

Cumbria Labour Market Briefing – Apr 2025



Introduction

This briefing contains the most recent data from the standard Claimant Count and Universal Credit registers (both counts taken on **13th March 2025**). The briefing also the latest available data on payrolled employment, job postings, NEETs, business start-ups and active companies.

For more information about the data in the briefing or to be added / removed from the distribution list, please contact Ginny Murphy, Senior Analyst, Cumberland Council. Email: gabby.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 225,766 payrolled employees resident in Cumbria in Mar 2025, a decrease of 616 from the revised Feb figure. This means there are 1,446 more residents in payrolled employment than this time last year. Note: these figures are seasonally adjusted and 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 Mar 2025 in Cumbria were £2,373 which is 96% of the UK average. They were highest in West Cumbria (103% of UK) but lower in East Cumbria (91% of UK) which is partly to be expected due to the sector balance and the prevalence of part time jobs in the latter area (NB: these are ITL areas which are not the same as the unitary areas).
- Median payrolled earnings growth in Cumbria year on year was 5.5% with annual growth above the UK rate of growth (UK 4.8%).
- Survey estimates for the year ending Dec 2024 suggest that the proportion of 16-64 year olds in employment in Cumbria was 77.3% compared to the national average of 75.5% (the degree of survey error means this is not significant). The estimated rate was 76.9% in Cumberland and 77.8% in Westmorland & Furness (survey error is even more significant at this level).
- The economic inactivity rate (those not working or actively looking for work) was estimated to be 21.1% in the year to Dec 2024 (approx. 60,700 residents), similar to the national rate of 21.5%. It was lower estimated to be 20.8% in Cumberland and 21.4% in Westmorland & although survey error makes this unreliable. Over 80% of the inactive in Cumbria do not currently want a job.
- The annual estimates of qualification levels suggest that 39.7% of working age residents in Cumbria were qualified to level 4 or above (eg degree) which, even when taking into account the degree of survey error, is lower than the national average of 47.4%. The survey findings suggest that the level in Cumbria has increased by 5.3ppt from a year ago but we can't be sure if this is the case due to the level of survey error.
- There were 7,050 claimants of JSA / UC (out of work and seeking work) in Mar 2025, which is 5 fewer than the revised Feb figure. The count fell in Allerdale, Copeland and Eden but rose in Barrow, Carlisle and South Lakeland.

- Compared to the same time last year, the claimant count (actively seeking work) is 15 higher an increase of 0.2% which is much smaller than the rise of 10.6% nationally.
- The claimant rate (actively seeking work) in Cumbria was 2.4% in Mar 2025 unchanged from Feb and it remains below the national rate of 4.2% in all the former district areas. The claimant rate in Cumbria is also unchanged from a year ago (nationally it is 0.4ppt higher).
- Claimant rates (of those actively seeking work) are below the national average in all age groups at Cumbria level. Rates for 18-24 year olds in Barrow remain above the national rate for that age group once again last month (5.7% v 5.5%).
- There were 44,035 claimants of Universal Credit in Cumbria in Mar 2025 (in work, out of work or not required to seek work), a rise of 737 (1.7%) from the revised Feb figure and 3,982 more UC claimants than a year ago (+9.9%).
- The number of UC claimants rose in the searching/planning/preparing group (+83) and also rose in the working conditionality group (+150) and the no work requirements group (+502).
- The UC claimant rate for all UC claimants was 14.7% in Mar 2025 compared to 18.3% 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 and 35-44 year olds in Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle and Copeland.
- 32,825 of the UC claimants had been claiming for more than 12 months in Mar 2025, an increase of 690 from Feb and 3,716 more than a year ago. This means 75% of UC claimants had been claiming for more than a year.
- In Dec 2024, 16,716 UC claimants were on "UC health" which is 5.6% of all working age residents (aged 16-64) compared to 5.9% nationally. The rate of UC Health claimants was above the national average in the former districts of Allerdale (6.9%), Barrow (6.9%), Carlisle (6.1%) and Copeland (6.8%) but lower in Eden (3.3%) and South Lakeland (3.3%).
- The number of UC claimants on "UC health" has risen by 19.3% (+2,703) in the year to Dec 2024 in Cumbria which is a faster rate of growth than for all UC claimants (12.3%). UC Health claimant now make up 39.4% of all UC claimants which is higher than the national proportion (33.4%).
- Data for households on Universal Credit are published quarterly and the latest are for Nov 2024. This shows that there were 35,990 households in receipt of Universal Credit, up by 3,828 (11.9%) from a year previously.
- There were an estimated 33,059 children/young people under the age of 20 living in Universal Credit households in Nov 2024 which is 4,930 more than a year ago (+17.5%).
- There were 306 young people (aged 16/17) classed as NEET (inc not knowns) in Feb 2025 which is 22 fewer than in Jan. There were 209 NEET/NKs in Cumberland and 97 in Westmorland & Furness.
- The NEET rate was 2.9% in Cumbria in Feb 2025, down 0.2ppt from Jan and down -0.1ppt from a year ago. The rate was 3.5% in Cumberland and 2.1% in Westmorland & Furness. Both areas have a rate lower than the England rate of 5.1%.
- The participation rate for 16/17 year olds was 90.5% in Cumbria in Feb 2025 (88.7% in Cumberland and 92.8% in Westmorland & Furness) which compares to a rate of 92.2% for England. The Apprenticeship rate is significantly higher in both areas than the national average – 14.0% and 12.8% compared to 4.1%.
- According to Lightcast there were 9,328 active online job postings in Mar 2025, 336 more than in Feb (+3.7%) with increases in all former districts except Allerdale and Copeland. The volume of new postings during the month also rose, by 544 (+13.5%).
- The occupations most in demand were care workers, cleaners & domestics, kitchen & catering assistants and production & process engineers.
- The sectors accounting for most postings were employment activities (usually recruitment companies), health, manufacture of other transport equipment, food & beverage services and retail.
- Job-related skills most in demand were export control, security, project management and auditing whilst the personal attributes most in demand were communication, management and customer service.
- The recruiting organisations with the most active job postings were BAE Systems, the NHS and several recruitment agencies.
- There were 368 small business start-ups in the quarter ending Feb 2025 which is 91 fewer than last quarter and 137 fewer than the same quarter last year.

- Start-ups were highest in real estate & professional services (103), recreation, personal & community services (58), construction (52) and retail & wholesale (37).
- There were 232 new Companies House incorporations in Feb 2025, 1 fewer than in Jan and 25 fewer than the same month last year.
- There were 165 businesses newly recorded as dissolved/in liquidation during Mar 2025.
- There were 30,895 active companies on the FAME database in Cumbria at the end of Mar 2025, 123 more than in Feb.
- Of the active businesses in Mar 2025, 1,772 had posted financial results showing a 10% increase in employment and/or turnover in their most recent accounts (5.7% of businesses) whilst 1,462 had posted results showing a 10% decline in one or both measures (4.7% of all businesses) (note: the majority of businesses do not file detailed financial accounts).
- Among businesses with a credit score in Mar 2025, 684 had a high risk credit score (1-20) which represents 4.3% of those with a credit score (UK 6.9%).

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

NB: Unless stated otherwise, unemployment figures in the national overview use a survey-based method which is different to the claimant-based method used for local areas. Therefore these figures should not be compared to the local area data.

- Estimates for payrolled employees in the UK decreased by 8,000 (0.0%) between January and February 2025 but rose by 35,000 (0.1%) between February 2024 and February 2025.
- Payrolled employees fell by 21,000 (0.1%) over the quarter but rose by 50,000 (0.2%) over the year, when looking at December 2024 to February 2025. This is the period comparable with our Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates.
- The early estimate of payrolled employees for March 2025 decreased by 78,000 (0.3%) on the month and decreased by 70,000 (0.2%) on the year to 30.3 million. The March 2025 estimate should be treated as a provisional estimate and is likely to be revised when more data are received next month.
- Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates have been affected by increased volatility resulting from smaller achieved sample sizes, meaning that estimates of change should be treated with additional caution. It is also likely that some of the recent movements in LFS estimates are being affected by recent increases in sample size and changes in data collection methods taken over the last year, in addition to any underlying changes in the labour market.
- The UK employment rate for people aged 16 to 64 years was estimated at 75.1% in December 2024 to February 2025. This is above estimates of a year ago, and up in the latest quarter.
- The UK unemployment rate for people aged 16 years and over was estimated at 4.4% in December 2024 to February 2025. This is above estimates of a year ago, but largely unchanged in the latest quarter.
- The UK economic inactivity rate for people aged 16 to 64 years was estimated at 21.4% in December 2024 to February 2025. This is below estimates of a year ago, and down in the latest quarter.
- The UK Claimant Count for March 2025 increased on the month and the year, to 1.766 million.
- The estimated number of vacancies in the UK fell by 26,000, or 3.2%, on the quarter, to 781,000 in January to March 2025; following the revision of the initial estimate for December 2024 to February 2025, this was the 33rd consecutive quarterly decline.
- Total estimated vacancies were down by 125,000 (13.8%) in January to March 2025 from the level of a year ago, and 15,000 (1.8%) below their January to March 2020 level; this is the first time since March to May 2021 they were below the pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic figure.
- The number of unemployed people per vacancy was 2.0 in December 2024 to February 2025, up from 1.9 in the previous quarter (September to November 2024).
- For this release we have implemented Average Weekly Earnings revisions, on an exceptional basis, back to October 2020 to allow for late and updated returns we received from one business to be included and improve the quality of the estimates.
- Annual growth in employees' average earnings for regular earnings (excluding bonuses) was 5.9% and total earnings (including bonuses) was 5.6%.
- Annual growth in real terms, adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH), was 2.1% for regular pay and 1.9% for total pay.
- Annual average regular earnings growth was 5.9% for the private sector and 5.7% for the public sector.

• 3. PAYROLLED EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS

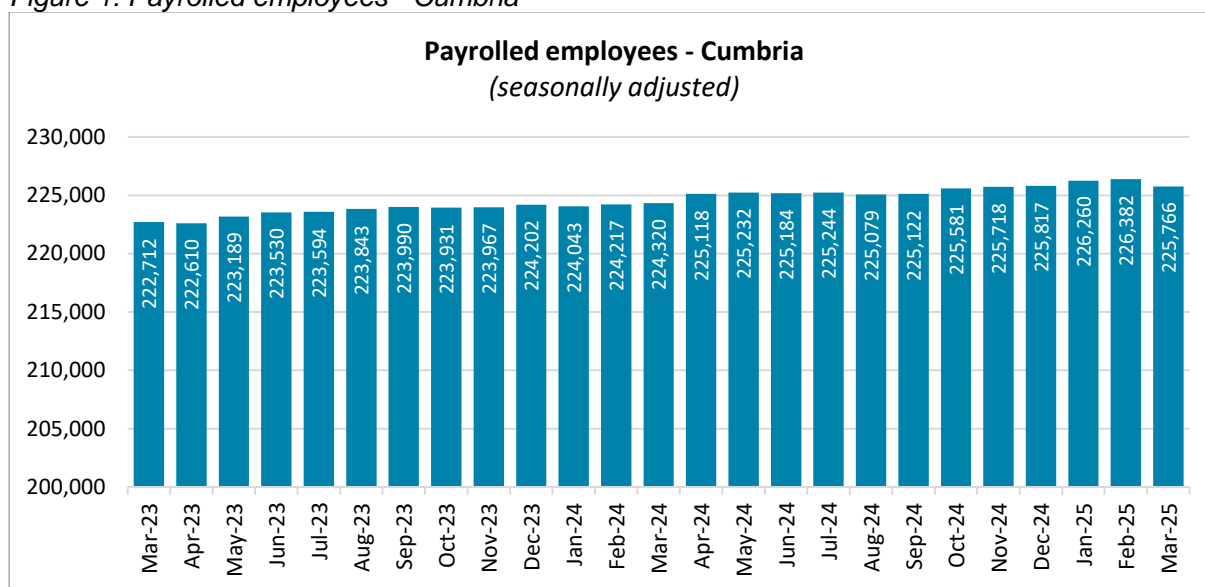
These data are from HMRC's Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) system. The dataset covers employees payrolled by employers and not self-employment income or income from other sources such as pensions so is not a measure of total employment. Payrolled employees are recorded at their place of residence not work and latest month figures are a "flash estimate" which is revised in the subsequent publication. 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 225,766 residents in Cumbria in payrolled employment in Mar 2025, a decrease of 616 from the revised Feb total but 1,446 more than a year ago, an annual increase of 0.6% compared to a 0.2% fall nationally.

Figure 1: Payrolled employees - Cumbria



Source: HMRC / ONS. Latest month data are always provisional.

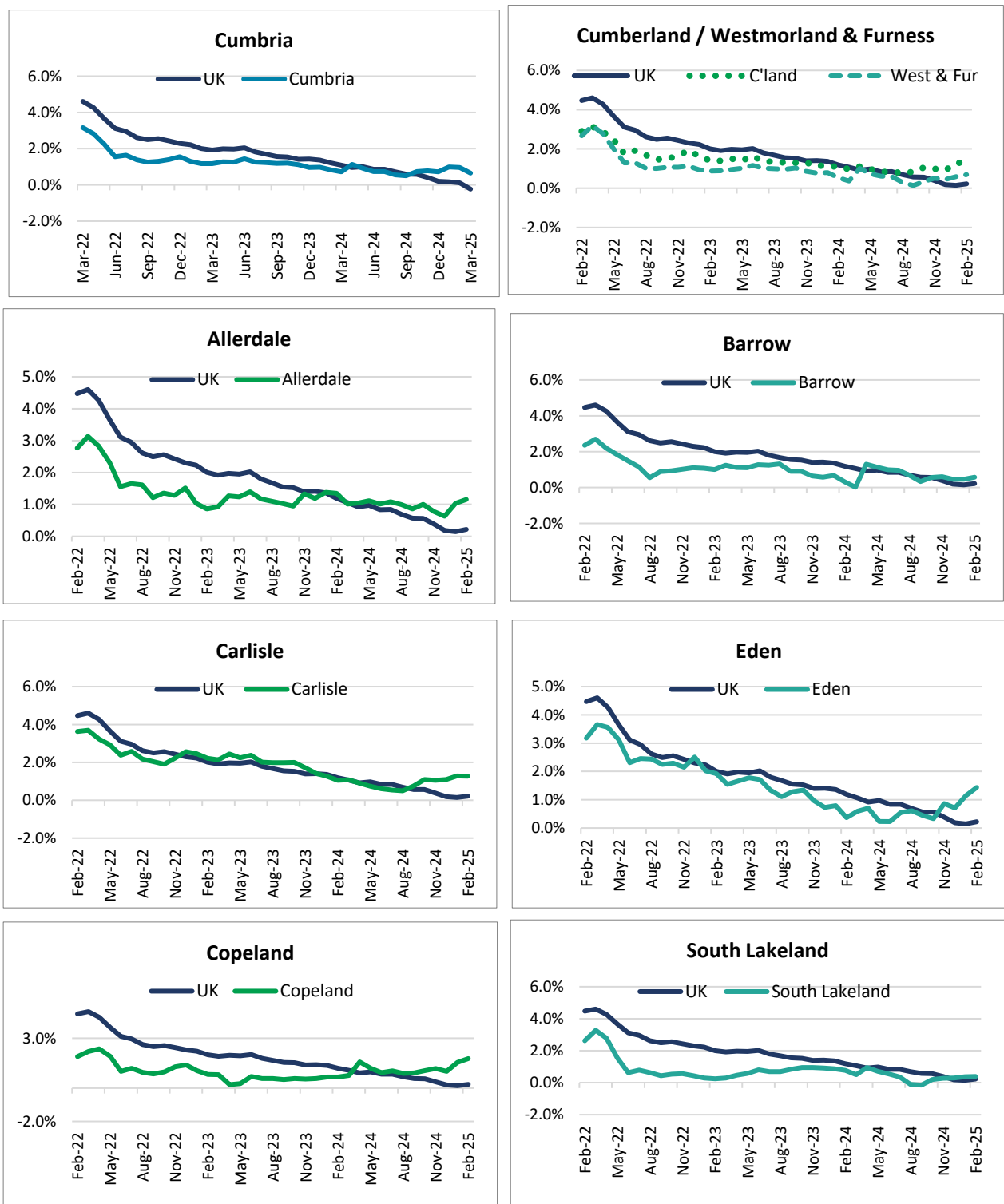
Figure 2: Payrolled employees – Seasonally adjusted

| Payrolled employees (seasonally adjusted) | | | | | |
|---|------------|--------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| | Mar 2025 | Month change | | One year change | |
| | No | No | % | No | % |
| UK | 30,328,743 | -78,467 | -0.3% | -70,290 | -0.2% |
| England | 25,751,868 | -71,793 | -0.3% | -63,373 | -0.2% |
| Cumbria | 225,766 | -616 | -0.3% | 1,446 | 0.6% |
| West Cumbria ITL | 104,942 | -245 | -0.2% | 888 | 0.9% |
| East Cumbria ITL | 120,824 | -371 | -0.3% | 558 | 0.5% |

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

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

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



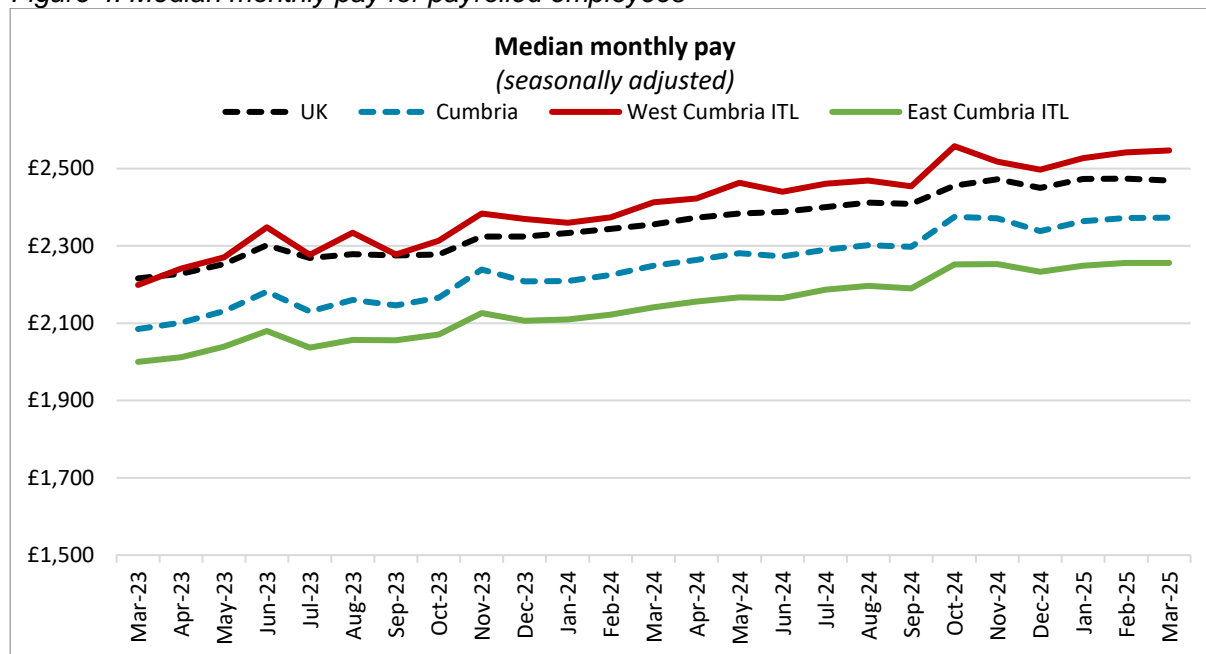
Source: HMRC / ONS. District/unitary data are released quarterly. Latest month data are provisional.

3b. Median monthly pay (seasonally adjusted)

Median monthly pay for employees in Cumbria was £2,373 in Mar 2025 which is 96% of the UK average. There was a variation between West and East Cumbria with earnings in West Cumbria (Allerdale, Copeland, Barrow) just above the UK average (103%) but those in East Cumbria (Carlisle, Eden, South Lakeland) only 91%. Median earnings data are not available for the unitary areas.

Median earnings in Cumbria have been growing more quickly than nationally over 1, 2 and 3 years.

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) | | | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|--------------|-------|-----------------|------|
| | Mar 2025 | UK Index | Month change | | One year change | |
| | No | Index | No | % | No | % |
| UK | 2,469 | 100 | -5 | -0.2% | 113 | 4.8% |
| Cumbria | 2,373 | 96 | 1 | 0.0% | 124 | 5.5% |
| West Cumbria ITL | 2,547 | 103 | 5 | 0.2% | 134 | 5.6% |
| East Cumbria ITL | 2,256 | 91 | 0 | 0.0% | 115 | 5.4% |

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

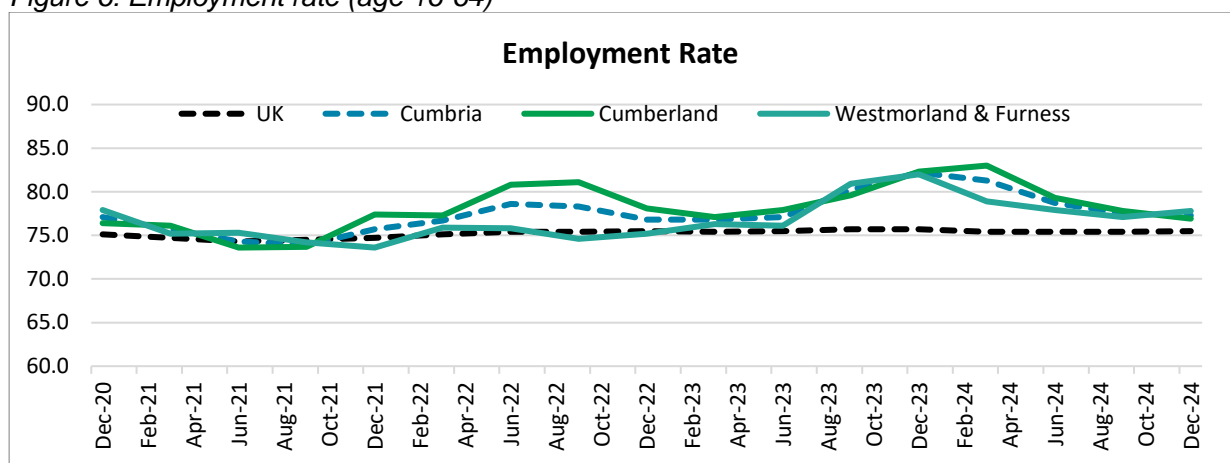
4. ANNUAL POPULATION SURVEY (released quarterly – next release Jul 25)

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 2024, an estimated 77.3% of Cumbria's working age population (aged 16-64) was in employment which is slightly higher than the national figure of 75.5% but the degree of survey error means this is not significant. The rate was lower in Cumberland (76.9%) than in Westmorland & Furness (77.8%) although survey error is even greater at this level of geography so the difference is insignificant.

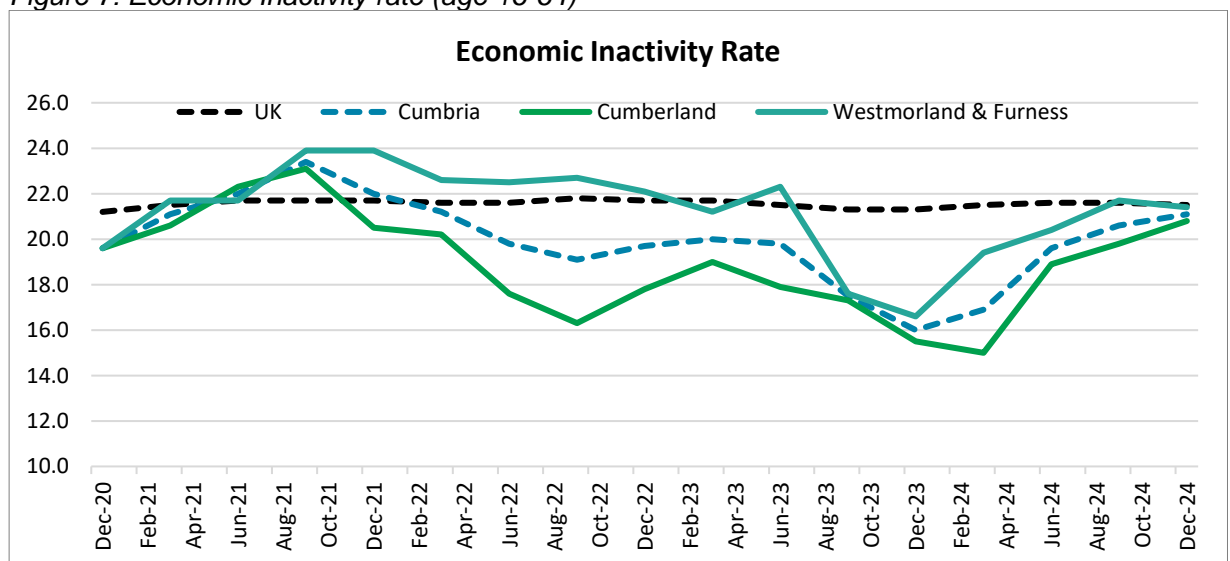
Figure 6: Employment rate (age 16-64)



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 2024, the inactivity rate in Cumbria was estimated to be 21.1% which is lower than the national average of 21.5%. The survey estimates that 81% of those who are inactive do not want a job which is similar to the national average.

Figure 7: Economic Inactivity rate (age 16-64)

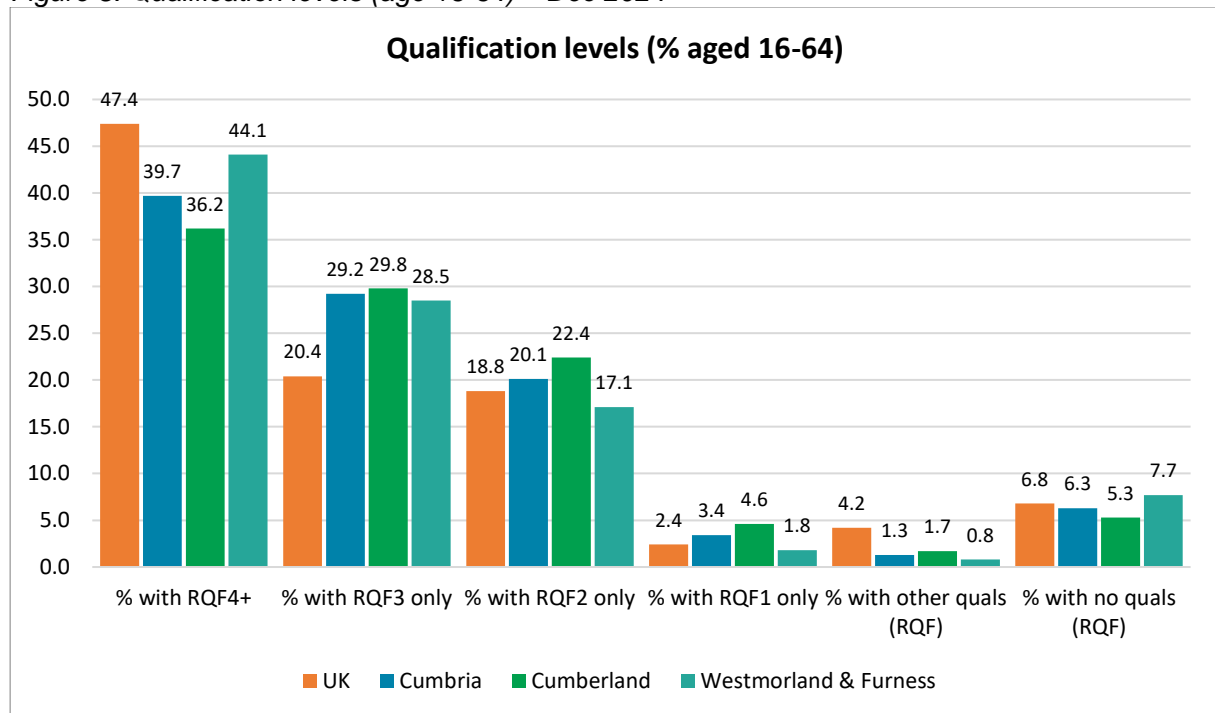


Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

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 2024 39.7% of working age residents in Cumbria were estimated to be qualified to Level 4 or above (eg degree, Level 4 NVQ, Higher Apprenticeship). This is lower than the national average of 47.4% and 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 increased in Cumbria from the previous year but due to survey error, we cannot say if this is significant or not.

Figure 8: Qualification levels (age 16-64) – Dec 2024



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

5. UNEMPLOYMENT (CLAIMANTS) (released monthly) – count 13th Mar 2025

Important notes: The claimant count measures those on Job Seekers Allowance and those on Universal Credit who are required to seek work. It is not the same 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.

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.

NB: in 2024 the Administrative Earnings Threshold (AET) increased which has the effect of bringing more of them into the claimant count. This should be considered when comparing data over time.

The number of claimants in Cumbria actively seeking work in Mar 2025 fell by 5 compared to the revised Feb figure, up to a total of 7,050 which is a monthly decrease of 0.1% (UK rose 1.6%). The count rose fell in Allerdale, Copeland and Eden but rose in Barrow, Carlisle and South Lakeland. The claimant rate in Cumbria was 2.4% which is below the national rate of 4.2% and is unchanged from last month. The claimant count at county level is 15 higher than a year ago and the rate is unchanged.

Figure 9: Standard Claimant Count – Mar 2025

| | 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 | 988,615 | 4.7 | 789,440 | 3.6 | 1,778,055 | 4.2 | 27,435 | 1.6 | 0.1 | 169,715 | 10.6 | 0.4 |
| Cumbria | 3,890 | 2.6 | 3,160 | 2.1 | 7,050 | 2.4 | -5 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 15 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Cumberland | 2,375 | 2.9 | 1,935 | 2.3 | 4,315 | 2.6 | -35 | -0.8 | 0.0 | 15 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Allerdale | 800 | 2.8 | 710 | 2.5 | 1,510 | 2.6 | -30 | -1.9 | -0.1 | -25 | -1.5 | 0.0 |
| Carlisle | 965 | 3.0 | 805 | 2.4 | 1,765 | 2.7 | 5 | 0.4 | 0.0 | -25 | -1.5 | 0.0 |
| Copeland | 615 | 3.0 | 425 | 2.1 | 1,035 | 2.5 | -15 | -1.2 | 0.0 | 65 | 6.6 | 0.1 |
| Westmorland & Furness | 1,510 | 2.3 | 1,225 | 1.8 | 2,735 | 2.0 | 30 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Barrow | 725 | 3.6 | 475 | 2.3 | 1,200 | 3.0 | 25 | 2.0 | 0.0 | -70 | -5.5 | -0.2 |
| Eden | 280 | 1.8 | 305 | 2.0 | 585 | 1.9 | -5 | -0.5 | 0.0 | -5 | -1.0 | 0.0 |
| South Lakeland | 510 | 1.7 | 445 | 1.5 | 950 | 1.6 | 5 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 75 | 8.6 | 0.1 |
| of which LDNPA | 190 | 1.6 | 160 | 1.4 | 350 | 1.5 | 10 | 3.6 | 0.1 | 40 | 13.4 | 0.2 |

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.

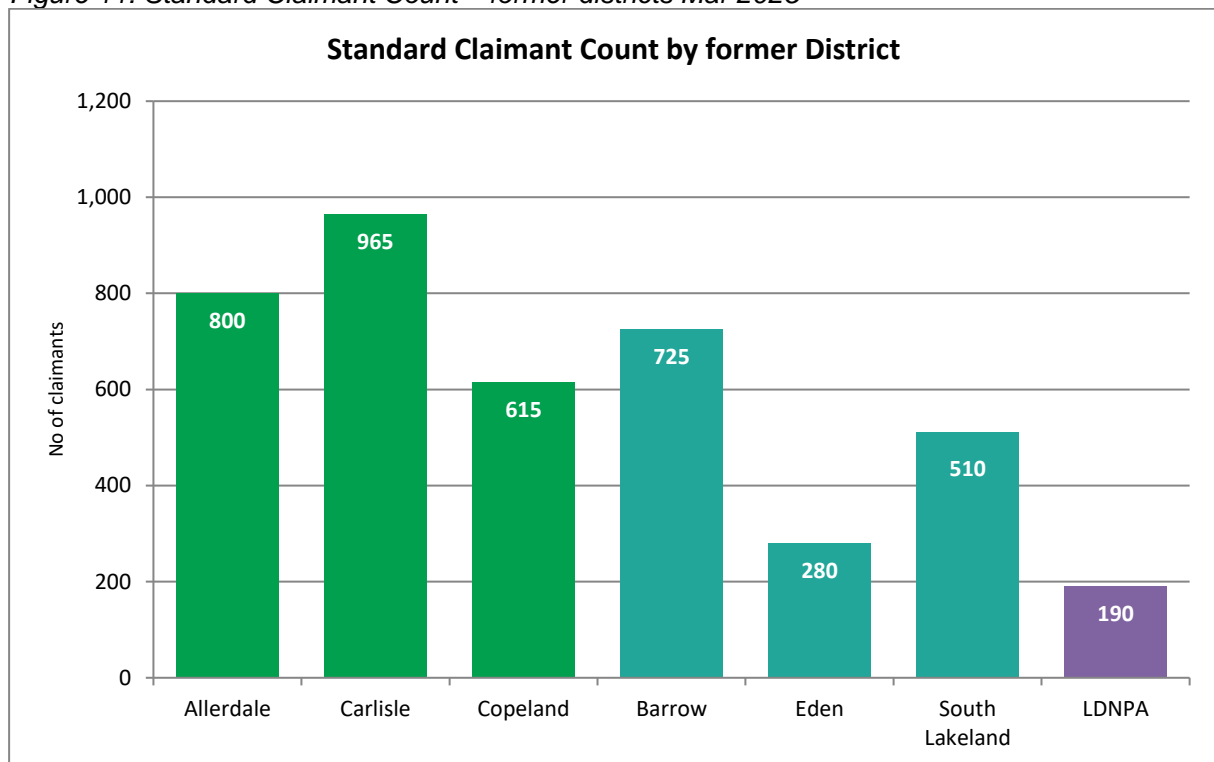
The following table shows the claimant count and rate by broad age group. Claimant rates at Cumbria level are below the national average for all age groups. The young adult rate in Barrow remains above the national rate for that age group.

Figure 10: Standard Claimant Count & Rate by Age Group in Cumbria – Mar 2025

| | 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 | 310,960 | 5.5% | 421,655 | 4.6% | 449,440 | 4.9% | 328,170 | 3.8% | 263,815 | 3.0% | 1,778,055 | 4.1% |
| Cumbria | 1,255 | 4.0% | 1,775 | 3.1% | 1,755 | 3.1% | 1,115 | 1.8% | 1,135 | 1.4% | 7,050 | 2.4% |
| Cumberland | 745 | 4.3% | 1,100 | 3.4% | 1,085 | 3.4% | 645 | 1.9% | 725 | 1.7% | 4,315 | 2.6% |
| Allerdale | 290 | 4.6% | 350 | 3.4% | 375 | 3.7% | 240 | 1.7% | 255 | 1.7% | 1,510 | 2.6% |
| Carlisle | 225 | 3.0% | 490 | 4.0% | 500 | 4.0% | 265 | 1.8% | 290 | 1.9% | 1,765 | 2.7% |
| Copeland | 230 | 5.2% | 260 | 3.4% | 210 | 2.9% | 140 | 1.5% | 190 | 1.8% | 1,035 | 2.5% |
| Westmorland & Furness | 505 | 3.5% | 675 | 2.8% | 670 | 2.7% | 465 | 1.6% | 405 | 1.1% | 2,735 | 2.0% |
| Barrow | 285 | 5.7% | 335 | 4.1% | 270 | 3.8% | 165 | 1.8% | 145 | 1.5% | 1,200 | 3.0% |
| Eden | 80 | 2.6% | 130 | 2.6% | 165 | 3.2% | 110 | 1.4% | 95 | 1.1% | 585 | 1.9% |
| South Lakeland | 140 | 2.2% | 220 | 2.5% | 240 | 2.3% | 190 | 1.3% | 165 | 1.0% | 950 | 1.6% |
| of which LDNPA | 45 | 1.9% | 70 | 2.1% | 95 | 2.4% | 80 | 1.4% | 60 | 0.8% | 350 | 1.5% |

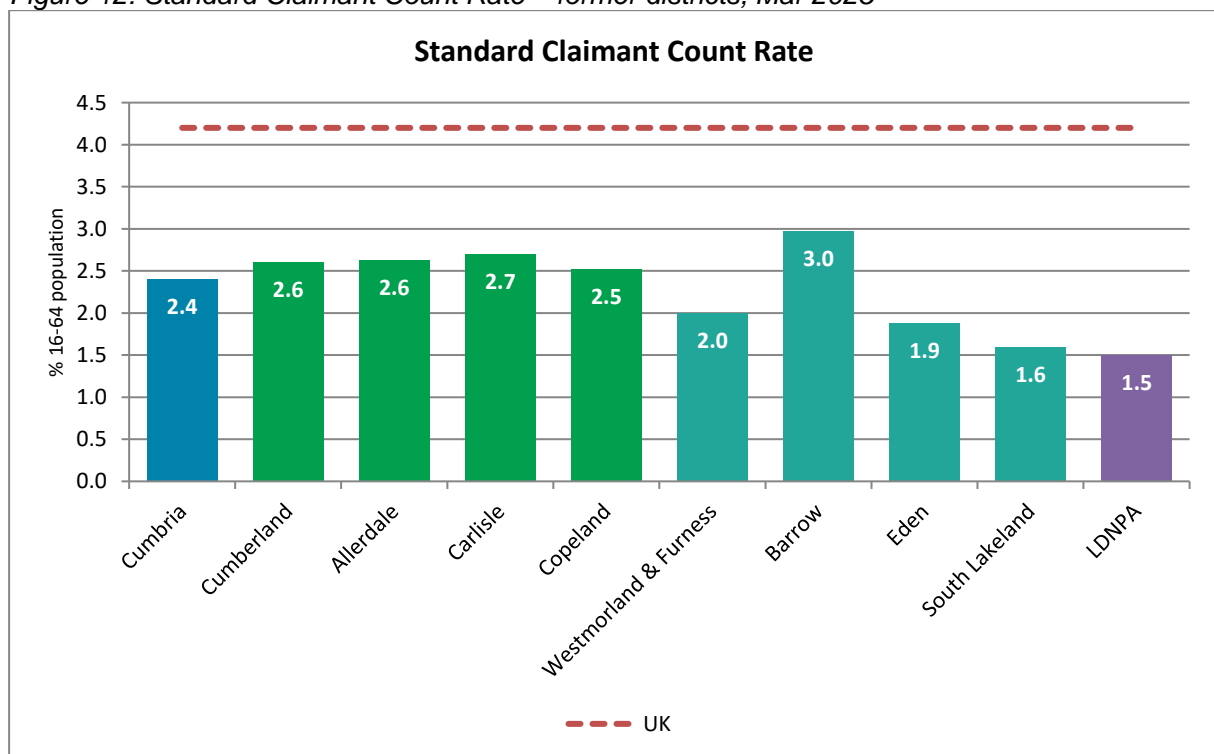
Source: ONS (data are rounded). LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 11: Standard Claimant Count – former districts Mar 2025



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, Mar 2025



Source: ONS/DWP

Figure 13: Standard Claimant Count - timeseries

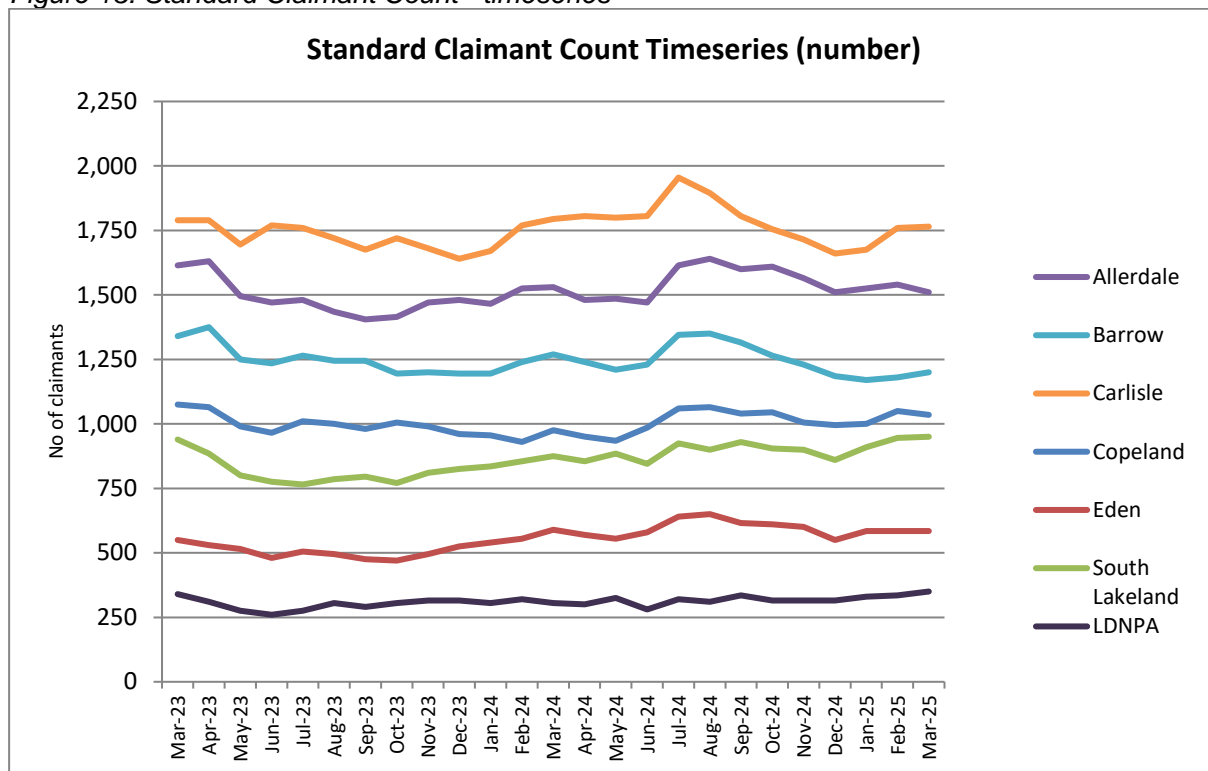
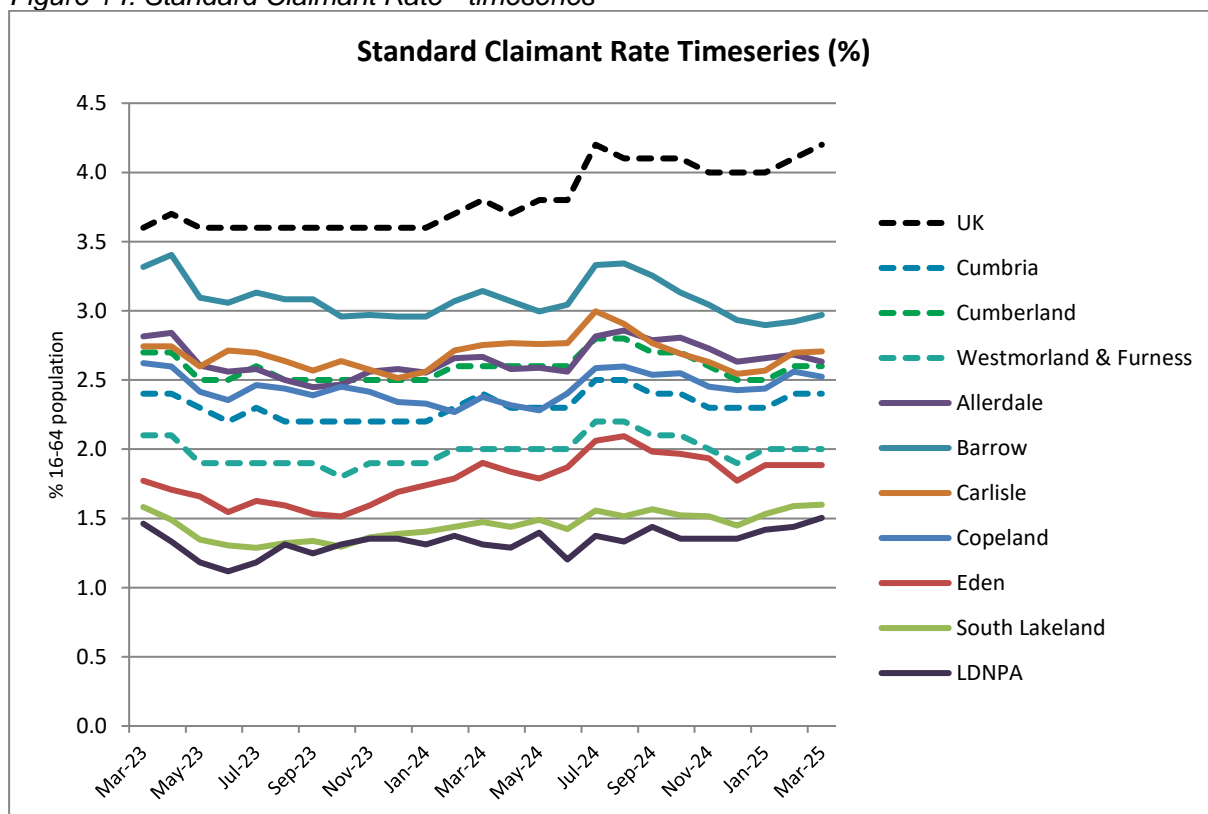


Figure 14: Standard Claimant Rate - timeseries



Source: ONS/DWP

6. UNIVERSAL CREDIT (released monthly) – count taken 13th Mar 2025

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

NB: in 2024 the Administrative Earnings Threshold (AET) increased which has the effect of bringing more of them into the searching for work category. This should be considered when comparing data over time. The ongoing transfer of claimants from legacy benefits is also impacting the overall total on UC.

6a. Individuals on Universal Credit

There were 44,035 people on Universal Credit in Cumbria in Mar 2025 (both in work and out of work). This is a rise of 737 from the revised Feb total (+1.7%) and 3,982 more than a year ago (+9.9%). The count rose from last month in all the former district areas. The number searching/planning/preparing for work rose by 83, the number claiming while in work rose by 150 and the number with no work requirements rose by 502. The latest total means that 14.7% of the working age population is claiming Universal Credit compared to a national rate of 18.3%. The overall rate is below the national average in all parts of Cumbria. However, UC claimant rates for 18-24 year olds are above the national average in Allerdale, Barrow and Copeland and are also above the national average for 25-34 year olds and 35-44 year olds in Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle and Copeland.

Figure 15: Universal Credit Claimants – Mar 2025 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 | 3,216,575 | 15.7% | 4,428,732 | 21.0% | 7,645,313 | 18.3% | 140,340 | 1.9% | 0.3% | 1,049,813 | 15.9% | 2.5% |
| Cumbria | 18,186 | 12.2% | 25,850 | 17.2% | 44,035 | 14.7% | 737 | 1.7% | 0.2% | 3,982 | 9.9% | 1.3% |
| Cumberland | 11,438 | 14.0% | 16,103 | 19.4% | 27,542 | 16.7% | 437 | 1.6% | 0.3% | 2,320 | 9.2% | 1.4% |
| Allerdale | 4,063 | 14.3% | 5,738 | 19.9% | 9,799 | 17.1% | 130 | 1.3% | 0.2% | 781 | 8.7% | 1.4% |
| Carlisle | 4,457 | 13.9% | 6,461 | 19.5% | 10,921 | 16.7% | 196 | 1.8% | 0.3% | 895 | 8.9% | 1.4% |
| Copeland | 2,921 | 14.3% | 3,901 | 19.0% | 6,821 | 16.6% | 109 | 1.6% | 0.3% | 648 | 10.5% | 1.6% |
| W&F | 6,749 | 10.1% | 9,748 | 14.5% | 16,495 | 12.3% | 298 | 1.8% | 0.2% | 1,660 | 11.2% | 1.2% |
| Barrow | 3,070 | 15.2% | 4,146 | 20.5% | 7,219 | 17.9% | 159 | 2.3% | 0.4% | 880 | 13.9% | 2.2% |
| Eden | 1,300 | 8.4% | 2,049 | 13.1% | 3,356 | 10.8% | 54 | 1.6% | 0.2% | 274 | 8.9% | 0.9% |
| South Lakeland | 2,378 | 8.1% | 3,545 | 11.8% | 5,922 | 10.0% | 90 | 1.5% | 0.2% | 509 | 9.4% | 0.9% |
| of which LDNPA | 888 | 7.6% | 1,312 | 11.3% | 2,200 | 9.5% | 50 | 2.3% | 0.2% | 149 | 7.3% | 0.6% |

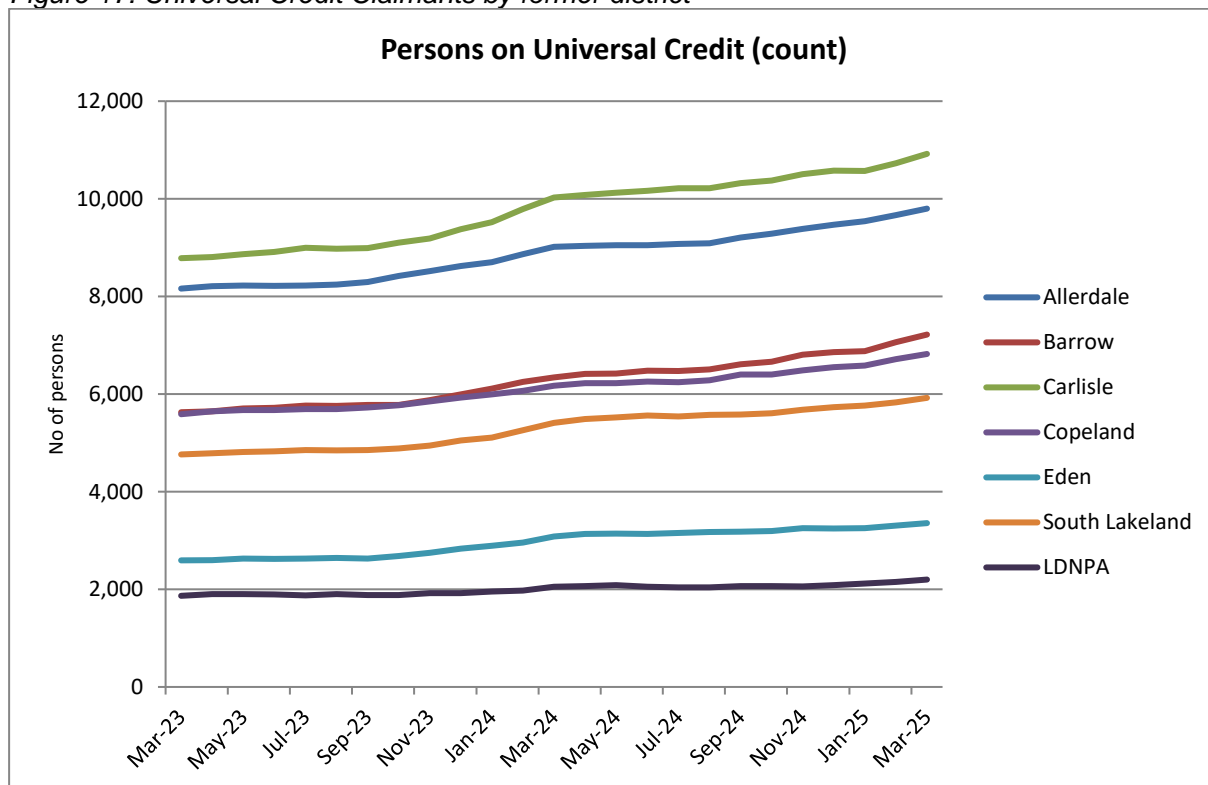
Source: DWP (due to disclosure control, gender totals may not sum to overall total): LDNPA is a “best-fit” of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 16: Universal Credit Claimants by Age – Mar 2025

| 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 | 752,861 | 13.6% | 1,779,947 | 20.0% | 2,243,279 | 25.4% | 1,609,276 | 19.3% | 1,250,400 | 13.6% | 7,645,313 | 18.1% |
| Cumbria | 4,210 | 13.3% | 10,751 | 19.0% | 12,711 | 22.3% | 8,721 | 13.7% | 7,570 | 8.9% | 44,035 | 14.4% |
| Cumberland | 2,553 | 14.7% | 6,831 | 21.3% | 8,002 | 25.0% | 5,308 | 15.2% | 4,805 | 10.4% | 27,542 | 16.4% |
| Allerdale | 942 | 15.0% | 2,307 | 22.5% | 2,760 | 27.1% | 1,964 | 14.1% | 1,822 | 11.1% | 9,799 | 16.6% |
| Carlisle | 928 | 12.4% | 2,888 | 23.4% | 3,291 | 26.4% | 2,087 | 14.0% | 1,723 | 9.8% | 10,921 | 16.3% |
| Copeland | 690 | 15.6% | 1,641 | 21.4% | 1,951 | 26.9% | 1,254 | 13.1% | 1,265 | 10.8% | 6,821 | 16.2% |
| W&F | 1,658 | 11.6% | 3,920 | 16.0% | 4,708 | 18.8% | 3,417 | 11.9% | 2,766 | 7.0% | 16,495 | 12.0% |
| Barrow | 851 | 17.1% | 1,891 | 23.1% | 2,007 | 28.1% | 1,331 | 14.2% | 1,124 | 10.8% | 7,219 | 17.4% |
| Eden | 277 | 9.0% | 756 | 14.9% | 971 | 18.6% | 722 | 9.4% | 629 | 6.2% | 3,356 | 10.4% |
| South Lakeland | 526 | 8.2% | 1,270 | 14.3% | 1,736 | 16.7% | 1,368 | 9.4% | 1,010 | 5.4% | 5,922 | 9.7% |
| of which LDNPA | 157 | 6.6% | 435 | 13.2% | 664 | 16.7% | 513 | 8.9% | 432 | 6.1% | 2,200 | 9.5% |

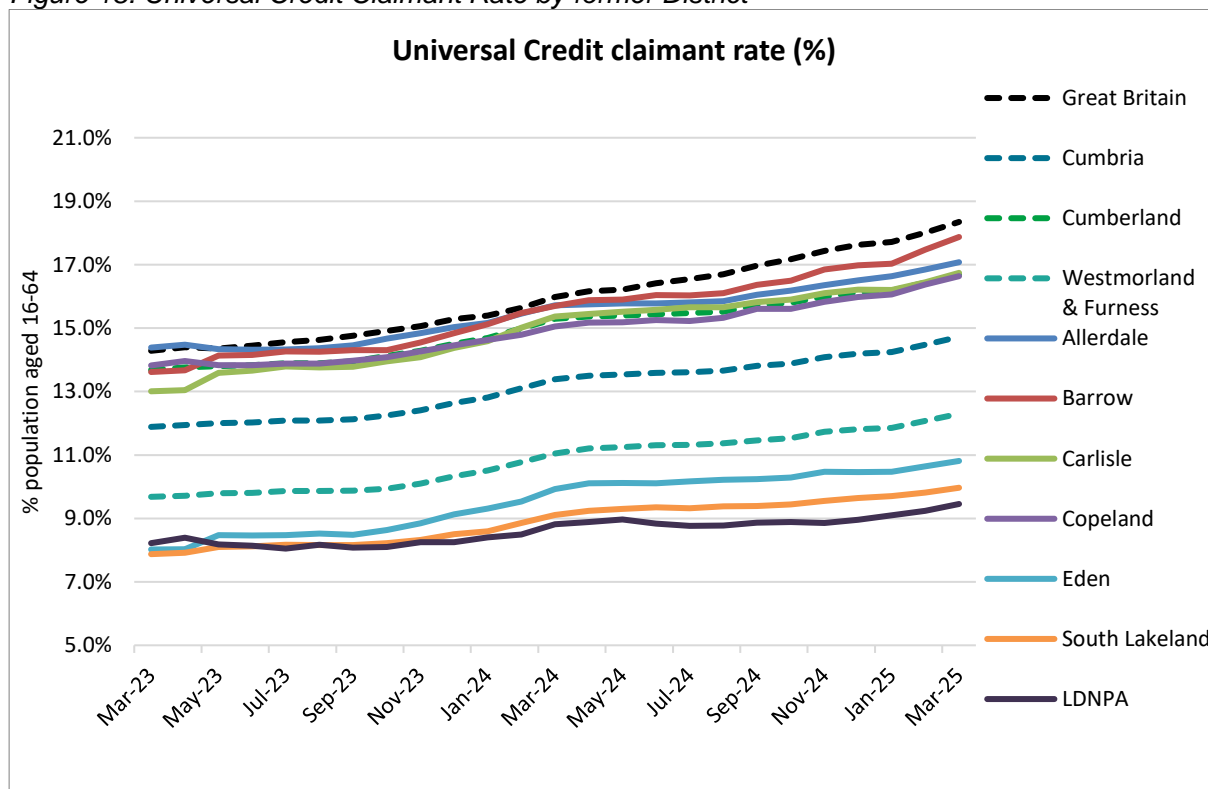
Source: DWP (due to disclosure control, age totals may not sum to overall total): LDNPA is a “best-fit” of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 17: Universal Credit Claimants by former district



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

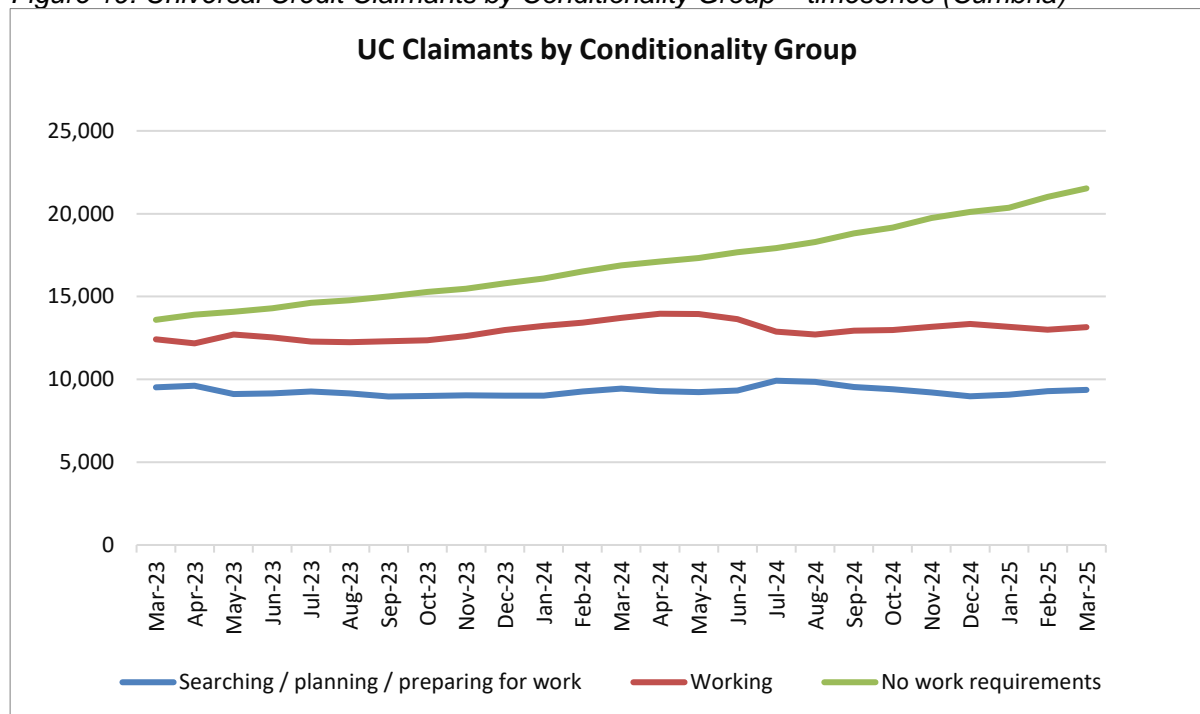
Figure 18: Universal Credit Claimant Rate by former District



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Universal Credit claimants are placed in a conditionality group based on their circumstances and work capability and this determines what is expected of them during their claim. In Mar 2025 the number of people searching/planning/preparing for work rose by 83, the number claiming while in work rose by 150 and the number with no work requirements rose by 502.

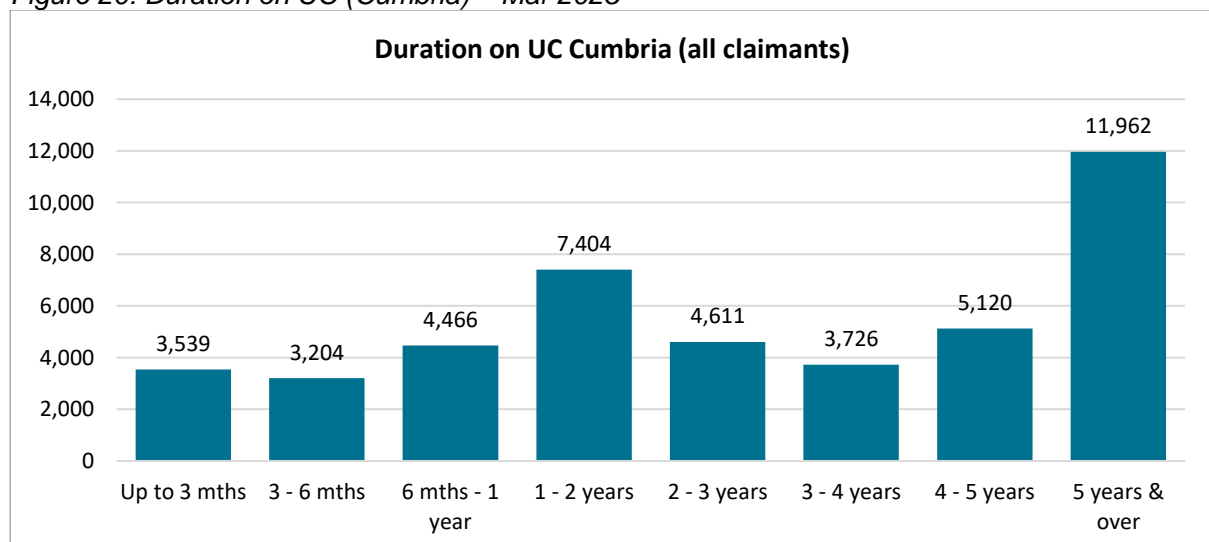
Figure 19: Universal Credit Claimants by Conditionality Group – timeseries (Cumbria)



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

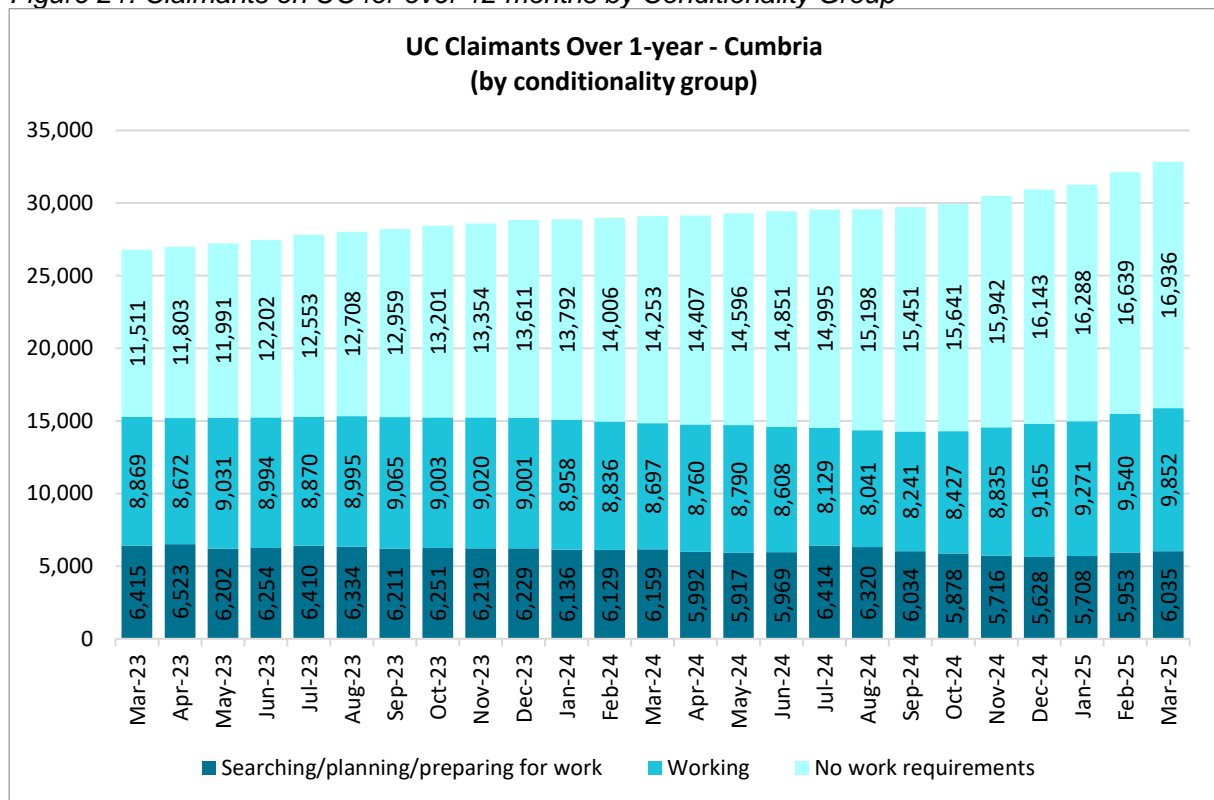
In Mar 2025, three quarters of UC claimants (32,825) had been claiming for over 12 months an annual increase of 3,716 (12.8%). The highest proportions of these long term claimants were in the working and no work requirements conditionality groups (30% and 52% of the total respectively), although they may have been in different groups during their claim. Long term claimants made up 75% of all UC claimants.

Figure 20: Duration on UC (Cumbria) – Mar 2025



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

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



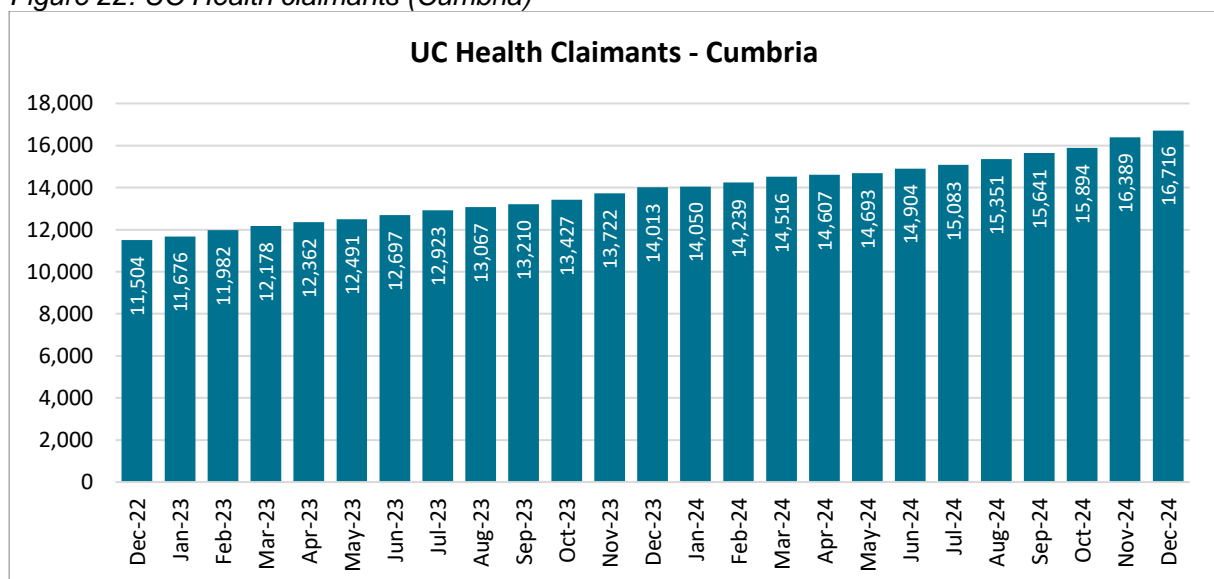
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

6b. UC Health (next data release June 2025)

In Dec 2024, 16,716 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 19.3% (+2,703) in the past year compared to an increase of 112.3% in the overall number of UC claimants. UC Health claimants made up 39.4% of all UC claimants in Cumbria in Dec 2024 which is higher than nationally (33.4%).

In Dec 2024, 5.6% of all working age residents (aged 16-64) were on UC Health compared to 5.9% nationally. The rate was above the national average in the former districts of Allerdale (6.9%), Barrow (6.9%), Carlisle (6.1%) and Copeland (6.8%) but lower in Eden (3.3%) and South Lakeland (3.3%).

Figure 22: UC Health claimants (Cumbria)



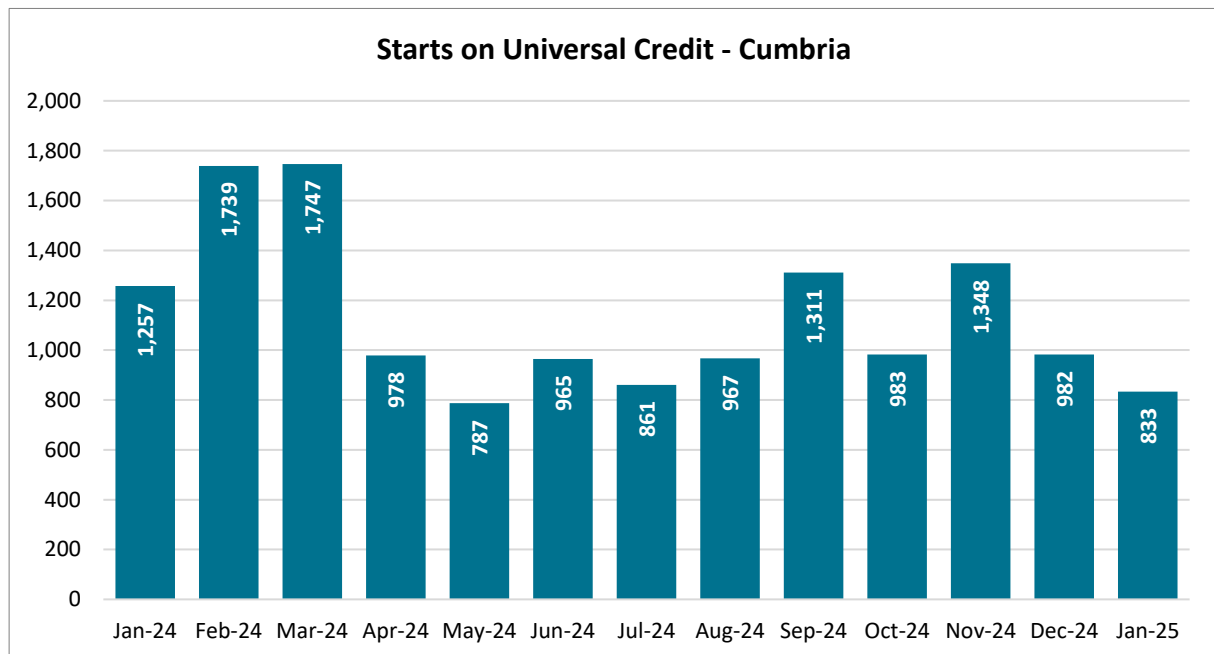
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

6c. Starts to Universal Credit (next data release May 2025)

The data presented so far relate to the stock 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 started 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.

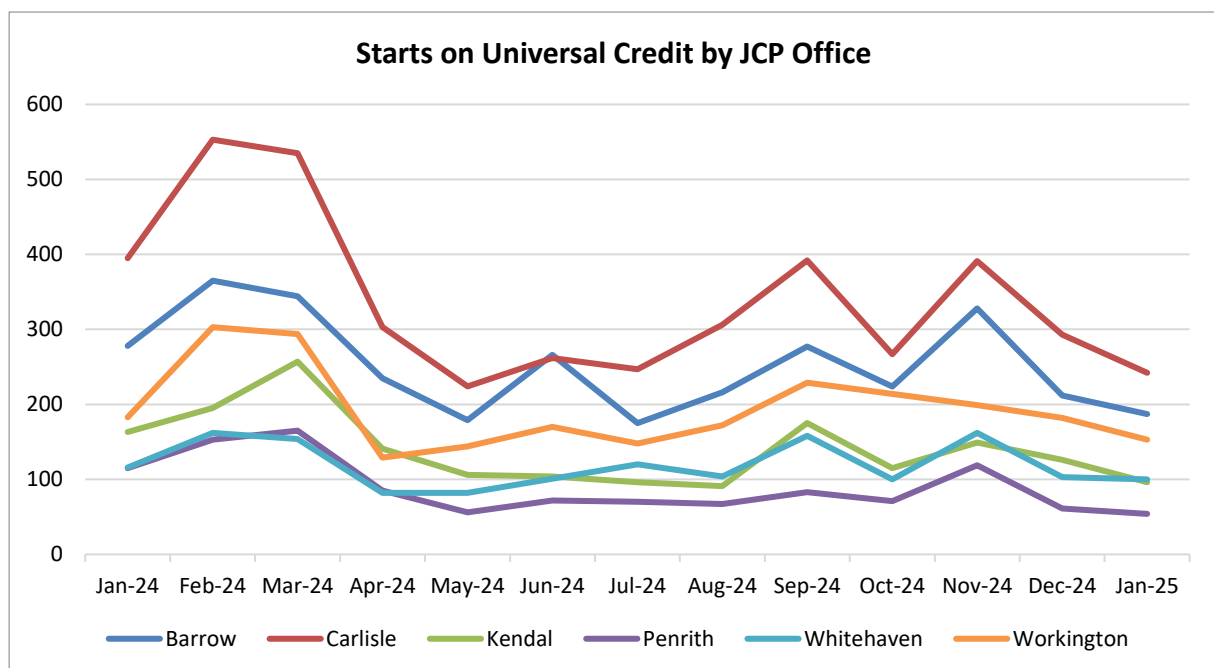
The number of starts on Universal Credit is primarily influenced by labour market conditions but there is also some element of administrative effect as claimants migrating onto UC from other benefits also count as a new start (it is not possible to separate the two in the data). This was particularly apparent in the early part of 2024 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 May 2025)

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 Nov 2024 when there were 35,990 households on Universal Credit in Cumbria, a rise of 3,828 from the same month last year (11.9%). The number of households on UC rose year on year in all 6 districts in Cumbria with the biggest percentage increase in Eden (+15.8%).

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

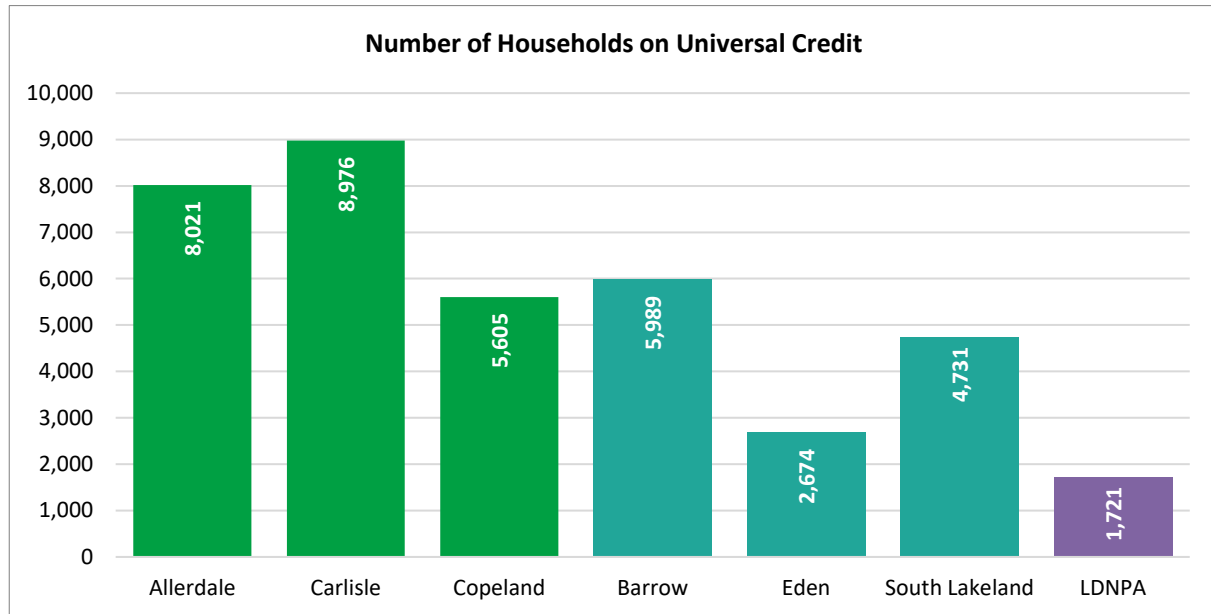
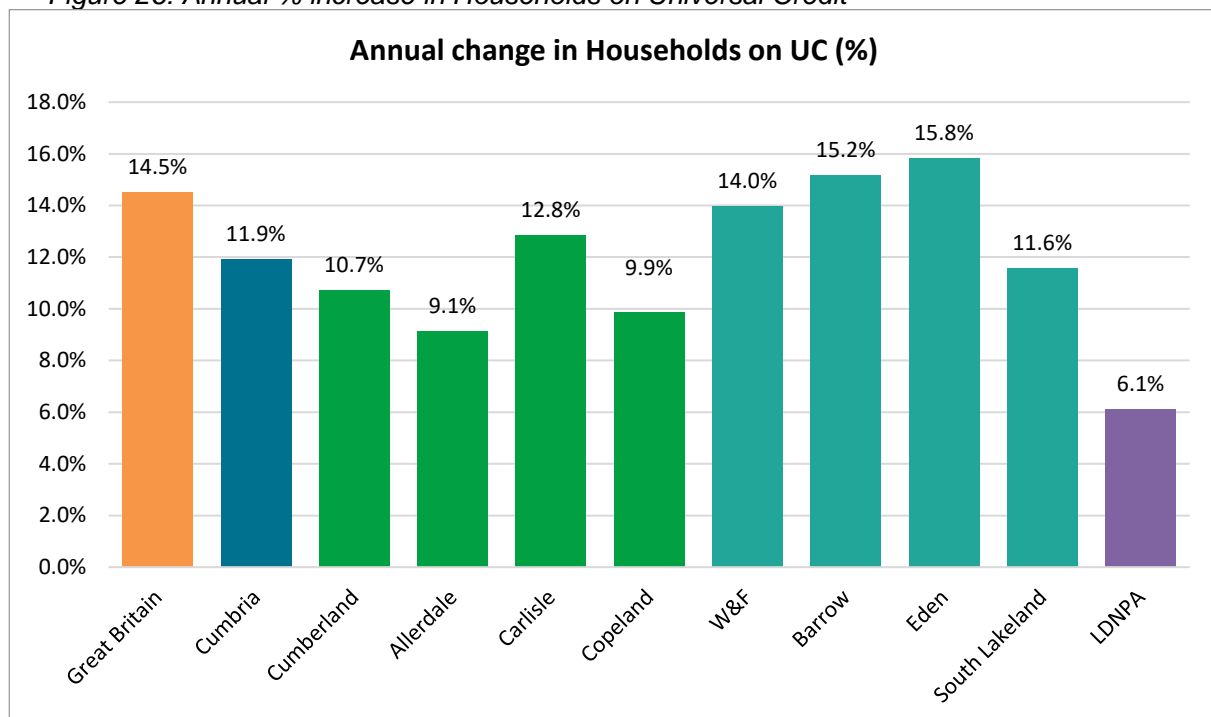


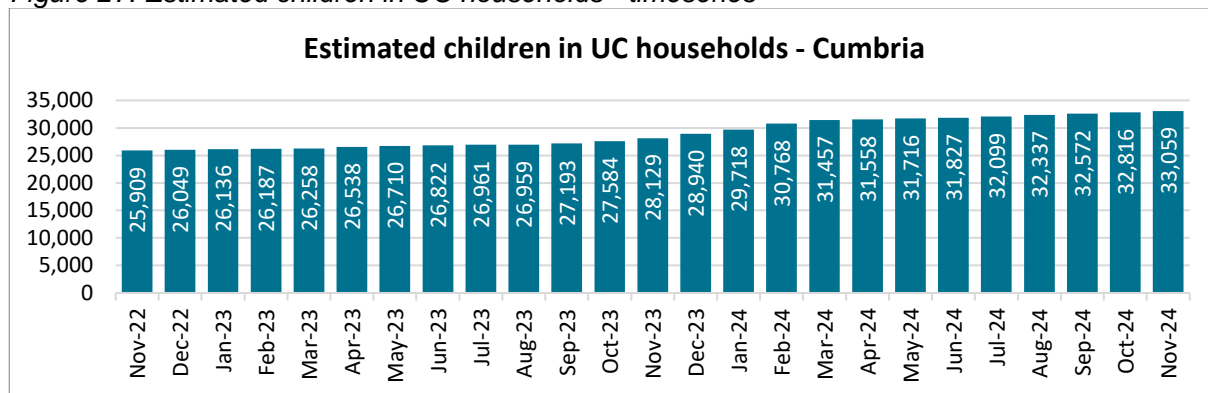
Figure 26: Annual % increase in Households on Universal Credit



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

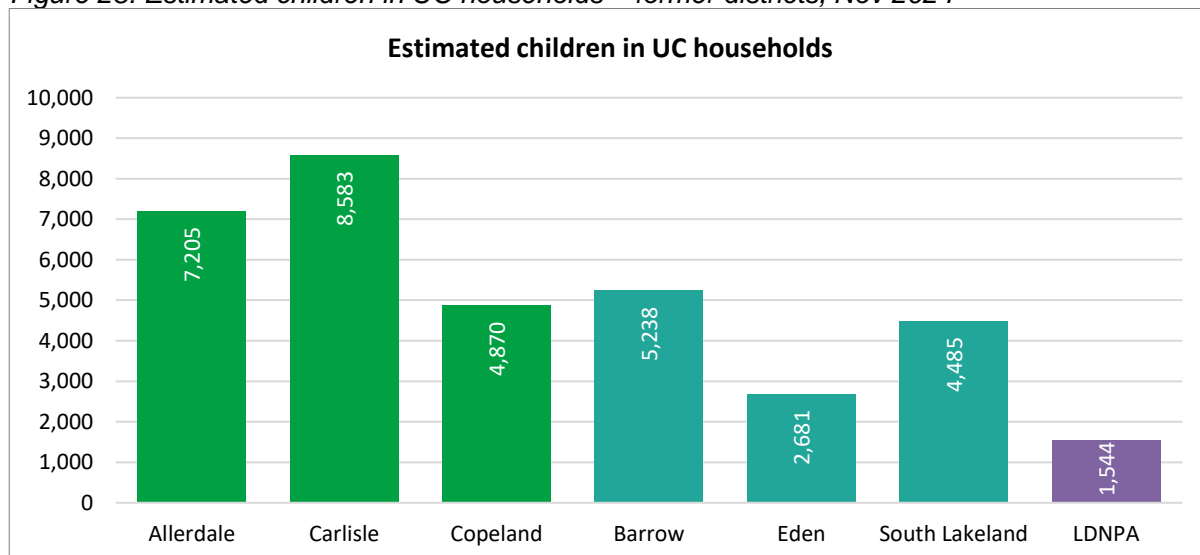
An estimated 33,059 children in Cumbria were living in UC households in Nov 2024. The number has risen by 4,930 from Nov last year (17.5%). The number of UC households containing children has increased by 16.5% year on year compared to a rise of 7.8% in households without children. More specifically, couple households with children have increased by 24.4% year on year and single households with children have risen by 13.7%. 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



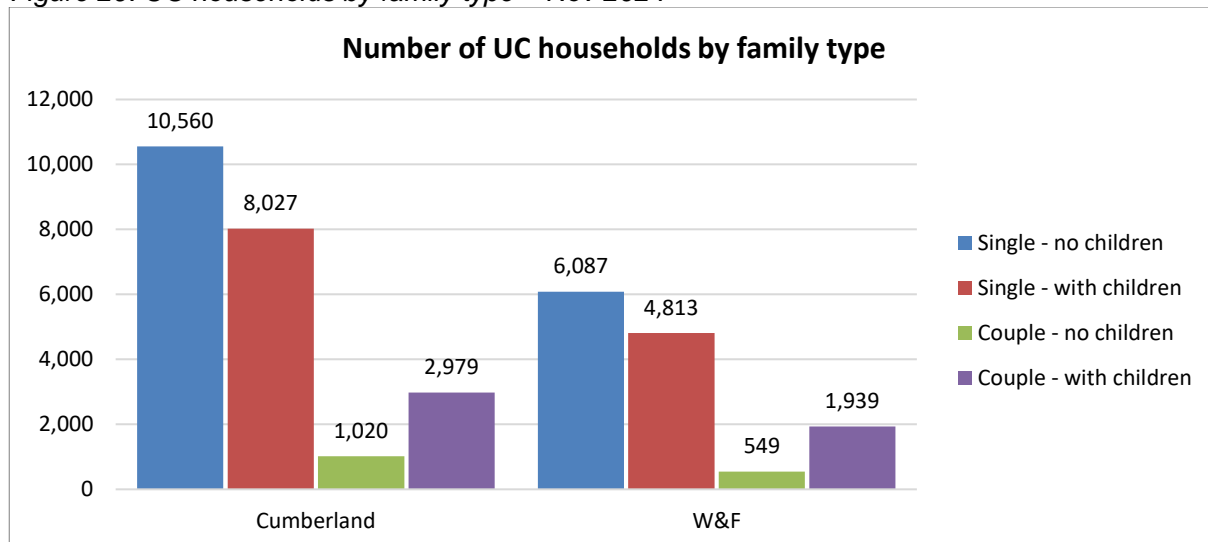
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

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



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore (LDNPA also included in relevant former district)

Figure 29: UC households by family type – Nov 2024



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

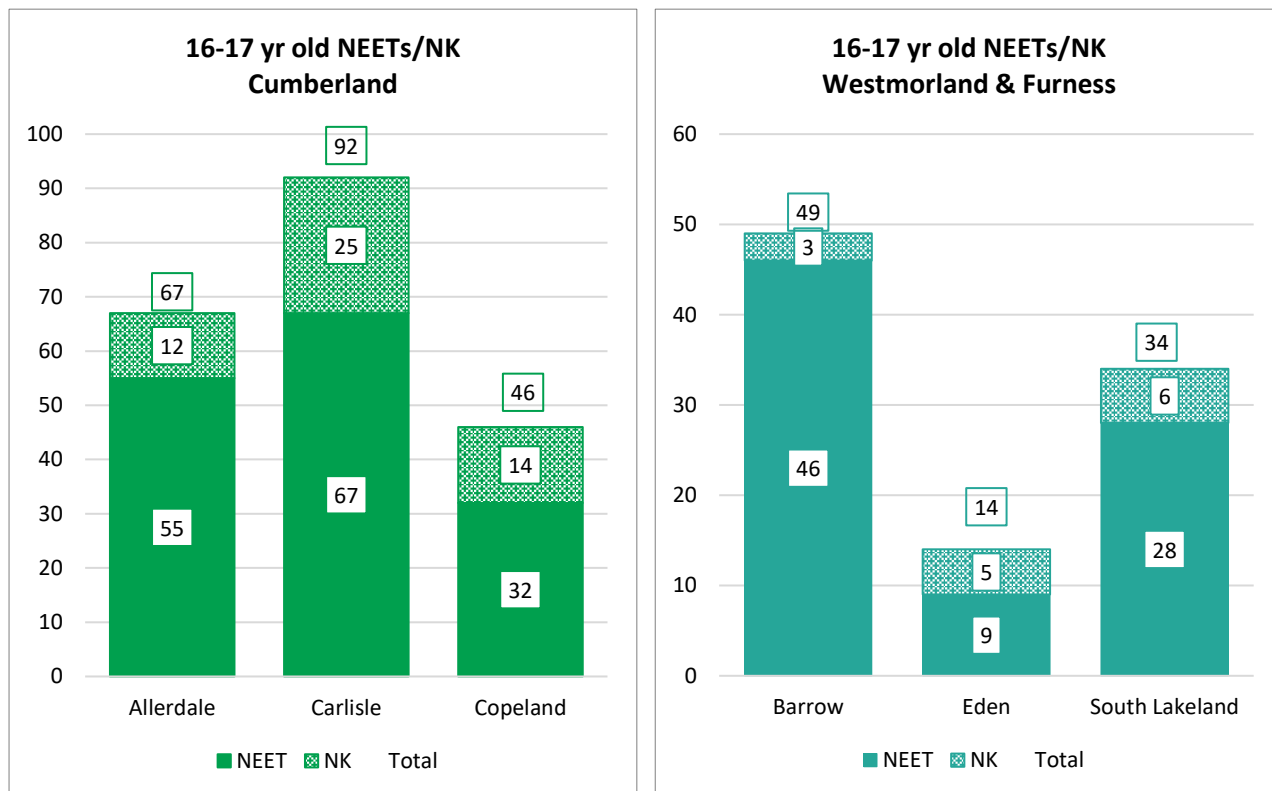
7. NEETs & Participation (released monthly)

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.

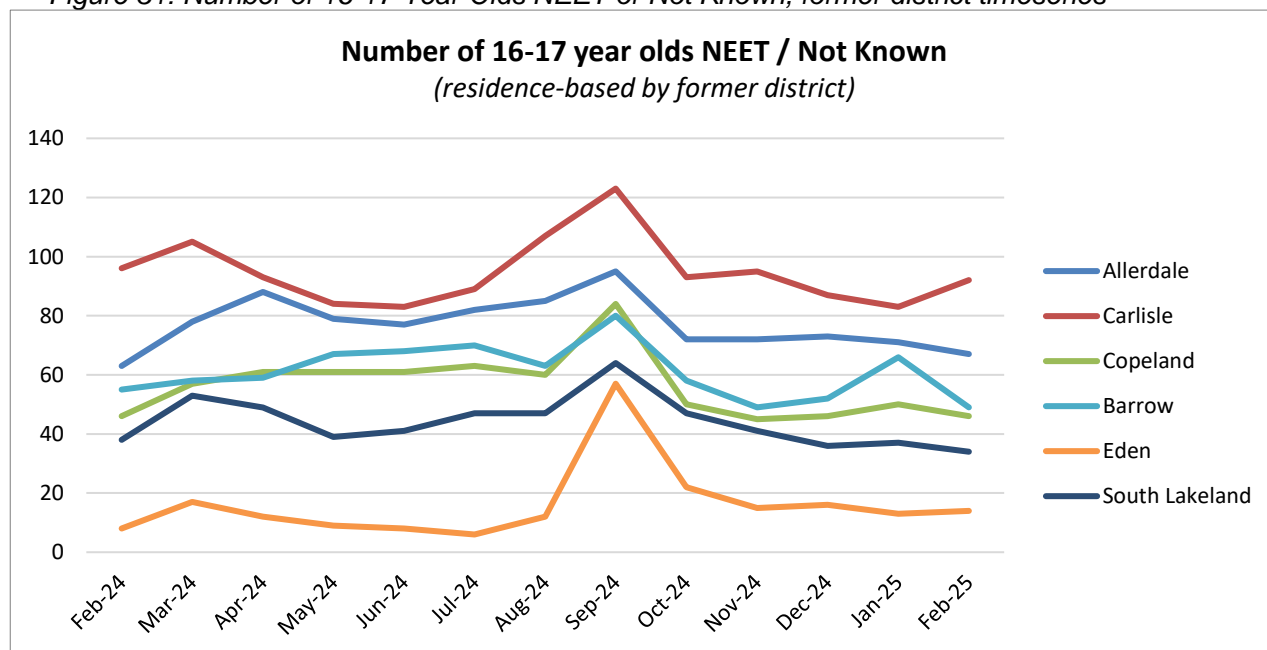
In Feb 2025, there were 306 16-17 year olds classed as NEET in Cumbria (237 NEET and 69 whose status was Not Known). This is 22 fewer than in Jan and similar to the number a year ago.

Figure 30: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, Feb 2025



Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory. NB: district totals may not sum to unitary total.

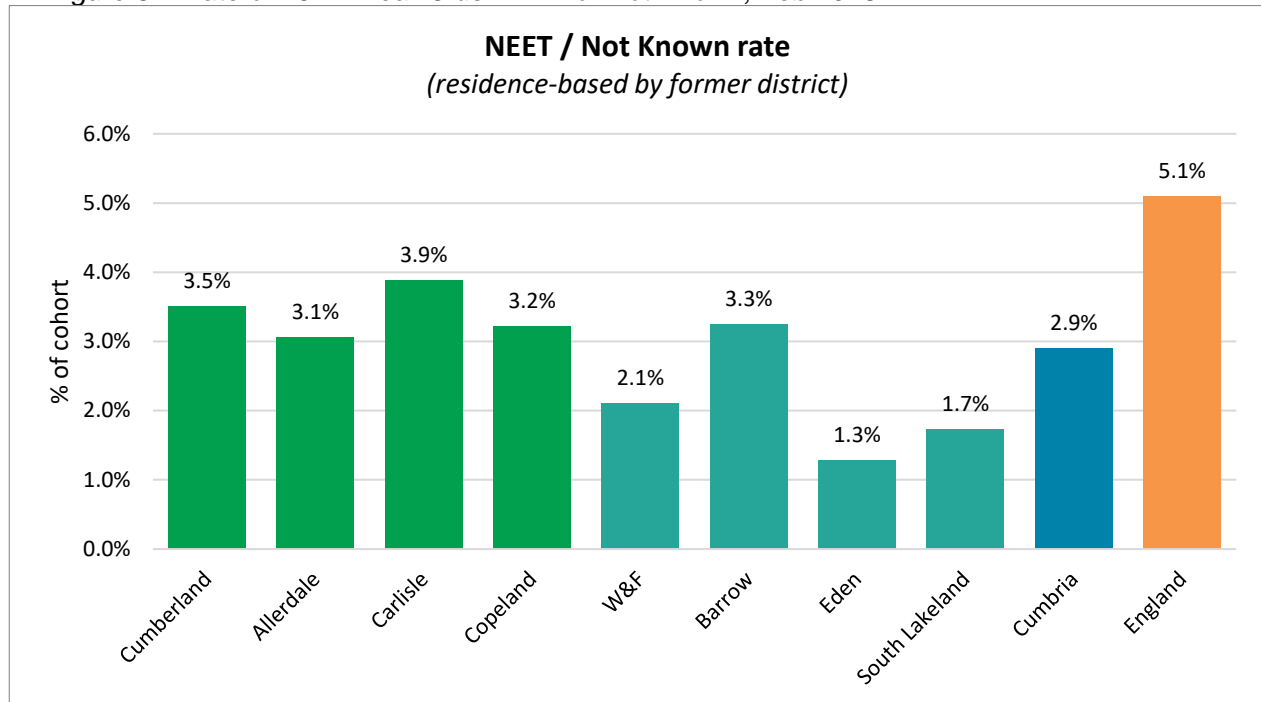
Figure 31: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, former district timeseries



Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

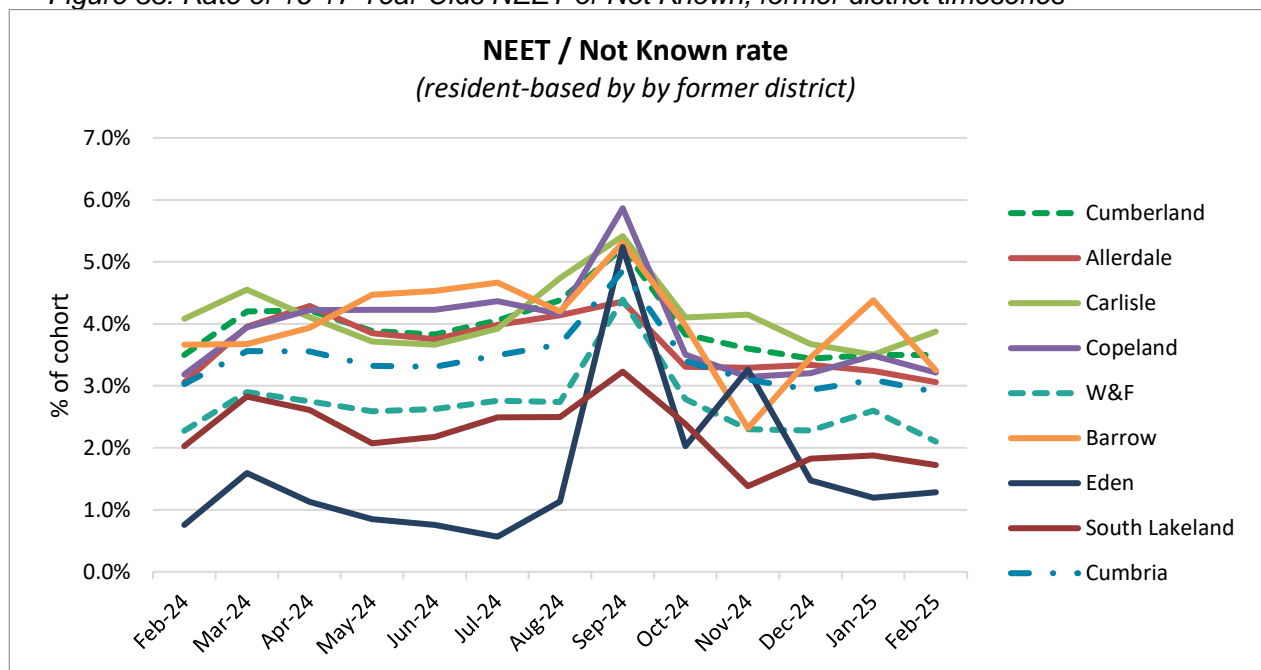
The county NEET/NK rate (% of cohort) was 2.9% in Feb 2025. The rate was 3.5% in Cumberland 2.1% in Westmorland & Furness which compares to a national rate of 5.1%. Across the quarter Dec-Feb (the annual scorecard measurement period) the NEET rate in Cumbria was 3.0% compared to a national average of 5.6%). The quarterly rate in 2024/25 in Cumbria was the same as in 2023/24.

Figure 32: Rate of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, Feb 2025



Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

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



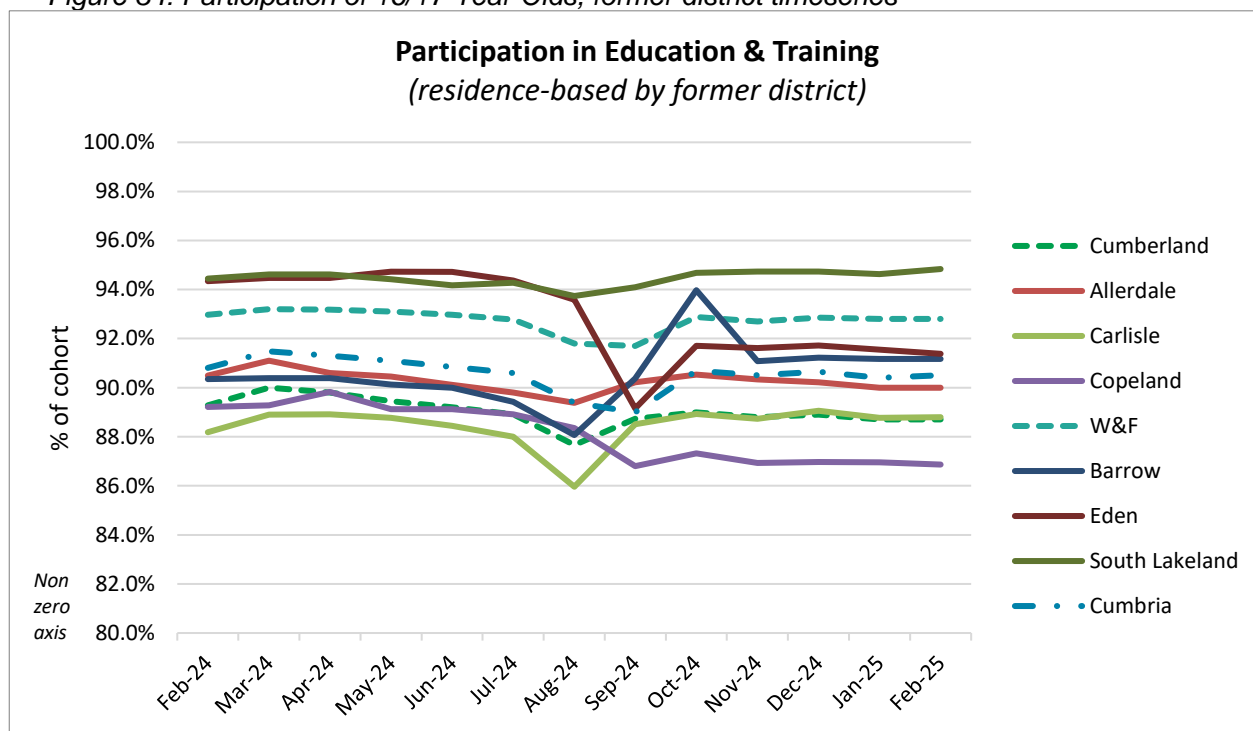
Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

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.

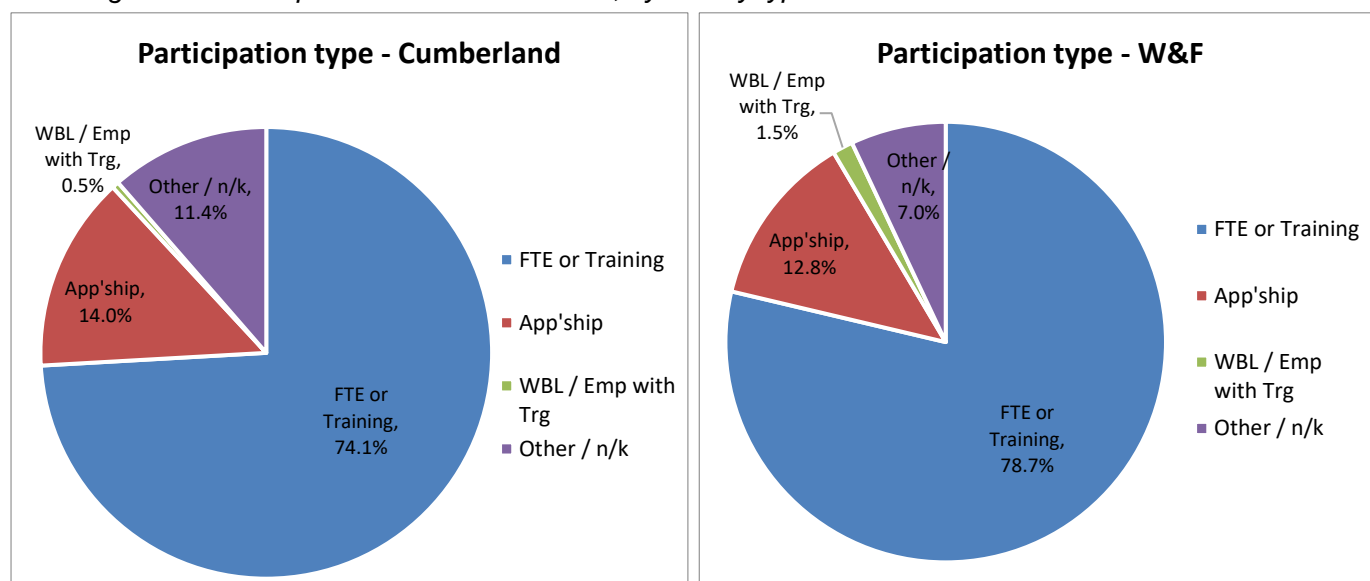
In Feb 2024, 90.5% of young people in Cumbria were classed as meeting the participation requirement. The rates were 88.7% in Cumberland and 92.8% in Westmorland & Furness compared to an England average of 92.2%. Young people in both Cumberland and Westmorland & Furness are significantly more likely to be undertaking an Apprenticeship than nationally, 14.0% and 12.8% respectively compared to 4.1% in England as a whole.

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 – Feb 2025



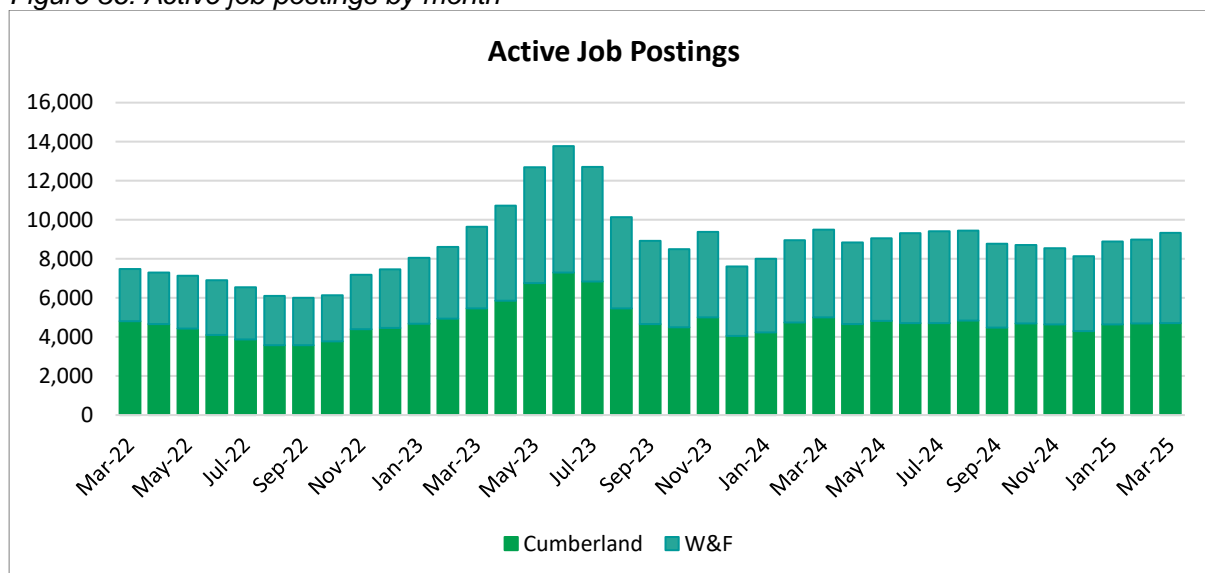
Source: NCCIS

8. JOB POSTINGS

The following data are drawn from Lightcast, 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 Mar 2025 there were 9,328 active job postings in Cumbria, 4,586 of which were new postings during the month. The number of active postings was 336 higher than in Feb (+3.7%) and the number of new postings was 544 higher (-13.5%). Allerdale and Copeland were the only former district areas not to see an increase in active postings.

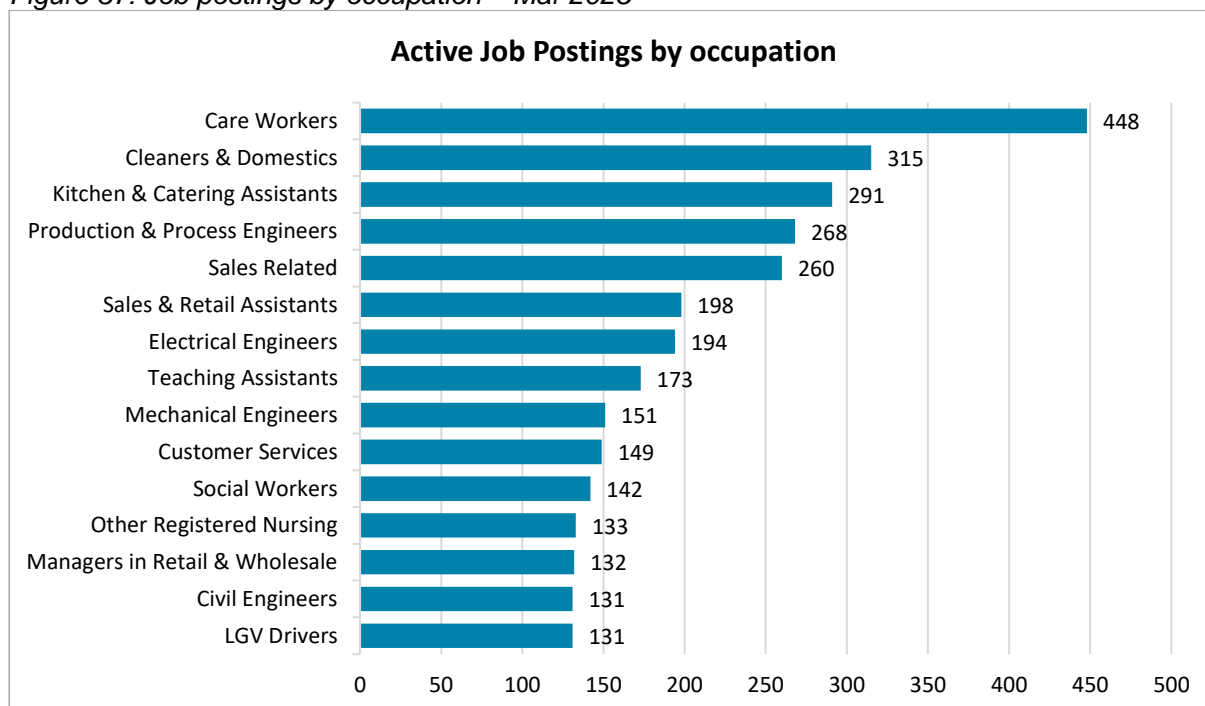
Figure 36: Active job postings by month



Source: © Lightcast 2024

The most commonly advertised jobs were for care workers, cleaners & domestics, kitchen & catering assistants and production & process engineers.

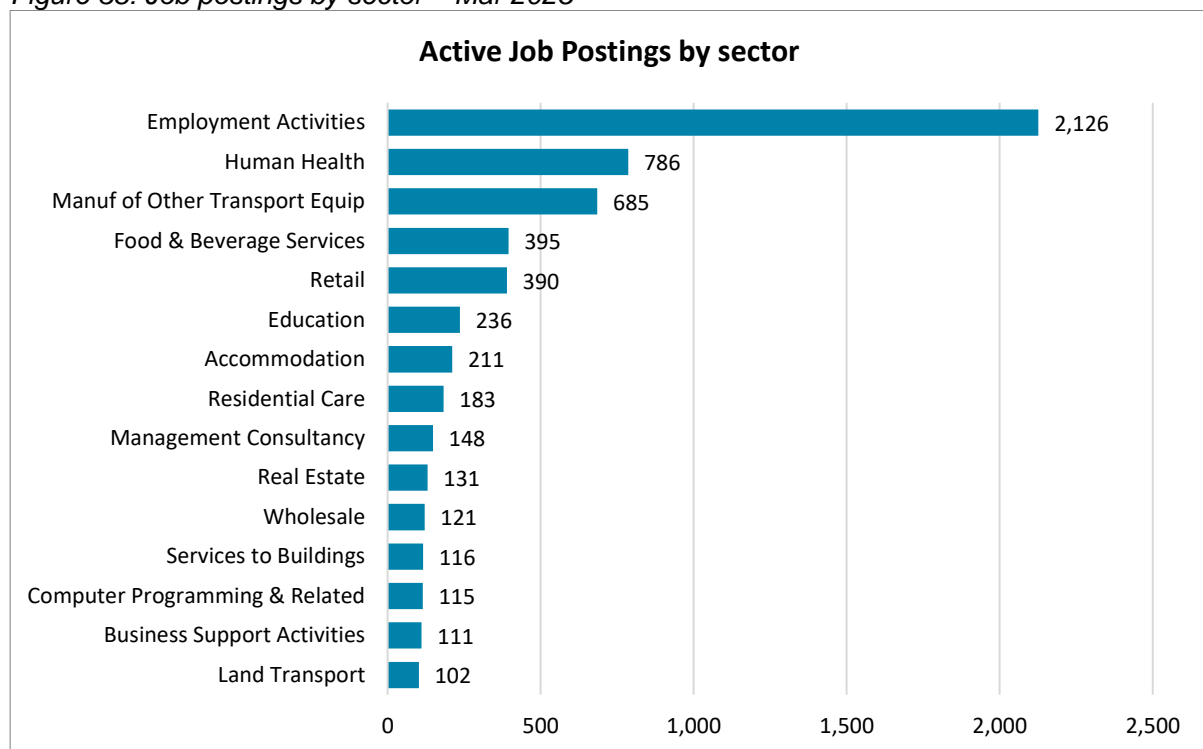
Figure 37: Job postings by occupation – Mar 2025



Source: © Lightcast 2024

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, manufacturing of other transport equipment, food & beverage services and retail.

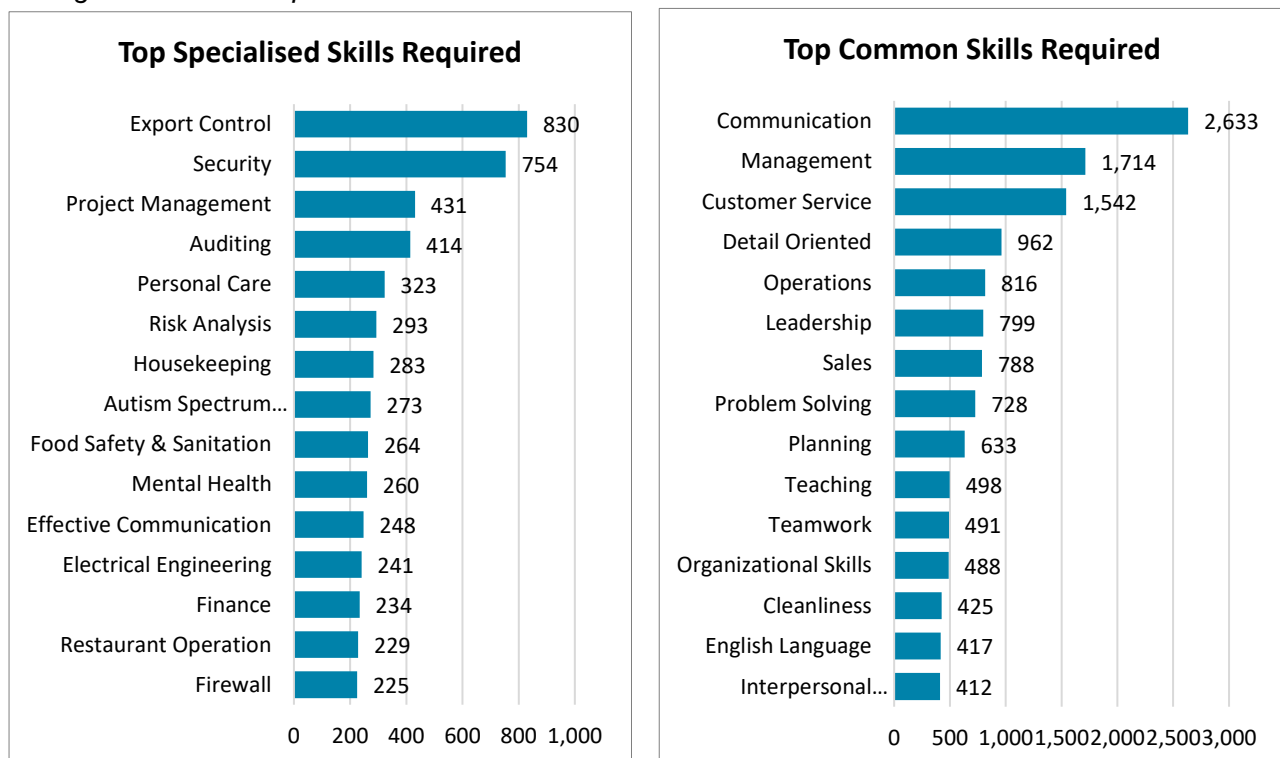
Figure 38: Job postings by sector – Mar 2025



Source: © Lightcast 2024

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.

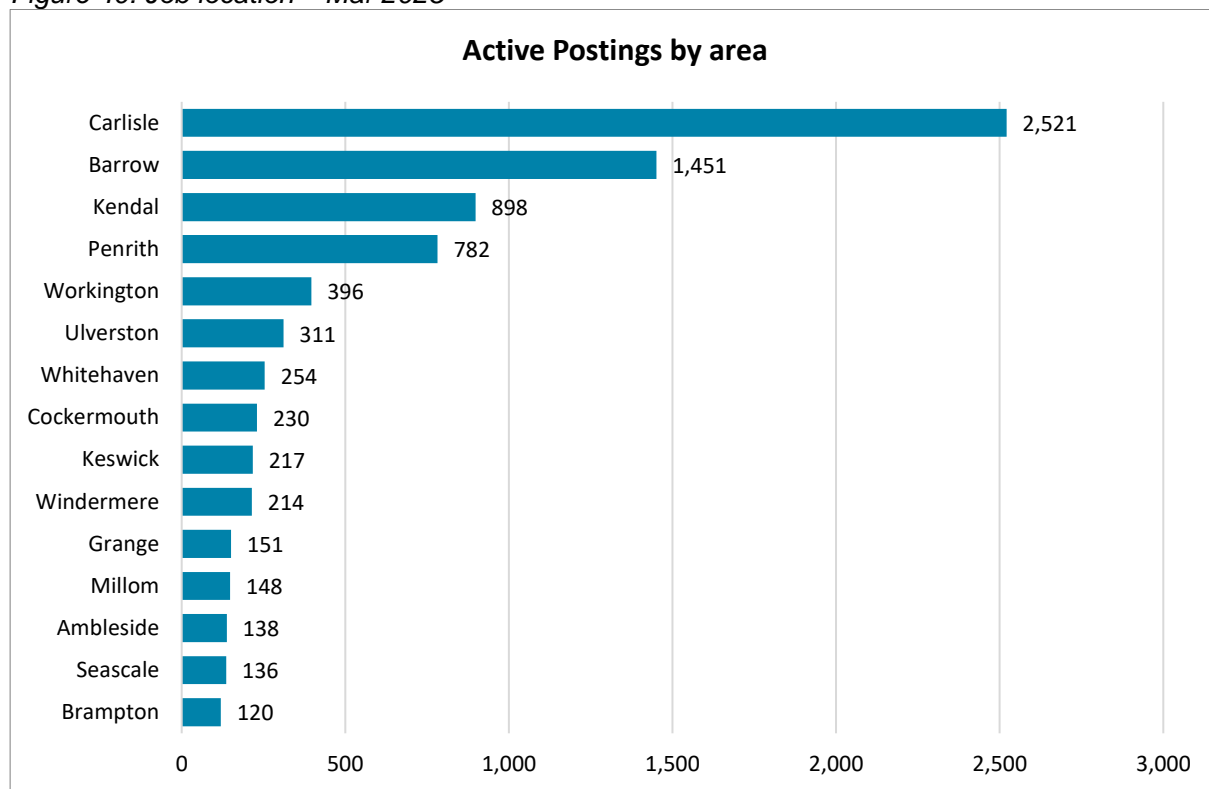
Figure 39: Skills required – Mar 2025



Source: © Lightcast 2024

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

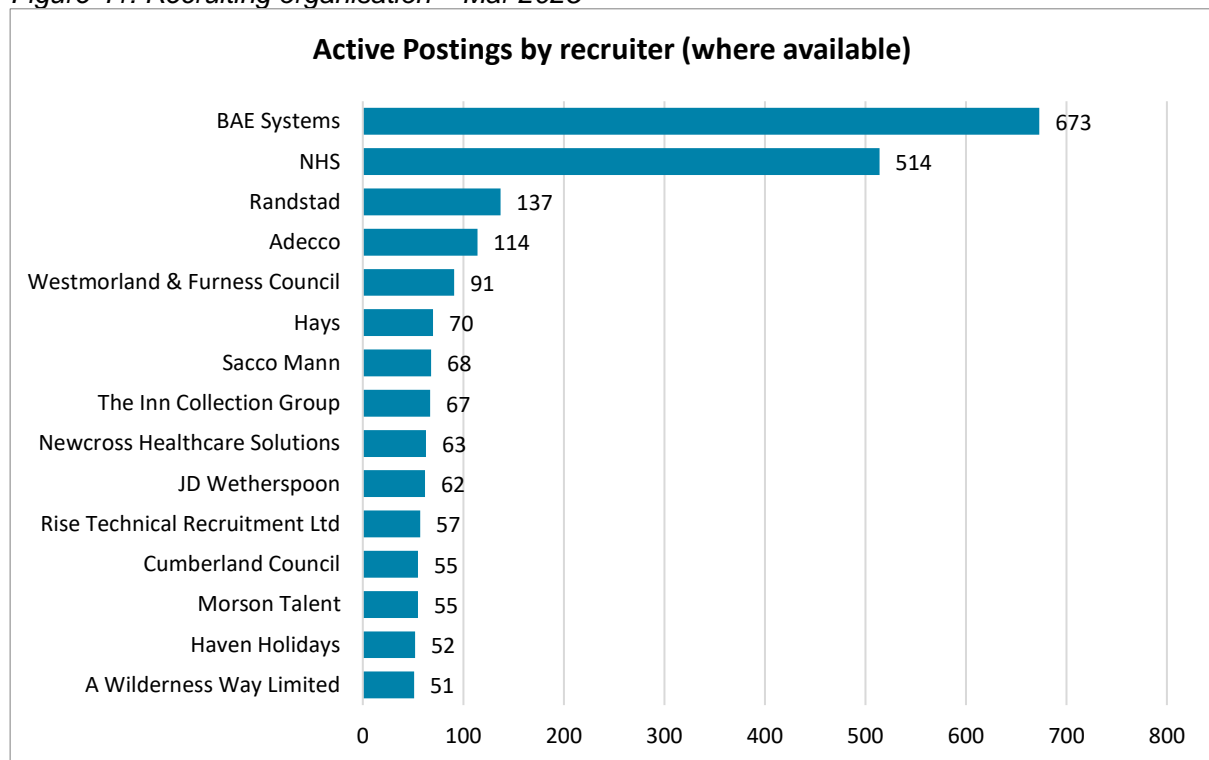
Figure 40: Job location – Mar 2025



Source: © Lightcast 2024

BAE Systems was once again the organisation with the most active job postings during the month, followed by the NHS.

Figure 41: Recruiting organisation – Mar 2025



Source: © Lightcast 2024

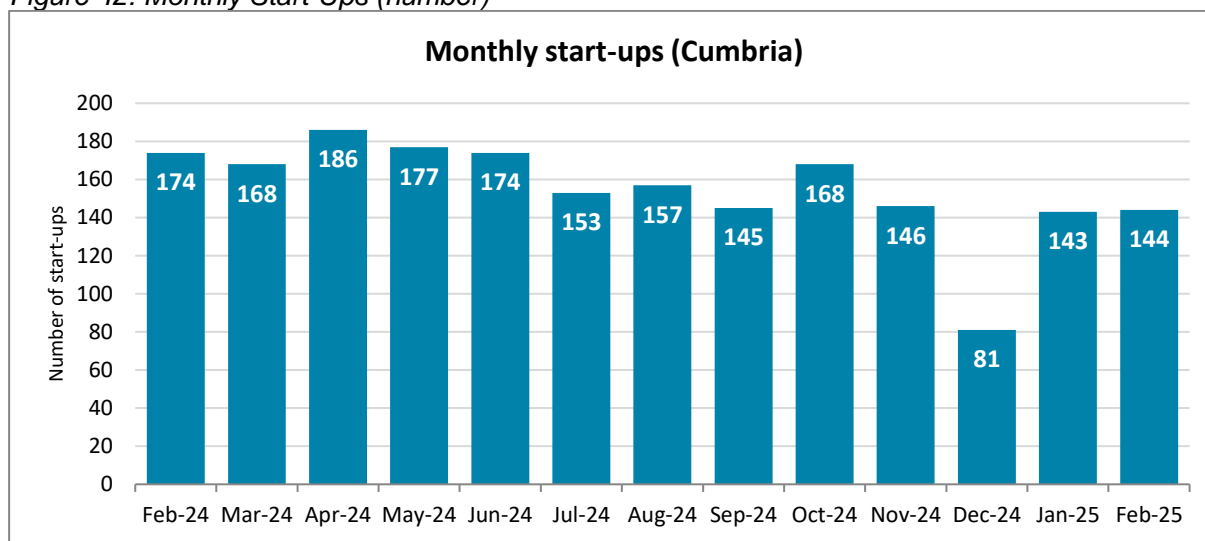
9. BUSINESS START-UPS

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 144 business start-ups in Cumbria in Feb 2025, 1 more than the previous month but 30 fewer than the same month last year. Over the quarter (Dec-Feb) there were 368 start-ups which is 91 fewer than last quarter and 137 fewer than the same quarter last year.

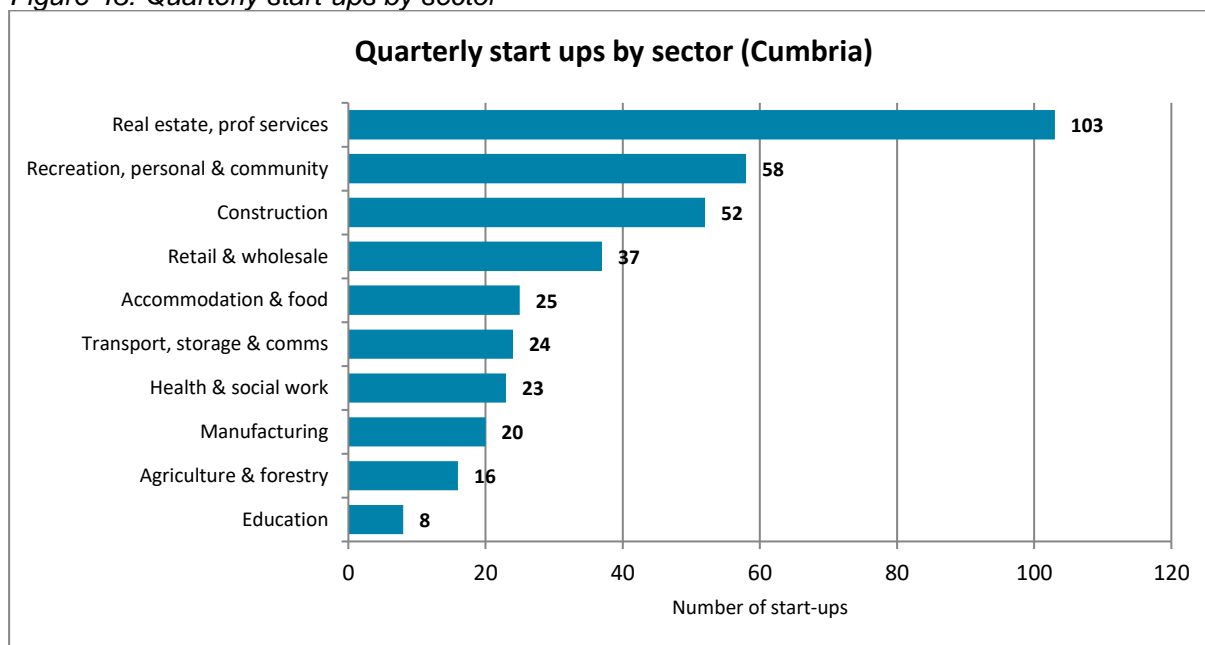
Figure 42: Monthly Start-Ups (number)



Source: BankSearch

The highest volume of start-ups in the quarter (Dec-Feb) was in real estate, prof services & support activities (103) followed by recreation, personal & community services (58), construction (52) and retail & wholesale (37).

Figure 43: Quarterly start-ups by sector



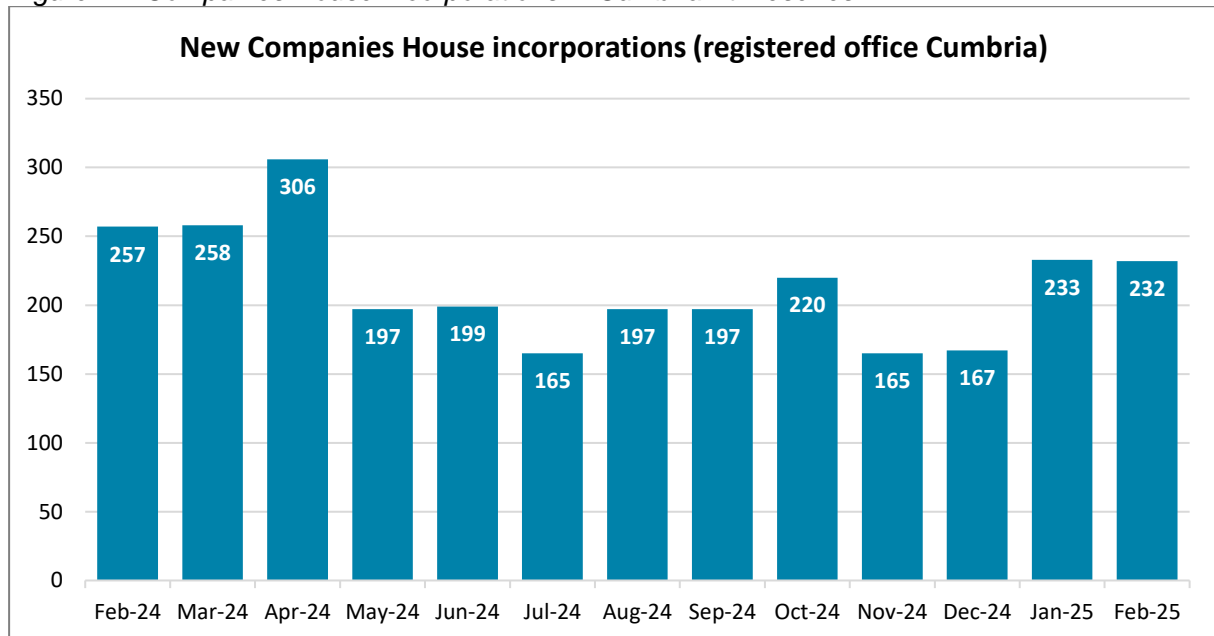
Source: BankSearch

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.

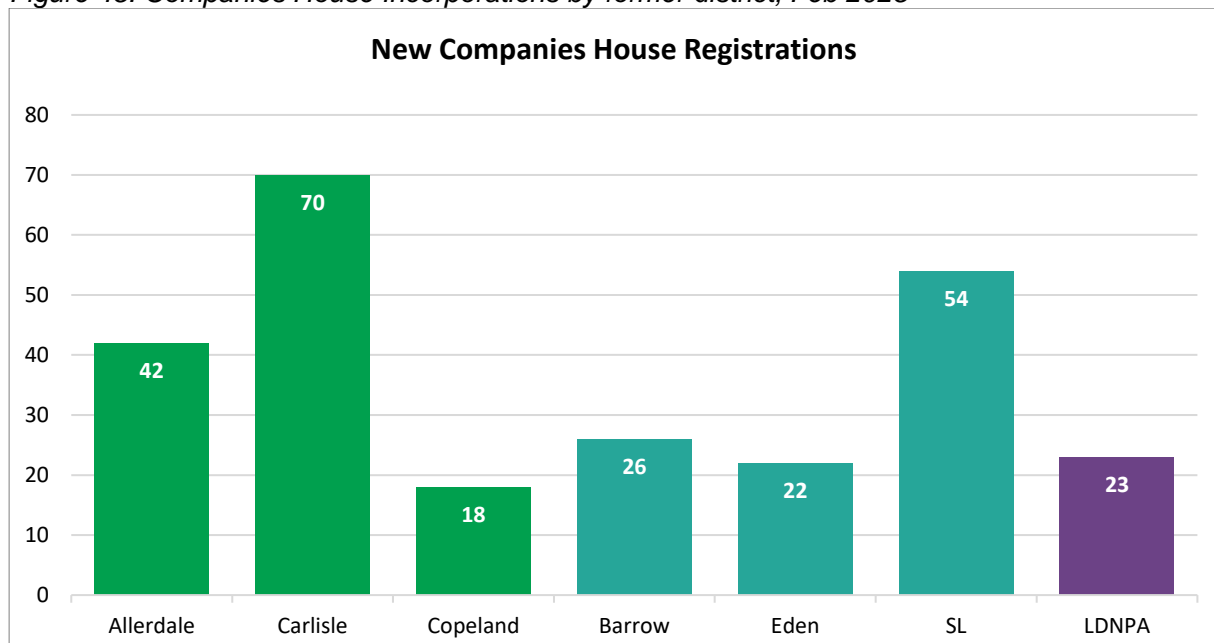
There were 232 new Companies House incorporations in Feb 2025, down by 1 from the previous month and 25 fewer than the same month last year. New registrations rose in Cumberland but fell in Westmorland & Furness.

Figure 44: Companies House Incorporations in Cumbria - timeseries



Source: BankSearch, data relate to registered office address.

Figure 45: Companies House Incorporations by former district, Feb 2025



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

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.

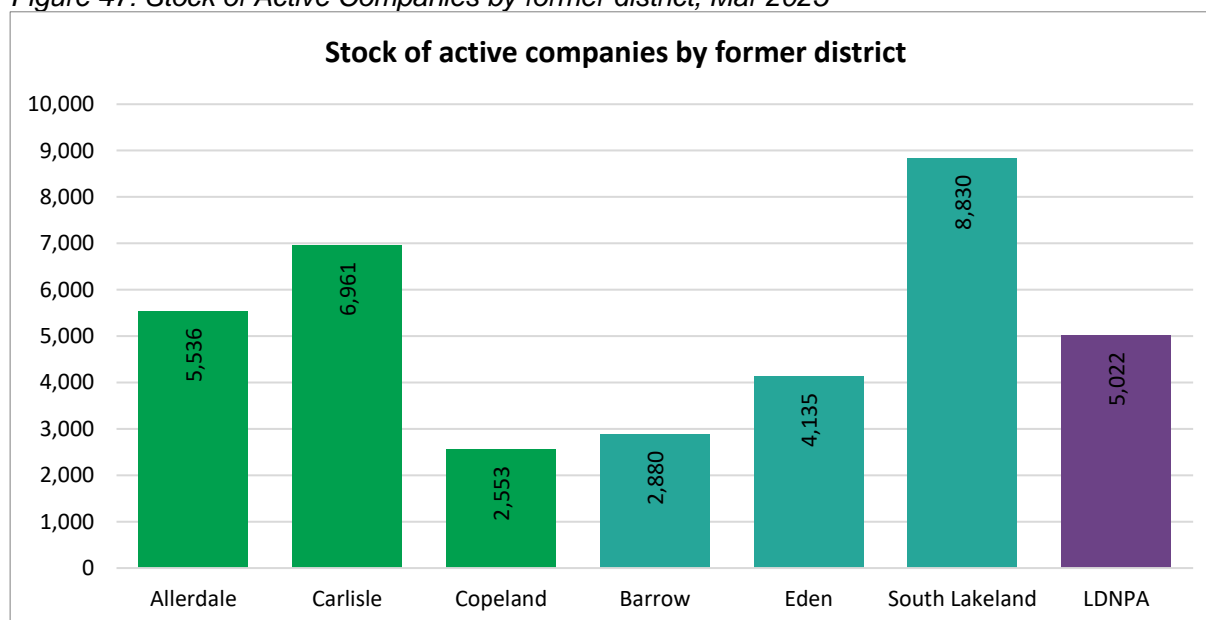
At the end of Mar 2025 there were 30,895 entries on the FAME database for Cumbria, an increase of 123 from last month. There were 165 dissolutions/liquidations (159 dissolutions, 6 liquidations) in Mar 2025 which is 5 more than last month.

Figure 46: Stock of Active Companies - timeseries



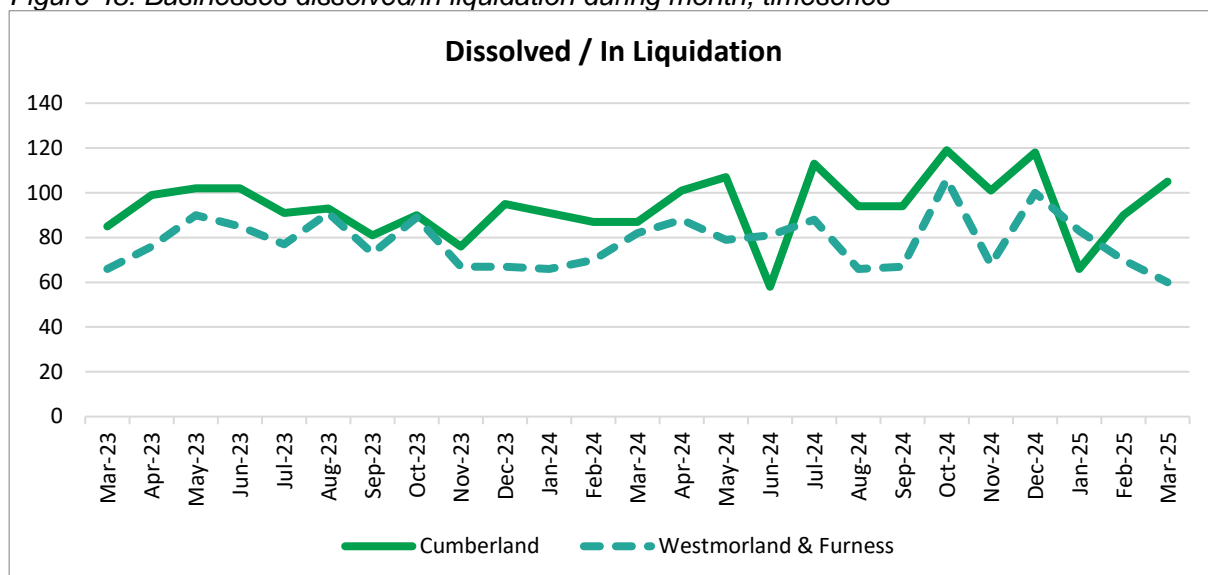
Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

Figure 47: Stock of Active Companies by former district, Mar 2025



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

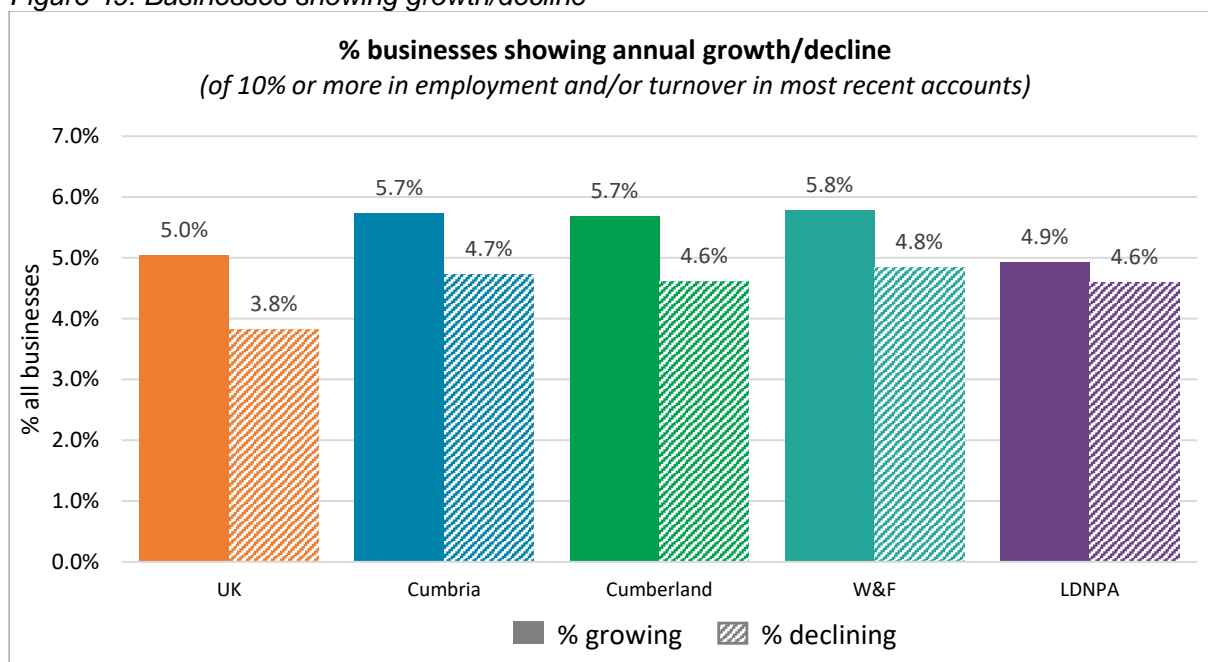
Figure 48: Businesses dissolved/in liquidation during month, timeseries



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

Of the businesses which were active in Cumbria in Mar 2025, 1,772 had shown an increase of 10% in either employment or turnover in their most recent accounts whilst 1,462 had shown a decrease. This represents 5.7% of businesses growing on one or both measures and 4.7% 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.)

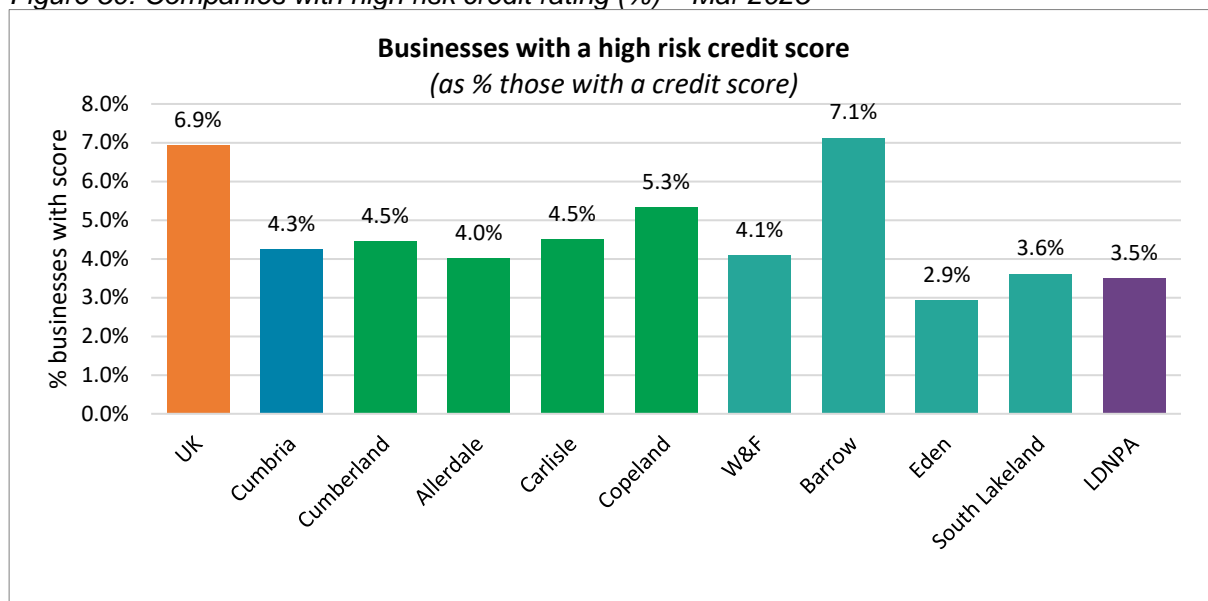
Figure 49: Businesses showing growth/decline



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

At the end of Mar 2025, 684 companies in Cumbria had a high risk credit score (1-20) which is 4.3% of the companies on the system with a score and compares to to 6.9% nationally. It was highest in the former district area of Barrow (7.1%).

Figure 50: Companies with high risk credit rating (%) – Mar 2025



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk) NB: % is of all active businesses with a credit score.

Figure 51: Ward claimant data

| CUMBERLAND | Claimant Count (JSA / UC seeking work) | | | | | Universal Credit (all claimants) | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|------|---------------------|-------|------|----------------------------------|------|---------------------|------|------|
| | Mar 2025 | | Change from Feb2025 | | | Mar 2025 | | Change from Feb2025 | | |
| | No | Rate | No | % | Rate | No | Rate | No | % | Rate |
| GB | 1,738,930 | 4.2 | 27,830 | 1.6 | 0.1 | 7,645,313 | 18.3 | 140,340 | 1.9 | 0.3 |
| Cumbria | 7,050 | 2.4 | -5 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 44,035 | 14.7 | 737 | 1.7 | 0.2 |
| Cumberland | 4,315 | 2.6 | -35 | -0.8 | 0.0 | 27,542 | 16.7 | 437 | 1.6 | 0.3 |
| 1.Carlisle West | 630 | 3.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3,769 | 20.1 | 48 | 1.3 | 0.3 |
| 2.Petteril | 700 | 3.8 | -20 | -2.8 | -0.1 | 4,552 | 24.4 | 101 | 2.3 | 0.5 |
| 3.Border, Fellside & North Carlisle | 375 | 1.6 | 25 | 7.1 | 0.1 | 2,294 | 10.1 | 31 | 1.4 | 0.1 |
| 4.Fells & Solway | 315 | 1.7 | -25 | -7.4 | -0.1 | 2,200 | 12.1 | 27 | 1.2 | 0.1 |
| 5.Lakes to Sea | 530 | 2.2 | -10 | -1.9 | 0.0 | 3,613 | 14.8 | 50 | 1.4 | 0.2 |
| 6.Workington Together | 725 | 3.7 | 10 | 1.4 | 0.1 | 4,294 | 21.8 | 66 | 1.6 | 0.3 |
| 7.Whitehaven & Coastal | 520 | 2.6 | -20 | -3.7 | -0.1 | 3,615 | 17.8 | 36 | 1.0 | 0.2 |
| 8.South Cumberland | 520 | 2.5 | -5 | -1.0 | 0.0 | 3,207 | 15.5 | 70 | 2.2 | 0.3 |
| Aspatria | 105 | 3.4 | 0 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 557 | 18.2 | 12 | 2.2 | 0.4 |
| Belah | 60 | 1.5 | 15 | 27.3 | 0.1 | 480 | 11.9 | 10 | 2.1 | 0.2 |
| Belle Vue | 135 | 3.3 | 10 | 8.0 | 0.2 | 695 | 16.9 | -10 | -1.4 | -0.2 |
| Botcherby | 165 | 3.9 | 5 | 3.1 | 0.1 | 876 | 20.7 | 10 | 1.2 | 0.2 |
| Bothel & Wharrels | 40 | 1.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 169 | 6.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Brampton | 85 | 2.7 | 5 | 5.9 | 0.0 | 463 | 14.5 | 6 | 1.3 | 0.2 |
| Bransty | 120 | 3.6 | -10 | -7.7 | -0.3 | 460 | 13.8 | 1 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Castle | 205 | 5.0 | 0 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 893 | 21.8 | 10 | 1.1 | 0.2 |
| Cleator Moor East & Frizington | 95 | 2.9 | 5 | 5.6 | 0.2 | 566 | 17.3 | 11 | 2.0 | 0.3 |
| Cleator Moor West | 85 | 2.4 | -5 | -5.3 | -0.3 | 717 | 20.2 | 13 | 1.8 | 0.4 |
| Cockermouth North | 75 | 1.9 | 0 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 558 | 14.3 | 13 | 2.4 | 0.3 |
| Cockermouth South | 55 | 1.6 | 5 | 10.0 | 0.1 | 204 | 5.8 | -3 | -1.4 | -0.1 |
| Corby & Hayton | 25 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 184 | 6.9 | 5 | 2.8 | 0.2 |
| Currock | 185 | 4.4 | 0 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 1,006 | 23.7 | 30 | 3.1 | 0.7 |
| Dalston & Burgh | 55 | 1.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 297 | 6.4 | -1 | -0.3 | 0.0 |
| Dearham & Broughton | 55 | 1.5 | -5 | -9.1 | 0.0 | 406 | 11.2 | 1 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Denton Holme | 135 | 3.0 | -5 | -3.7 | 0.0 | 859 | 18.9 | 15 | 1.8 | 0.3 |
| Egremont | 115 | 3.3 | -5 | -4.2 | -0.1 | 782 | 22.3 | 19 | 2.5 | 0.5 |
| Egremont North & St. Bees | 95 | 2.9 | 10 | 11.8 | 0.3 | 619 | 18.8 | 6 | 1.0 | 0.2 |
| Gosforth | 55 | 1.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 305 | 9.1 | 6 | 2.0 | 0.2 |
| Harraby North | 155 | 3.6 | -5 | -3.1 | -0.1 | 1,036 | 24.1 | 29 | 2.9 | 0.7 |
| Harraby South | 65 | 1.7 | -10 | -13.3 | -0.3 | 688 | 18.4 | 10 | 1.5 | 0.3 |
| Harrington | 145 | 3.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 780 | 19.3 | 9 | 1.2 | 0.2 |
| Hillcrest & Hensingham | 65 | 2.0 | -5 | -7.7 | 0.0 | 231 | 7.0 | -1 | -0.4 | 0.0 |
| Houghton & Irthington | 35 | 1.1 | 5 | 20.0 | 0.3 | 216 | 7.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Howgate | 65 | 1.9 | 0 | 0.0 | -0.3 | 574 | 16.8 | 12 | 2.1 | 0.4 |
| Kells & Sandwith | 105 | 2.6 | -10 | -9.1 | -0.1 | 1,074 | 26.5 | 16 | 1.5 | 0.4 |
| Keswick | 60 | 2.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 313 | 10.6 | -1 | -0.3 | 0.0 |
| Longtown | 55 | 1.9 | 5 | 9.1 | 0.0 | 412 | 14.1 | 3 | 0.7 | 0.1 |
| Maryport North | 115 | 3.2 | -5 | -4.0 | -0.3 | 710 | 19.6 | 12 | 1.7 | 0.3 |
| Maryport South | 130 | 3.3 | -5 | -3.7 | -0.1 | 1,253 | 31.9 | 28 | 2.3 | 0.7 |
| Millom | 125 | 3.7 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 626 | 18.5 | 12 | 2.0 | 0.4 |
| Millom Without | 45 | 1.7 | 10 | 22.2 | 0.0 | 211 | 7.8 | 9 | 4.5 | 0.3 |
| Mirehouse | 70 | 2.1 | -10 | -13.3 | -0.2 | 657 | 20.1 | 2 | 0.3 | 0.1 |
| Morton | 110 | 2.9 | -5 | -4.3 | -0.1 | 850 | 22.6 | 16 | 1.9 | 0.4 |
| Moss Bay & Moorclose | 235 | 5.7 | -10 | -4.1 | -0.2 | 1,513 | 36.9 | 24 | 1.6 | 0.6 |
| Seaton | 105 | 2.7 | -5 | -4.8 | 0.0 | 575 | 14.9 | 13 | 2.3 | 0.3 |
| Solway Coast | 50 | 1.7 | -10 | -15.4 | -0.5 | 467 | 16.3 | 6 | 1.3 | 0.2 |
| St. John's & Great Clifton | 100 | 2.6 | 5 | 5.6 | 0.3 | 418 | 11.0 | 13 | 3.2 | 0.3 |
| St. Michael's | 140 | 3.9 | 0 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 1,008 | 27.9 | 7 | 0.7 | 0.2 |
| Stanwix Urban | 50 | 1.6 | -5 | -10.0 | 0.0 | 247 | 7.7 | 7 | 2.9 | 0.2 |
| Thursby | 15 | 0.5 | -5 | -25.0 | -0.2 | 221 | 7.4 | -3 | -1.3 | -0.1 |
| Upperby | 130 | 3.5 | 0 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 946 | 25.1 | 22 | 2.4 | 0.6 |
| Wetheral | 65 | 1.6 | 5 | 9.1 | 0.2 | 292 | 7.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Wigton | 90 | 2.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 658 | 16.5 | 13 | 2.0 | 0.3 |
| Yewdale | 45 | 1.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 472 | 15.0 | 17 | 3.7 | 0.5 |

| WESTMORLAND & FURNESS | Claimant Count (JSA / UC seeking work) | | | | | Universal Credit (all claimants) | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|------|---------------------|-------|------|----------------------------------|------|---------------------|------|------|
| | Mar 2025 | | Change from Feb2025 | | | Mar 2025 | | Change from Feb2025 | | |
| | No | Rate | No | % | Rate | No | Rate | No | % | Rate |
| GB | 1,738,930 | 4.2 | 27,830 | 1.6 | 0.1 | 7,645,313 | 18.3 | 140,340 | 1.9 | 0.3 |
| Cumbria | 7,050 | 2.4 | -5 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 44,035 | 14.7 | 737 | 1.7 | 0.2 |
| Westmorland & Furness | 2,735 | 2.0 | 30 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 16,495 | 12.3 | 298 | 1.8 | 0.2 |
| Barrow | 1,200 | 3.0 | 25 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 7,219 | 17.9 | 159 | 2.3 | 0.4 |
| Eden | 585 | 1.9 | -5 | -0.5 | 0.0 | 3,356 | 10.8 | 54 | 1.6 | 0.2 |
| South Lakeland | 950 | 1.6 | 5 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 5,922 | 10.0 | 90 | 1.5 | 0.2 |
| Alston & Fellside | 75 | 2.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 342 | 9.1 | 1 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Appleby & Brough | 75 | 2.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 371 | 10.8 | 10 | 2.8 | 0.3 |
| Bowness & Lyth | 30 | 1.3 | 5 | 20.0 | 0.2 | 193 | 8.7 | 6 | 3.2 | 0.3 |
| Burton & Holme | 20 | 1.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 144 | 7.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Coniston & Hawkshead | 20 | 1.2 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 140 | 8.2 | -2 | -1.4 | -0.1 |
| Dalton North | 50 | 1.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 323 | 8.7 | 7 | 2.2 | 0.2 |
| Dalton South | 75 | 2.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 448 | 12.0 | 7 | 1.6 | 0.2 |
| Eamont & Shap | 45 | 1.8 | -5 | -11.1 | 0.0 | 217 | 8.9 | 5 | 2.4 | 0.2 |
| Eden & Lyvennet Vale | 40 | 1.2 | -5 | -11.1 | -0.1 | 245 | 7.2 | 3 | 1.2 | 0.1 |
| Grange & Cartmel | 80 | 1.5 | 0 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 411 | 7.7 | 4 | 1.0 | 0.1 |
| Greystoke & Ulswater | 25 | 1.0 | -5 | -20.0 | 0.0 | 122 | 5.0 | 1 | 0.8 | 0.0 |
| Hawcoat & Newbarns | 70 | 1.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 432 | 7.1 | 18 | 4.3 | 0.3 |
| Hesket & Lazonby | 30 | 0.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 218 | 6.0 | -2 | -0.9 | -0.1 |
| High Furness | 20 | 0.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 140 | 6.4 | -3 | -2.1 | -0.1 |
| Kendal Castle | 40 | 1.2 | -5 | -12.5 | 0.0 | 228 | 6.6 | -7 | -3.0 | -0.2 |
| Kendal Highgate | 85 | 2.3 | 5 | 6.3 | 0.1 | 642 | 17.2 | 4 | 0.6 | 0.1 |
| Kendal Nether | 80 | 2.0 | 0 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 518 | 13.1 | 12 | 2.4 | 0.3 |
| Kendal South | 60 | 1.7 | -5 | -9.1 | 0.1 | 313 | 8.9 | 10 | 3.3 | 0.3 |
| Kendal Strickland & Fell | 95 | 2.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 663 | 15.8 | 19 | 3.0 | 0.5 |
| Kent Estuary | 40 | 1.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 286 | 9.0 | 6 | 2.1 | 0.2 |
| Kirkby Stephen & Tebay | 40 | 1.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 323 | 11.2 | 7 | 2.2 | 0.2 |
| Levens & Crooklands | 20 | 0.9 | 5 | 33.3 | 0.2 | 105 | 4.9 | -7 | -6.3 | -0.3 |
| Low Furness | 25 | 1.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 147 | 6.2 | -4 | -2.6 | -0.2 |
| Old Barrow | 535 | 6.6 | 15 | 2.9 | 0.2 | 2,792 | 34.6 | 58 | 2.1 | 0.7 |
| Ormsgill & Parkside | 205 | 2.9 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1,275 | 18.2 | 27 | 2.2 | 0.4 |
| Penrith North | 115 | 2.5 | 20 | 22.2 | 0.5 | 612 | 13.3 | 5 | 0.8 | 0.1 |
| Penrith South | 140 | 2.3 | 0 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 908 | 15.1 | 18 | 2.0 | 0.3 |
| Risedale & Roosecote | 160 | 2.5 | -5 | -2.9 | -0.2 | 1,106 | 17.1 | 13 | 1.2 | 0.2 |
| Sedbergh & Kirkby Lonsdale | 35 | 0.8 | -5 | -11.1 | -0.2 | 269 | 6.0 | 4 | 1.5 | 0.1 |
| Ulverston | 155 | 2.2 | 5 | 3.3 | 0.1 | 867 | 12.2 | 11 | 1.3 | 0.2 |
| Upper Kent | 40 | 1.7 | -5 | -14.3 | 0.2 | 215 | 9.0 | 3 | 1.4 | 0.1 |
| Walney Island | 105 | 1.7 | -5 | -4.8 | 0.0 | 845 | 13.7 | 29 | 3.6 | 0.5 |
| Windermere & Ambleside | 105 | 1.7 | 5 | 4.8 | 0.0 | 636 | 10.2 | 17 | 2.7 | 0.3 |

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 | 6. Workington Together | Maryport North | |
| | Currock | | Maryport South | |
| | Harraby North | | Harrington | |
| | Harraby South | | Moss Bay & Moorclose | |
| 3. Border, Fellside & North Carlisle | Upperby | 7. Whitehaven & Coastal | Seaton | |
| | Belah | | St. John's & Great Clifton | |
| | Brampton | | St Michael's | |
| | Corby & Hayton | | Bransty | |
| | Houghton & Irthington | | Egremont North & St. Bees | |
| | Longtown | | Hillcrest & Hensingham | |
| 4. Fells & Solway | Stanwix Urban | 8. South Cumberland | Howgate | |
| | Wetheral | | Kells & Sandwith | |
| | Aspatria | | Mirehouse | |
| | Dalston & Burgh | | 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 | | | |

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