.5
22	Health Professionals	7,112	5.2	9,095	4.7	1,983	27.9	3.5
23	Teaching and Educational Professionals	5,392	3.9	6,247	3.2	855	15.9	1.5
24	Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	7,112	5.2	9,850	5.1	2,738	38.5	4.9
31	Science, Engineering and Technology Associate Professionals	6,005	4.4	8,811	4.6	2,806	46.7	5.0
32	Health and Social Care Associate Professionals	1,527	1.1	2,573	1.3	1,046	68.5	1.9
33	Protective Service Occupations	74	0.1	259	0.1	185	250.0	0.3
34	Culture, Media and Sports Occupations	1,472	1.1	2,064	1.1	592	40.2	1.1
35	Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	18,414	13.5	25,589	13.2	7,175	39.0	12.7
41	Administrative Occupations	14,745	10.8	19,522	10.1	4,777	32.4	8.5
42	Secretarial and Related Occupations	1,763	1.3	2,461	1.3	698	39.6	1.2
51	Skilled Agricultural and Related Trades	99	0.1	269	0.1	170	171.7	0.3
52	Skilled Metal, Electrical and Electronic Trades	9,085	6.6	12,742	6.6	3,657	40.3	6.5
53	Skilled Construction and Building Trades	1,978	1.4	3,823	2.0	1,845	93.3	3.3
54	Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	2,701	2.0	3,101	1.6	400	14.8	0.7
61	Caring Personal Service Occupations	9,534	7.0	13,561	7.0	4,027	42.2	7.2
62	Leisure, Travel and Related Personal Service Occupations	935	0.7	1,223	0.6	288	30.8	0.5
71	Sales Occupations	2,940	2.1	4,031	2.1	1,091	37.1	1.9
72	Customer Service Occupations	2,752	2.0	4,004	2.1	1,252	45.5	2.2
81	Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	2,747	2.0	3,766	1.9	1,019	37.1	1.8
82	Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	9,476	6.9	10,999	5.7	1,523	16.1	2.7
91	Elementary Trades and Related Occupations	2,195	1.6	2,788	1.4	593	27.0	1.1
92	Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	9,793	7.2	18,312	9.5	8,519	87.0	15.1
	Total Across All Occupations	136,852	100.0	193,150	100.0	56,298	41.1	100.0

Table 5: LLEP area Job Postings YTD Comparator 2019 and 2021 by Standard Occupation Codes
Source: EMSI

Table 6 demonstrates job posting numbers by district area for December 2020 and January 2021 onwards. Figures for all the areas identified are higher this year (December) than last year.

Area	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21
Blaby	1,747	1,722	1,345	1,742	1,709	1,721	1,765	1,784	1,744	1,971	2,344	2,672	2,471
Charnwood	5,634	5,454	4,702	5,635	5,572	6,271	6,550	6,926	6,914	7,564	9,420	11,010	12,235
Harborough	2,313	2,217	1,836	2,417	2,443	2,656	2,882	3,272	3,277	3,594	4,164	5,098	4,917
Hinckley & Bosworth	3,001	2,886	2,576	3,452	3,861	4,191	4,336	3,968	3,276	3,094	3,587	4,025	3,824
Leicester	14,784	14,433	12,131	14,461	15,012	15,845	16,252	16,504	16,285	17,754	20,916	23,776	23,390
Leicestershire	18,755	18,279	15,541	19,984	20,582	22,310	24,048	24,251	22,695	24,113	29,068	33,570	34,547
Melton	1,112	1,115	953	1,176	1,289	1,382	1,458	1,539	1,541	1,617	1,973	2,262	2,204
NW Leics	4,322	4,229	3,610	4,890	5,109	5,193	6,002	5,987	5,173	5,397	6,525	7,300	7,786
Oadby & Wigston	626	656	519	672	599	896	1,055	775	770	876	1,055	1,203	1,110
Total	33,539	32,712	27,672	34,445	35,594	38,155	40,300	40,755	38,980	41,867	49,984	57,346	57,937

Table 6: Unique Job Postings by Local & District Authority
Source: EMSI

Figure 12 provides an understanding of monthly job postings for the Leicester and Leicestershire area.

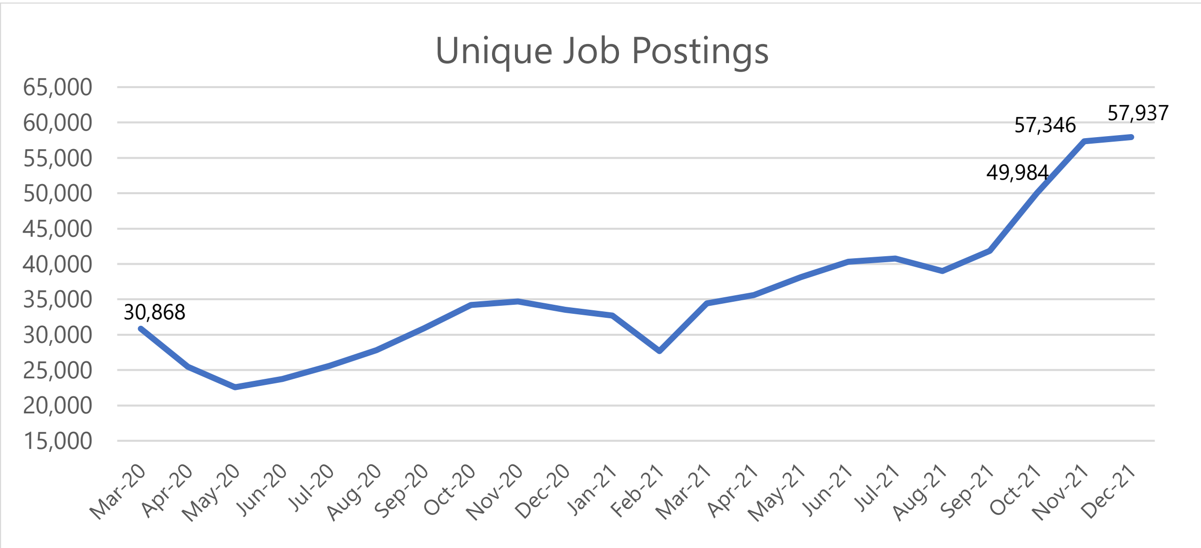

Figure 12: LLEP Area Unique Job Postings March 2020 to December 2021
Source: EMSI

Figure 13 shows job posting data for Leicester and Leicestershire.

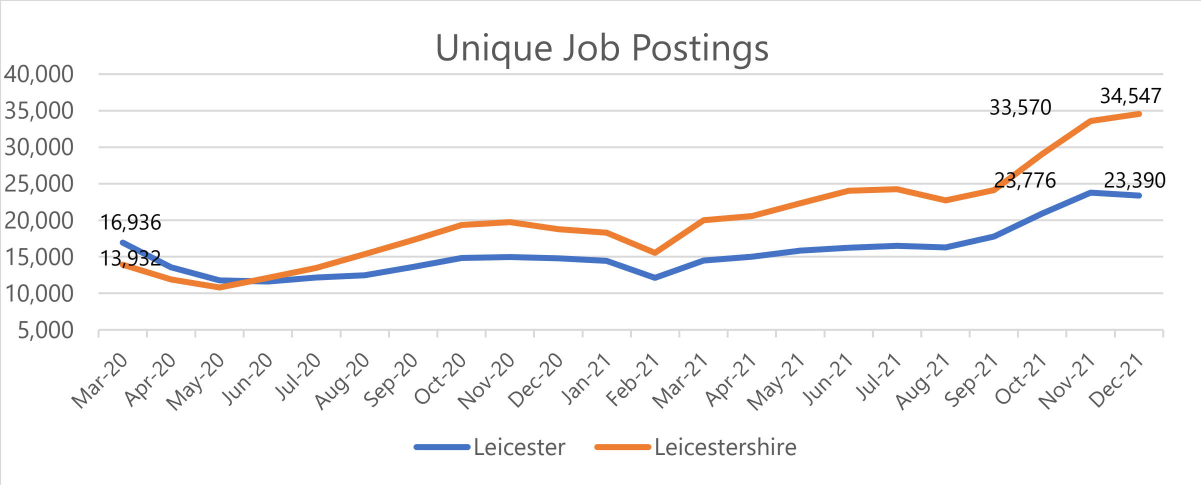

Figure13: Leicester and Leicestershire Unique Job Postings March 2020 to December 2021
Source: EMSI

More detailed breakdowns of job postings by district are available from brendan.brockway@llep.org.uk.

7. Business Closures and Incorporations

Since the start of March 2020, 16,161 businesses have ceased trading in the Leicester and Leicestershire area. For the same period in 2019/20 the number was 12,046. This is a difference of 4,115 business closures.

Figure 14 demonstrates the cumulative growth for the years 2019, 20 and 21.

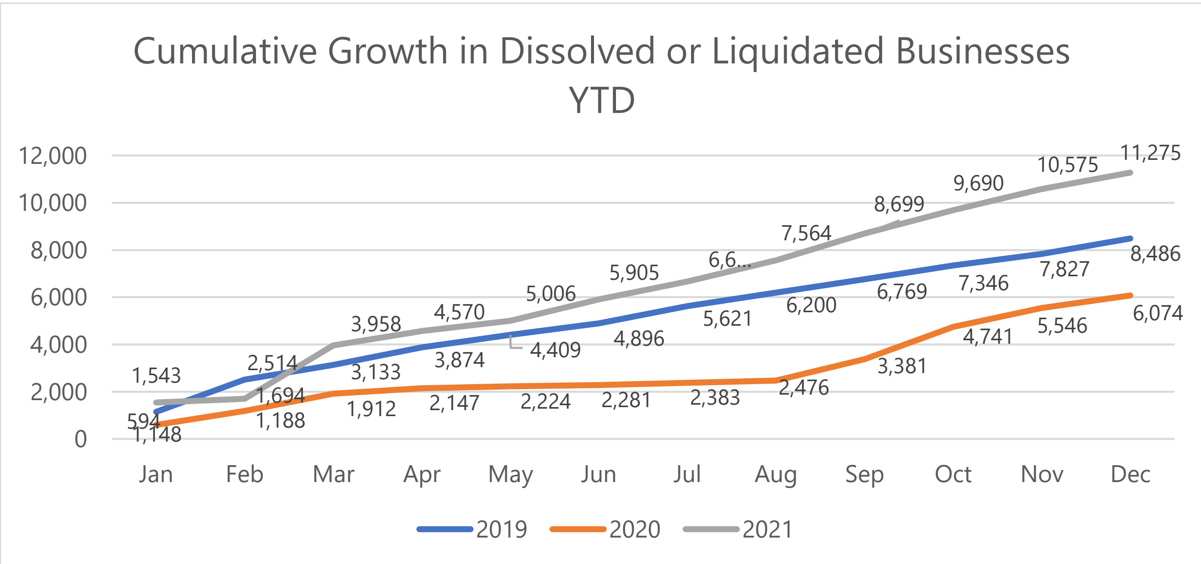

Figure 14: LLEP Area Cumulative Growth in Dissolved or Liquidated Businesses 2019, 20 and 21
Source: BVD Fame

In 2021 (to the end of December 2021) there were 11,275 solved businesses. For the same period in 2020 the figure was 6,074 and 2019 8,846. Year to date figures show that closures for 2021 were higher than in 2019 and 2020.

In December 2021, the number of businesses that ceased trading was 700. The figure for December 2019 was 659 and 2020 528.

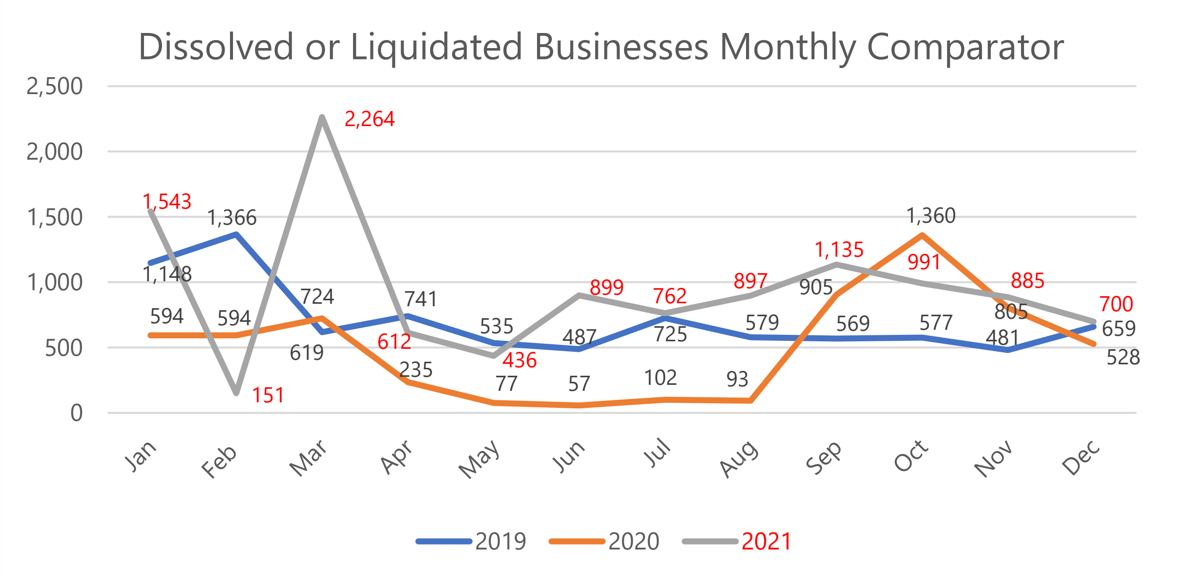

Figure 15: LLEP Area Dissolved or Liquidated Businesses Monthly Comparator
Source: BVD Fame

Since the beginning of March 2020 20,240 businesses have been incorporated within the Leicester and Leicestershire area. Over the same period in 2019/20, 21,864 businesses were incorporated. This is a difference of 1,624.

Figure 16 demonstrates the cumulative growth for the years 2019, 20 and 21.

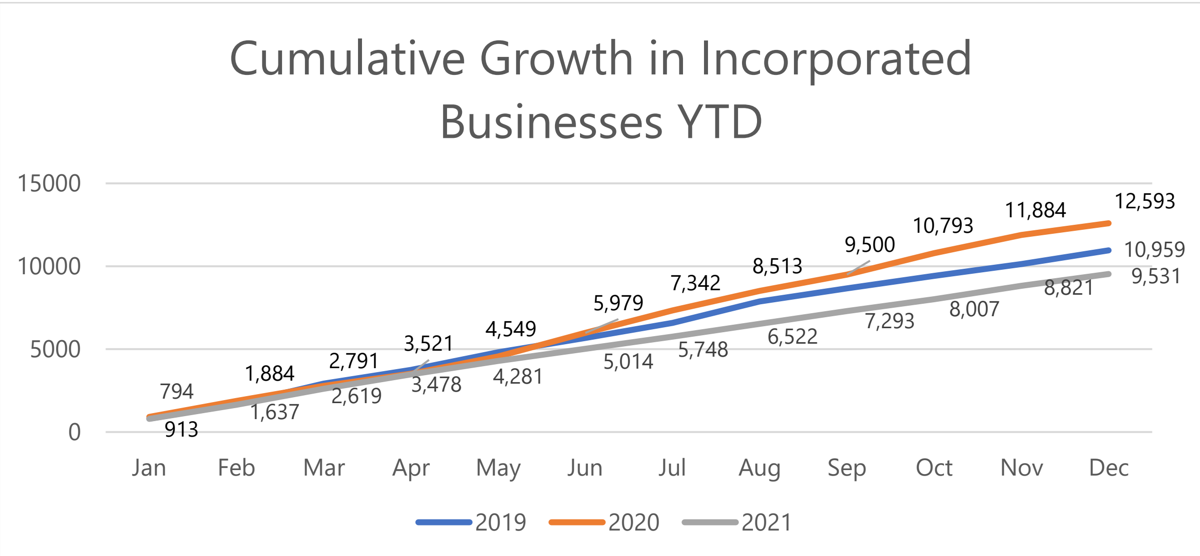

Figure 16: LLEP Area Cumulative Growth in Incorporated Businesses 2019, 20 and 21
Source: BVD Fame

In December 2021, the number of businesses that were incorporated was 710. The figure for December 2019 was 709 and 2020 821.

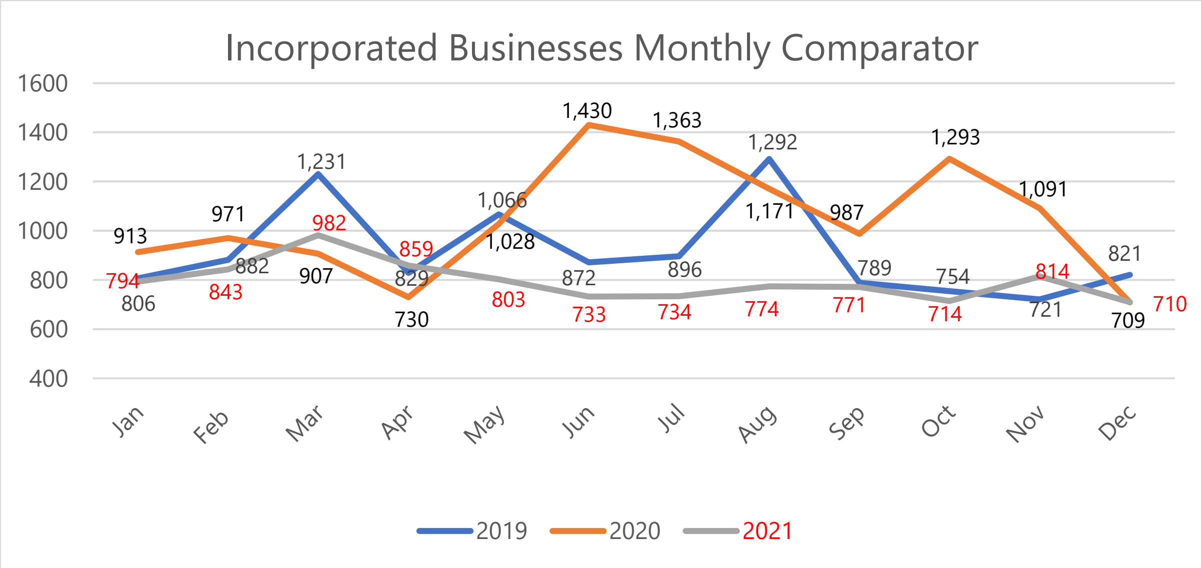

Figure 17: LLEP Area Incorporated Businesses Monthly Comparator
Source: BVD Fame

When comparing closures with incorporations in 2021 there were 11,725 closures and 9,531 incorporations. This is a difference of 1,744.

Table 7 demonstrates those sectors where there have been 50 or more business failures for the year to date (2021). For these same sectors, the table also demonstrates the number of incorporations. Table.7 also helps provide an understanding of the impact of the pandemic on business and how different sectors are reacting to it. It shows how various parts of the local business community are expanding and contracting and where business is bouncing back as the economy continues to reopen.

Activity (prim. UK SIC 2007)	Dissolved	%	Incorporated	%	dif	Incorporations as a share of dissolved business
Office administrative, office support and other business support activities	1691	15.0	244	2.6	-1,447	14.4
Employment activities	865	7.7	92	1.0	-773	10.6
Computer programming, consultancy and related activities	753	6.7	246	2.6	-507	32.7
Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	693	6.1	1154	12.1	461	166.5
Other personal service activities	684	6.1	332	3.5	-352	48.5
Activities of head offices; management consultancy activities	576	5.1	258	2.7	-318	44.8
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	515	4.6	418	4.4	-97	81.2
Land transport and transport via pipelines	456	4.0	613	6.4	157	134.4
Food and beverage service activities	434	3.9	693	7.3	259	159.7
Specialised construction activities	399	3.5	535	5.6	136	134.1

Real estate activities	329	2.9	1039	10.9	710	315.8
Construction of buildings	313	2.8	372	3.9	59	118.8
Warehousing and support activities for transportation	227	2.0	103	1.1	-124	45.4
Human health activities	227	2.0	349	3.7	122	153.7
Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	216	1.9	231	2.4	15	106.9
Other professional, scientific and technical activities	214	1.9	187	2.0	-27	87.4
Education	165	1.5	189	2.0	24	114.5
Architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis	153	1.4	97	1.0	-56	63.4
Financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding	143	1.3	324	3.4	181	226.6
Legal and accounting activities	127	1.1	92	1.0	-35	72.4
Printing and reproduction of recorded media	119	1.1	31	0.3	-88	26.1
Services to buildings and landscape activities	118	1.0	198	2.1	80	167.8
Manufacture of wearing apparel	112	1.0	83	0.9	-29	74.1
Sports activities and amusement and recreation activities	112	1.0	118	1.2	6	105.4
Manufacture of textiles	81	0.7	46	0.5	-35	56.8
Residential care activities	73	0.6	83	0.9	10	113.7
Information service activities	67	0.6	45	0.5	-22	67.2
Repair and installation of machinery and equipment	64	0.6	46	0.5	-18	71.9
Creative, arts and entertainment activities	62	0.6	69	0.7	7	111.3
Postal and courier activities	61	0.5	33	0.3	-28	54.1
Advertising and market research	59	0.5	56	0.6	-3	94.9
Activities auxiliary to financial services and insurance activities	52	0.5	38	0.4	-14	73.1
Security and investigation activities	52	0.5	52	0.5	0	100.0

Table 7 LLEP Area Dissolved or Liquidated and Incorporated Businesses by Sector Year to Date 2021
Source: BVD Fame

Note: Latest figures were gained on the 11/01/2021 and they may be subject to some adjustment. Figures may also reflect delays in notification and processing of data returns to Companies House.

8. Business Registration & Employment Survey (BRES)

The Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) provides employee and employment estimates at detailed geographical and industrial levels and is regarded as the definitive source of official government employee statistics by industry. The latest data released in November relates to 2020 and provides an insight into the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic on industry and related employment. Data is at a 2-digit level (Standard Industrial Code).

In 2020 there was employment of 492,000 in the Leicester and Leicestershire area. Over the period 2019 to 2020 employment fell by 6,000 (from 498,000). In the county there was employment growth of 2,000 and in the city a fall of 8,000.

The tree map and pie chart below show that about a third of all employment (166,000 or 33.8%) was based in Leicester.

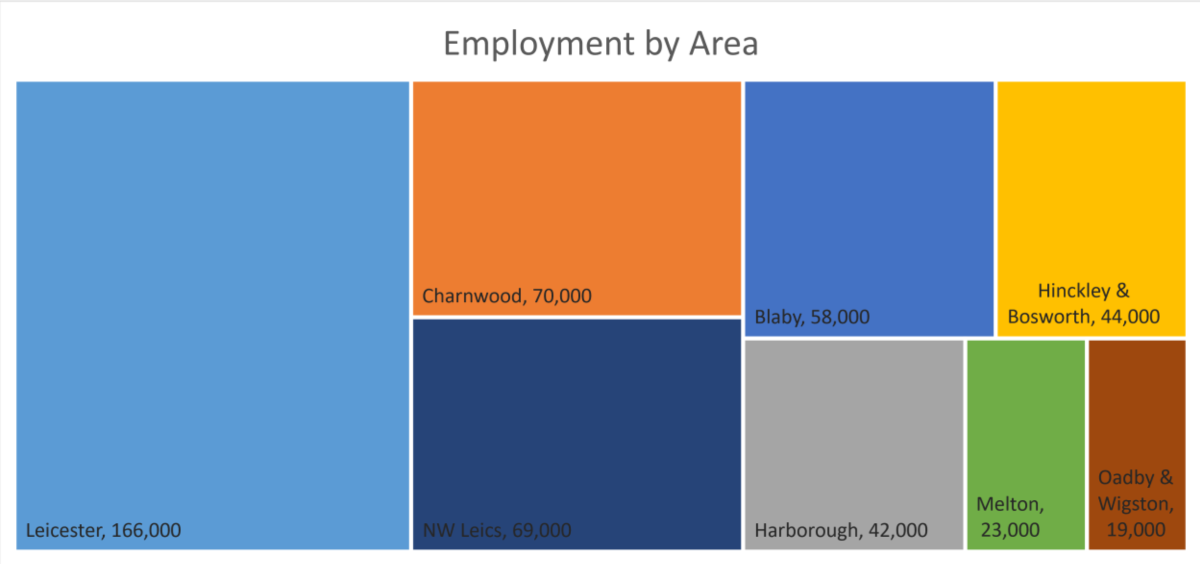

Figure 18: Employment by Area 2020
Source: ONS Business Registration and Employment Survey

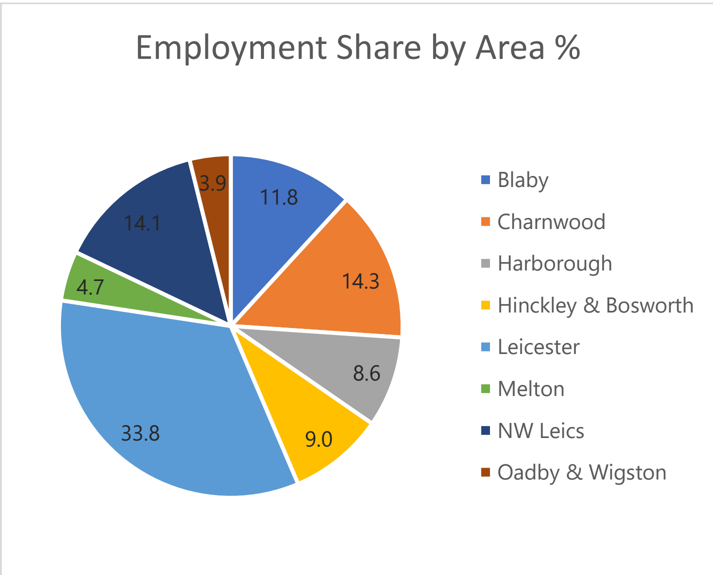

Figure 19: Employment Share by Area 2020
Source: ONS Business Registration and Employment Survey

The tree map below demonstrates the share of employment by industry sector. This uses those sectors with employment of 5,000 or more. In many ways this reflects the national structure (large public, retail and hospitality sectors) but there are however some differences, example, the manufacture of food products.

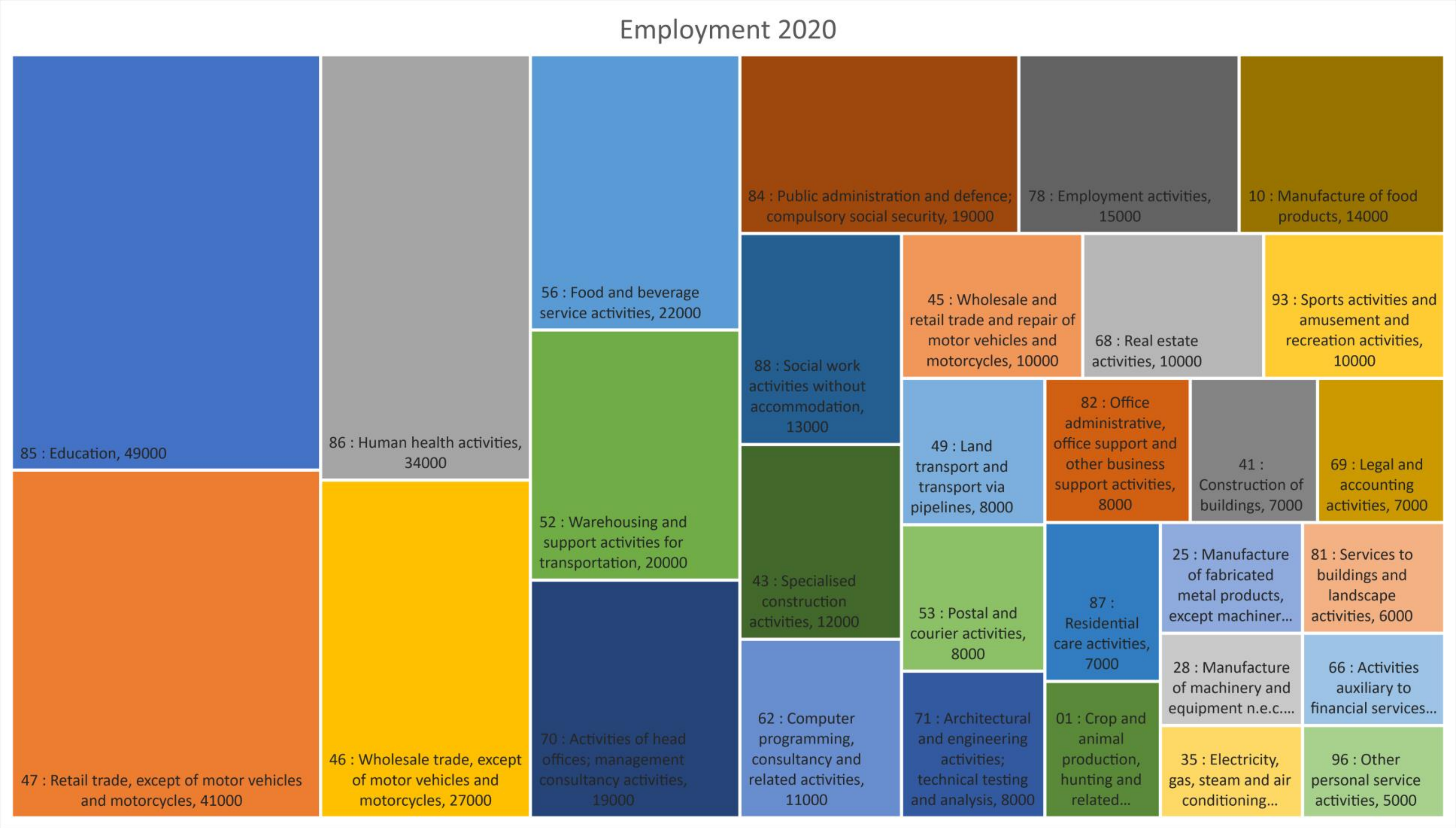

Figure 20: Employment by Industry Area 2020
Source: ONS Business Registration and Employment Survey

The figure below demonstrates those sectors that have had positive employment growth of 500 or more over the period 2019 to 2020. In the case of warehousing and support activities for transportation this was 7,000. The impact in the growth of this sector has had more of a positive impact on some parts of the Leicester and Leicestershire area than others. In NW Leicestershire in 2020 warehousing and support activities for transportation accounted for employment of 9,000. This is the largest sector in the area and from 2019 to 2020 employment grew by 5,500.

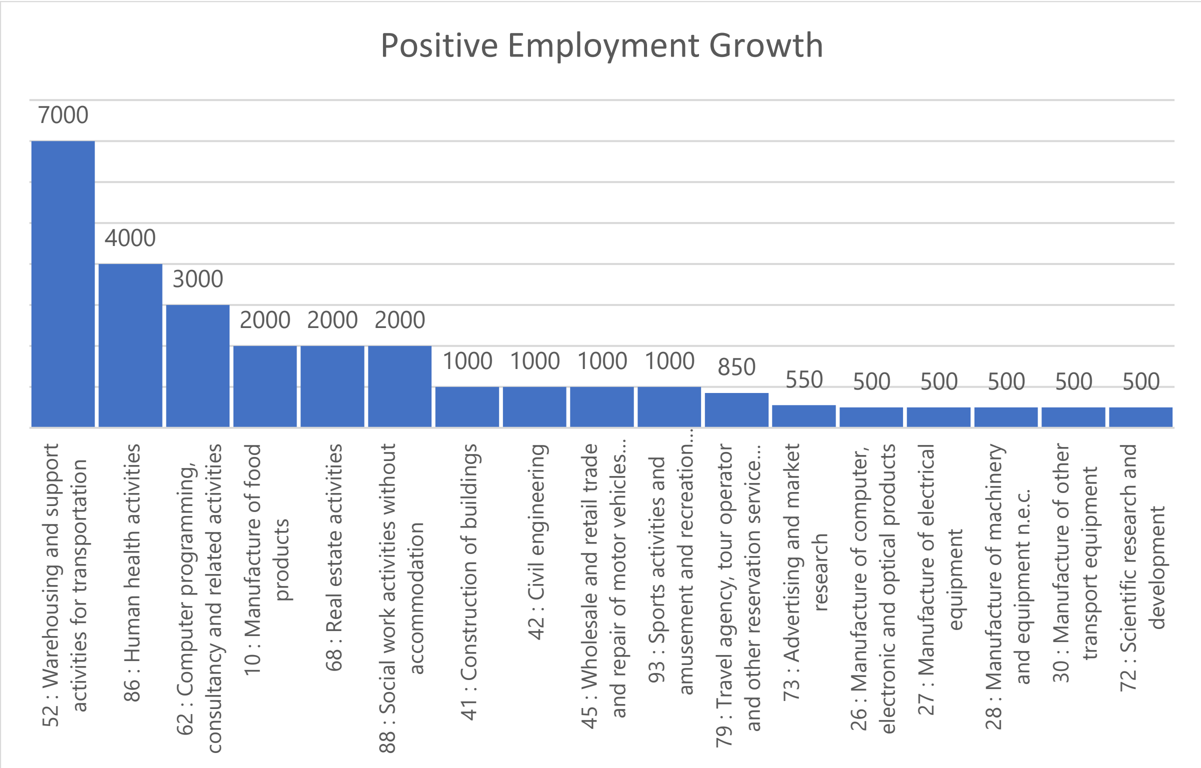

Figure 22: Positive Employment Growth
Source: ONS Business Registration and Employment Survey

The figure below demonstrates those sectors that have had negative employment growth of 1,000 or more. In the case of textile and clothing manufacture this has been significant. Combined these 2 sectors have seen a fall in employment of 7,000. This has had more of a negative impact on some parts of the Leicester and Leicestershire area than others. In Leicester from 2019 to 2020 these same 2 sectors combined saw a fall of 5,500.

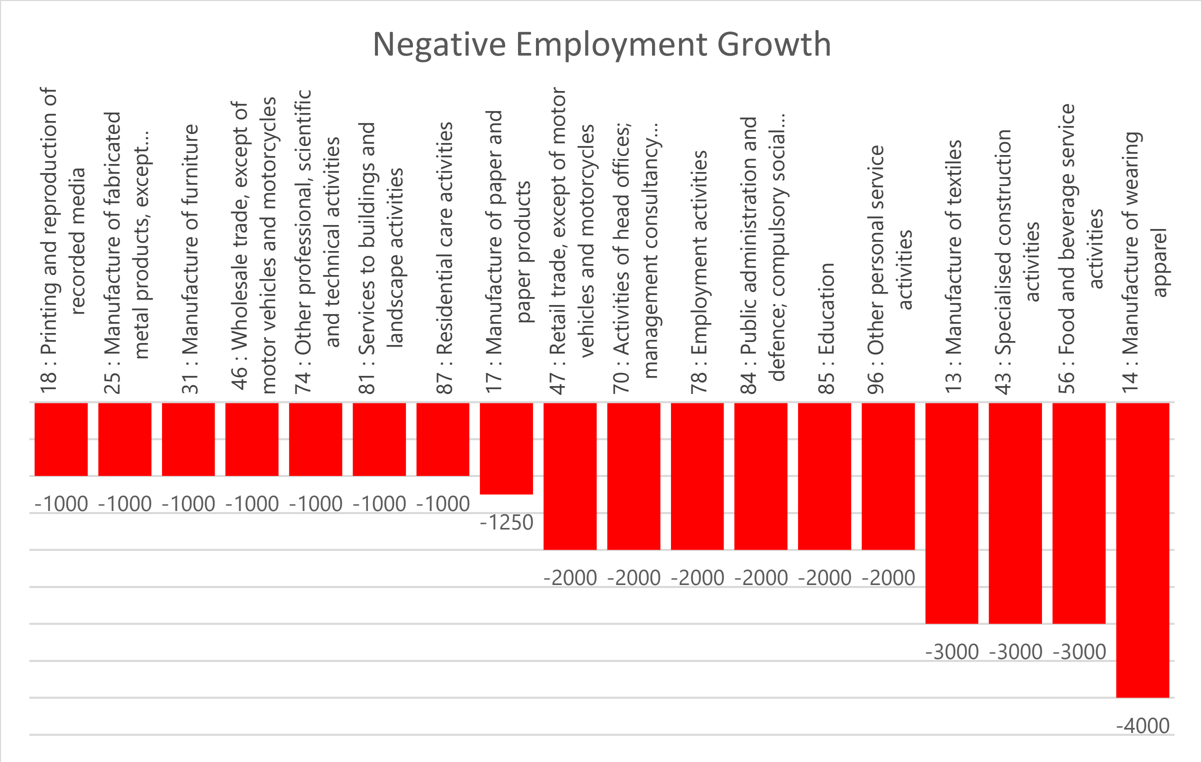

Figure 23: Negative Employment Growth
Source: ONS Business Registration and Employment Survey

For further insight into the BRES data short reports at a Leicester and Leicestershire, local and district authority area have been made available on the LLEP website.

BRES data can also be accessed from the Office for National Statistics via Nomis (see below).

9. Useful Links

LSR Online

Leicestershire County Council is working in partnership with the LLEP to provide a single online portal for local economic data across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. The LSR Portal holds data across a wide range of economic indicators (in addition to other measures including health and wellbeing), the majority of which are available at district level.

Midlands Engine Economic Observatory

The Midlands Engine Economic Observatory is an analytical function of the Midlands Engine, providing comprehensive and contemporary data, analysis and intelligence on the whole Midlands economy including a monthly regional impact m*onitor*, reporting on the impact of Covid-19 on the region's economy.

Office for National Statistics (ONS)

The ONS produces comprehensive data and analysis on coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK and its effect on the economy and society.

NOMIS

Nomis is a service provided by the Office for National Statistics, ONS, to give free access to the most detailed and up-to-date UK labour market statistics from official sources.

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