Labour Market Briefing May 2024

Cumbria **Intelligence** Observatory

Introduction

This briefing contains the most recent data from the standard Claimant Count and Universal Credit registers (both counts taken on **11ᵗʰ April 2024**). 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: *ginny.murphy@cumberland.gov.uk* Tel: 07826 859026. Copies of this and other briefings can be found on the Observatory website: *www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk*.

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1. KEY FINDINGS FOR CUMBRIA

- There were estimated to be 224,671 payrolled employees resident in Cumbria in April 2024, a decrease of 40 from the revised March figure. This means there are 1,920 more residents in payrolled employment than this time last year (0.9% v 0.4% for the UK). 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 April 2024 in Cumbria were £2,270 which is 95% of the UK average. They were highest in West Cumbria (101% 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 year on year was 7.6% which is above the UK (6.9%) and this has been the case in both West and East Cumbria.
- Survey estimates for the year ending Dec 2023 suggest that the proportion of 16-64 year olds in employment in Cumbria was 82.2% compared to the national average of 75.7% (even allowing for survey error this does suggest the rate was higher locally). The rate was 82.3% in Cumberland and 82.0% in Westmorland & Furness.
- The economic inactivity rate (those aged 16-64 who are not working or actively looking for work) was estimated to be 16.0% in the year to Dec 2023, lower than the national average of 21.3%. It is broadly similar in both Cumberland (15.5% and Westmorland & Furness (16.6%). Nine out of ten of the inactive in Cumbria say they do not currently want a job.
- The annual estimates of qualification levels suggest that 34.4% of working age residents in Cumbria were qualified to level 4 or above (eg degree) which, even allowing for the degree of survey error, is lower than the national average of 47.1%
- There were 6,975 claimants of JSA / UC (out of work and seeking work) in April 2024 which is a fall of 60 from the revised March figure and is in contrast to a rise both regionally and nationally. The count fell in all former district areas except Carlisle where it rose by 35 and South Lakeland where it was unchanged.
- Compared to the same time last year, the claimant count (actively seeking work) is 295 lower, a fall of 4.1% in contrast to a rise of 1.9% nationally.

- The claimant rate (actively seeking work) in Cumbria was 2.3% in April 2024 unchanged from March and it remains below the national rate of 3.8% in all the former district areas. The claimant rate in Cumbria is 0.1ppt down from a year ago (nationally it is 0.1ppt higher).
- Claimant rates (of those 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 (6.0% v 5.1%).
- There were 40,698 claimants of Universal Credit in Cumbria in April 2024 (in work, out of work or not required to seek work), a rise of 642 (1.6%) from the revised March figure and 5,002 more UC claimants than a year ago (+14.0%).
- The number of claimants fell in the searching/planning/preparing conditionality group (-65), but rose in the working conditionality group (+437) and the no work requirements group (+276).
- The claimant rate for all UC claimants was 13.6% in April 2024 compared to 16.4% 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, Barrow and Copeland.
- 29,323 of the UC claimants had been claiming for more than 12 months in April 2024, an increase of 194 from March and 2,647 more than a year ago. This means 72% of UC claimants have been claiming for more than a year.
- In Dec 2023, 14,014 UC claimants were on "UC health" which is approximately 4.7% of all working age residents (aged 16-64) compared to 4.8% nationally. The rate of UC Health claimants was above the national average in the former districts of Allerdale (6.0%), Barrow (5.6%), Carlisle (5.0%) and Copeland (5.9%) but lower in Eden (2.7%) and South Lakeland (2.7%). .
- The number of UC claimants on "UC health" has risen by 21.7% (+2,503) in the year to Dec 2023 in Cumbria even though the overall number of UC claimants has only risen by 7.1% over the same period. They now make up 37.1% of all UC claimants
- Data for households on Universal Credit are published quarterly and the latest are for Feb 2024. This shows that there were 34,011 households in receipt of Universal Credit, up by 3,372 (11.0%) from a year previously.
- There were an estimated 30,706 children/young people under the age of 20 living in Universal Credit households Feb 2024 which is 4,493 (17.1%) more than a year ago.
- There were 368 young people (aged 16/17) classed as NEET (inc not knowns) in March 2024, 62 more than in Feb with most of the increase being young people whose status wasn't known. There were 240 NEET/NKs resident in Cumberland and 128 in Westmorland & Furness.
- The NEET rate was 3.6% in Cumbria in March 2024, up by 0.5 from Feb but the same as a year ago. The rate was 4.2% in Cumberland and 2.9% in Westmorland & Furness with the highest rates in the former districts of Carlisle (4.6%) and Allerdale (4.0%). The national rate was 5.1% (comparison should be treated with caution as tracking activity varies across the country).
- The participation rate for 16/17 year olds was 91.5% in Cumbia in March (90.0% in Cumberland and 93.2% in Westmorland & Furness) compared to 92.1% nationally.
- There were 8,477 active online job postings in April 2024, 684 fewer than in March (-7.5%) with decreases in all former district areas as well as regionally and nationally. New postings also fell locally, down by 644 (+15.4%), as well as regionally and nationally.
- The occupations most in demand were care workers, cleaners & domestics, sales assistants and kitchen & catering assistants.
- The sectors accounting for most postings were employment activities (often recruitment companies), health, retail, food & beverage services and manufacture of other transport equipment.
- Job-related skills most in demand were auditing, project management, housekeeping and export control, whilst the personal attributes most in demand were communications, management and customer service.
- The recruiting organisations with the most active job postings were the NHS, BAE Systems, the two unitary councils, Haven Holidays and Jacobs Engineering.
- There were 521 small business start-ups in the quarter ending March 2024 which is 17 fewer than last quarter and 85 fewer than the same quarter last year.
- Start-ups were highest in real estate & professional services (105), recreation, personal & community services (96) and accommodation & food (66).
- There were 258 new Companies House incorporations in March 2024, an increase of 1 from Feb but 24 fewer than in March last year.

- There were 31,209 active companies in Cumbria at the end of April 2024, 77 more than in March.
- There were 189 businesses newly recorded as dissolved/in liquidation during April 2024.
- Of the active businesses in April 2024, 1,948 had posted financial results showing a 10% increase in employment and/or turnover in their most recent accounts (6.2% of businesses) whilst 1,439 had posted results showing a 10% decline in one or both measures (4.6% of all businesses) (note: the majority of businesses do not file detailed financial accounts).
- In April 2024, 3.3% of Cumbria's total companies on the Red Flag Alert system were rated as having Red Flags (not including provisional flags). This is lower than the national average of 4.8%. It was highest in the former district areas of Barrow (4.6%) and Carlisle (3.5%).
- A third of businesses on the Red Flag Alert system are assigned a growth score and of these, 13.1% in Cumbria were rated as very likely or likely to grow compared to 12.3% for the UK.

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

NB: Unless stated otherwise, the unemployment figures in the national overview use a survey-based 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 should not be compared to the local area data.

- Early estimates from the HMRC RTI systems for April 2024 indicate that the number of payrolled employees rose by 0.4% compared with April 2023, a rise of 129,000 employees.
- This annual increase was largest in the health and social work sector, with a rise of 170,000 employees.
- Payrolled employment decreased by 85,000 employees (0.3%) in April 2024 when compared with March 2024; this should be treated as a provisional estimate and is likely to be revised when more data are received next month.
- Increased volatility of LFS estimates, resulting from smaller achieved sample sizes, means that estimates of quarterly change should be treated with additional caution, and we recommend using them as part of our suite of labour market indicators alongside Workforce Jobs, Claimant Count data, and Pay As You Earn Real Time Information (PAYE RTI) estimates.
- The UK employment rate for January to March 2024 (74.5%) remains below estimates of a year ago (January to March 2023), and decreased in the latest quarter.
- The UK unemployment rate for January to March 2024 (4.3%) is above estimates of a year ago (January to March 2023), and increased in the latest quarter.
- The UK economic inactivity rate for January to March 2024 (22.1%) is above estimates of a year ago (January to March 2023), and increased in the latest quarter.
- The estimated number of vacancies in February to April 2024 was 898,000, a decrease of 26,000 or 2.8% from November 2023 to January 2024.
- Vacancy numbers decreased on the quarter for the 22nd consecutive period in February to April 2024, with vacancies decreasing in 13 of the 18 industry sectors.
- In February to April 2024, total estimated vacancies were down by 188,000 (17.3%) from the level seen in the previous year, although they remained 102,000 (12.8%) above their pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) January to March 2020 levels.
- In January to March 2024, the number of unemployed people per vacancy was 1.6, up from 1.4 the previous quarter (October to December 2023) because of rising unemployment.
- Annual growth in regular earnings (excluding bonuses) for the period from January to March 2024 was 6.0%, and annual growth in employees' average total earnings (including bonuses) was 5.7%.
- Annual growth in real terms (adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH)) for regular pay was 2.0%, and for total pay was 1.7%.
- Annual average regular earnings growth for the public sector remains strong at 6.3%; for the private sector, this was 5.9%, with growth last lower than this in April to June 2022 (5.4%).
- Both the manufacturing sector and the finance and business services sector saw the largest annual regular growth rate at 6.8%.

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 224,671 residents in Cumbria in payrolled employment in April 2024, a decrease of 40 from the revised March total but 1,920 more than a year ago, an annual increase of 0.9% which is the higher than the national increase (0.4%).

Figure 1: Payrolled employees - Cumbria
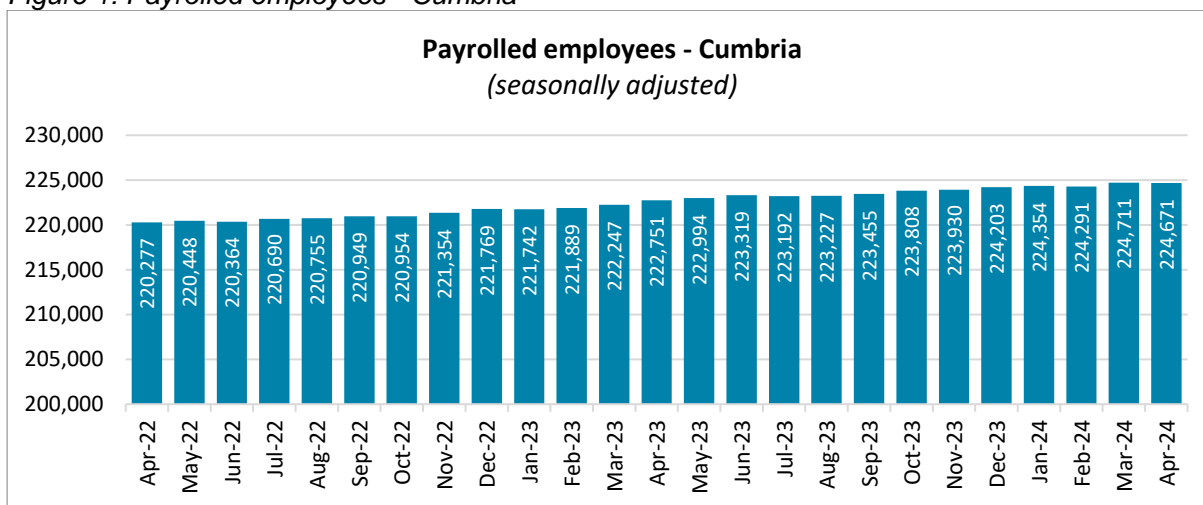
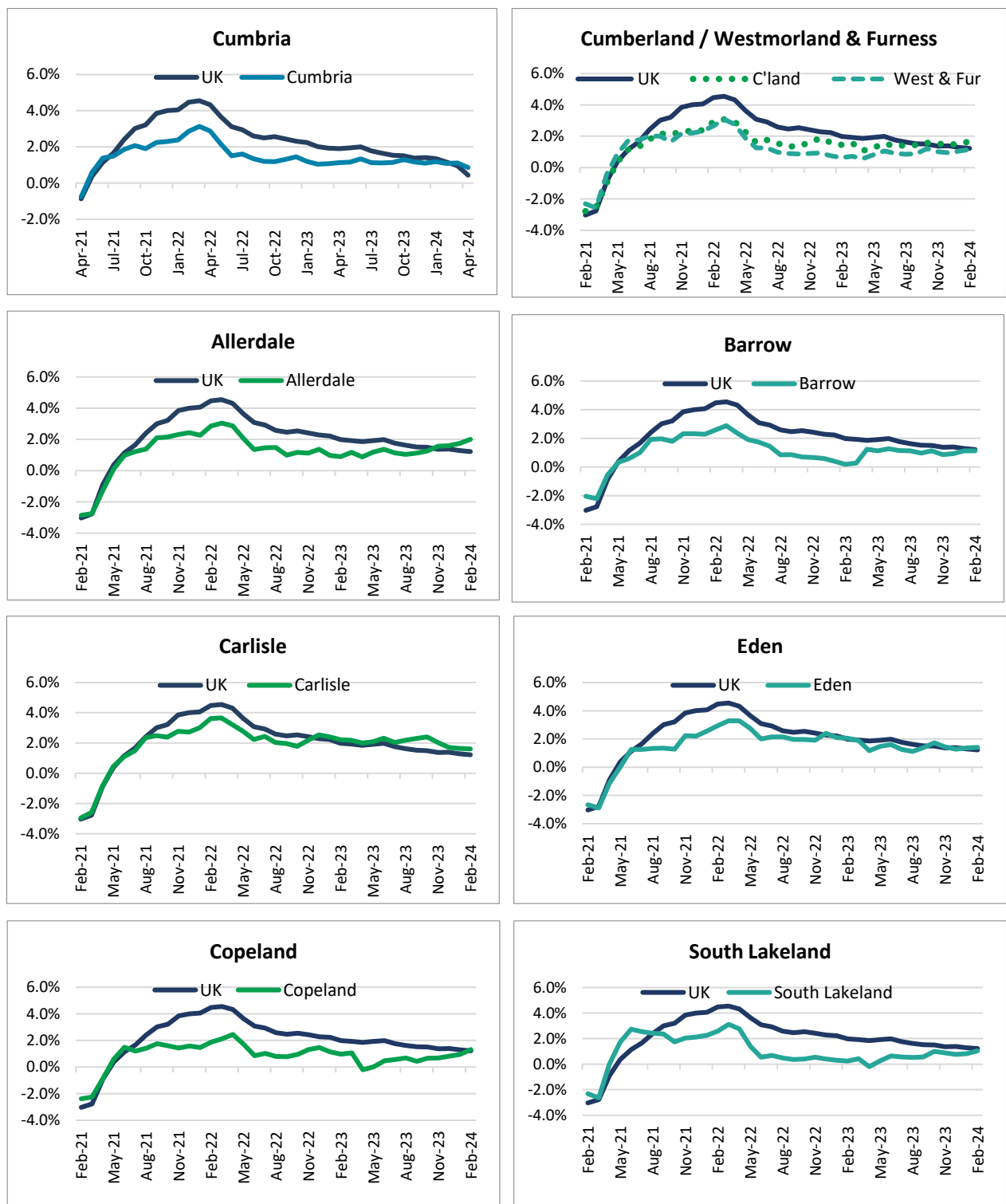*Source: HMRC / ONS. Latest month data are always provisional.*

Figure 2: Payrolled employees – Seasonally adjusted

Payrolled employees (seasonally adjusted)					
	Apr 2024	Month change		One year change	
	No	No	%	No	%
UK	30,247,781	-84,556	-0.3%	129,078	0.4%
England	25,683,667	-69,755	-0.3%	108,736	0.4%
Cumbria	224,671	-40	0.0%	1,920	0.9%
West Cumbria ITL	104,340	22	0.0%	1,060	1.0%
East Cumbria ITL	120,331	-62	-0.1%	859	0.7%

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. N*B: 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.

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3b. Median monthly pay (seasonally adjusted)

Median monthly pay for employees in Cumbria was £2,270 in April 2024 which is 95% of the UK average. There was a variation between West and East Cumbria with earnings in West Cumbria (Allerdale, Copeland, Barrow) similar to the UK average (101%) but those in East Cumbria (Carlisle, Eden, South Lakeland) only 91%. Median earnings data are not available for the unitary areas.

Despite remaining lower than the national average, median earnings in Cumbria have been growing more quickly over 1, 2 and 3 years and this is the case in all parts of the area.

Figure 4: Median monthly pay for payrolled employees
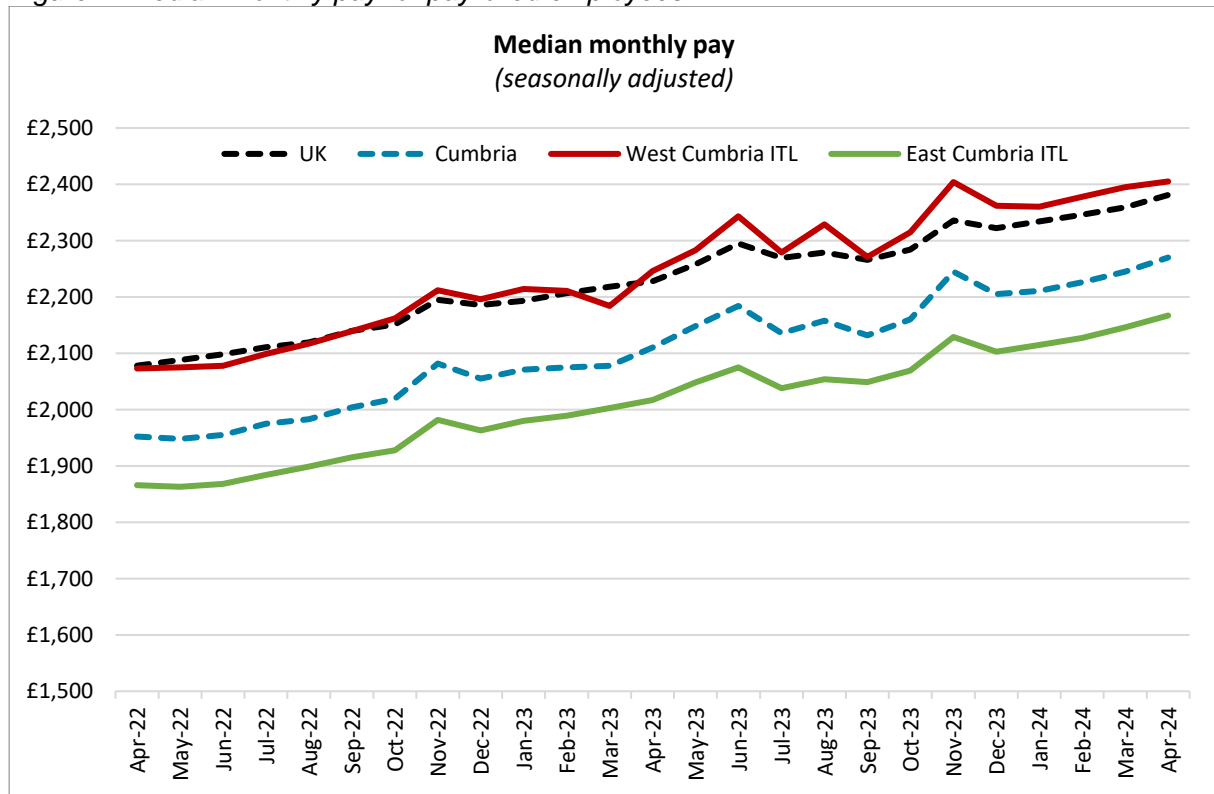
Source: HMRC / ONS. Latest month data are always provisional. Unitary data are not available.

Figure 5: Median pay for payrolled employees

Median monthly pay (seasonally adjusted)						
	Apr 2024	UK Index	Month change		One year change	
	No	Index	No	%	No	%
UK	2,381	100	22	0.9%	153	6.9%
Cumbria	2,270	95	25	1.1%	160	7.6%
West Cumbria ITL	2,405	101	10	0.4%	159	7.1%
East Cumbria ITL	2,167	91	21	1.0%	150	7.4%

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

4. ANNUAL POPULATION SURVEY *(released quarterly – next release Jul 24)*

The Annual Population Survey is a residence-based labour market survey from ONS encompassing population, economic activity (employment + unemployment), economic inactivity and qualifications. It is released quarterly with each release providing data for a 12 month period.

NOTE: *Sample sizes are small in Cumbria which means the margins of error in the data are relatively high, particularly below the level of the two unitary authorities. For example, the employment rate has an average error margin of +/- 4% in each of the two unitaries compared to just 0.2% nationally and this should be taken into account when making comparisons between areas and changes over time should be treated with caution.*

In the year ending Dec 2023, an estimated 82.2% of Cumbria's working age population (aged 16-64) was in employment. Even allowing for the margin of error in the survey, this is higher than the national average of 75.7%. The rate is broadly similar to before the pandemic. The rates in the two unitary authorities are similar at 82.3% in Cumberland and 82.0% in Westmorland & Furness.

Figure 6: Employment rate (age 16-64)
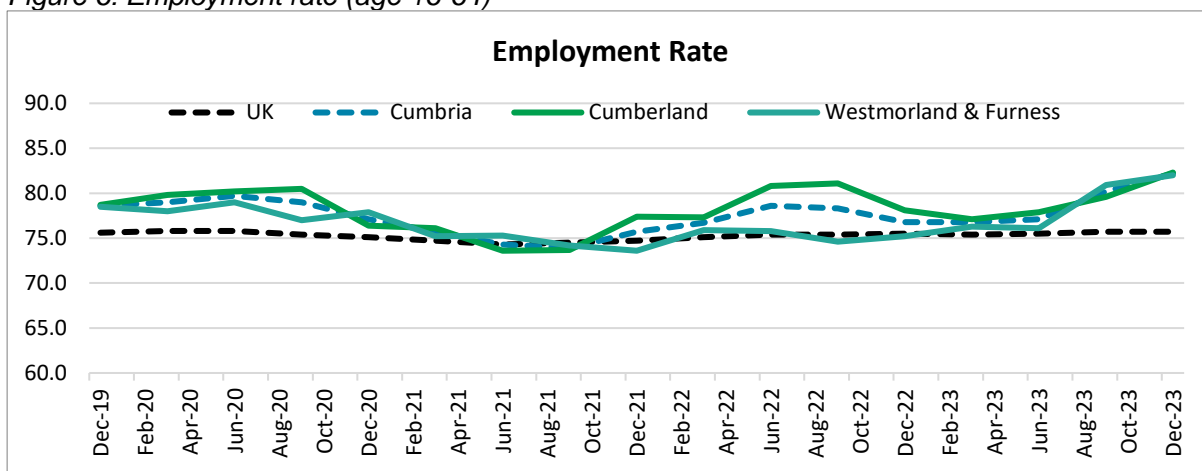
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

A person is deemed economically inactive if they are neither in work nor available for work (someone out of work but actively looking and available for work is classified as unemployed). In the year ending Dec 2023, the inactivity rate in Cumbria was estimated to be 16.0% which is lower than the national average of 21.3%. This equates to approximately 45,900 inactive residents. The inactivity rate in Cumbria is lower than before the pandemic, although the margin of survey error means this may not be significant. The inactivity rate was estimated to be 15.5% in Cumberland and 16.6% in Westmorland & Furness. The survey estimates that 90.7% of those who are inactive do not want a job which is above the national average and is probably influenced by the finding that a higher proportion of inactive residents in Cumbria are early retired than nationally.

*Figure 7: Economic Inactivity rate (age 16-64)*
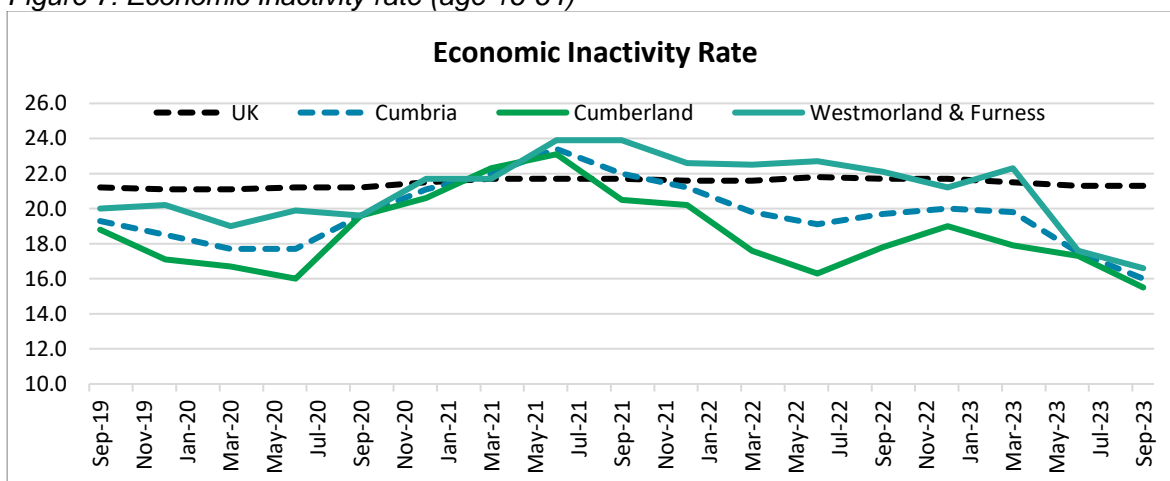
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The Annual Population Survey also provides annual estimates of qualification levels among the working age population using the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) levels. The data are only released once a year and in Dec 2023 Cumbria was estimated to have a lower proportion of working age residents qualified to Level 4 or above than nationally (eg degree, Level 4 NVQ, Higher Apprenticeship) or higher. Even allowing for the margin of error in the dataset, this appears to be a genuine difference. Cumbria has a higher proportion qualified up to level 3 than nationally (eg A level, level 3 NVQ, Advanced Apprenticeship) which reflects the higher than average progression into Apprenticeships locally. NB: the data for the two unitaries should be treated with caution due to survey error.

The survey suggests that the proportion of residents qualified to level 4+ has fallen in Cumbria but due to survey error, we cannot say if this is significant or not. ONS is due to increase the sample size which should improve reliability for local areas.

Figure 8: Qualification levels (age 16-64) – Dec 2023
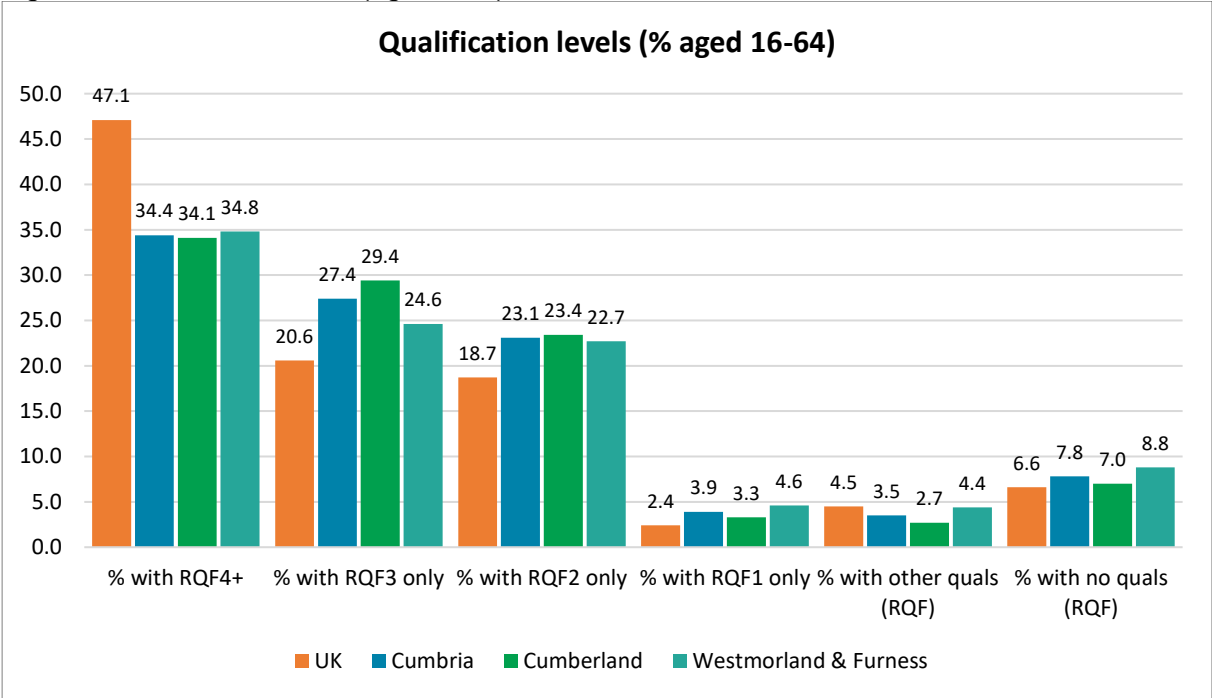
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

5. UNEMPLOYMENT (CLAIMANTS) (released <u>monthly</u>) – count 11th Apr 2024

Important notes: *The claimant count is a measure of those claiming benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed. It counts those on Job Seekers Allowance and those on Universal Credit who are required to seek work. It is not the same measure as the internationally agreed definition of unemployment which includes non-claimants and which is derived from a survey and published at national level on a monthly basis (see section 2). Similar figures are not available on a reliable or timely basis for local areas.*

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

There was a decrease of 60 in the number of claimants seeking work in Cumbria in April 2024 compared to the revised March figure, down to a total of 6,975. This is a monthly decrease of 0.9% compared to a national rise of 0.4%. The count fell in all former district areas except Carlisle where it rose by 35 and South Lakeland where it was unchanged. The claimant rate in Cumbria was 2.3% which is below the national rate of 3.8% and is unchanged from March. The claimant count at county level is 295 lower than a year ago and the rate is 0.1ppt lower.

Figure 9: Standard Claimant Count – Apr 2024

	Male		Female		All Persons		Monthly Change (all persons)			Annual Change (all persons)		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% chg	Rate chg	No	% chg	Rate chg
UK	922,910	4.4	691,500	3.2	1,614,410	3.8	6,070	0.4	0.0	29,965	1.9	0.1
Cumbria	3,960	2.7	3,015	2.0	6,975	2.3	-60	-0.9	0.0	-295	-4.1	-0.1
Cumberland	2,440	3.0	1,820	2.2	4,255	2.6	-40	-1.0	0.0	-225	-5.1	-0.1
Allerdale	820	2.9	670	2.3	1,490	2.6	-40	-2.7	-0.1	-140	-8.5	-0.2
Carlisle	1,050	3.1	775	2.3	1,825	2.7	35	1.8	0.0	35	2.0	0.1
Copeland	570	2.8	370	1.8	940	2.3	-30	-3.3	-0.1	-125	-11.6	-0.3
Westmorland & Furness	1,525	2.3	1,195	1.8	2,720	2.0	-20	-0.7	0.0	-70	-2.5	-0.1
Barrow	760	3.7	500	2.4	1,260	3.0	-10	-0.9	0.0	-115	-8.4	-0.3
Eden	295	1.8	290	1.8	580	1.8	-5	-1.2	0.0	50	9.8	0.2
South Lakeland	470	1.6	410	1.3	875	1.4	0	0.0	0.0	-5	-0.8	0.0
of which LDNPA	155	1.3	150	1.3	305	1.3	-5	-1.0	0.0	-5	-1.6	0.0

Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of population within NP. LDNPA data are also included in relevant district.
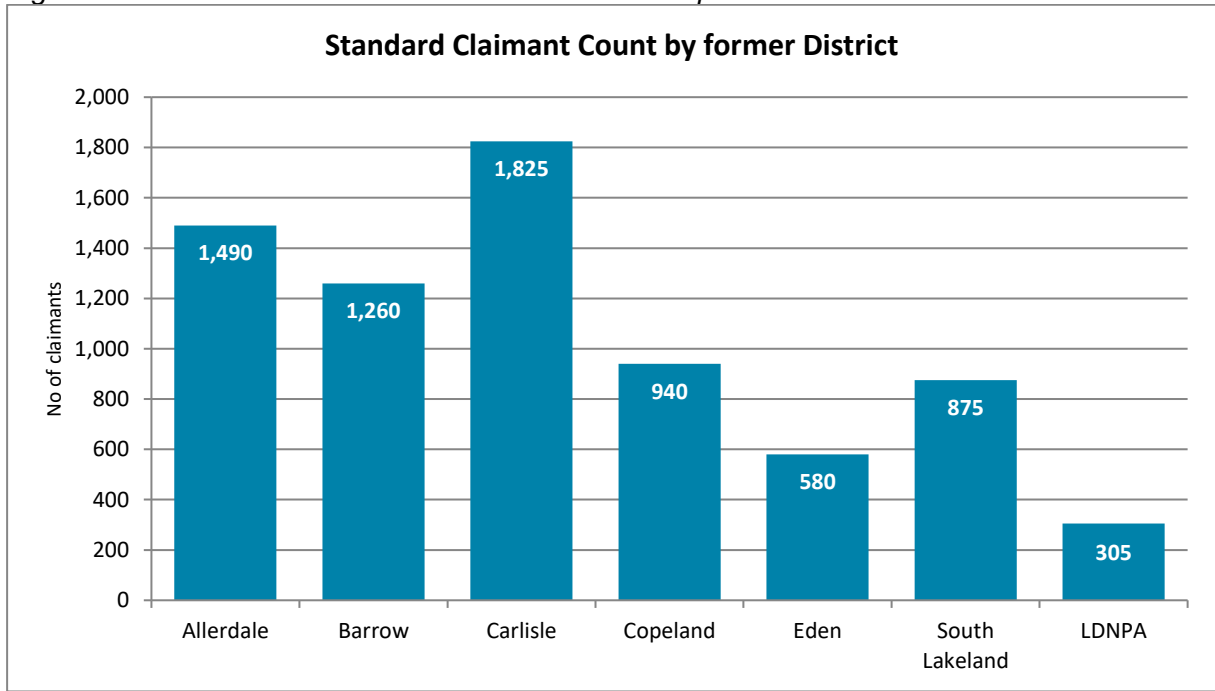
The following table shows the claimant count and rate by broad age group in April 2024. Claimant rates at Cumbria level are below the national average for all age groups and this is also the case for all districts with the exception of 18-24 year olds in Barrow where the rate remains well above the national average (6.0% v 5.1%).

Figure 10: Standard Claimant Count & Rate by Age Group in Cumbria – Apr 2024

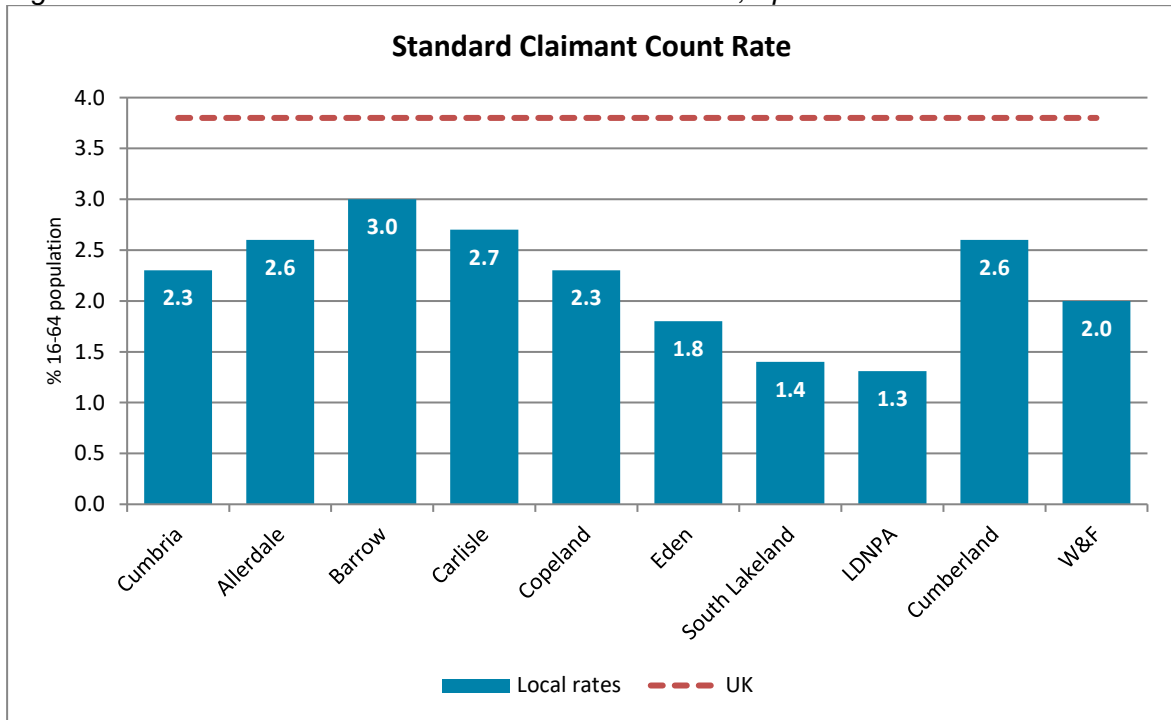|	Aged 18-24		Aged 25-34		Aged 35-44		Aged 45-54		Aged 55-64		Total	
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate
UK	282,995	5.1%	411,540	4.6%	401,320	4.6%	277,855	3.1%	236,785	2.8%	1,614,410	3.8%
Cumbria	1,240	3.8%	1,765	3.1%	1,685	3.1%	1,130	1.7%	1,145	1.5%	6,975	2.3%
Cumberland	735	4.0%	1,105	3.5%	1,035	3.4%	655	1.8%	715	1.7%	4,255	2.6%
Allerdale	265	4.4%	385	3.7%	350	3.4%	225	1.7%	260	1.8%	1,490	2.6%
Carlisle	270	3.4%	480	3.5%	475	3.6%	305	2.1%	295	1.8%	1,825	2.7%
Copeland	205	4.7%	235	3.1%	210	2.9%	125	1.4%	165	1.5%	940	2.3%
Westmorland & Furness	505	3.5%	655	2.7%	655	2.7%	470	1.5%	420	1.2%	2,720	2.0%
Barrow	300	6.0%	335	3.8%	275	3.7%	170	1.9%	180	1.9%	1,260	3.0%
Eden	70	2.2%	120	2.2%	155	2.8%	125	1.6%	110	1.2%	580	1.8%
South Lakeland	135	2.2%	205	2.0%	225	2.1%	180	1.3%	130	0.8%	875	1.4%
of which LDNPA	35	1.5%	70	2.1%	80	2.0%	65	1.1%	55	0.8%	305	1.3%

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

Figure 11: Standard Claimant Count – former districts Apr 2024

Standard Claimant Count by former District

No of claimants

District	No of claimants
Allerdale	1,490
Barrow	1,260
Carlisle	1,825
Copeland	940
Eden	580
South Lakeland	875
LDNPA	305

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

Figure 12: Standard Claimant Count Rate – former districts, Apr 2024

Standard Claimant Count Rate

% 16-64 population

Area	Local rate
Cumbria	2.3
Allerdale	2.6
Barrow	3.0
Carlisle	2.7
Copeland	2.3
Eden	1.8
South Lakeland	1.4
LDNPA	1.3
Cumberland	2.6
W&F	2.0

Local rates ▬▬ UK ▬ ▬ ▬

Source: ONS/DWP

Figure 13: Standard Claimant Count - timeseries

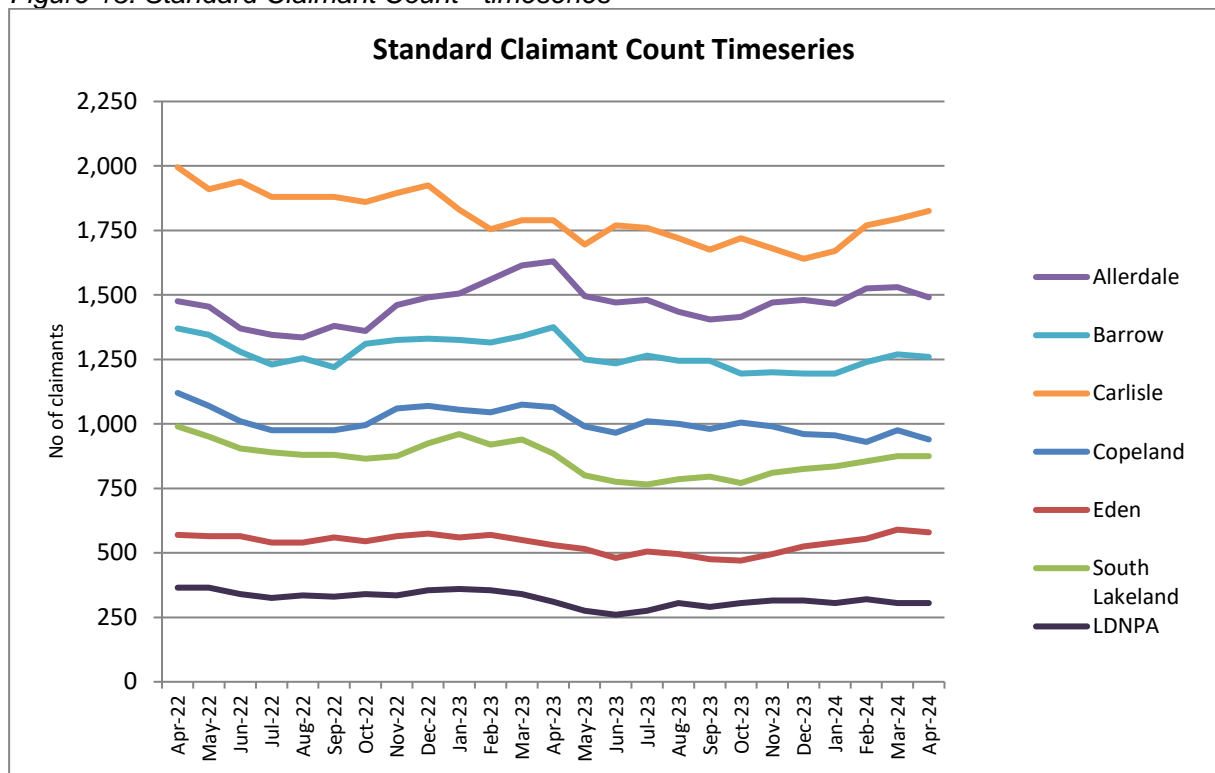

Standard Claimant Count Timeseries

Figure 14: Standard Claimant Rate - timeseries

Source: ONS/DWP

6. UNIVERSAL CREDIT (released monthly) – count taken 11th Apr 2024

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.

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

6a. Individuals on Universal Credit

There were 40,698 people on Universal Credit in Cumbria in April 2024 (both in work and out of work). This is a rise of 643 from the revised March total (+1.6%) and 5,003 more than a year ago (+14.0%). The count rose from last month in all the former district areas. The number of people searching/planning/preparing for work fell by 65, the number claiming while in work rose by 437 and the number with no work requirements rose by 276. The latest total means that 13.6% of the working age population is claiming Universal Credit compared to a national rate of 16.4%. 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, Barrow and Copeland.

Figure 15: Universal Credit Claimants – Apr 2024 and monthly / annual change

|	Male		Female		All Persons		Monthly Change (all persons)			Annual Change (all persons)		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% chg	Rate chg	No	% chg	Rate chg
Great Britain	2,852,396	14.1%	3,880,811	18.7%	6,733,285	16.4%	137,788	2.1%	0.3%	839,899	14.3%	2.0%
Cumbria	16,825	11.3%	23,875	15.9%	40,698	13.6%	642	1.6%	0.2%	5,002	14.0%	1.7%
Cumberland	10,638	13.0%	14,912	18.0%	25,548	15.5%	324	1.3%	0.2%	2,885	12.7%	1.8%
Allerdale	3,750	13.4%	5,349	18.6%	9,102	16.0%	83	0.9%	0.1%	893	10.9%	1.6%
Carlisle	4,216	12.6%	5,988	17.5%	10,203	15.1%	173	1.7%	0.3%	1,398	15.9%	2.1%
Copeland	2,671	13.2%	3,576	17.7%	6,245	15.4%	70	1.1%	0.2%	596	10.6%	1.5%
Westmorland & Furness	6,187	9.2%	8,962	13.3%	15,152	11.3%	322	2.2%	0.2%	2,117	16.2%	1.6%
Barrow	2,708	13.0%	3,743	18.2%	6,453	15.6%	114	1.8%	0.3%	799	14.1%	1.9%
Eden	1,245	7.7%	1,911	11.8%	3,152	9.8%	71	2.3%	0.2%	554	21.3%	1.7%
South Lakeland	2,242	7.5%	3,305	10.8%	5,547	9.2%	137	2.5%	0.2%	761	15.9%	1.3%
of which LDNPA	844	7.2%	1,248	10.8%	2,087	9.0%	39	1.9%	0.2%	185	9.7%	0.8%

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 16: Universal Credit Claimants by Age – Apr 2024

| Universal Credit Claimant Count and Rate by Age												
	Aged 18-24		Aged 25-34		Aged 35-44		Aged 45-54		Aged 55+		Total	
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate
Great Britain	726,458	13.5%	1,737,531	19.8%	1,930,738	22.8%	1,285,147	14.9%	1,044,296	12.6%	6,733,285	16.4%
Cumbria	4,228	12.9%	10,770	19.1%	11,472	21.1%	7,507	11.1%	6,651	8.6%	40,698	13.6%
Cumberland	2,581	14.1%	6,840	21.5%	7,209	23.6%	4,616	12.5%	4,266	10.3%	25,548	15.5%
Allerdale	931	15.3%	2,318	22.4%	2,491	24.4%	1,725	13.0%	1,619	10.9%	9,102	16.0%
Carlisle	968	12.3%	2,906	21.2%	2,993	22.9%	1,814	12.5%	1,505	9.4%	10,203	15.1%
Copeland	680	15.6%	1,616	21.0%	1,728	23.8%	1,074	11.9%	1,138	10.6%	6,245	15.4%
Westmorland & Furness	1,644	11.5%	3,932	16.0%	4,267	17.9%	2,893	9.4%	2,386	6.7%	15,152	11.3%
Barrow	853	17.1%	1,857	21.0%	1,727	23.0%	1,048	11.7%	940	9.9%	6,453	15.6%
Eden	263	8.1%	778	14.3%	916	16.4%	637	8.3%	561	6.1%	3,152	9.8%
South Lakeland	537	8.8%	1,289	12.5%	1,623	15.1%	1,197	8.5%	889	5.3%	5,547	9.2%
of which LDNPA	149	6.3%	441	13.4%	649	16.3%	473	8.2%	383	5.4%	2,087	9.0%

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.

Figure 17: Universal Credit Claimants by former district

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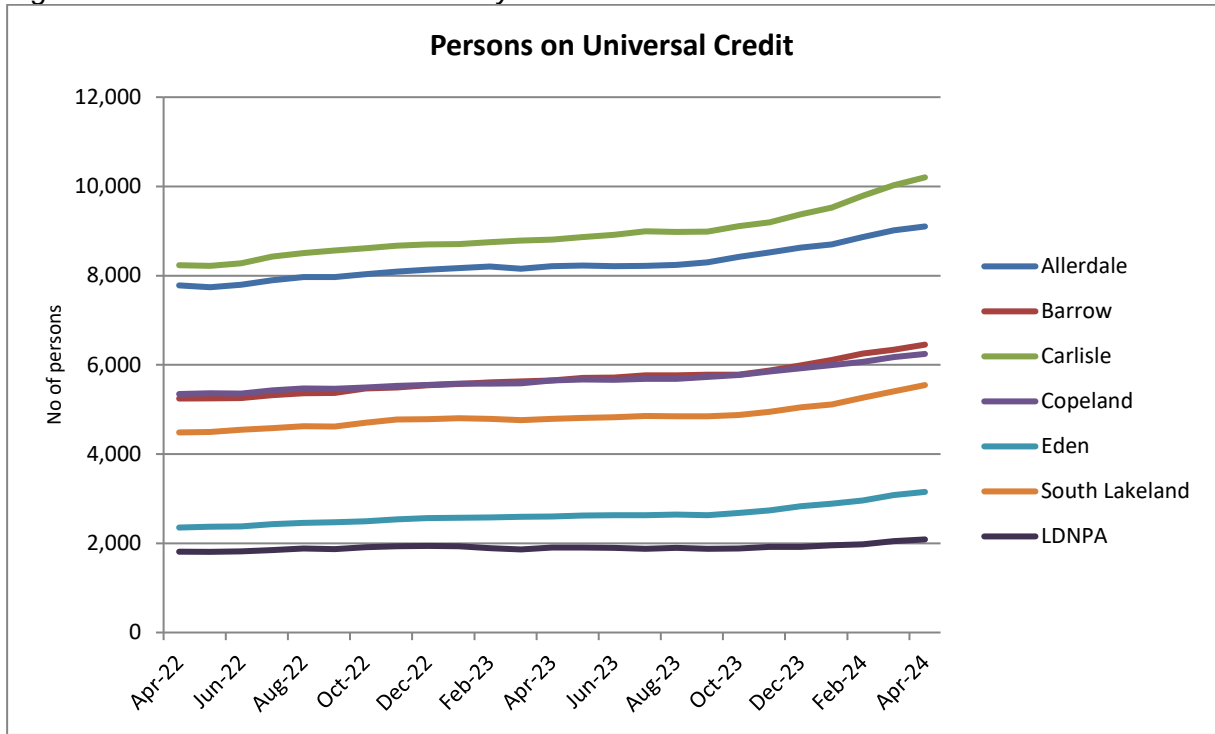
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore (LDPNA claimants are also included in the relevant district)

Figure 18: Universal Credit Claimant Rate by former District

Universal Credit claimant rate
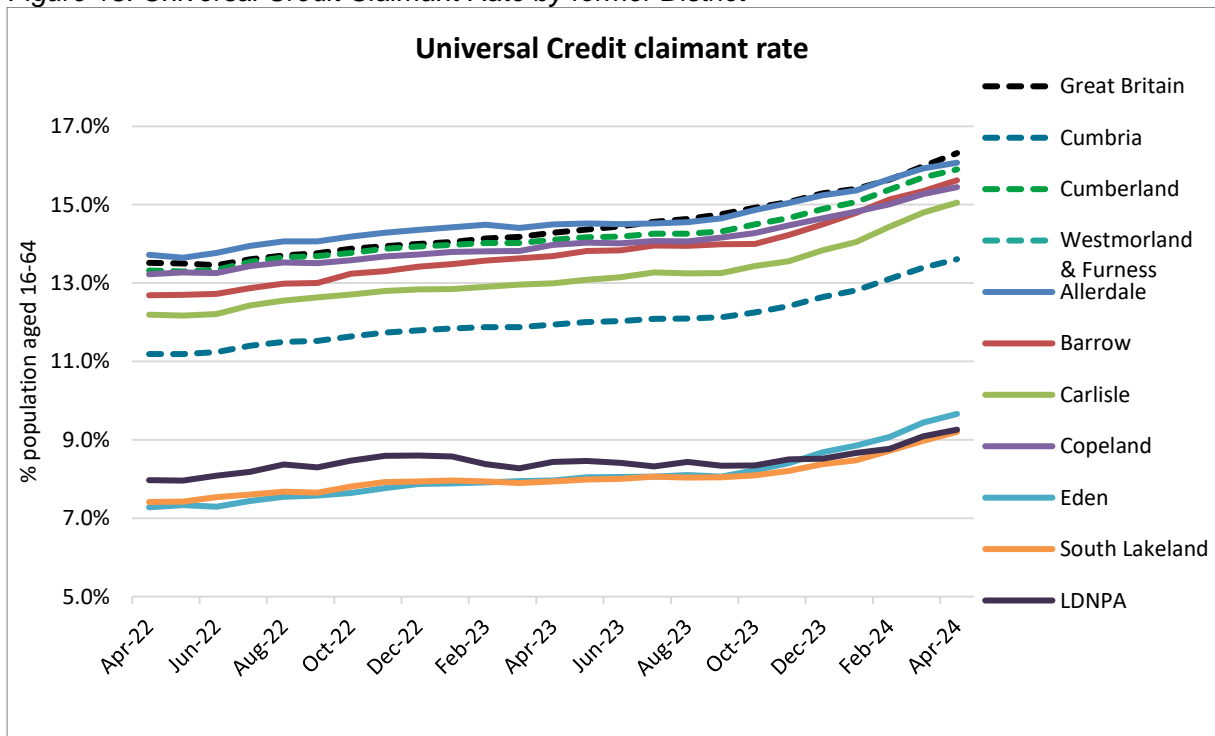
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

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. In April 2024 the number of people searching/planning/preparing for work fell by 65, the number claiming while in work rose by 437 and the number with no work requirements rose by 276.

Figure 19: Universal Credit Claimants by Conditionality Group – timeseries (Cumbria)

UC Claimants by Conditionality Group
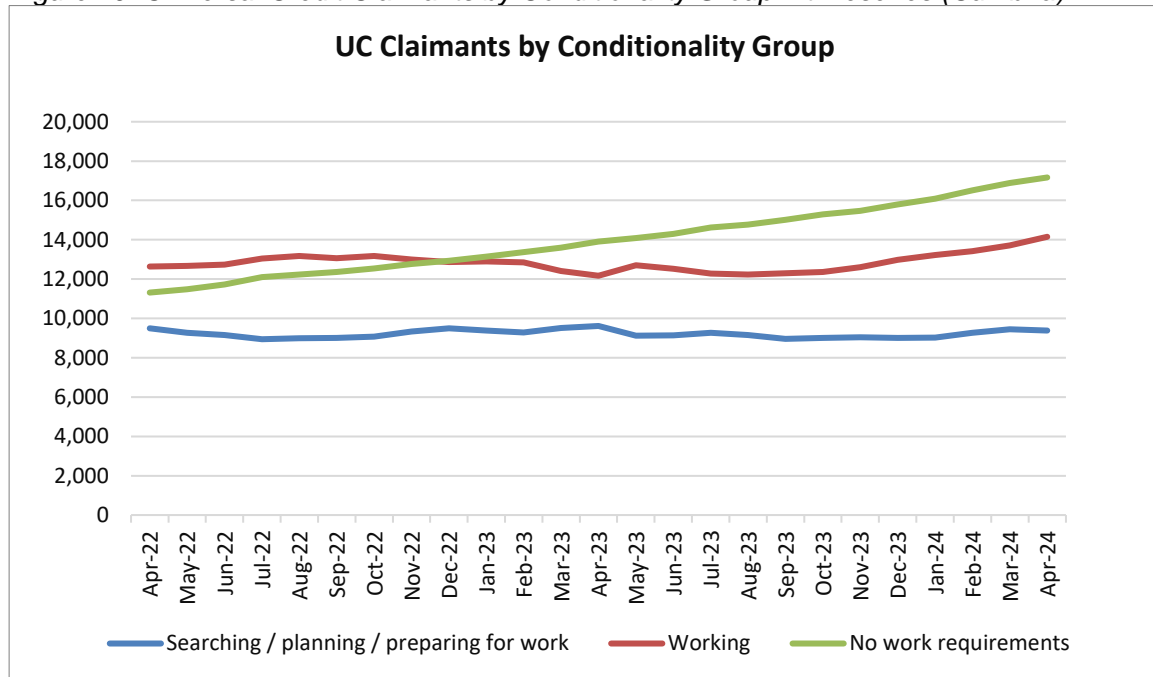
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore Note: Conditionality is based on an individual's circumstances on the count date)
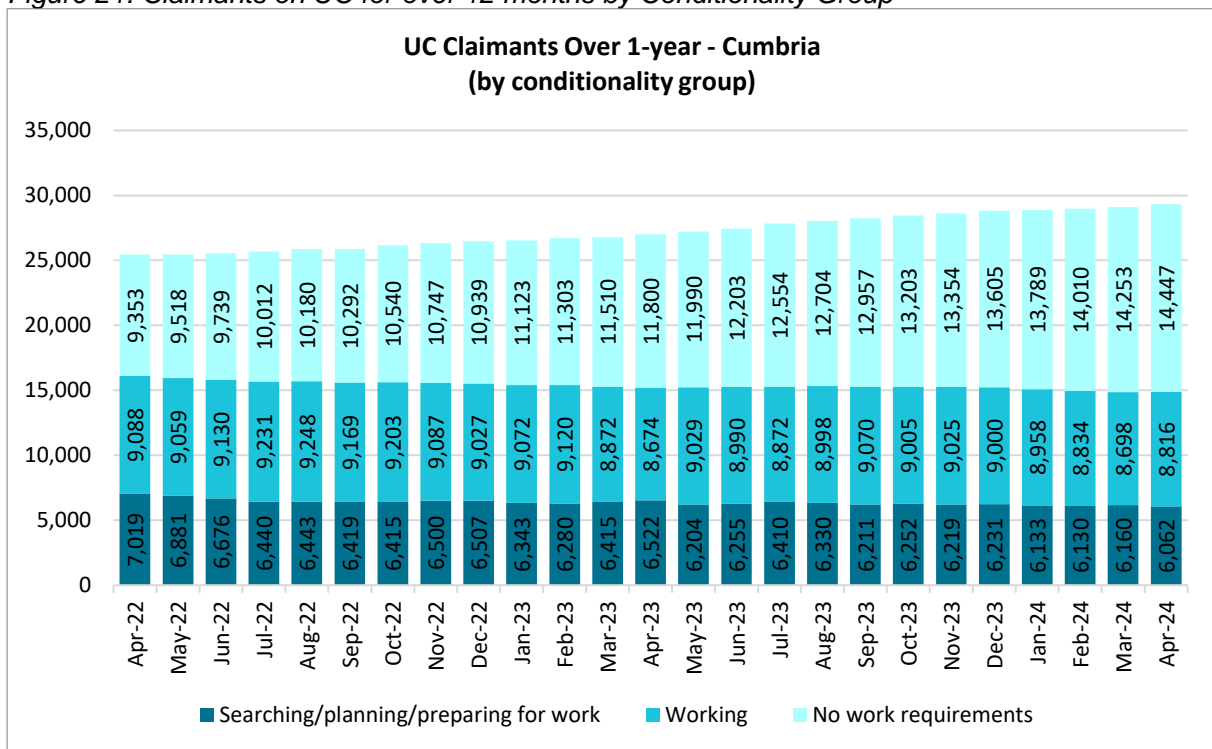
In April 2024, almost three quarters of UC claimants (29,323) had been claiming for over 12 months an annual increase of 5,002 (14.0%). The highest proportions of these long term claimants were in the working and no work requirements conditionality groups (30% and 49% of the total respectively), although they may have been in different groups during their claim. Long term claimants made up 72% of all UC claimants compared.

Figure 20: Duration on UC (Cumbria) – Apr 2024

Duration on UC Cumbria (all claimants)
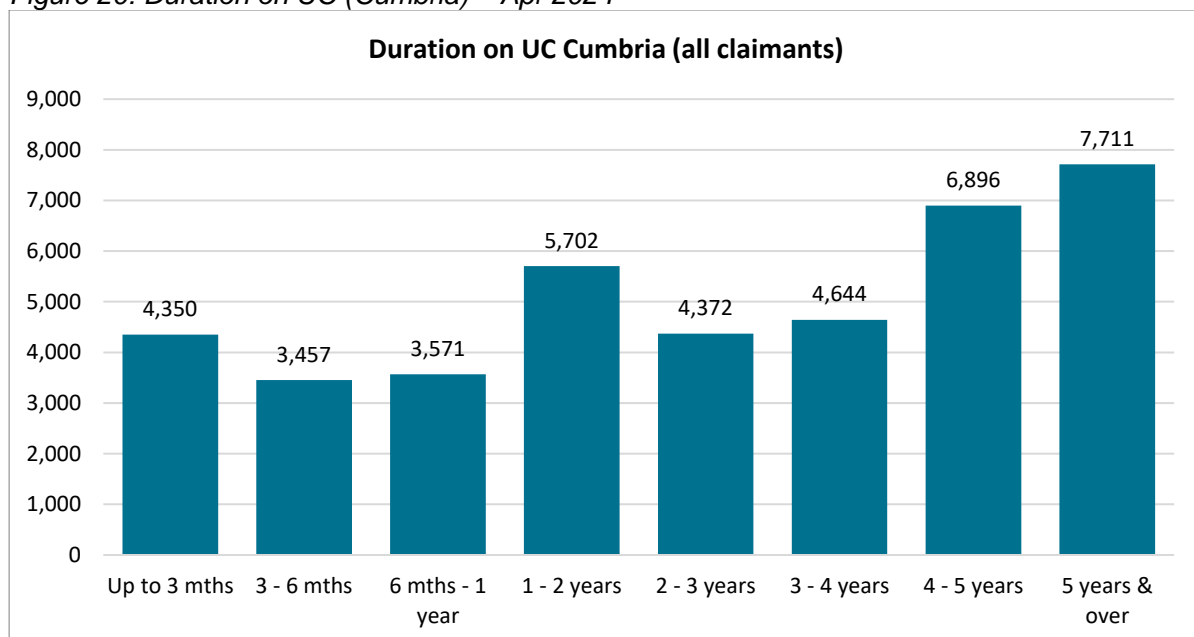
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Figure 21: Claimants on UC for over 12 months by Conditionality Group

UC Claimants Over 1-year - Cumbria
(by conditionality group)

Legend: ■ Searching/planning/preparing for work ■ Working ■ No work requirements

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

UC Health *(NB: the release schedule for this dataset is different to other UC data)*

In Dec 2023, 14,014 UC claimants were on "UC Health" which comprises those with a restricted ability to work supported by acceptable medical evidence (pre-Work Capability Assessment) or with a Limited Capacity for Work/Limited Capacity for Work & Work Related Activity) outcome. The number of such claimants has risen by 21.7% (+2,503) in the past 2 years compared to an increase of 7.1% in the overall number of UC claimants. UC Health claimants now make up 37.1% of all UC claimants in Cumbria in Dec 2023.

*Figure 22: UC Health claimants (Cumbria)*

UC Health Claimants - Cumbria
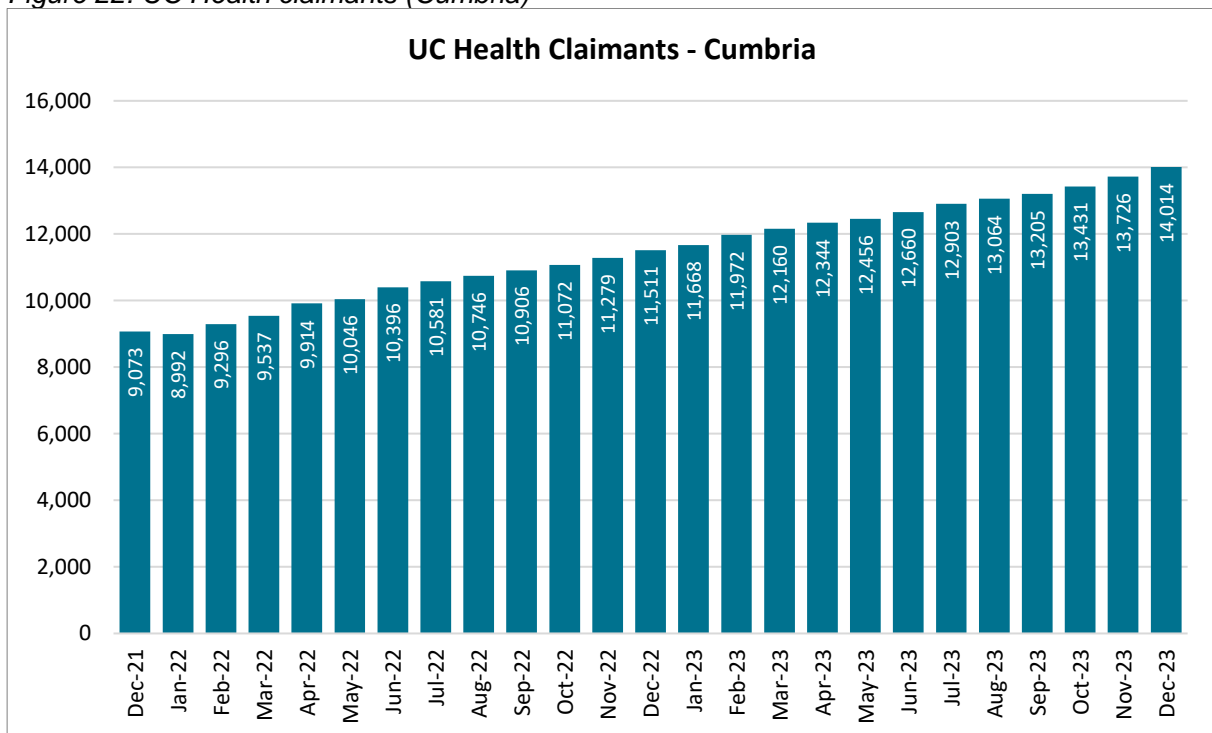
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

6b. _Starts_ to Universal Credit (next data release _August 2024_)

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 migrating onto UC from other benefits also count as a new start (it is not possible to separate the two in the data). This was particularly apparent in the early part of this year as the number of people migrating from Tax Credits to UC increased.

Figure 23: Monthly Starts to Universal Credit – timeseries
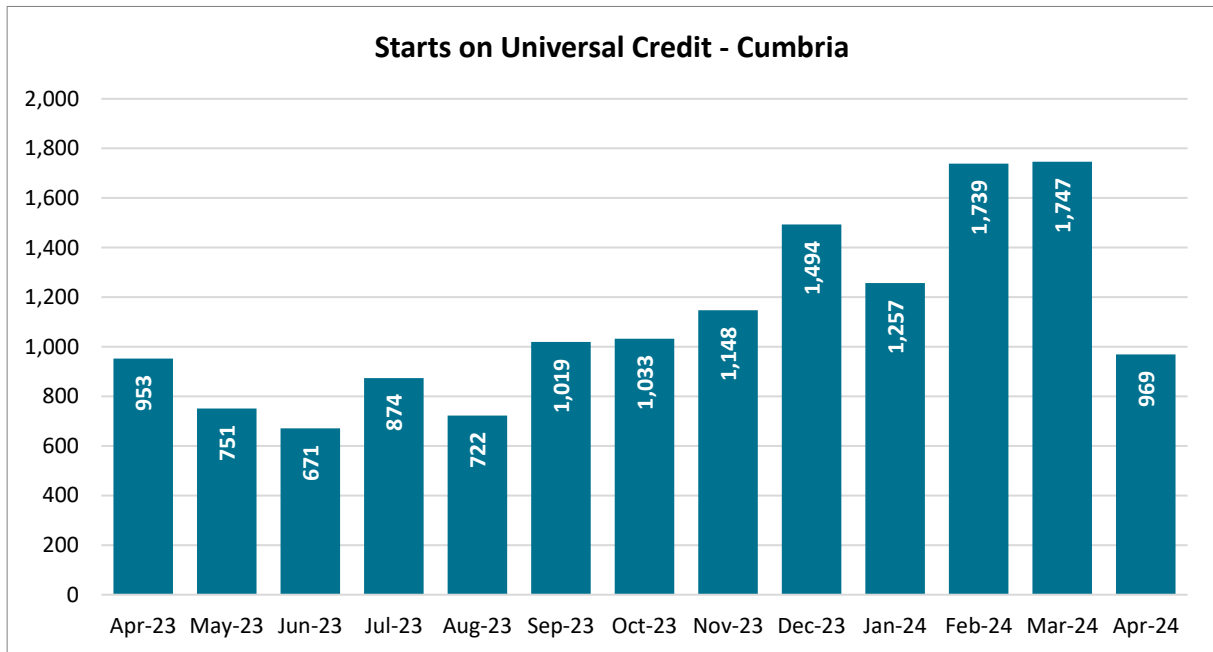
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Figure 24: Starts on Universal Credit by JCP Office – timeseries
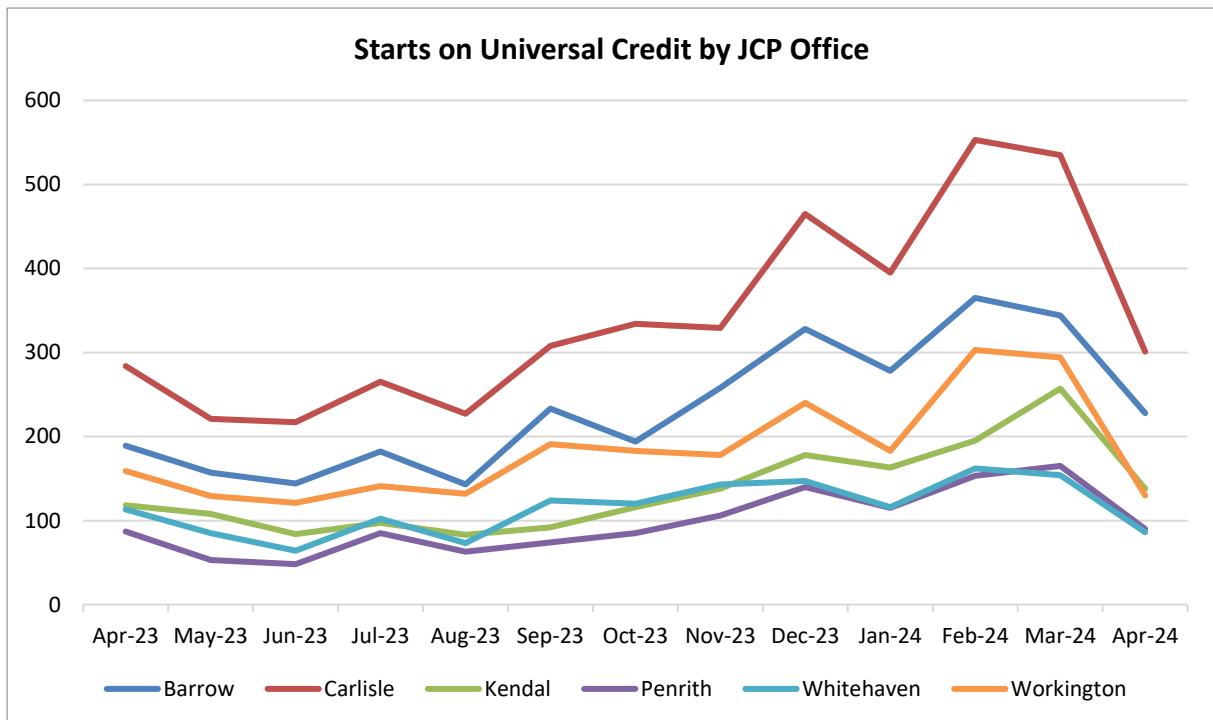
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

6c. Households on Universal Credit (next data release August 2024)

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 Feb 2024 when there were 34,011 households on Universal Credit in Cumbria, a rise of 3,372from the same month last year (11.0%). The number of households on UC rose year on year in all 6 districts in Cumbria with the biggest percentage increases in Eden (+15.1%).

Figure 25: Number of Households on Universal Credit by former district
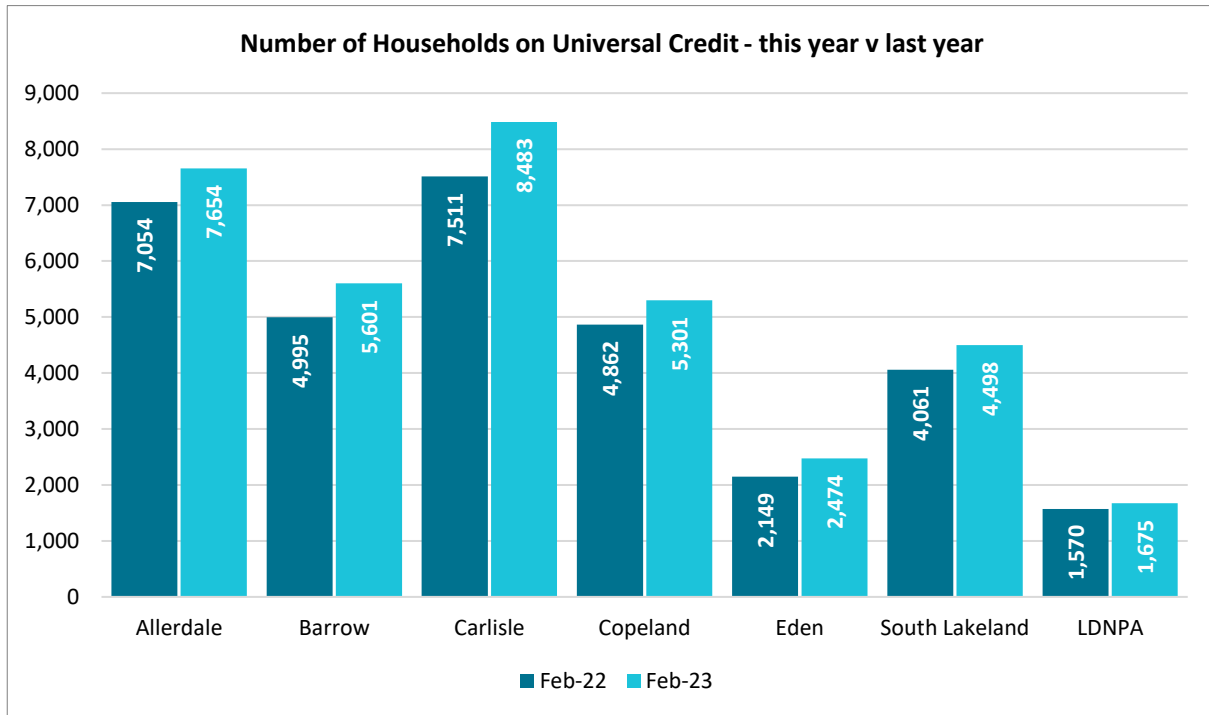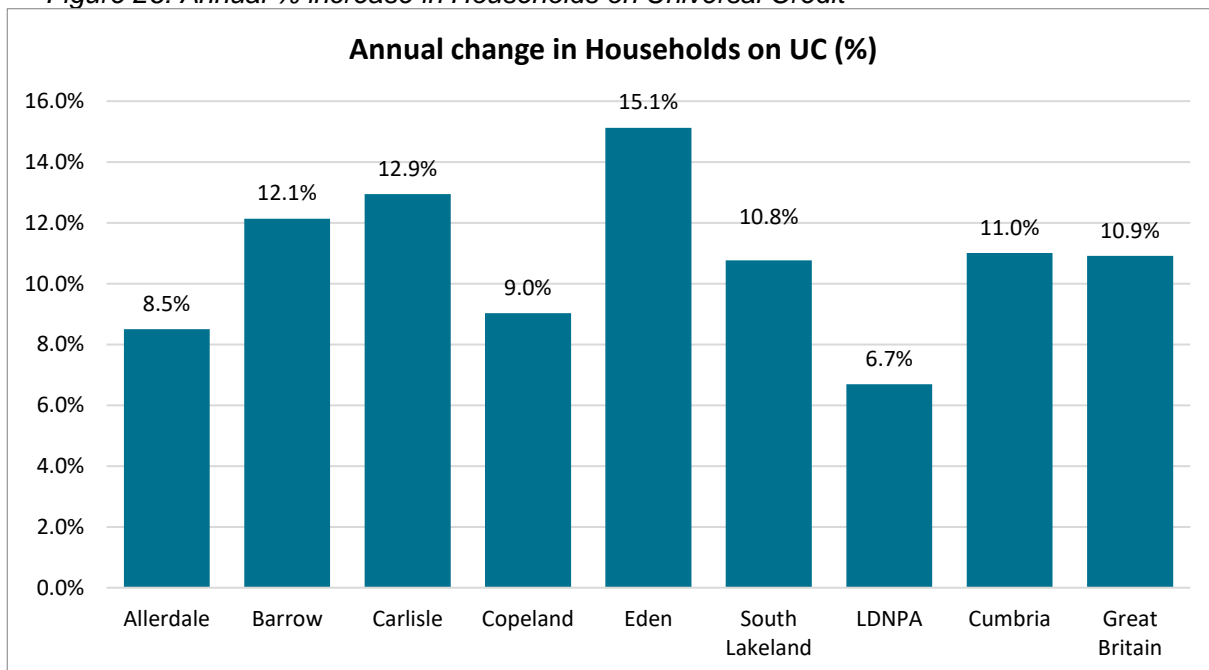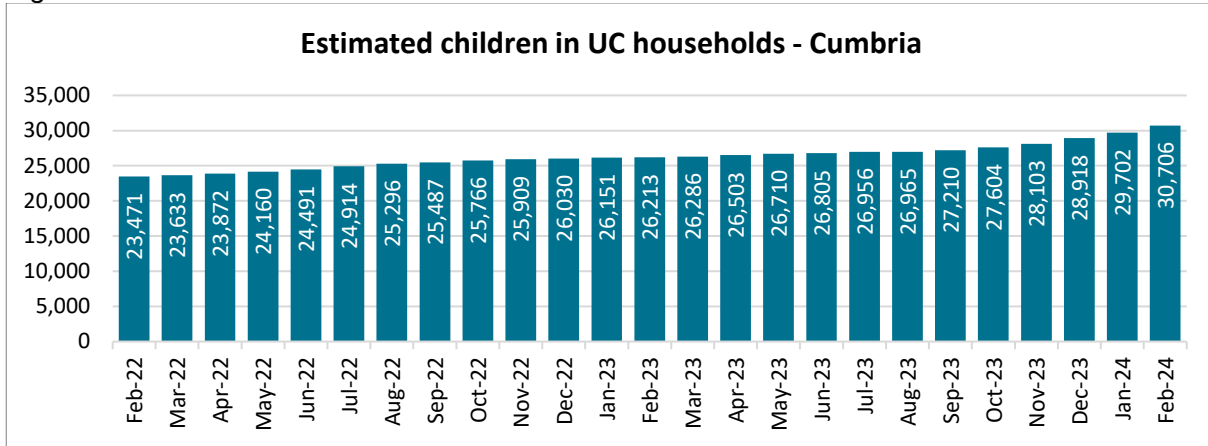

Figure 26: Annual % increase in Households on Universal Credit

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
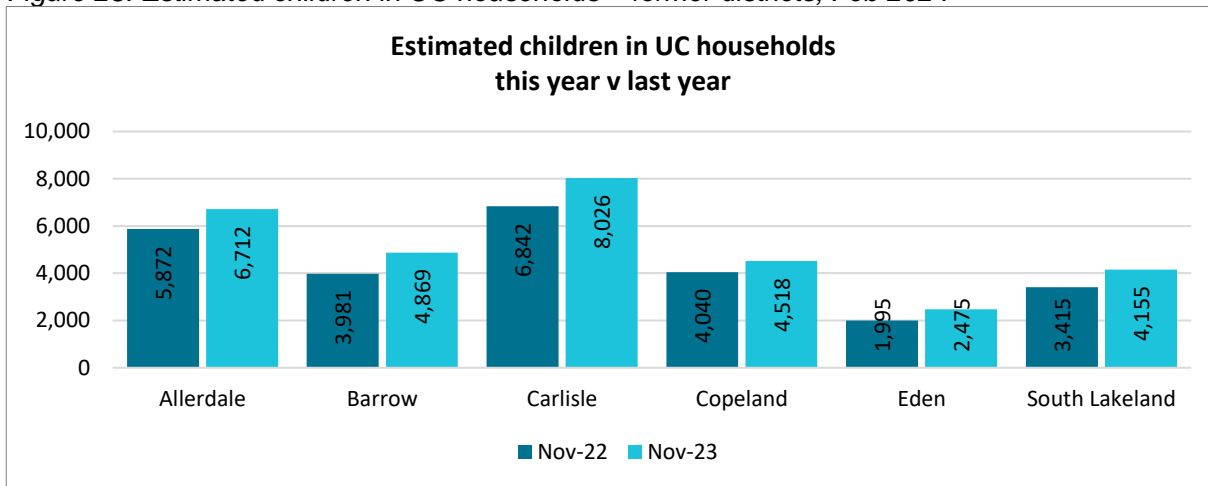
An estimated 30,706 children in Cumbria were living in UC households in Feb 2024. The number has risen by 4,493 (17.1%) from Feb last year. The number of households containing children has increased by 16.2% year on year compared to a rise of 6.5% in households without children. More specifically, single person households with children have increased by 11.0% 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

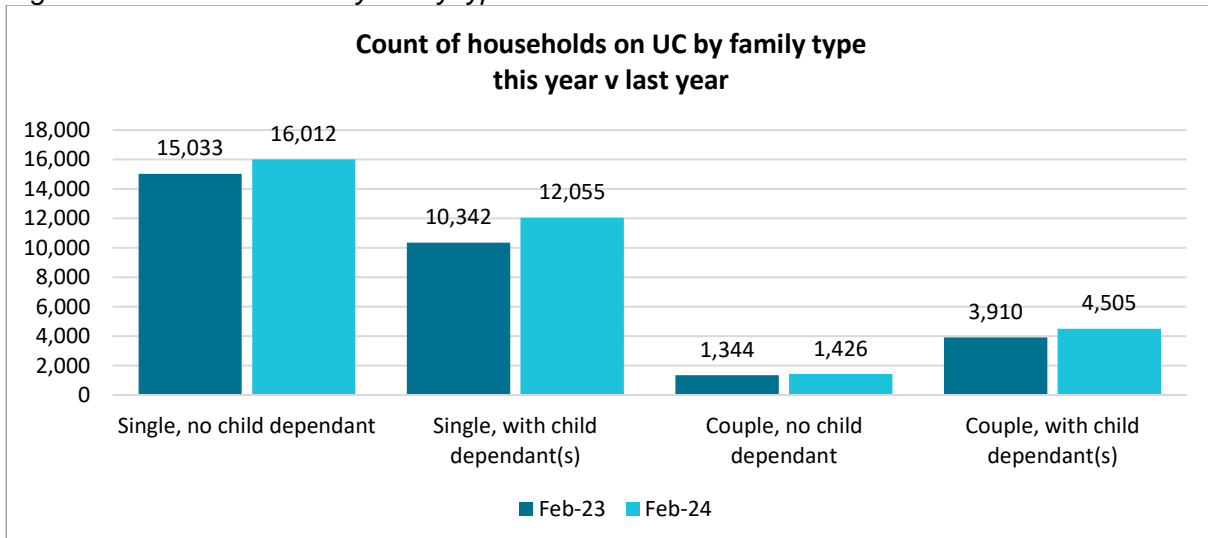*Figure 27: Estimated children in UC households - timeseries*

Estimated children in UC households - Cumbria

Feb-22: 23,471; Mar-22: 23,633; Apr-22: 23,872; May-22: 24,160; Jun-22: 24,491; Jul-22: 24,914; Aug-22: 25,296; Sep-22: 25,487; Oct-22: 25,766; Nov-22: 25,909; Dec-22: 26,030; Jan-23: 26,151; Feb-23: 26,213; Mar-23: 26,286; Apr-23: 26,503; May-23: 26,710; Jun-23: 26,805; Jul-23: 26,956; Aug-23: 26,965; Sep-23: 27,210; Oct-23: 27,604; Nov-23: 28,103; Dec-23: 28,918; Jan-24: 29,702; Feb-24: 30,706

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Figure 28: Estimated children in UC households – former districts, Feb 2024

Estimated children in UC households this year v last year

Nov-22 / Nov-23
Allerdale: 5,872 / 6,712
Barrow: 3,981 / 4,869
Carlisle: 6,842 / 8,026
Copeland: 4,040 / 4,518
Eden: 1,995 / 2,475
South Lakeland: 3,415 / 4,155

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Figure 29: UC households by family type – Feb 2024

Count of households on UC by family type this year v last year

Feb-23 / Feb-24
Single, no child dependant: 15,033 / 16,012
Single, with child dependant(s): 10,342 / 12,055
Couple, no child dependant: 1,344 / 1,426
Couple, with child dependant(s): 3,910 / 4,505

Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

7. NEETs & Participation (*released <u>monthly</u>*)

7a. 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 March 2024, there were 368 16-17 year olds classed as NEET in Cumbria (249 NEET and 119 whose status was Not Known), an increase of 62 from Feb, with almost all the increase being young people whose status was Not Known. The highest number of NEET/NKs was in the former district of Carlisle where there were 105 followed by Allerdale where there were 78.

Figure 30: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, Mar 2024
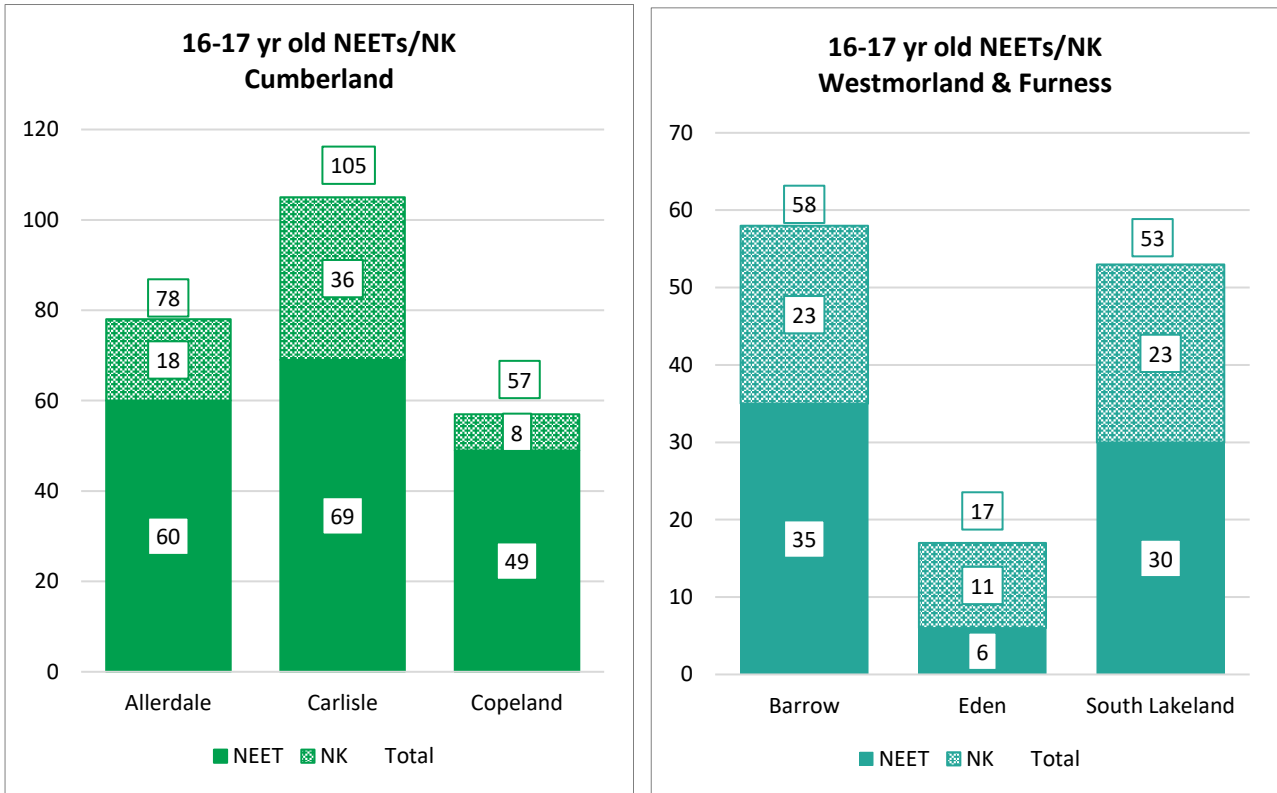
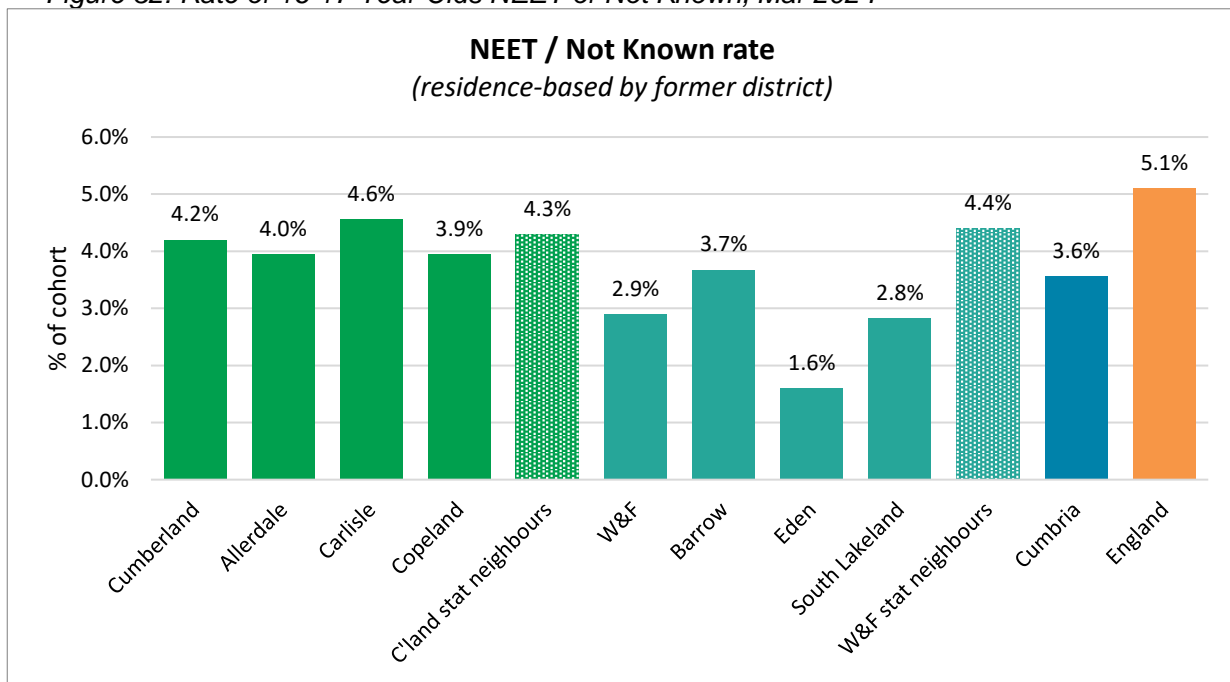*Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory*

Figure 31: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, former district timeseries
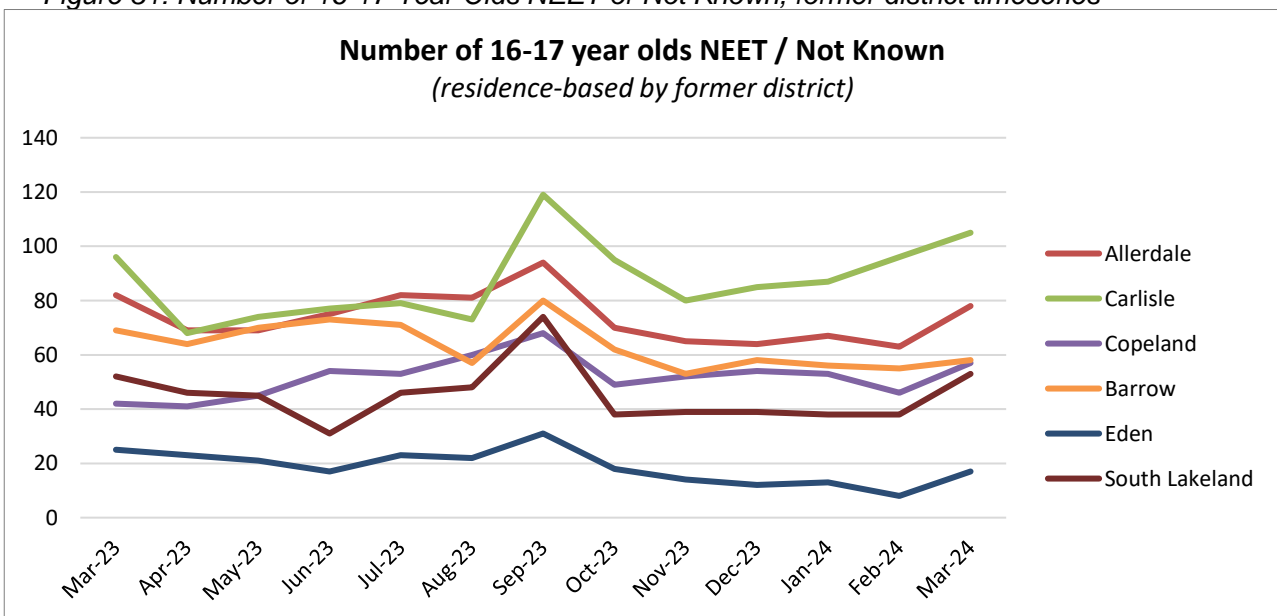
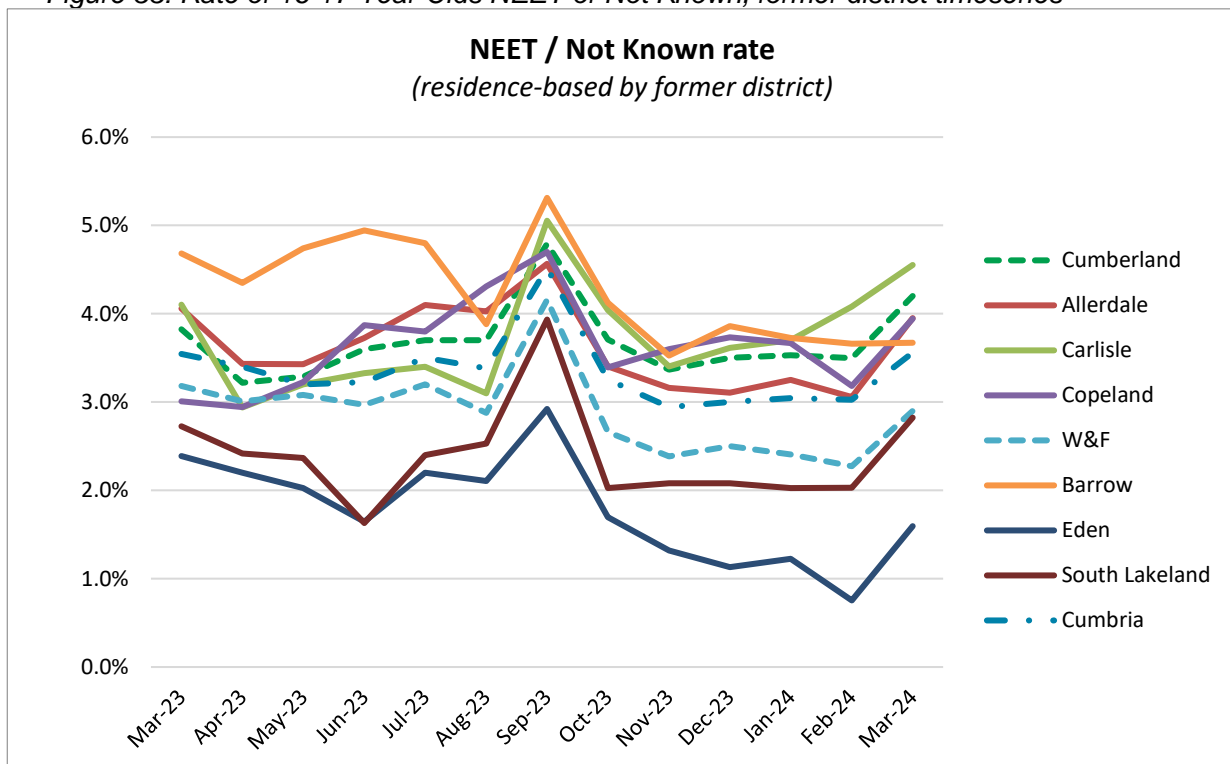*Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory*

The county NEET/NK rate (% of cohort) was 3.6% in Mar 2024 compared to an England rate of 5.1%. The highest local rates were in in the former districts of Carlisle (4.6%) and Allerdale (4.0%). The NEET rate in Cumbria was the same as a year ago. NB: comparisons with England and areas outside Cumbria should be treated with caution as the approach to tracking and the degree of engagement with young people varies significantly.

Figure 32: Rate of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, Mar 2024

Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

Figure 33: Rate of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, former district timeseries
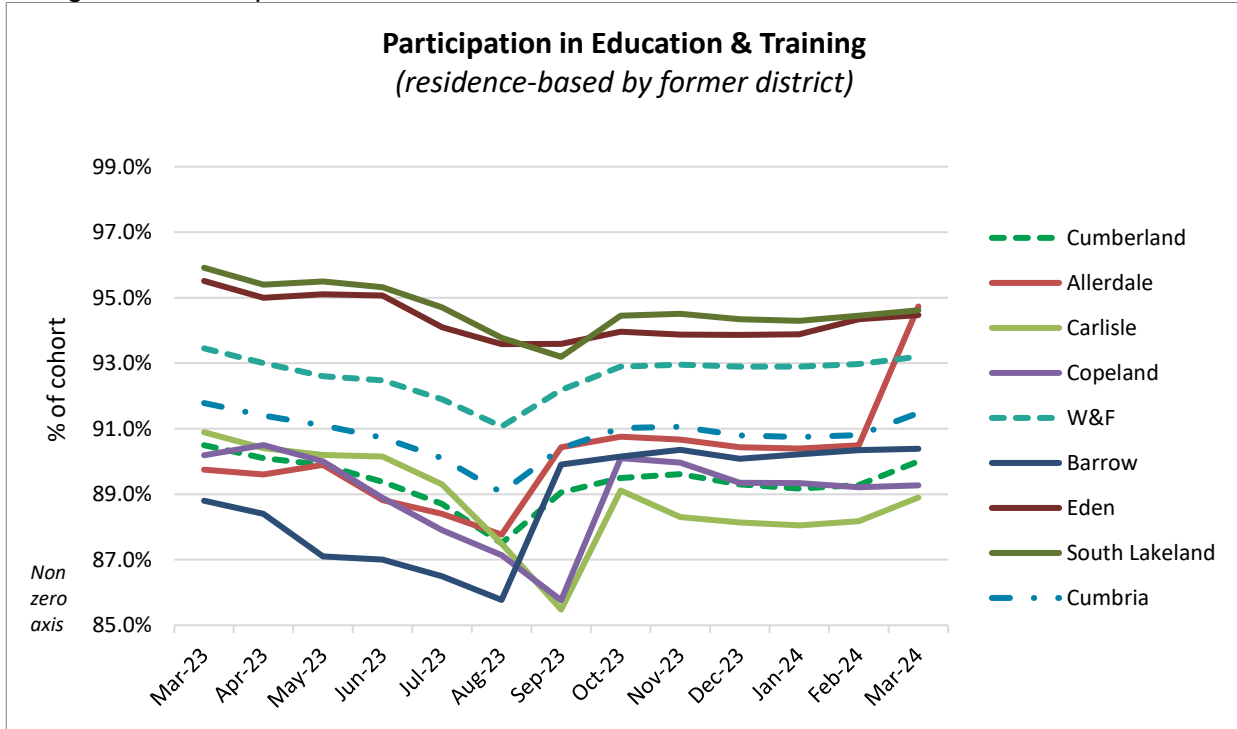

Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

7b. Participation

The Education & Skills Act 2008 introduced a requirement for young people to remain in education or training until at least their 18th 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 March 2024, 91.5% of young people in Cumbria were classed as meeting the participation requirement compared to 92.1% for England. The rates were 90.0% in Cumberland and 93.2% in Westmorland & Furness.

Figure 34: Participation of 16/17 Year Olds, former district timeseries

Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

*Figure 35: Participation of 16/17 Year Olds, by activity type – Mar 2024*
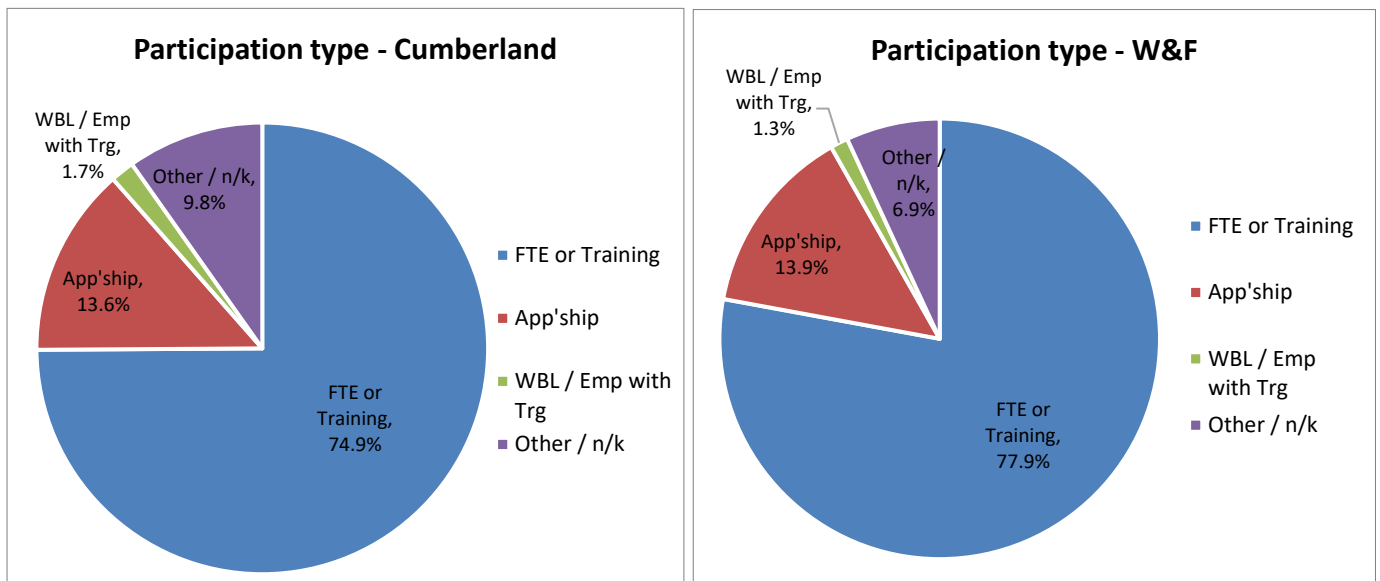
Source: NCCIS

8. JOB POSTINGS

The following data are drawn from Lightcast™ 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 April 2024 there were 8,477 active job postings in Cumbria, 3,534 of which were new postings during the month. The number of active postings was 684 lower than in March (-7.5%) whilst the number of new postings fell by 644 (-15.4%). Postings dropped in all parts of Cumbria as well as regionally and nationally.

Figure 36: Active job postings by month

Active Job Postings

Legend: ■ Cumberland ■ W&F
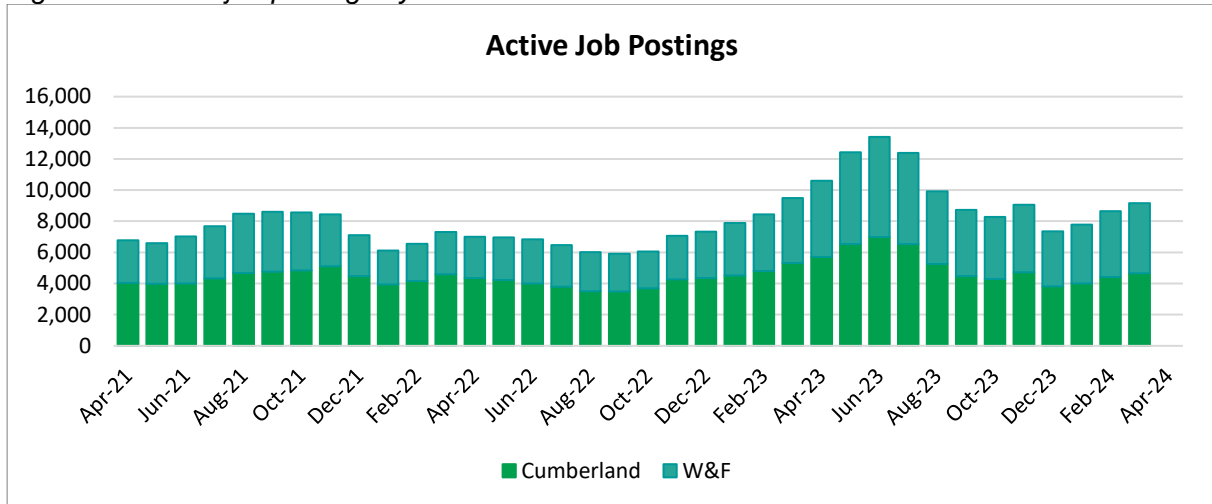
Source: Lightcast™ Analyst

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

Figure 37: Job postings by occupation – Apr 2024

Active Job Postings by occupation

Occupation	Postings
Care Workers	480
Cleaners & Domestics	419
Sales Related Occupations	281
Kitchen & Catering Assistants	214
Sales & Retail Assistants	206
Managers & Directors in Retail	194
Other Nursing Professionals	187
Social Workers	175
Customer Services	168
Production Engineers	131
Other Administrative	129
Chefs	123
Warehouse Operatives	120
Programmers & Software Profs	111
Registered Nurse Practitioners	108

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 manufacture of other transport equipment.

Figure 38: Job postings by sector – Apr 2024

Active Job Postings by sector

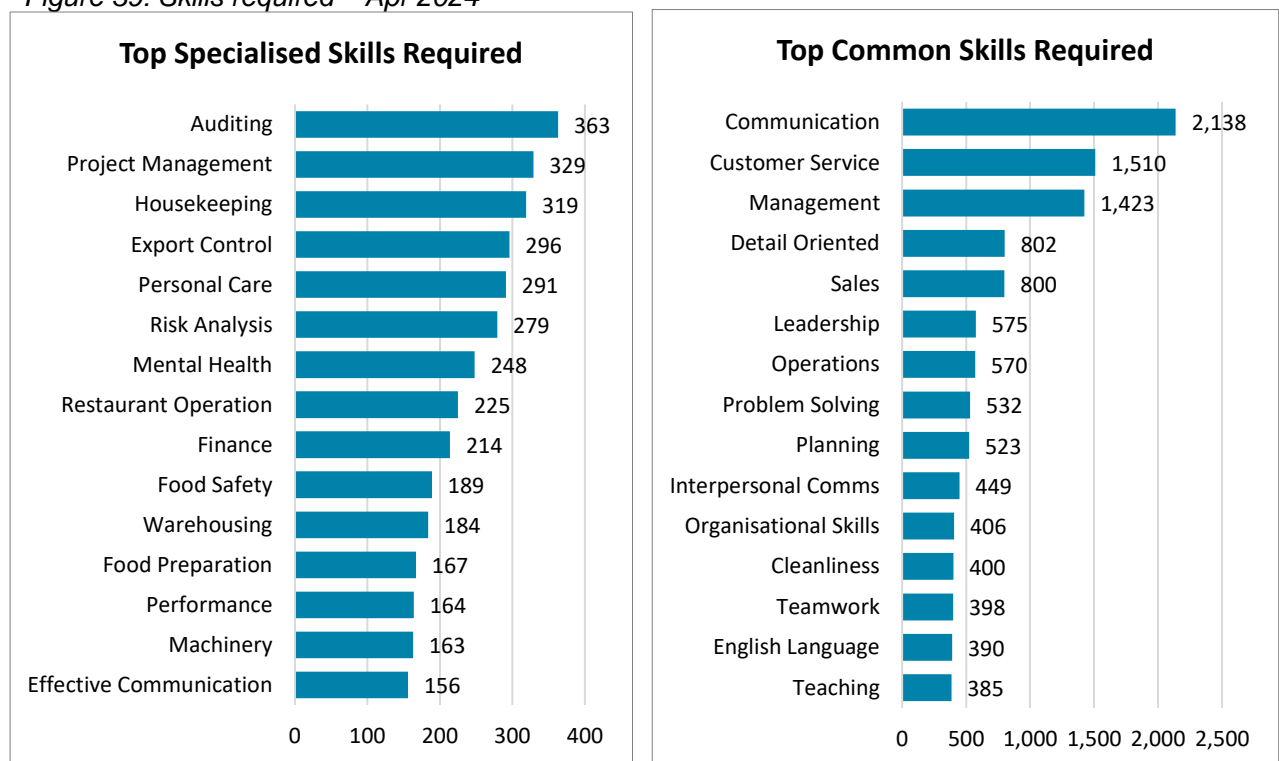| Sector	Postings
Employment Activities	1,704
Human Health	732
Retail	528
Food & Beverage Services	464
Manuf of Other Transport Equip	251
Residential Care	215
Education	209
Accommodation	192
Services to Buildings	189
Management Consultancy	171
Office Business Support	148
Architecture & Engineering	139
Other Prof, Scientific & Technical	136
Construction	126
Real Estate	124

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst

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.
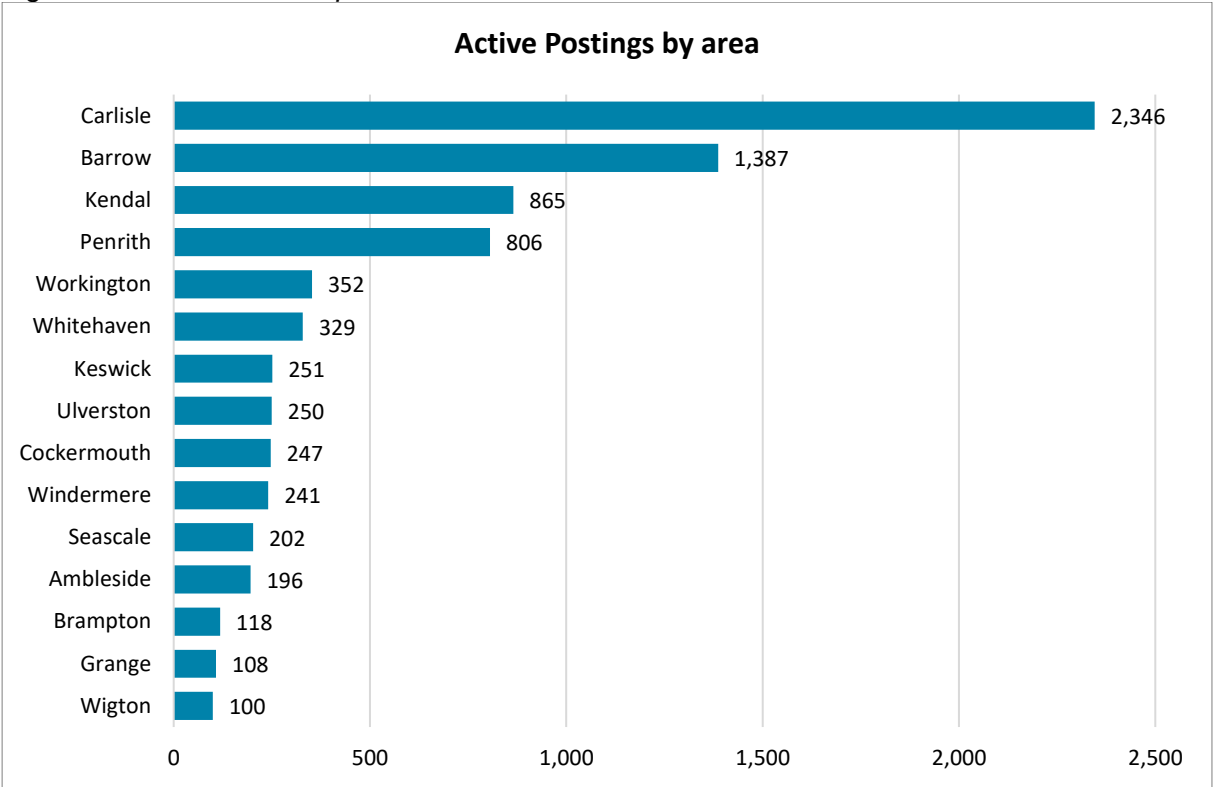
Figure 39: Skills required – Apr 2024

Top Specialised Skills Required

Skill	Count
Auditing	363
Project Management	329
Housekeeping	319
Export Control	296
Personal Care	291
Risk Analysis	279
Mental Health	248
Restaurant Operation	225
Finance	214
Food Safety	189
Warehousing	184
Food Preparation	167
Performance	164
Machinery	163
Effective Communication	156

Top Common Skills Required

Skill	Count
Communication	2,138
Customer Service	1,510
Management	1,423
Detail Oriented	802
Sales	800
Leadership	575
Operations	570
Problem Solving	532
Planning	523
Interpersonal Comms	449
Organisational Skills	406
Cleanliness	400
Teamwork	398
English Language	390
Teaching	385

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst

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

Figure 40: Job location – Apr 2024

Active Postings by area

Area	Postings
Carlisle	2,346
Barrow	1,387
Kendal	865
Penrith	806
Workington	352
Whitehaven	329
Keswick	251
Ulverston	250
Cockermouth	247
Windermere	241
Seascale	202
Ambleside	196
Brampton	118
Grange	108
Wigton	100

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst

As is usually the case, the NHS advertised the most vacancies during the month (485) followed by BAE Systems (251), the unitary authorities, Haven Holidays and Jacobs Engineering.

Figure 41: Recruiting organisation – Apr 2024

Active Postings by recruiter (where available)

| Recruiter	Postings
NHS	485
BAE Systems	251
Rullion Group	108
Adecco	95
Westmorland & Furness Council	72
Haven Holidays	71
Jacobs Engineering Group	67
Maid2Clean	65
Cumberland Council	53
Phoenix Care Staff Limited	48
Bridge Of Hope	46
A Wilderness Way Limited	45
Randstad	41
JD Wetherspoon	39
The Best Connection	39

Source: Lightcast™ Analyst

9. BUSINESS START-UPS

9a. 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 168 business start-ups in Cumbria in March 2024, a decrease of 6 from last month and 77 fewer than the same month last year. Over the quarter (Jan-Mar) there were 521 start-ups which is 17 fewer than last quarter and 85 fewer than the same quarter last year.
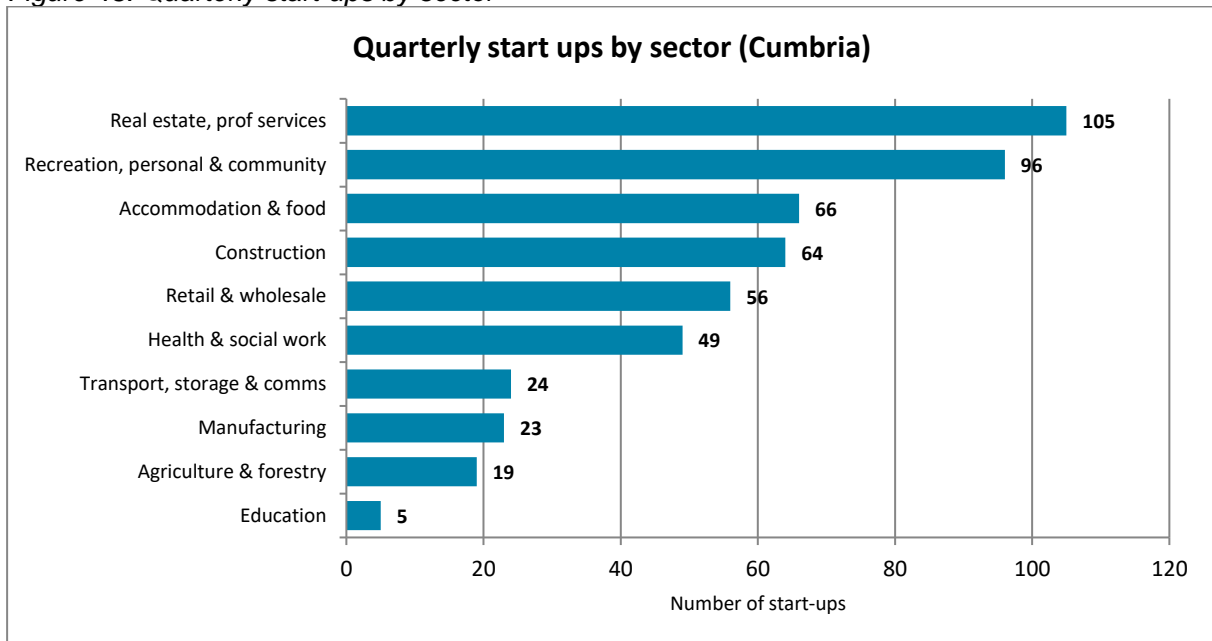
Figure 42: Monthly Start-Ups (number)
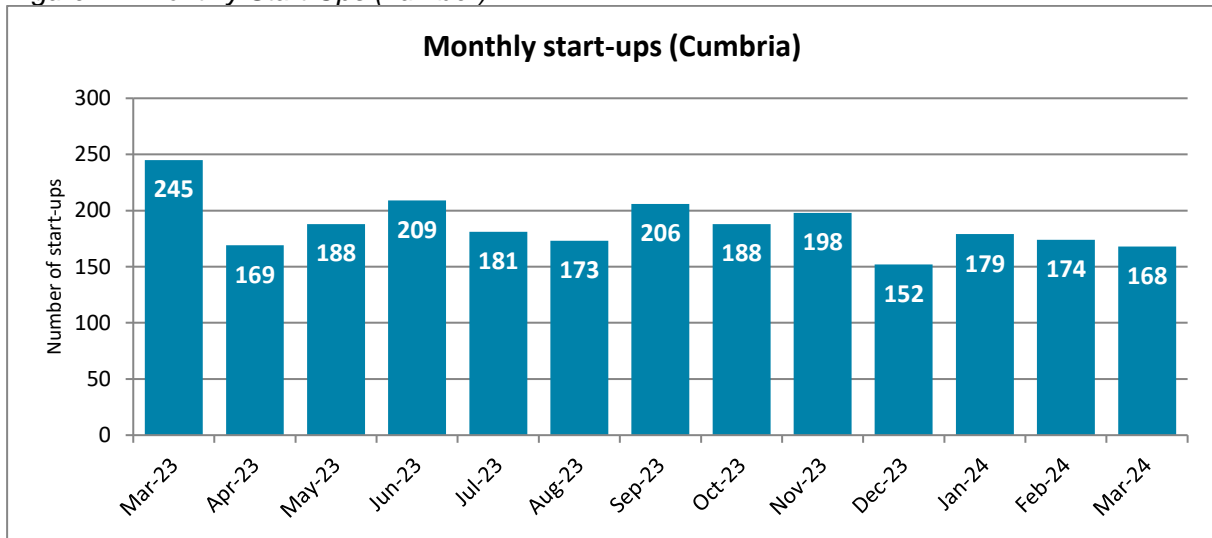
Source: BankSearch

The highest volume of start-ups in the quarter (Jan-Mar) was in real estate, prof services & support activities (105) followed by recreation, personal & community services (96) and accommodation & food (66).

*Figure 43: Quarterly start-ups by sector*

Source: BankSearch

9b: 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 258 new Companies House incorporations in March 2024, an increase of 1 from Feb but 24 fewer than the same month last year. New registrations decreased in the former district areas of Barrow, Carlisle and Copeland but rose in Allerdale, Eden and South Lakeland.

Figure 44: Companies House Incorporations in Cumbria - timeseries

New Companies House incorporations (registered office Cumbria)
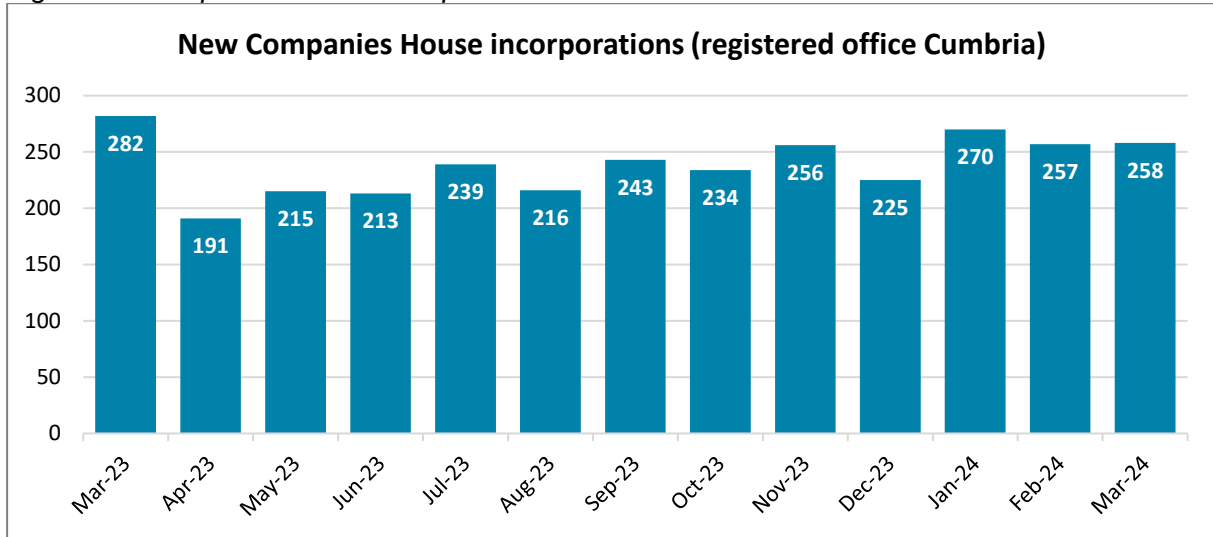
Source: BankSearch, data relate to registered office address.

Figure 45: Companies House Incorporations by former district, Mar 2024

New Companies House Registrations
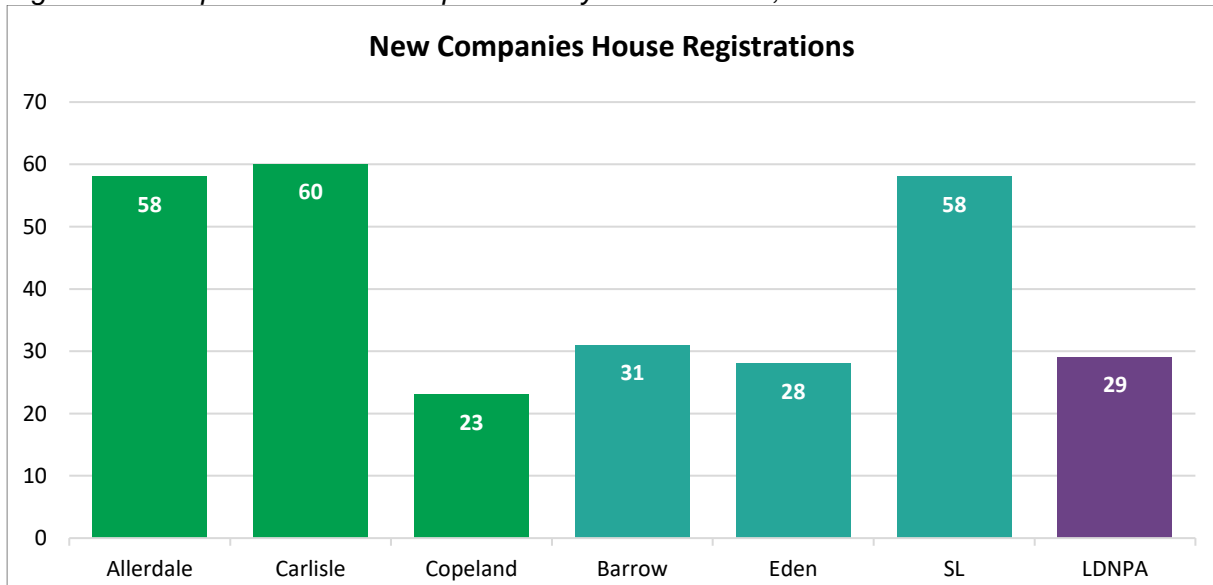
Source: BankSearch   Note 1: LDNPA area is a "best-fit" comprising wards with 50%+ of area within NP. Note 2: LDNPA starts are also counted in the relevant district. Note 3: Data relate to registered office address.
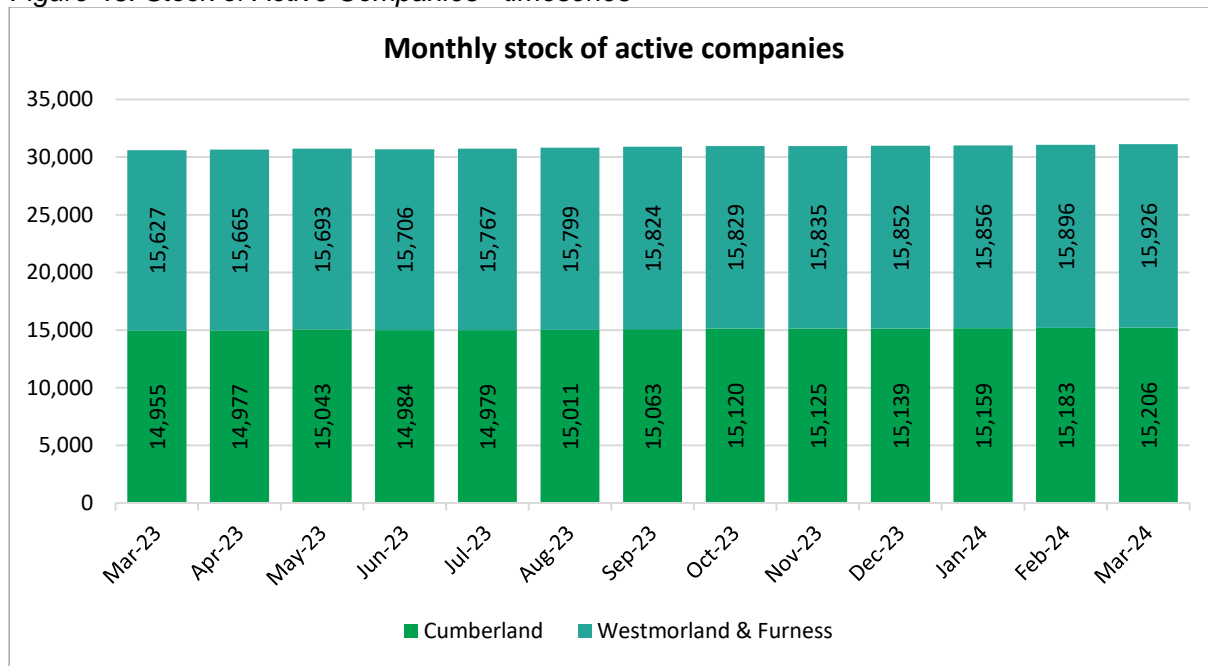
10. COMPANIES HOUSE STOCK – ACTIVE, DISSOLVED, FINANCIAL HEALTH

10a   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.
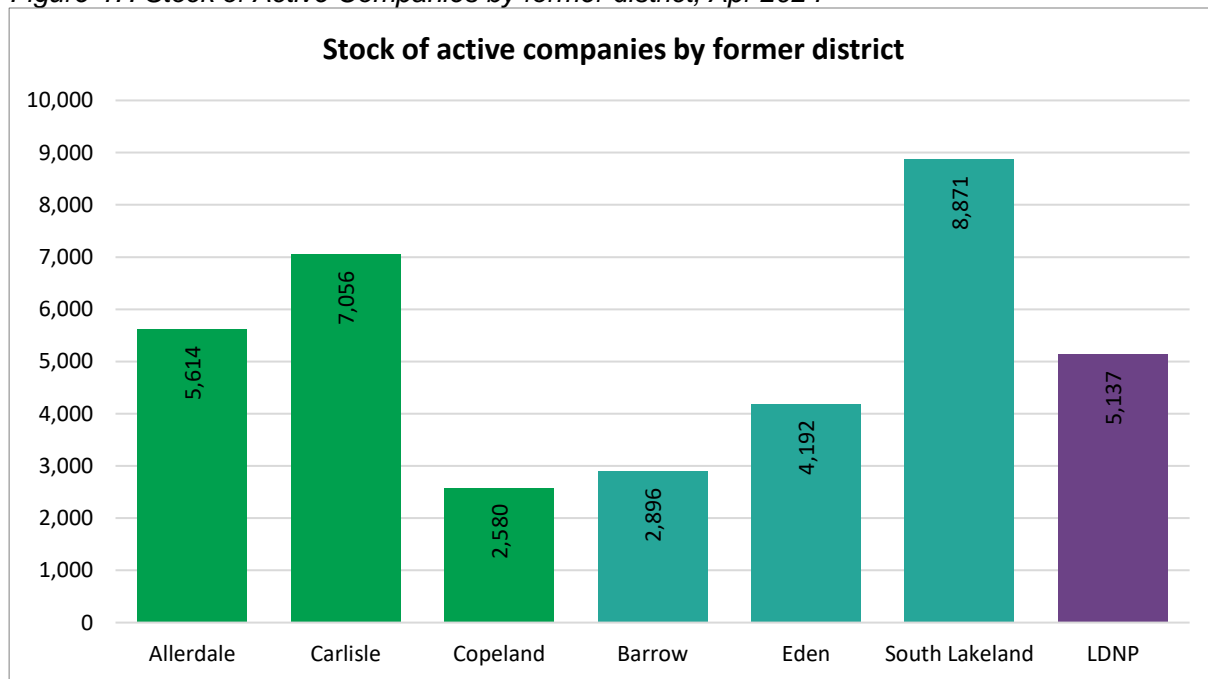
At the end of April 2024 there were 31,209 entries on the FAME database for Cumbria, an increase of 77 from last month. There were 189 dissolutions/liquidations (187 dissolutions, 2 liquidations) which is 22 more than last month.

*Figure 46: Stock of Active Companies - timeseries*

Monthly stock of active companies

	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24
Westmorland & Furness	15,627	15,665	15,693	15,706	15,767	15,799	15,824	15,829	15,835	15,852	15,856	15,896	15,926
Cumberland	14,955	14,977	15,043	14,984	14,979	15,011	15,063	15,120	15,125	15,139	15,159	15,183	15,206

Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

Figure 47: Stock of Active Companies by former district, Apr 2024

Stock of active companies by former district

Allerdale	Carlisle	Copeland	Barrow	Eden	South Lakeland	LDNP
5,614	7,056	2,580	2,896	4,192	8,871	5,137

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

Figure 48: Businesses dissolved/in liquidation during month, timeseries

Dissolved / In Liquidation
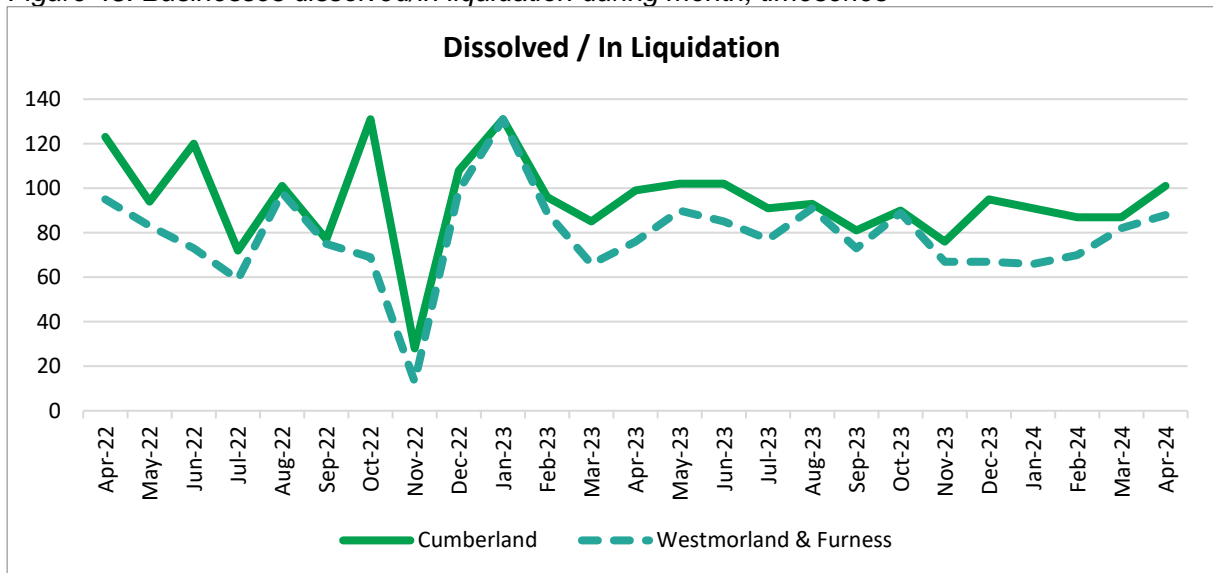
Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

Of the businesses which were active in Cumbria in Apr 2024, 1,948 had shown an increase of 10% in either employment or turnover in their most recent accounts whilst 1,439 had shown a decrease. This repesents 6.2% of businesses growing on one or both measures and 4.6% 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 49: Businesses showing growth/decline

% businesses showing annual growth/decline
(of 10% or more in employment and/or turnover in most recent accounts)
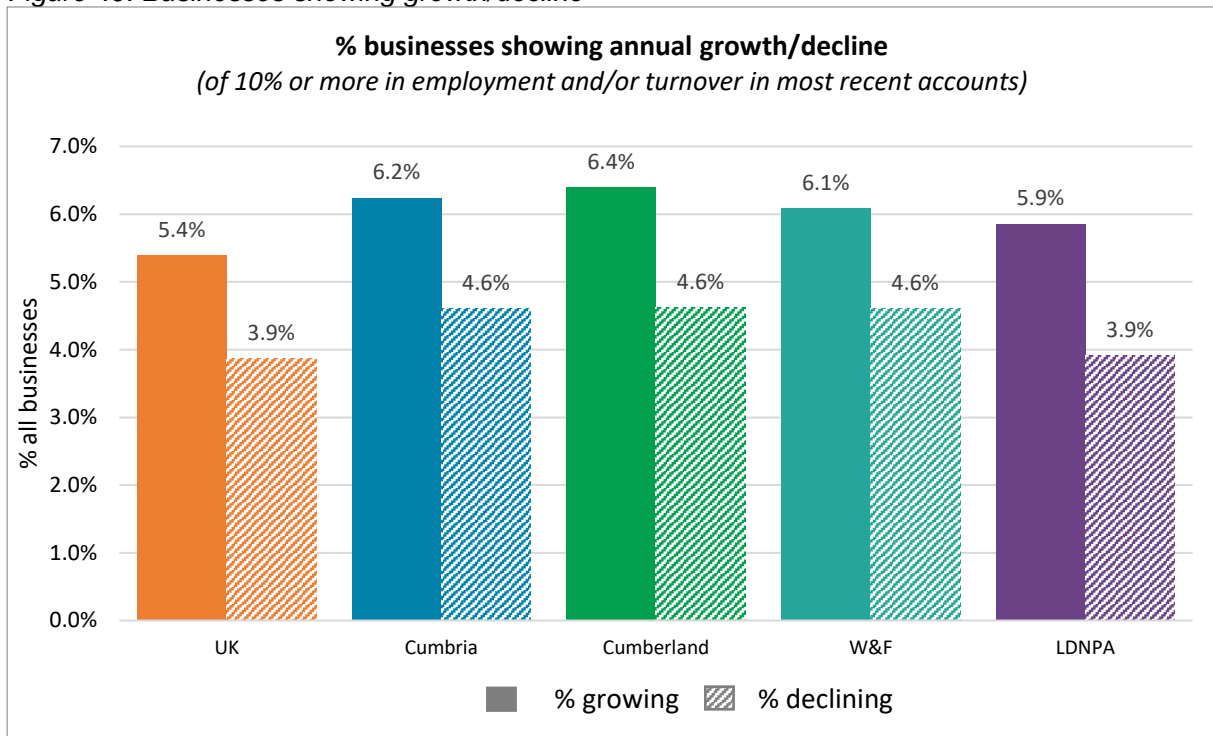
Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk) NB: % is of all active businesses including those without financial results

10b   Financial Health

These data are extracted from the Red Flag Alert (RFA) database system which rates businesses from Gold (stable, little risk) down to 3 Red Flags (highest risk of failure). The system captures those active at Companies House with a registered or trading location in the relevant area.

At the end of Apr 2024, 1,440 companies in Cumbria were rated as having Red Flags (not including provisional flags) which equates to 3.3% of Cumbria's companies on the system compared to 4.8% nationally. This was highest in the former district areas of Barrow and Carlisle (4.6% and 3.5% respectively).

The RFA system also assigns a "likelihood of growth" score to businesses where sufficient data exists – last month this was around a third of businesses on the system. Among these, 86.9% of Cumbrian businesses were rated very unlikely or unlikely to grow compared to 87.7% for the UK and 13.1% were rated likely or very likely to grow compared to 12.3% for the UK..
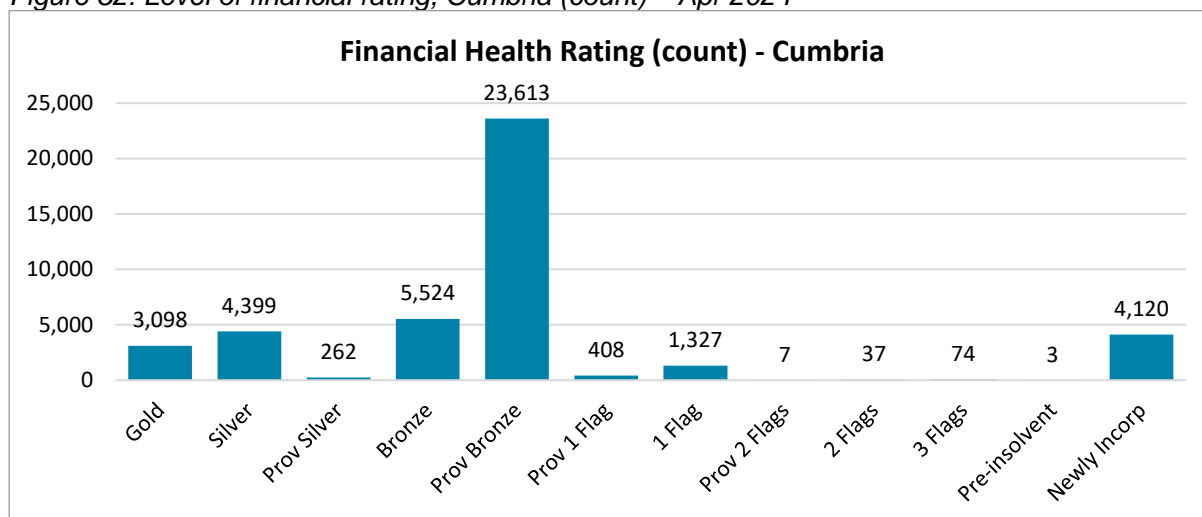
Figure 50: Companies with Red Flags (%) – Apr 2024
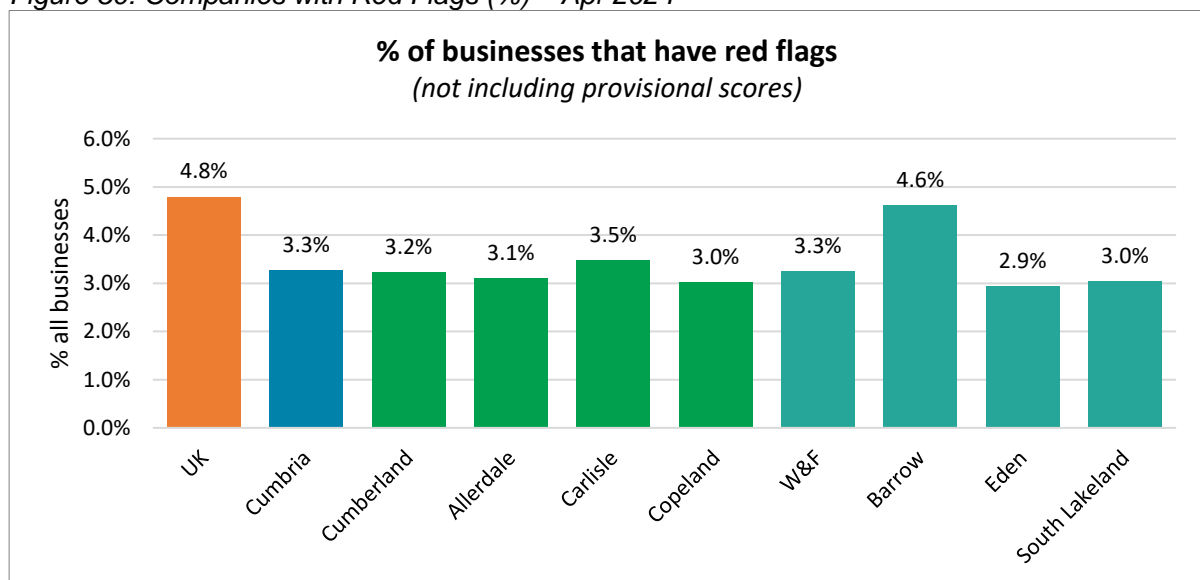
Source: Red Flag Alert

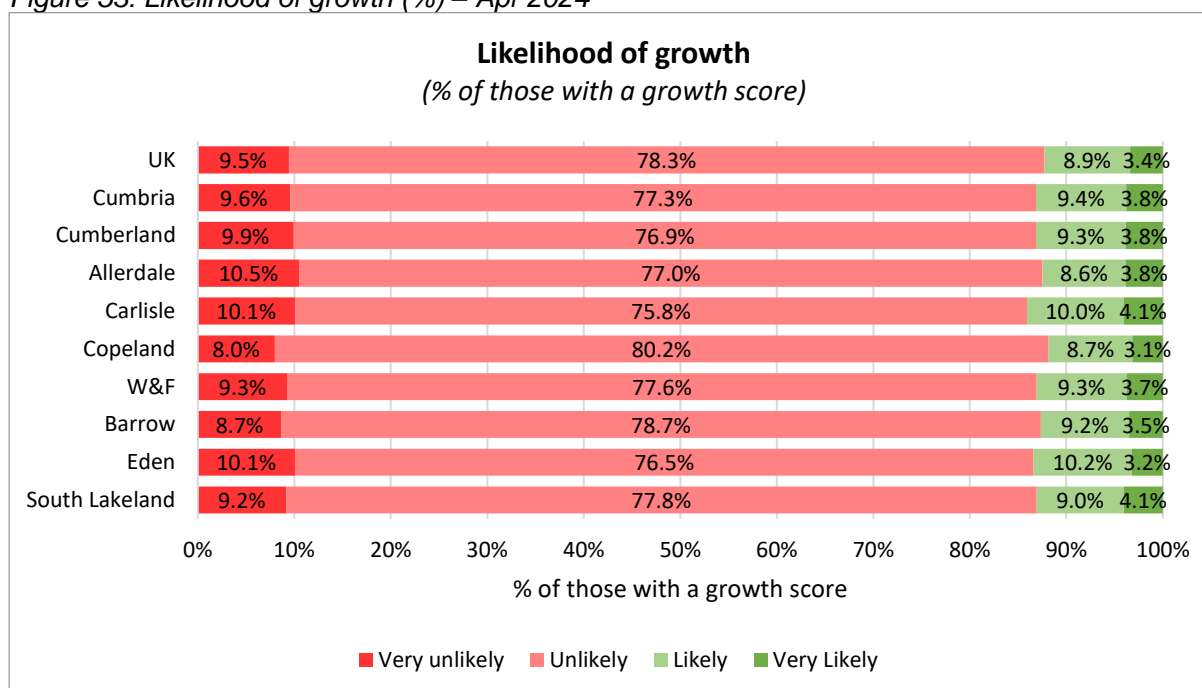*Figure 51: Companies with Red Flags (count) – Apr 2024*
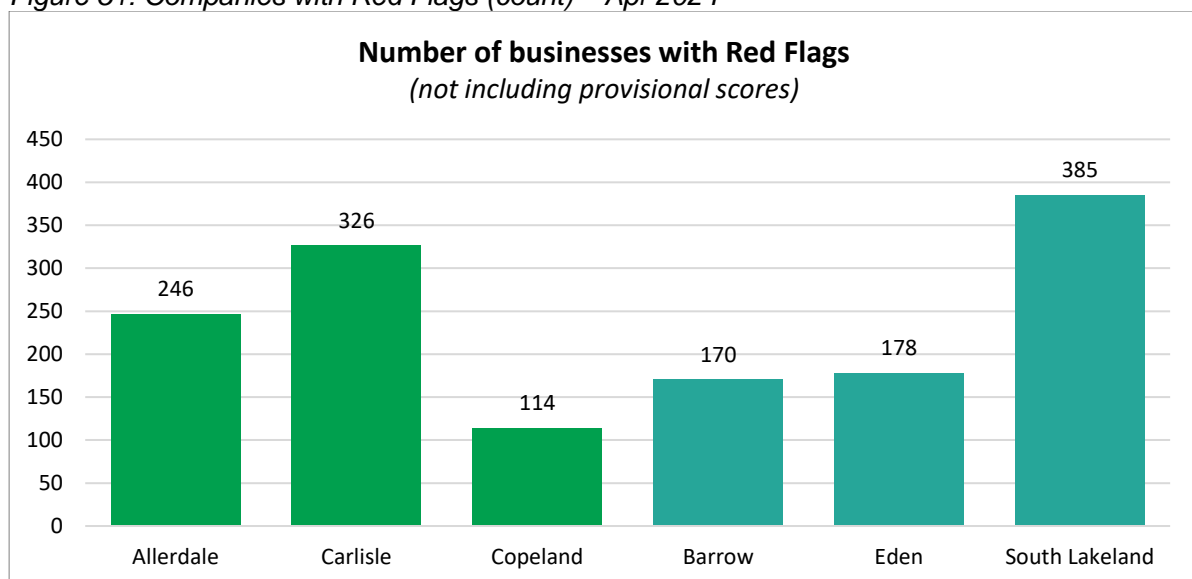
Source: Red Flag Alert

Figure 52: Level of financial rating, Cumbria (count) – Apr 2024

Financial Health Rating (count) - Cumbria

Source: Red Flag Alert

Figure 53: Likelihood of growth (%) – Apr 2024

Likelihood of growth
(% of those with a growth score)

	Very unlikely	Unlikely	Likely	Very Likely
UK	9.5%	78.3%	8.9%	3.4%
Cumbria	9.6%	77.3%	9.4%	3.8%
Cumberland	9.9%	76.9%	9.3%	3.8%
Allerdale	10.5%	77.0%	8.6%	3.8%
Carlisle	10.1%	75.8%	10.0%	4.1%
Copeland	8.0%	80.2%	8.7%	3.1%
W&F	9.3%	77.6%	9.3%	3.7%
Barrow	8.7%	78.7%	9.2%	3.5%
Eden	10.1%	76.5%	10.2%	3.2%
South Lakeland	9.2%	77.8%	9.0%	4.1%

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 54: Ward claimant data

CUMBERLAND	Claimant Count (JSA / UC seeking work)					Universal Credit (all claimants)				
	Apr 2024		Change from Mar 2024			Apr 2024		Change from Mar 2024		
	No	Rate	No	%	Rate	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
GB	1,577,300	3.8	5,355	0.3	0.0	6,733,285	16.3	137,788	2.1	0.3
Cumbria	6,975	2.3	-60	-0.9	0.0	40,698	13.6	642	1.6	0.2
Cumberland	4,255	2.6	-40	-1.0	0.0	25,548	15.9	324	1.3	0.2
1.Carlisle West	610	3.2	0	0.0	0.0	3,503	18.6	38	1.1	0.2
2.Petteril	725	3.9	10	1.4	0.1	4,214	22.6	86	2.1	0.5
3.Border, Fellside & North Carlisle	420	1.8	30	7.7	0.1	2,202	9.7	50	2.3	0.2
4.Fells & Solway	355	2.0	10	2.9	0.1	2,061	11.3	46	2.3	0.3
5.Lakes to Sea	520	2.1	-35	-6.3	-0.1	3,340	13.6	29	0.9	0.1
6.Workington Together	695	3.5	-10	-1.4	-0.1	4,001	20.3	33	0.8	0.2
7.Whitehaven & Coastal	455	2.2	-35	-7.1	-0.2	3,343	16.4	39	1.2	0.2
8.South Cumberland	465	2.3	-25	-5.1	-0.1	2,896	14.0	19	0.7	0.1
Aspatria	100	3.3	-5	-5.0	0.0	511	16.7	15	3.0	0.5
Belah	60	1.5	0	0.0	0.0	431	10.7	12	2.9	0.3
Belle Vue	120	2.9	-5	-4.2	0.0	641	15.6	1	0.2	0.0
Botcherby	165	3.9	-5	-2.9	-0.2	844	19.9	13	1.6	0.3
Bothel & Wharrels	45	1.6	15	50.0	0.5	168	6.1	14	9.1	0.5
Brampton	90	2.8	5	5.6	0.0	443	13.9	3	0.7	0.1
Bransty	105	3.2	-5	-4.3	-0.3	407	12.2	4	1.0	0.1
Castle	195	4.8	-10	-4.9	-0.2	843	20.5	6	0.7	0.1
Cleator Moor East & Frizington	70	2.1	-5	-6.3	-0.3	499	15.3	-3	-0.6	-0.1
Cleator Moor West	90	2.5	-10	-9.5	-0.4	672	18.9	7	1.1	0.2
Cockermouth North	90	2.3	-5	-5.0	-0.3	539	13.8	0	0.0	0.0
Cockermouth South	50	1.4	-5	-9.1	-0.1	185	5.3	-2	-1.1	-0.1
Corby & Hayton	40	1.5	5	14.3	0.2	186	7.0	7	3.9	0.3
Currock	210	4.9	5	2.5	0.2	1,008	23.8	27	2.8	0.6
Dalston & Burgh	75	1.6	10	15.4	0.2	284	6.1	5	1.8	0.1
Dearham & Broughton	45	1.2	-10	-20.0	-0.1	345	9.5	2	0.6	0.1
Denton Holme	125	2.8	10	9.1	0.3	799	17.6	11	1.4	0.2
Egremont	100	2.9	0	0.0	-0.1	716	20.5	2	0.3	0.1
Egremont North & St. Bees	75	2.3	-5	-6.3	-0.2	556	16.8	2	0.4	0.1
Gosforth	40	1.2	0	0.0	0.0	297	8.8	2	0.7	0.1
Harraby North	130	3.0	10	8.0	0.1	918	21.4	20	2.2	0.5
Harraby South	80	2.1	0	0.0	0.0	574	15.4	11	2.0	0.3
Harrington	130	3.2	0	0.0	0.0	705	17.4	0	0.0	0.0
Hillcrest & Hensingham	45	1.4	0	0.0	-0.2	240	7.3	4	1.7	0.1
Houghton & Irthington	45	1.5	0	0.0	0.2	214	6.9	9	4.4	0.3
Howgate	65	1.9	-10	-14.3	-0.1	553	16.2	6	1.1	0.2
Kells & Sandwith	90	2.2	-10	-10.0	-0.2	980	24.2	22	2.3	0.5
Keswick	45	1.5	-10	-18.2	-0.3	326	11.1	0	0.0	0.0
Longtown	70	2.4	5	8.3	0.3	386	13.2	9	2.4	0.3
Maryport North	130	3.6	-5	-3.6	-0.3	655	18.1	1	0.2	0.0
Maryport South	115	2.9	-10	-8.0	-0.3	1,122	28.6	14	1.3	0.4
Millom	110	3.3	5	4.3	-0.1	538	15.9	0	0.0	0.0
Millom Without	55	2.0	0	0.0	0.4	174	6.4	11	6.7	0.4
Mirehouse	75	2.3	5	6.7	0.0	607	18.6	1	0.2	0.0
Morton	120	3.2	5	4.3	0.1	797	21.2	15	1.9	0.4
Moss Bay & Moorclose	220	5.4	-15	-6.5	-0.2	1,389	33.9	9	0.7	0.2
Seaton	100	2.6	0	0.0	0.0	526	13.7	2	0.4	0.1
Solway Coast	50	1.7	5	11.1	0.2	430	15.0	3	0.7	0.1
St. John's & Great Clifton	90	2.4	0	0.0	-0.1	401	10.5	10	2.6	0.3
St. Michael's	155	4.3	-5	-3.3	0.1	980	27.1	12	1.2	0.3
Stanwix Urban	50	1.6	0	0.0	0.2	246	7.7	8	3.4	0.2
Thursby	20	0.7	-5	-20.0	-0.2	220	7.3	4	1.9	0.1
Upperby	140	3.7	10	7.4	0.1	870	23.1	15	1.8	0.4
Wetheral	65	1.6	0	0.0	0.1	296	7.2	2	0.7	0.0
Wigton	110	2.8	-5	-4.5	0.0	616	15.4	19	3.2	0.5
Yewdale	50	1.6	-10	-16.7	-0.3	423	13.4	5	1.2	0.2

WESTMORLAND & FURNESS	Claimant Count (JSA / UC seeking work)					Universal Credit (all claimants)				
	Apr 2024		Change from Mar 2024			Apr 2024		Change from Mar 2024		
	No	Rate	No	%	Rate	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
GB	1,577,300	3.8	5,355	0.3	0.0	6,733,285	16.3	137,788	2.1	0.3
Cumbria	6,975	2.3	-60	-0.9	0.0	40,698	13.6	642	1.6	0.2
Westmorland & Furness	2,805	2.1	155	5.8	0.1	14,990	11.2	518	3.6	0.4
Eden	580	1.8	-5	-1.2	0.0	3,152	9.7	71	2.3	0.2
South Lakeland	875	1.4	0	0.0	0.0	5,547	9.2	137	2.5	0.2
Furness	1,260	3.0	-10	-0.9	0.0	6,453	15.6	114	1.8	0.3
Alston & Fellside	65	1.7	-10	-13.3	-0.3	305	8.1	12	3.9	0.0
Appleby & Brough	85	2.5	5	5.9	0.0	335	9.8	12	3.7	0.2
Bowness & Lyth	20	0.9	5	33.3	0.2	181	8.1	4	2.3	0.2
Burton & Holme	10	0.5	-5	-33.3	-0.2	143	6.9	12	8.4	0.0
Coniston & Hawkshead	30	1.8	0	0.0	0.3	118	6.9	3	2.5	0.0
Dalton North	55	1.5	-5	-8.3	-0.1	309	8.3	0	0.0	0.2
Dalton South	80	2.1	0	0.0	0.0	402	10.8	5	1.2	0.0
Eamont & Shap	50	2.0	0	0.0	-0.2	198	8.1	16	8.3	0.2
Eden & Lyvennet Vale	55	1.6	0	0.0	0.1	229	6.7	13	5.9	0.2
Grange & Cartmel	75	1.4	-5	-7.1	0.1	396	7.4	4	1.0	0.0
Greystoke & Ulswater	20	0.8	0	0.0	-0.4	120	4.9	-3	-2.7	0.3
Hawcoat & Newbarns	95	1.6	-5	-5.0	-0.1	396	6.5	8	2.1	0.3
Hesket & Lazonby	35	1.0	-5	-12.5	-0.1	189	5.2	5	2.7	0.2
High Furness	30	1.4	-5	-14.3	-0.2	139	6.3	8	5.8	0.1
Kendal Castle	35	1.0	0	0.0	0.0	238	6.9	8	3.5	0.2
Kendal Highgate	60	1.6	-5	-7.1	-0.3	623	16.6	13	2.2	0.6
Kendal Nether	80	2.0	0	0.0	-0.1	481	12.2	25	5.3	0.3
Kendal South	45	1.3	5	9.1	-0.3	293	8.3	-13	-4.7	0.4
Kendal Strickland & Fell	95	2.3	5	6.3	0.4	599	14.3	10	1.7	0.5
Kent Estuary	30	0.9	5	20.0	0.2	263	8.3	2	0.8	0.1
Kirkby Stephen & Tebay	50	1.7	0	0.0	-0.2	317	11.0	18	5.8	0.1
Levens & Crooklands	15	0.7	-5	-25.0	-0.2	113	5.2	4	3.3	-0.4
Low Furness	25	1.1	5	20.0	0.0	135	5.7	12	8.9	0.0
Old Barrow	540	6.7	-5	-0.9	-0.1	2,489	30.8	33	1.3	0.4
Ormsgill & Parkside	210	3.0	5	2.3	-0.1	1,185	16.9	36	3.1	0.1
Penrith North	90	2.0	0	0.0	0.1	599	13.0	21	3.7	0.5
Penrith South	130	2.2	0	0.0	0.0	865	14.4	33	3.9	0.2
Risedale & Roosecote	170	2.6	0	0.0	0.1	937	14.5	-7	-0.8	0.4
Sedbergh & Kirkby Lonsdale	40	0.9	0	0.0	-0.1	244	5.4	15	6.5	0.3
Ulverston	160	2.3	15	10.0	0.1	786	11.1	20	2.6	0.4
Upper Kent	55	2.3	-5	-10.0	0.2	216	9.0	2	1.0	0.3
Walney Island	115	1.9	0	0.0	-0.1	732	11.8	29	4.0	0.1
Windermere & Ambleside	70	1.1	-5	-6.3	-0.2	581	9.3	-1	-0.2	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
2. Petteril	Botcherby		Maryport North
	Currock		Maryport South
	Harraby North	6. Workington Together	Harrington
	Harraby South		Moss Bay & Moorclose
	Upperby		Seaton
3. Border, Fellside & North Carlisle	Belah		St. John's & Great Clifton
	Brampton		St Michael's
	Corby & Hayton	7. Whitehaven & Coastal	Bransty
	Houghton & Irthington		Egremont North & St. Bees
	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	
Locality Board	**Areas covered**
Eden	former Eden district
South Lakeland	former South Lakeland district
Furness	former Barrow-in-Furness district

Figure Number and Description   **Page**