

June 2026 (Issue 3)

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West Sussex Summary



New Businesses June 2026

- 482 new businesses incorporated. (**3%** less than May 2026)
- 389 businesses dissolved or liquidated. (**25%** decrease from May 2026)
- Net increase of **93** businesses.

Claimants June 2026

- Claimant count increased by **0.3%** in West Sussex over the last month.
- The claimant count rate remained unchanged at **3.1%** in West Sussex, matching the regional rate, which also remained unchanged at **3.1%**. Meanwhile, the national rate decreased to **4.0%**.

Universal Credit Claimants April 2026 (latest revised data February 2026 updates quarterly)

- Universal Credit claimants increased by **0.4%** in West Sussex over the last month.
- In January 2026, **16%** of the 16-64 population in West Sussex are claiming UC, close to the regional percentage and lower than the national percentage of **19.4%**.

West Sussex IT businesses and IT job postings summary (June 2026):

- **Business incorporations** have grown strongly since 2024, remaining well above historic levels despite a slight decline in 2026.
- **IT job postings** fell significantly from their 2021 peak but have shown signs of recovery during 2025–2026.
- **Overall**, the IT sector appears to be expanding, with strong business formation and improving demand for IT talent.

No of Employees (Real Time Information) June 2026 (% Change from May 2026 - June 2026)

- West Sussex: 397,488 (increased by **0.05%**)
- West Sussex (South West): 195,583 (increased by **0.06%**)

- West Sussex (North East): 201,905 (increased by **0.05%**)
- South East: 4,264,590 (increased by **0.05%**)
- UK: 30,282,581 (decreased by **0.01%**)

Median Pay (Real Time Information) June 2026 (% Change from May 2026 - June 2026)

- West Sussex (South West): 2,526 (increased by **0.56%**)
- West Sussex (North East): 2,837 (increased by **0.28%**)
- South East: 2,780 (increased by **0.40%**)
- UK: 2,632 (increased by **0.27%**)

Job Postings (Lightcast)

- In June 2026, there were **12,540** unique job postings in West Sussex, which is about **30%** higher than the same time last year.
- In terms of the top posted occupations over the last six months (January 2026 to June 2026), home health aide is the top posted followed closely by janitors/cleaners.

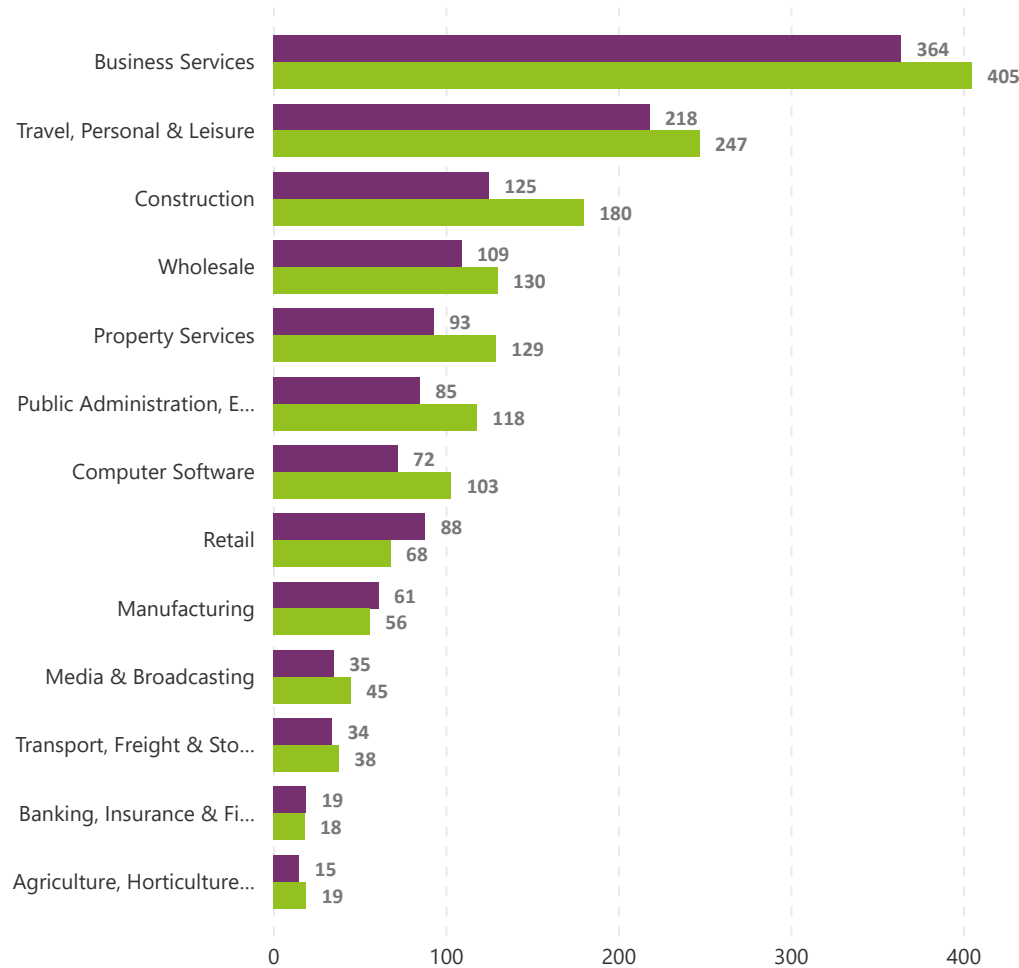
Average House Price May 2026

- Adur: £373,000
- Arun: £324,000
- Chichester: £436,000
- Crawley: £334,000
- Horsham: £441,000
- Mid Sussex: £431,000
- Worthing: £299,000

West Sussex: New Businesses

Number of new business incorporations and businesses dissolved/in liquidation by industry in West Sussex (Apr'26 - Jun'26)

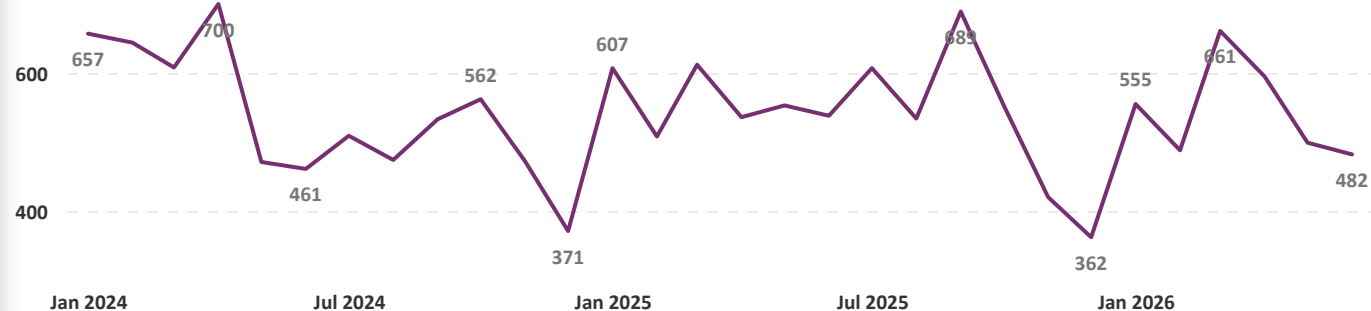
● Dissolved/liquidation ● New incorporations



New Business Count

-3% ▼

New business incorporations in West Sussex



Summary of Business Formation Trends in West Sussex

Overall trend:

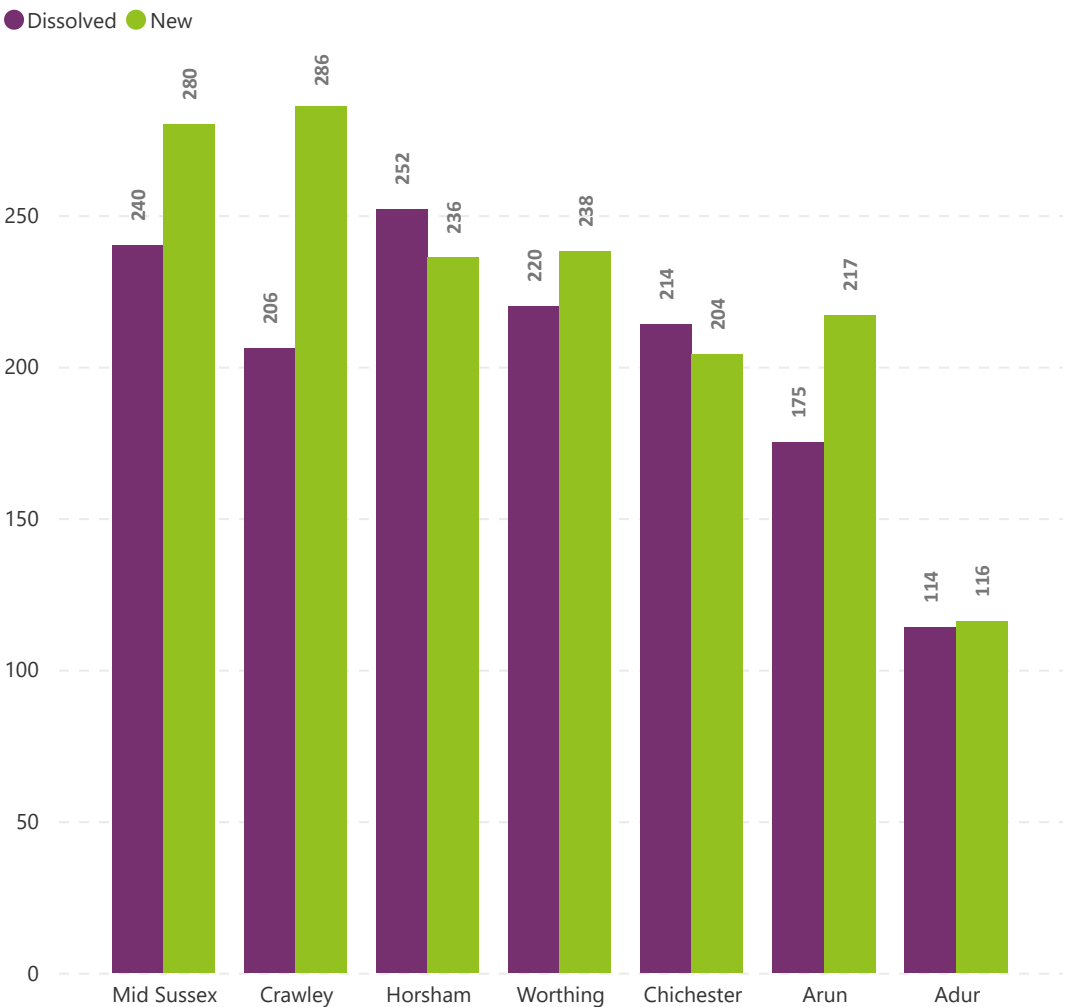
- **Most industries saw net growth**, with new business incorporations exceeding dissolutions, particularly in **Business Services, Travel, Personal & Leisure, Construction, Property Services, and Computer Software**.
- **Retail and Manufacturing experienced net declines**, with more businesses dissolving than being newly incorporated.
- **Overall, West Sussex recorded stronger business creation than business closure across most sectors**, indicating positive business activity during Apr-Jun 2026.

June 2026:

- 482 new businesses incorporated. (**3%** less than May 2026)
- 389 businesses dissolved or liquidated. (**25%** decrease from May 2026)
- Net increase of 93 businesses.

West Sussex: New Businesses

Number of new business incorporations and businesses dissolved/in liquidation by local authority (Apr'26-Jun'26)



Adur ratio

1.8%

Arun ratio

24.0%

Chichester ratio

-4.7%

Crawley ratio

38.8%

Horsham ratio

-6.3%

Mid Sussex ratio

16.7%

Worthing ratio

8.2%

West Sussex ratio

11.0%

Summary of Business Formation Trends in West Sussex

Over the last 3 months:

- **Mid Sussex, Crawley, Worthing, Arun and Adur recorded net growth**, with new business incorporations exceeding business dissolutions.
- **Horsham and Chichester saw net declines**, with more businesses dissolving than being newly incorporated during the period.
- **Overall, business formation outpaced closures across most West Sussex local authorities**, with the strongest net gains recorded in **Crawley, Mid Sussex and Arun** between April and June 2026.

Last 12 months:

- 6,828 new businesses incorporated.
- 6,618 businesses dissolved or liquidated.
- Net gain of 210 businesses.

Last 3 months:

- 1,577 new businesses incorporated.
- 1,421 businesses dissolved or liquidated.
- Net increase of 156 businesses.

West Sussex: Claimant Count (numbers)

16,650
Jun'26

16,600
May'26

West Sussex Change
0.3% ▲

Adur
0.4% ▲

Arun
-0.6% ▼

Horsham
2.1% ▲

Chichester
-2.6% ▼

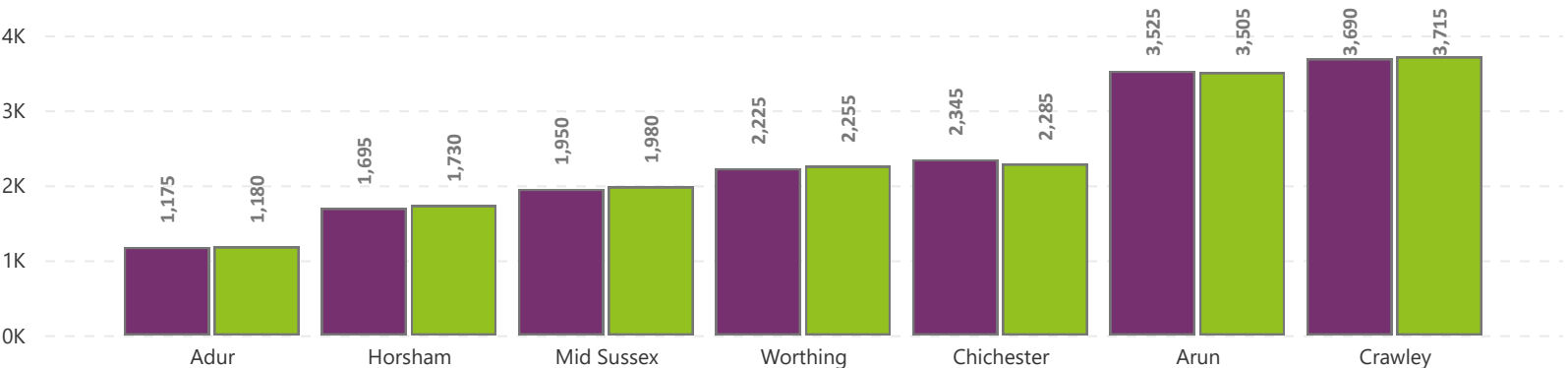
Crawley
0.7% ▲

Mid Sussex
1.5% ▲

Worthing
1.3% ▲

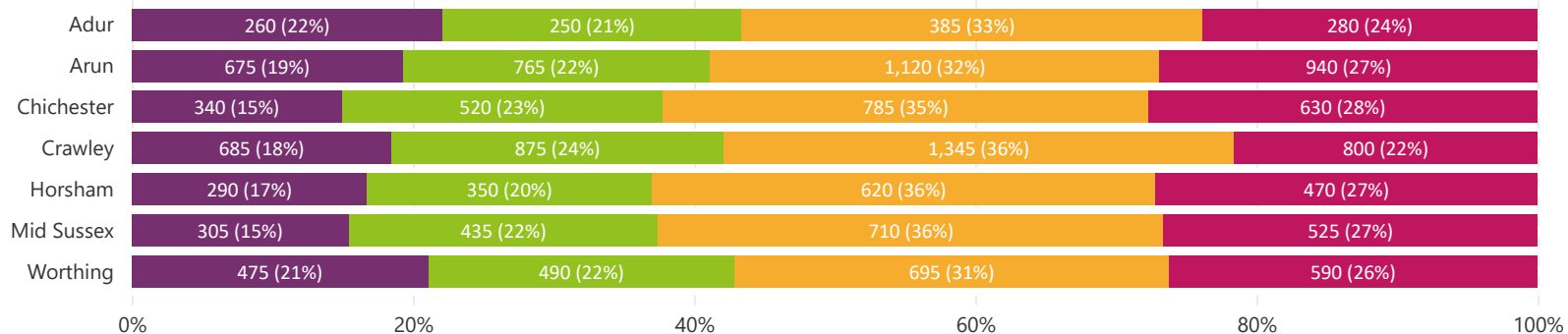
Total Number of Claimants by Local Authority

● May 2026 ● June 2026



Distribution of claimants by age band

● Aged 18-24 ● Aged 25-34 ● Aged 35-49 ● Aged 50+



Summary of Claimant Count Changes in West Sussex, June 2026

Breakdown by district (May'26 - Jun'26):

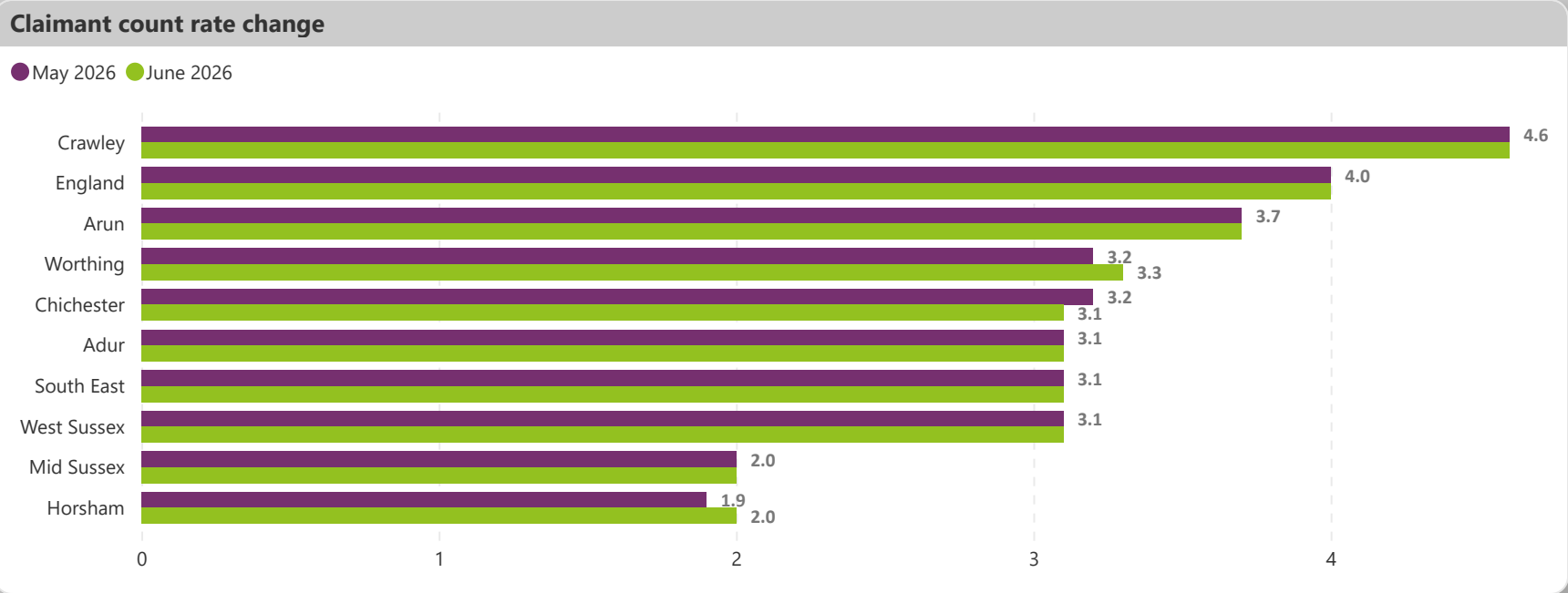
Age groups:

- Adur highest % of young claimants.
- Arun has the most number of young claimants (675)
- Crawley has the highest number of claimants who are age 35-49

Specifics (Jun'26):

- Crawley recorded the highest claimant count (**3,715**).
- Crawley had the highest claimant count rate (**4.6%**), higher than regional and national average.

West Sussex: Claimant Count (rate)



West Sussex Change

0.0 —

England Change

0.1 ▲

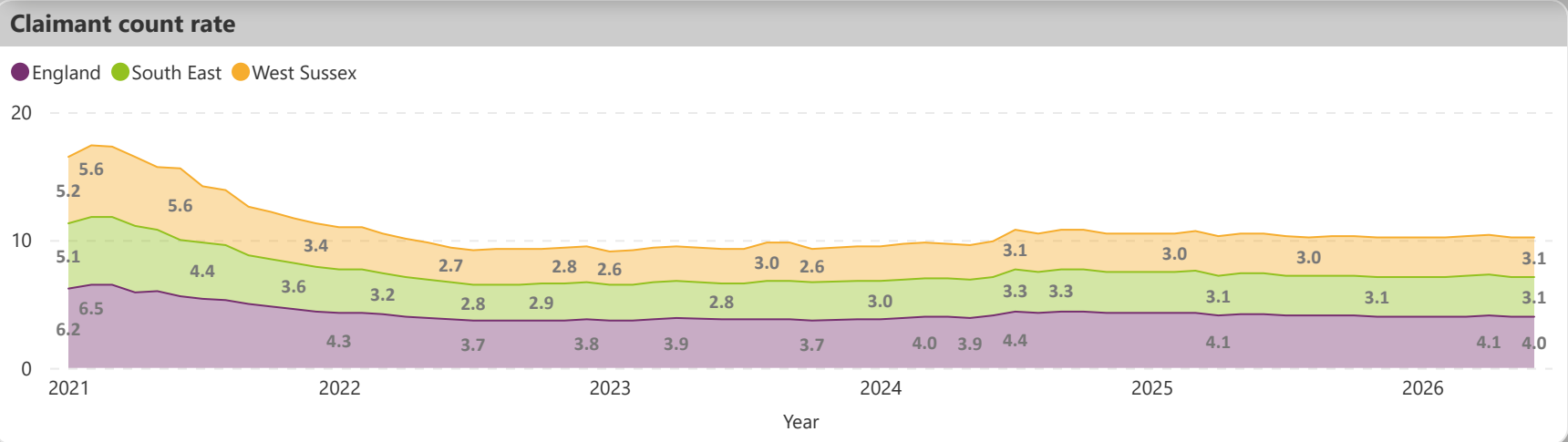
South East Change

0.0 —

Summary of Claimant Count Changes in West Sussex, June 2026

Overall:

- Claimant count has increased over the last month by **0.3%** (16,650) in West Sussex.
- Claimant count rate unchanged at **3.1% in West Sussex**, remaining below the **national average of 4%** and same as the **regional rate of 3.1%**.
- Horsham and Mid Sussex had the lowest claimant count rate (**1.9%**).



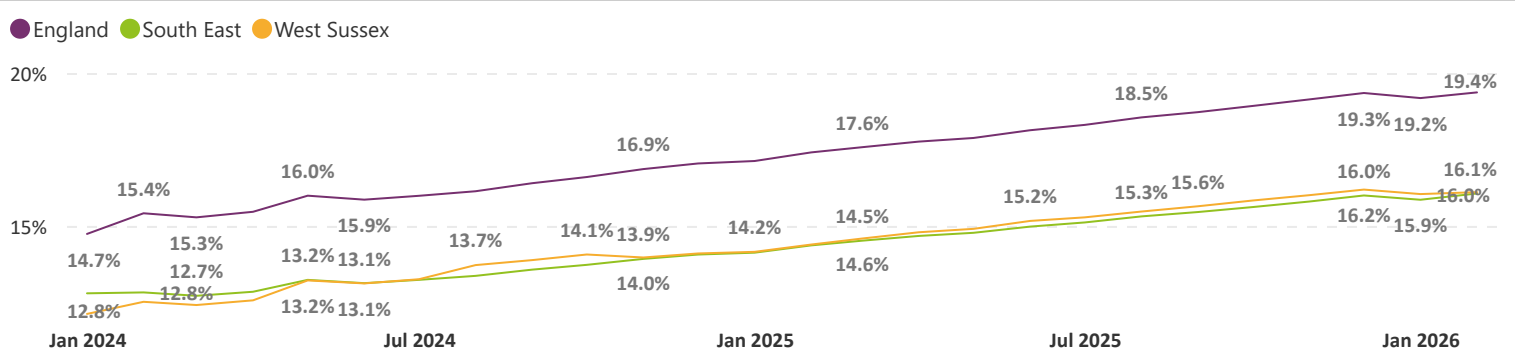
Source: [ONS, Claimant Count](#)
Released: 21 July 2026 (Jun 2026 Figures are provisional)

*The claimant count includes those people who are claiming either Job Seekers Allowance or Universal Credit principally because they are out of work or working very few hours and/or have a very low wage.

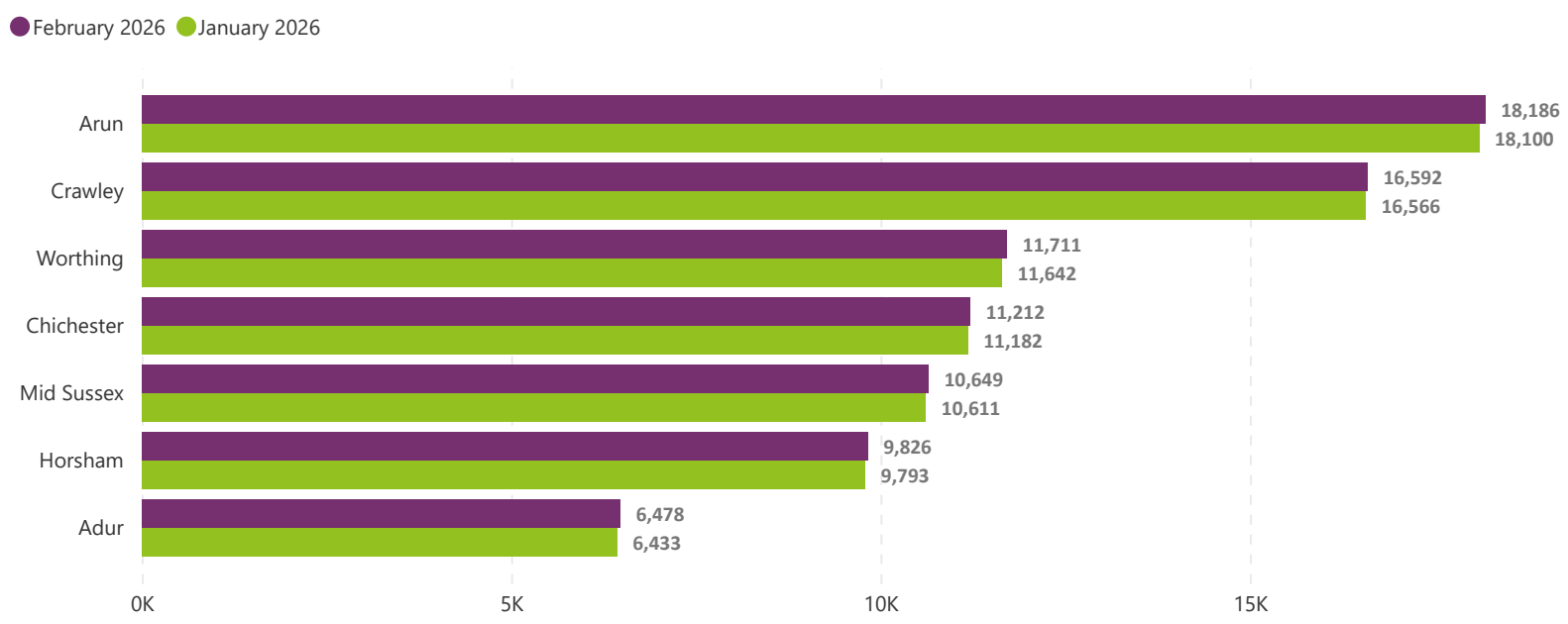
West Sussex: Universal Credit Claimants



Percentage of people aged 16-64 years claiming Universal Credit



Universal Credit claimants in West Sussex change



Adur	Arun	Chichester	Crawley
0.7% ▲	0.5% ▲	0.3% ▲	0.2% ▲
Horsham	Mid Sussex	Worthing	West Sussex
0.3% ▲	0.4% ▲	0.6% ▲	0.4% ▲

Summary of Universal Credit Claimants in West Sussex, February 2026

Overall:

- In February 2026, numbers of Universal Credit claimants increased by almost 0.4% (85,450 total) over the last month in West Sussex.
- The percentage (February 2026) of the 16-64 population claiming UC in West Sussex has risen to 16%, which is almost the same as the regional percentage and lower than the national percentage of 19.4% for the last month.

District-specific:

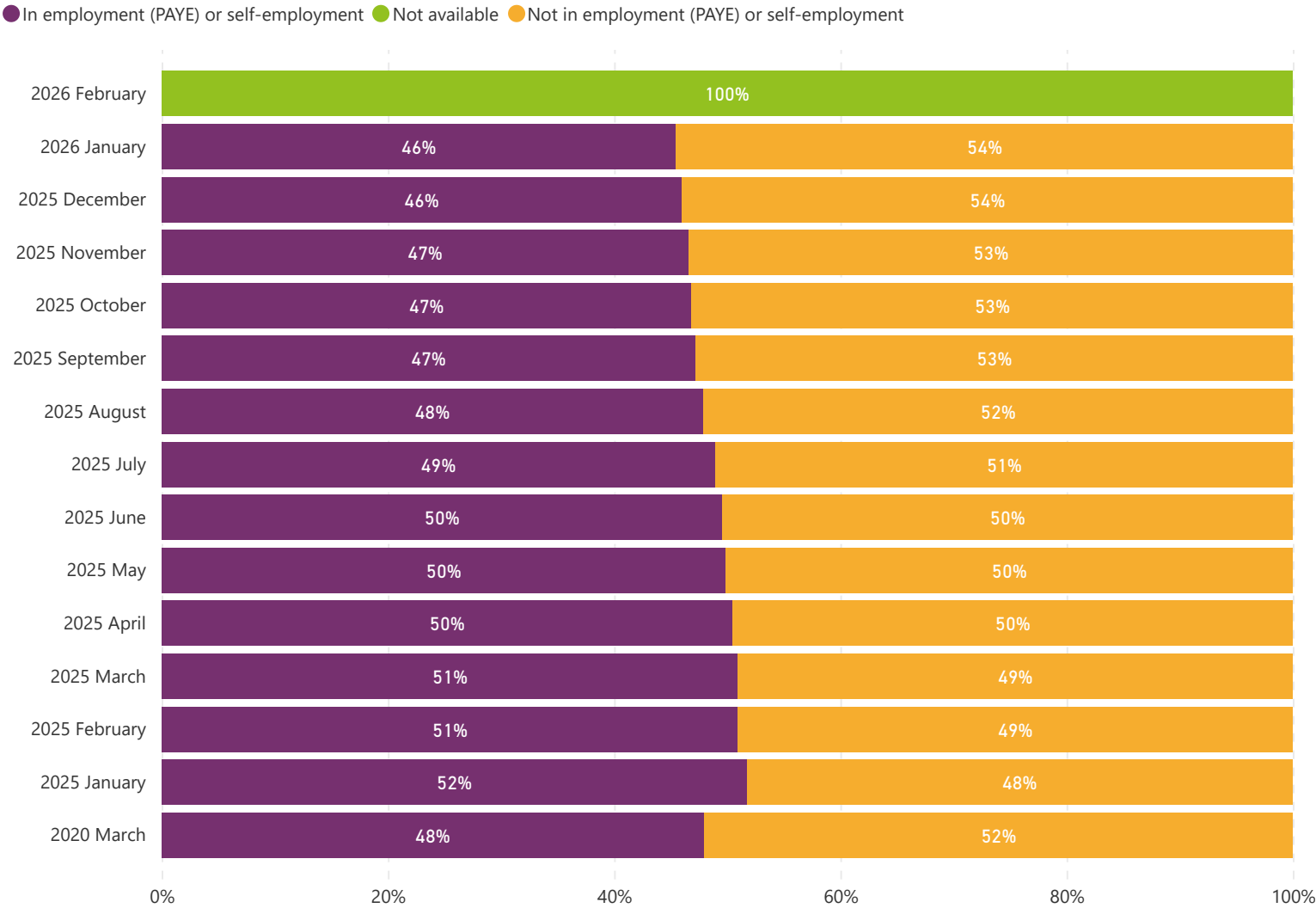
- Adur had the highest percentage increase in claimants (0.7%) since January 2026.
- At February 2026, Arun had the highest number of claimants at 18,186.

Update: From May 2026 this data is released on a **quarterly** basis. The definition of the "Percentage of people aged 16-64 years claiming Universal Credit" is being updated. Previously, the population denominator for ages 16-64 was derived from Census 2021 data. From March 2026 onwards, this will instead be calculated using the latest mid-year population estimates, ensuring the indicator reflects more up-to-date demographic changes.

Source: [Department for Work and Pension](#) Released: 19 May 2026 (Feb 2026 figures are provisional)

West Sussex: Universal Credit Claimants

Universal Credit claimants in West Sussex by employment status



Summary of Universal Credit Claimants in West Sussex, February 2026

Employment status:

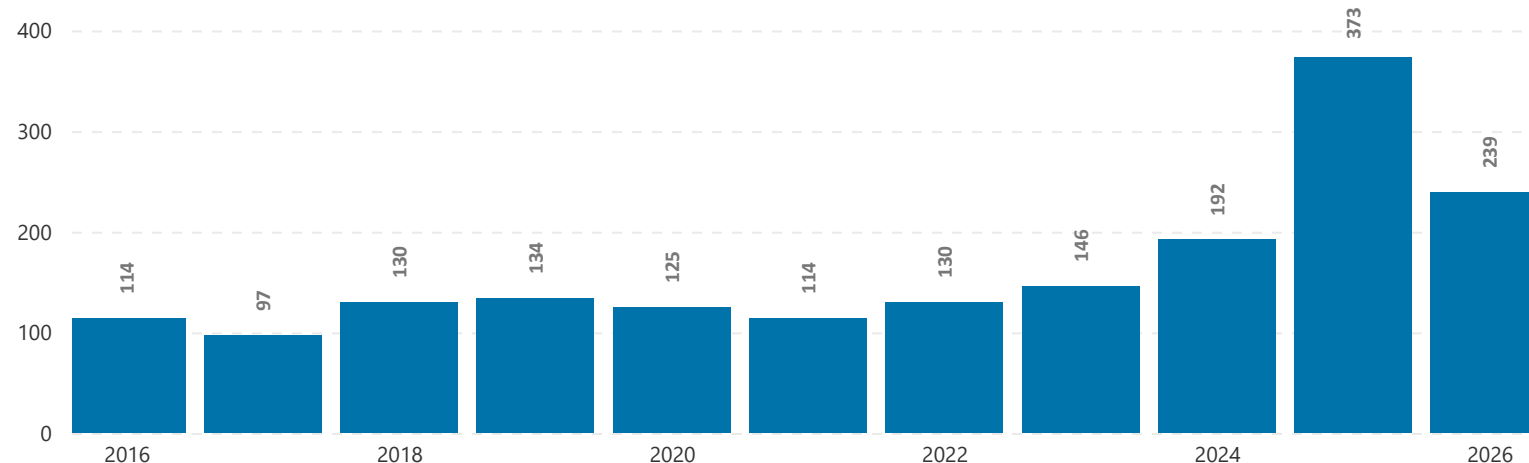
- 46% of claimants were in employment in January 2026. Higher than national (39%) or regional (43%) average.
- Mid Sussex had the highest percentage of employed claimants (50%).

Note: Employment/not in employment breakdown for February 2026 is not available.

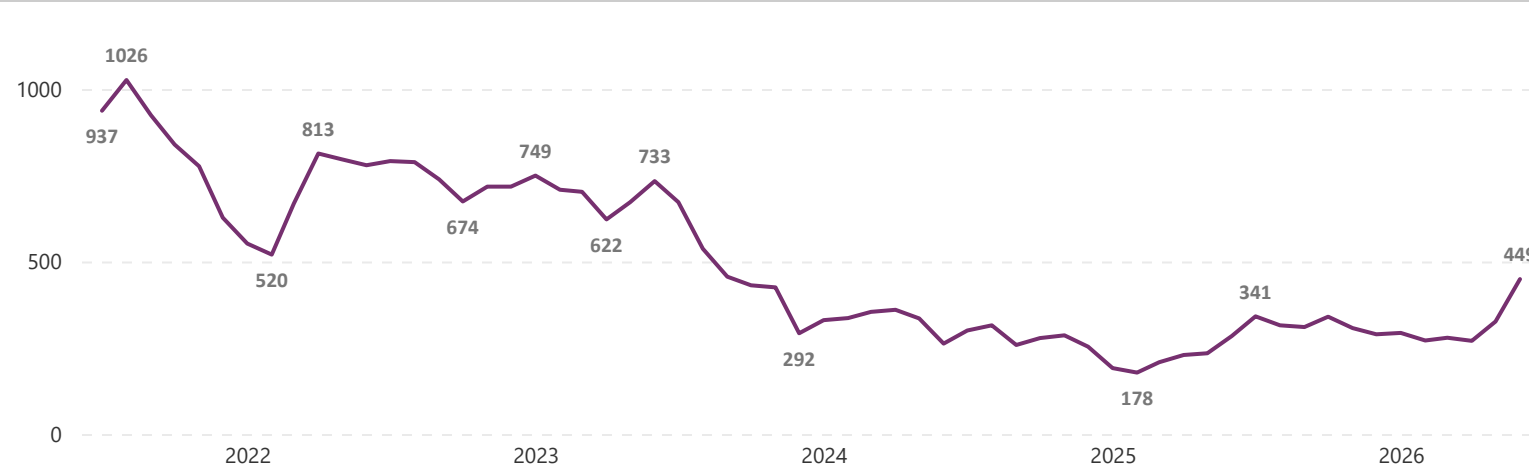
Update: Since May 2026, the DWP has changed the way it reports its figures. Data will now be published quarterly instead of more frequent releases. In addition, employment indicators have been updated to provide a broader view of the labour market by incorporating both PAYE employees and self-employed individuals.

West Sussex: IT business sector

New Company Incorporation Trends in the IT Sector (West Sussex)



IT Job Posting Trends (West Sussex)



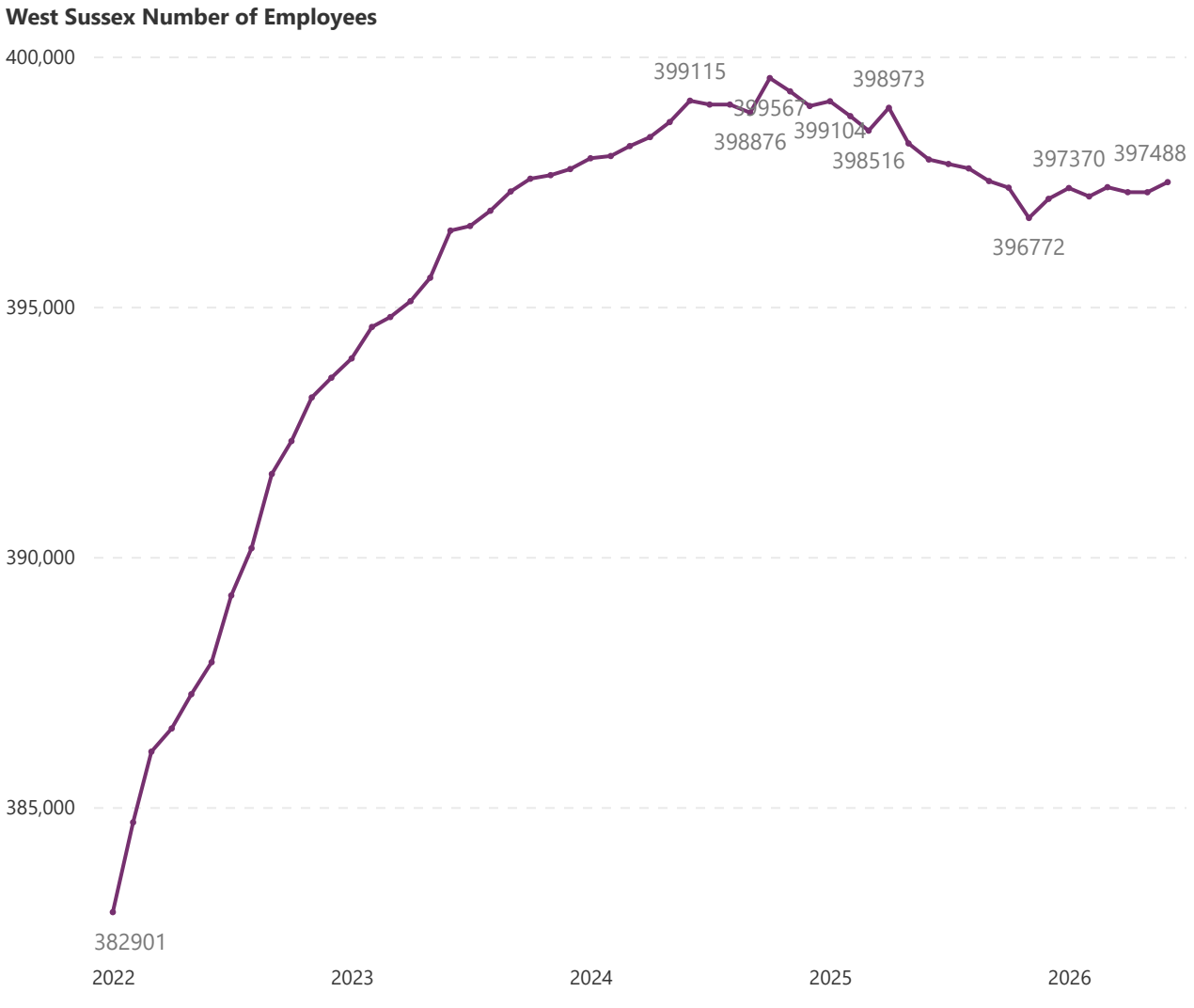
This is for the following SIC codes:

- **62012** – Business and Domestic Software Development
- **62020** – Information Technology Consultancy Activities
- **62030** – Computer Facilities Management Activities
- **62090** – Other Information Technology Service Activities
- **63110** – Data Processing, Hosting and Related Activities
- **63120** – Web Portals

New IT sector company incorporations in West Sussex remained relatively stable between **2016 and 2023**, fluctuating between **97 and 146 businesses per year**. Growth accelerated significantly from **2024 onwards**, with incorporations rising from **192 in 2024** to a peak of **373 in 2025**. Although **2026** has seen a decline to **239 incorporations**, activity remains well above pre-2024 levels, indicating sustained strength in new business creation within the local IT sector. Overall, the data suggests a marked expansion of entrepreneurial activity and demand for IT-related services in recent years.

IT job postings in West Sussex have shown a general downward trend since 2021, falling from a peak of **1,026 vacancies** to a low of **178 vacancies** in early **2025**. Demand remained relatively strong throughout **2022 and 2023**, with postings typically ranging between **520 and 813 vacancies**, before declining sharply towards the end of 2023 and throughout 2024. While vacancy levels remain below previous highs, there are signs of recovery in **2025 and 2026**, with postings increasing to **341** and most recently **449 vacancies**. This suggests that employer demand for IT talent is beginning to strengthen following a period of market contraction.

Real Time Information Earnings and Employment



West Sussex Change %

0.05% ▲

South East Change %

-0.06% ▼

Uk Change %

-0.01% ▼

Summary of RTI employees in West Sussex for July 2026.

Overall:

- West Sussex: 397,488
- West Sussex (South West): 195,583
- West Sussex (North East): 201,905
- South East: 4,278,190
- UK: 30,282,581

One Month Change (May 2026 - June 2026):

- West Sussex rose by 0.05%
- West Sussex (South West) rose by 0.06%
- West Sussex (North East) rose by 0.05%
- South East rose by 0.05%
- UK fell by 0.01%

Three Month Change (March 2026 - June 2026):

- West Sussex rose by 0.03%
- West Sussex (South West) rose by 0.06%
- West Sussex (North East) fell by 0.01%
- South East fell by 0.03%
- UK fell by 0.10%

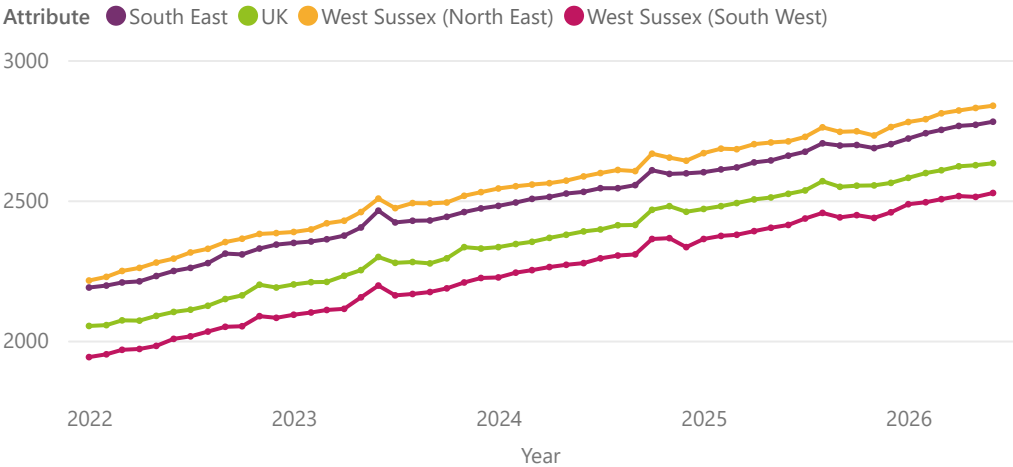
Source: ONS - [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, seasonally adjusted](#)

Released: 21 July 2026

Real Time Information Earnings and Employment



Median Pay National and Regional Figures



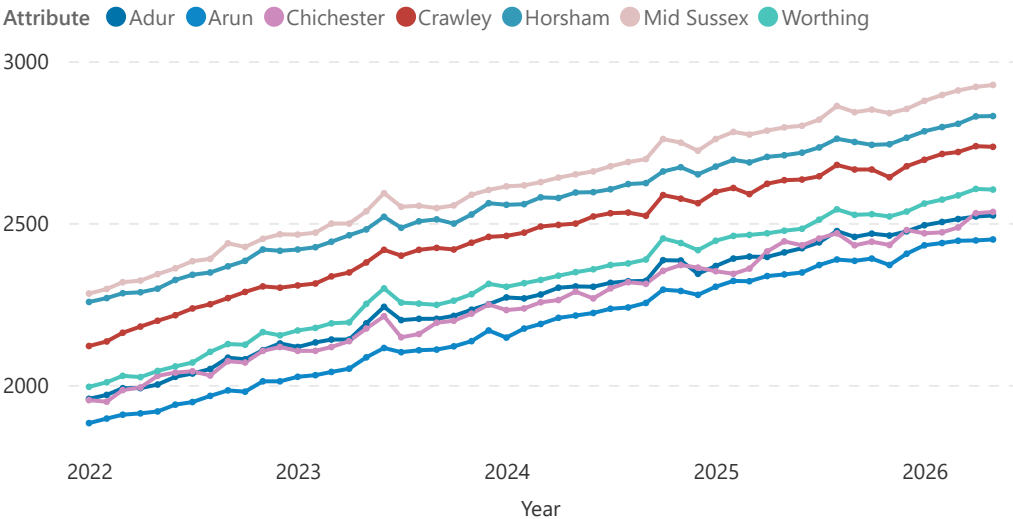
West Sussex South West Change % Pay
0.56% ▲

West Sussex North East Change % Pay
0.28% ▲

South East Change % Pay
0.40% ▲

UK Change % Pay
0.27% ▲

Median Pay in West Sussex



Summary of RTI median pay in West Sussex for July 2026.

Overall:

- West Sussex (South West): 2,526
- West Sussex (North East): 2,837
- South East: 2,780
- UK: 2,632

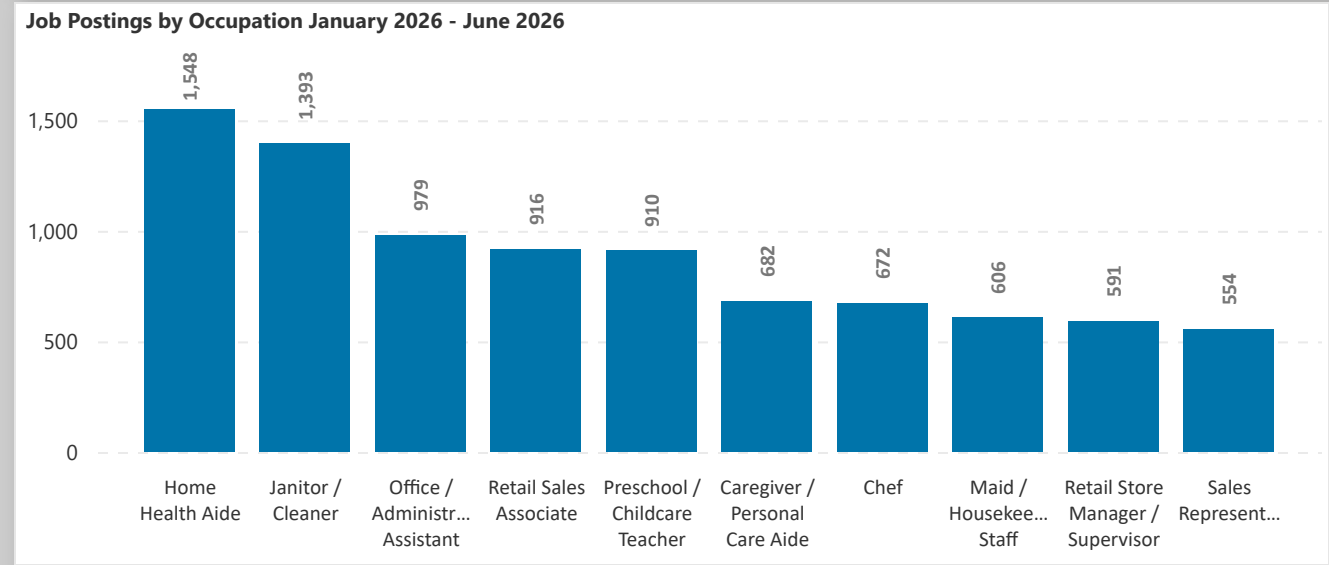
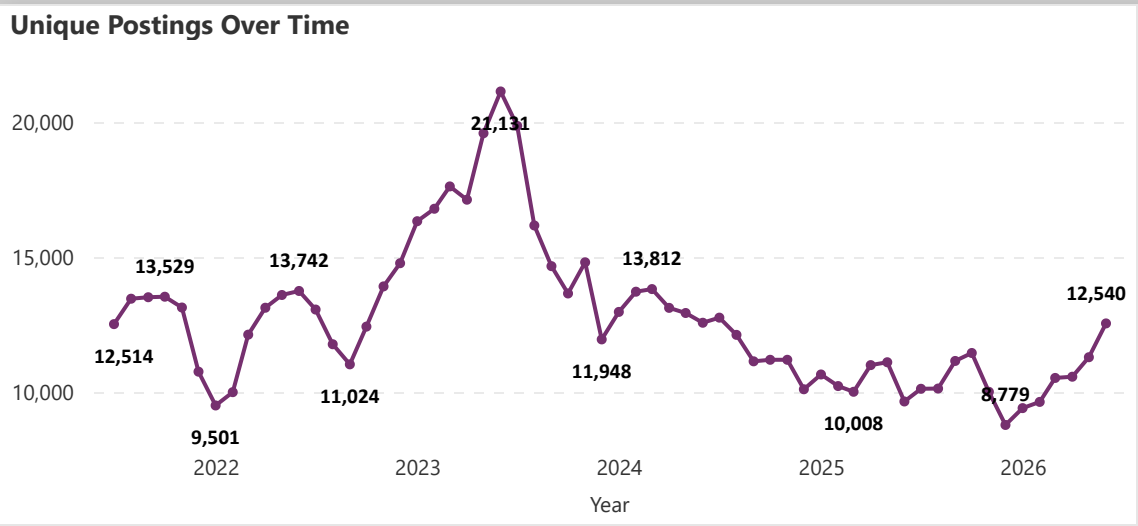
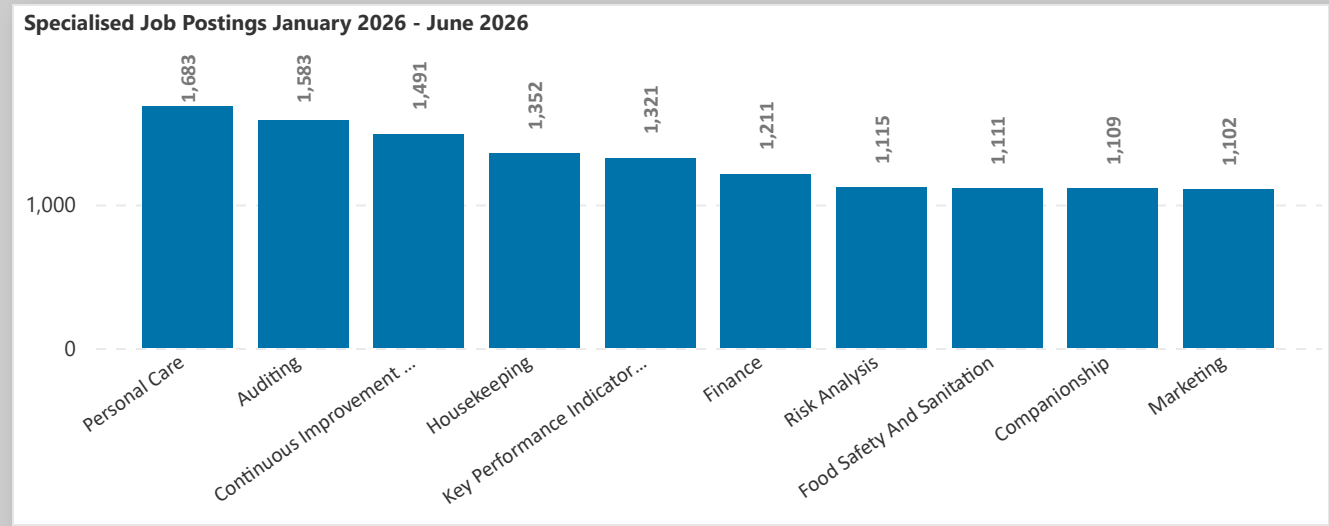
One Month Change (May 2026 - June 2026):

- West Sussex (South West) rose by 0.56%
- West Sussex (North East) rose by 0.28%
- South East rose by 0.40%
- UK rose by 0.27%

Three Month Change (March 2026 - June 2026):

- West Sussex (South West) rose by 0.88%
- West Sussex (North East) rose by 0.96%
- South East rose by 1.05%
- UK rose by 0.96%

Job Postings



Summary of the job postings in West Sussex by Lightcast.

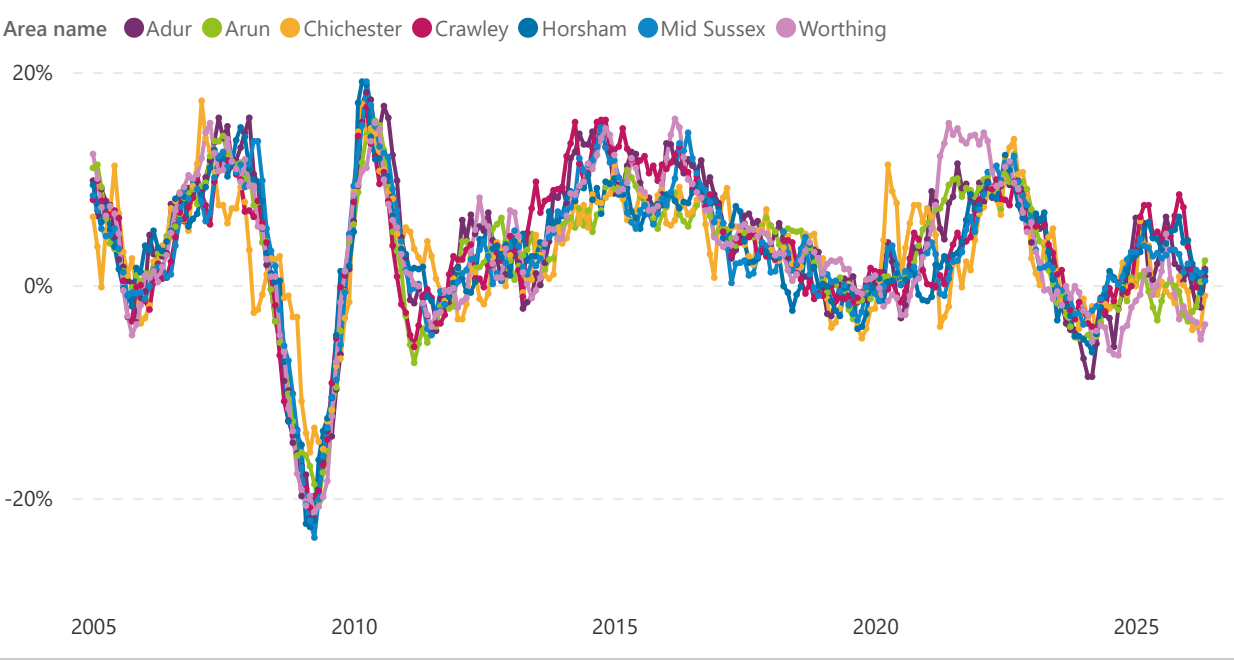
WSCC has access to Lightcast from which the numbers of job postings by occupation type, along with other information including skills requirements and job titles is available. In April 2026 there were 12,540 unique job postings in West Sussex, a significant reduction from the peak in June 2023 of 21,131 but still higher than the general levels seen pre-Covid. In terms of the top posted occupations over the last six months (January 2026 to June 2026), Home Health Aide is the most frequently posted role, making up the highest number of occupations followed by Janitor/Cleaner. The remaining occupations appear to be evenly distributed.

House Prices

House Price Data (May Provisional ONS)

Area	Average First-time buyers	Average House Price	Average Monthly Rent	Average Mortgage Buyers
Adur	£317,000.0	£373,000.00	£1,393.00	£368,000.00
Arun	£256,000.0	£324,000.00	£1,227.00	£321,000.00
Chichester	£342,000.0	£436,000.00	£1,326.00	£435,000.00
Crawley	£299,000.0	£334,000.00	£1,484.00	£334,000.00
Horsham	£323,000.0	£441,000.00	£1,460.00	£429,000.00
Mid Sussex	£326,000.0	£431,000.00	£1,418.00	£436,000.00
Worthing	£246,000.0	£299,000.00	£1,306.00	£306,000.00

Annual House Price Change %



Highest Average House Price
Horsham

Highest Average Mortgages
Mid Sussex

Highest Average Monthly Rent
Crawley

Highest First Time Buyer Average
Chichester

National Summary

Job Vacancies

- Estimated vacancies in April to June 2026 was 712,000.
- Decreasing 7,000 or 3.9% from January 2026 to March 2026.
- Total estimated vacancies were down by 18,000 (2.5%) in April to June 2026 from levels in the previous year.
- The number of unemployed people per vacancy was 2.5 in March 2026 to May 2026, this has remained unchanged since July to September 2025.

Gross Domestic Product

- Monthly GDP is estimated to have grown by 0.7% in May 2026.

Labour Market

- Early estimates for June 2026 indicate that the number of payrolled employees was 30.3 million which is a fall of 0.2% from the previous year.
- The largest increase was in the health and social work sector, with a rise of 39,000. The largest decrease was in the accommodation and food service activities sector, with a fall of 79,000 employees.
- Early estimates for April 2026 indicate that median monthly pay increased by 4.3% compared with June 2025.
- Annual growth in median pay in June 2026 was highest in the health and social work sector, with an increase of 6.2%. it was lowest in the education sector, with a increase of 3.5%.

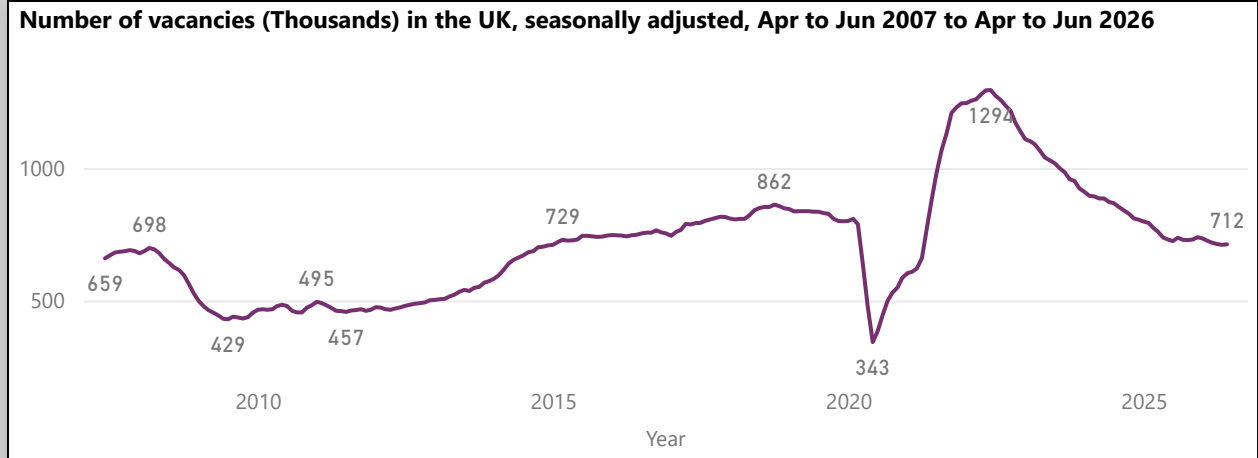
Business Trading

- 17% of trading businesses reported that their turnover had increased in June 2026 compared with the previous month
- In early July 2026, economic uncertainty was the most commonly reported challenge affecting turnover for trading businesses at 32%.
- 30% of trading businesses reported an increase in the prices of goods and services bought in June 2026 when compared to the pr
- 13% of trading businesses expect the prices of goods or services they sell to increase in August 2026.
- 24% of businesses reported at least some level of concern about energy prices in June 2026.

Business Closures

- Company insolvencies in England and Wales stood at 1,845 in June 2026, which was 10% lower than in May 2026.
- Company insolvencies consisted of 276 compulsory liquidations, 1364 creditors' voluntary liquidations (CVLs), 191 administrations and 14 company voluntary arrangements (CVAs).
- There were 11,871 individual insolvencies in England and Wales.
- Individual insolvencies consisted of 674 bankruptcies, 3,879 debt relief orders (DROs) and 7,318 individual voluntary arrangements (IVAs).

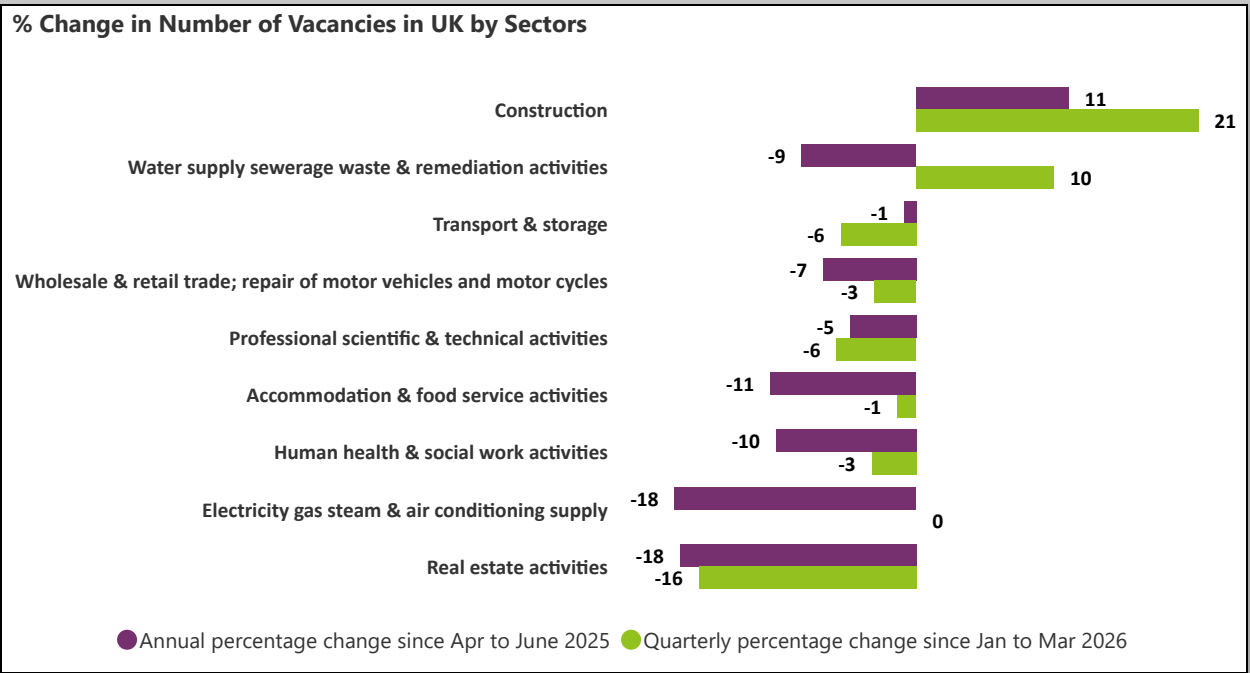
Job Vacancies (UK)



Summary of job vacancies (UK).

Overall:

- Estimated vacancies are for the period of April to June 2026.
- Vacancies change measures from the dates January 2026 to March 2026.
- Total estimated vacancies are measured from April to June 2026 and the change from the previous year.
- The number of unemployed people per vacancy was 2.5 in March 2026 to May 2026, this has remained unchanged since July to September 2025.



Total Estimated Vacancies Change

18000 ▼

Job Vacancies

712000 ▼

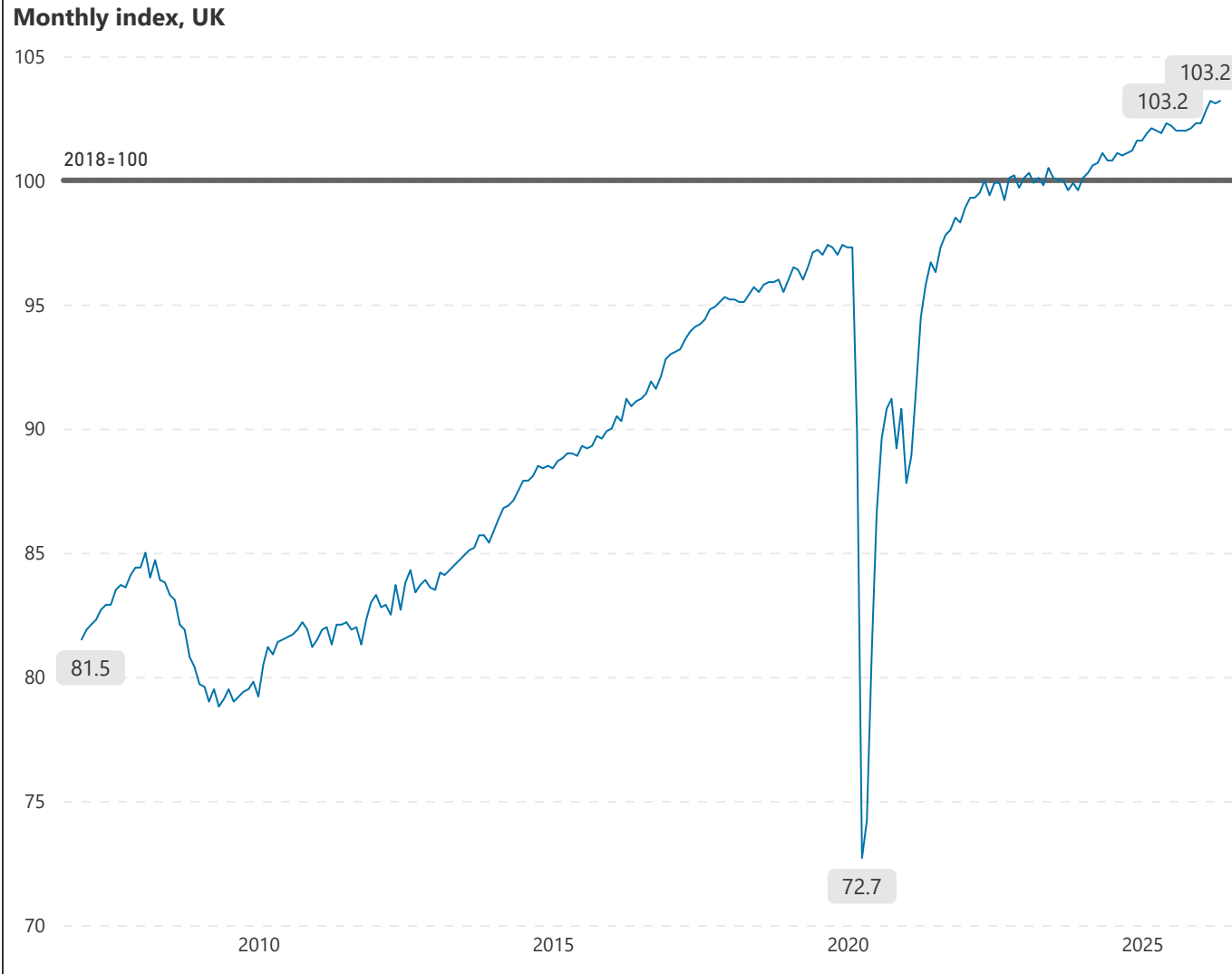
Vacancies Change %

0.90% ▼

Total Estimated Vacancies % Change

2.50% ▼

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)



GDP % Change

0.70% ▲

Services % Chan...

0.70% ▲

Production % C...

0.10% ▲

Construction % ...

1.60% ▲

Summary of Gross Domestic Product for the three months up to May 2026 (GDP) (UK).

Overall:

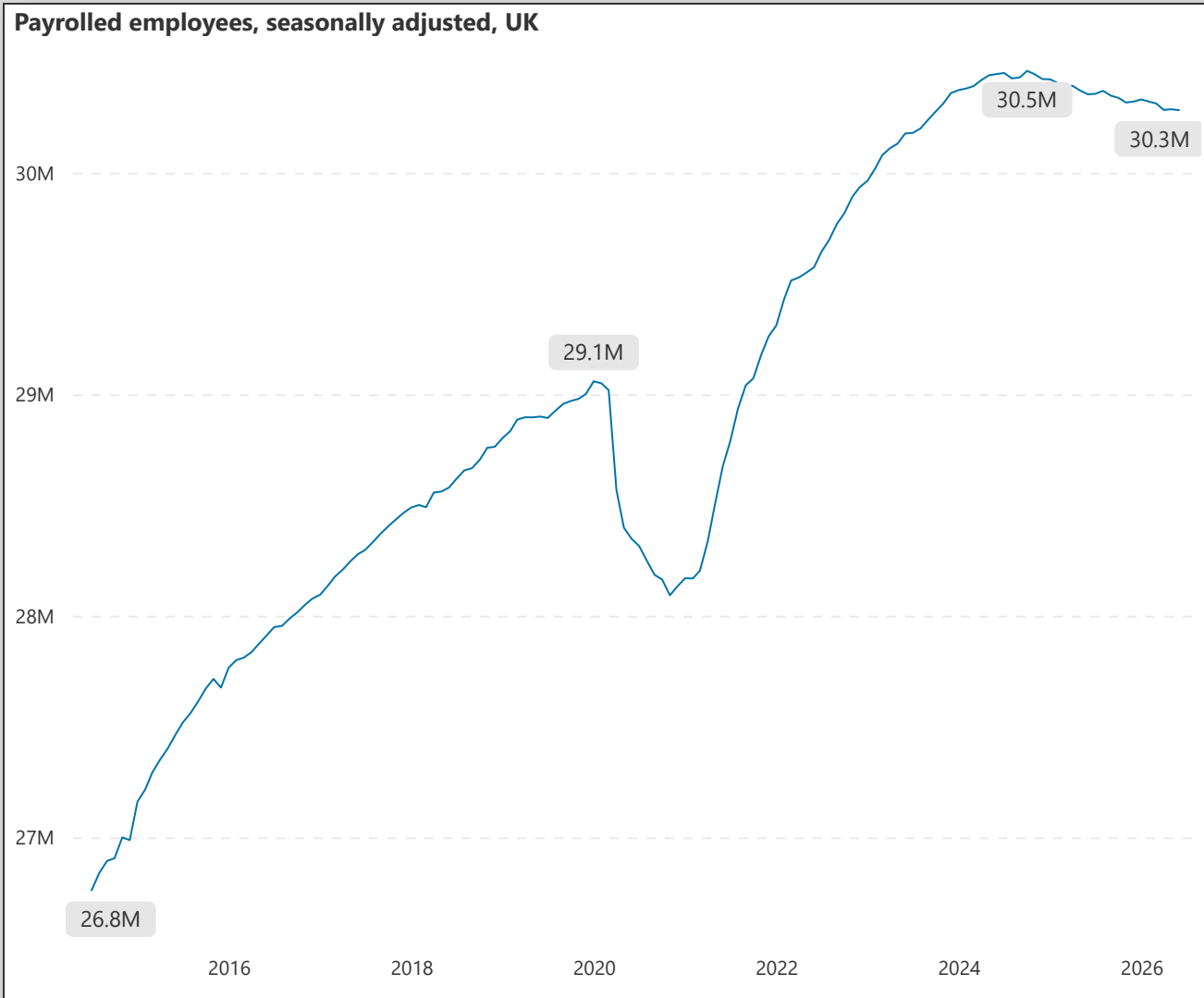
- Monthly GDP is an estimate of all final goods and services produced within a country's borders during a specific period typically a year or quarter.

Output growth:

GDP growth is measured in three sectors:

- Services deals with a large and diverse grouping of industries that produce intangible economic output. This includes: wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles, information and communication, transportation and storage and many more.
- Production deals with industries at each stage of production (manufacturing, services and agriculture).
- Construction deals with the amount of output chargeable to customers for building and civil engineering.

Labour Market



No. of Payrolled Employees
30.3 million

Payrolled Employees % Change
0.20% ▼

Largest Sector Increase Change
39000 ▲

Largest Sector No Decrease
-79000 ▼

Monthly Median Pay % Change
4.30% ▲

Summary of Labour Market (UK).

Overall:

- Estimates are for June 2026 with the change being measured from the previous year.
- The largest increase sector was in health and social work.
- The largest decrease sector was in accommodation and food service activities sector.
- Median monthly median change is for June 2025 to June 2026.
- Annual growth in median pay in June 2026 was highest in the health and social work sector, with an increase of 6.2%. it was lowest in the education sector, with a increase of 3.5%.

Business Trading

Turnover % Change in Previous Month

17.00% ▼

Challenge affecting turnover

Economic Uncertainty

Goods and services bought

30.00% ▲

Goods and services sell expectations %

13.00% ▲

Goods and services sell

16.00% ▲

Concern regarding energy prices

24.00% ▲

Summary of business insights and impact on the UK economy.

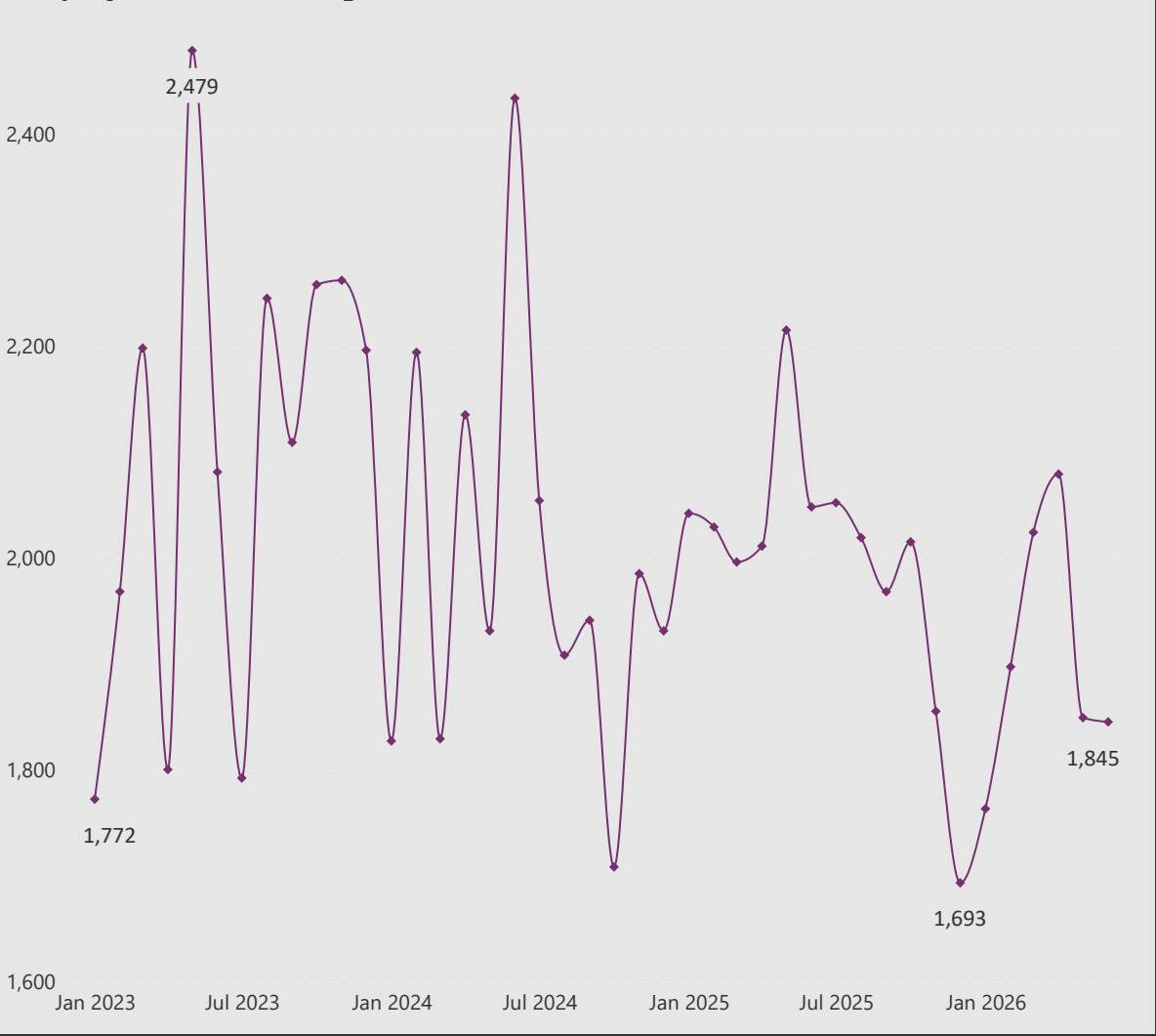
This data is the final results from Wave 160 of the Business Insights and Conditions Survey (BICS) which was live 6 to 19 July 2026.

Overall:

- All figures shown above are for trading businesses.
- Goods and services bought and sold refer to the previous month of June 2026 while goods and services expectation refer to what businesses expect prices to be in the next month of July 2026.

Business Closures (Company)

Company insolvencies in England & Wales



Company insolvencies No

1845 ▲

Insolvency % Change

-10.00% ▼

Administrations

191

Compulsory liquidations

276

Creditors' voluntary liquidations

1364

Company voluntary arrangements

14

Summary of business closures (company) on the UK economy.

Overall:

- Company insolvencies figures are for England and Wales for the month of June 2026.

Business Closures (Individual)

Individual insolvencies in England & Wales



individual insolvancie...

11871 ▼

Bankruptcies

674

Debt relief orders

3,879

Individual voluntary arrangements

7,318

Summary of business closures (individual) on the UK economy.

Overall:

- Individual insolvencies figures are for England and Wales for the month of June 2026.