

Introduction

This briefing contains the most recent data from the standard Claimant Count and Universal Credit registers (both counts taken on **8th August 2024**). 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: 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.

Contents

Section	Item	Page	Date stats relate to
1	Key findings – Cumbria	1	
2	Key findings – national	2	
3	Payrolled employment & earnings	4	Aug 2024
4	Employment & economic activity	7	Mar 2024
5	Unemployment claimants	9	Aug 2024
6	Universal Credit claimants	12	Aug 2024
7	NEETS	19	Jul 2024
8	Job postings	22	Aug 2024
9	Business start-ups	25	Jul 2024
10	Companies House counts	27	Aug 2024
Appendix 1	Ward level claimant data	31	Aug 2024
	Table of figures	34	

1. KEY FINDINGS FOR CUMBRIA

- There were estimated to be 224,738 payrolled employees resident in Cumbria in Aug 2024, a decrease of 553 from the revised July figure. This means there are 1,084 more residents in payrolled employment than this time last year (0.5% 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 Aug 2024 in Cumbria were £2,304 which is 95% of the UK average. They were highest in West Cumbria (102% 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 areas which are not the same as the unitary areas).
- Median payrolled earnings growth in Cumbria year on year was 6.6% which is above the UK (6.2%) and this has been the case in both West and East Cumbria.
- Survey estimates for the year ending Mar 2024 suggest that the proportion of 16-64 year olds in employment in Cumbria was 81.3% compared to the national average of 75.4% (even allowing for survey error this does suggest the rate was higher locally). The rate was 83.0% in Cumberland and 78.9% in Westmorland & Furness (survey error is more significant at this level).
- The economic inactivity rate (those not working or actively looking for work) was estimated to be 16.9% in the year to Mar 2024 (approx. 48,600 residents), below the national rate of 21.5%. It was lower in Cumberland (15.0%) than Westmorland & Furness (19.4%) although survey error makes this unreliable. Eight out of ten of the inactive in Cumbria 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 7,590 claimants of JSA / UC (out of work and seeking work) in Aug 2024, which is 50 more than the revised July figure, an increase of 0.7%. The count rose in all former districts except Carlisle and South Lakeland and also rose regionally and nationally.
- Compared to the same time last year, the claimant count (actively seeking work) is 910 higher an increase of 13.7% which is lower than the rise of 17.3% nationally.

- The claimant rate (actively seeking work) in Cumbria was 2.5% in Aug 2024 unchanged from July and it remains below the national rate of 4.3% in all the former district areas. The claimant rate in Cumbria is 0.3ppt higher than a year ago (nationally it is 0.6ppt 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 (6.5% v 5.2%).
- **NB: from May DWP has been rolling out an increase in the Administrative Earnings Threshold for full work search conditionality. This causes some claimants to change conditionality groups resulting in more appearing in the claimant count.**
- There were 41,285 claimants of Universal Credit in Cumbria in Aug 2024 (in work, out of work or not required to seek work), a rise of 579 (1.4%) from the revised July figure and 5,124 more UC claimants than a year ago (+14.2%).
- The number of claimants rose in the searching/planning/preparing group (+22), the working conditionality group (+108) and the no work requirements group (+449) – see note above.
- The claimant rate for all UC claimants was 13.8% in Aug 2024 compared to 17.0% 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.
- 29,780 of the UC claimants had been claiming for more than 12 months in Aug 2024, an increase of 244 from July and 1,744 more than a year ago. This means 72% of UC claimants have been claiming for more than a year.
- In Mar 2024, 14,519 UC claimants were on “UC health” which is 4.9% of all working age residents (aged 16-64) compared to 5.0% nationally. The rate of UC Health claimants was above the national average in the former districts of Allerdale (6.2%), Barrow (5.8%), Carlisle (5.3%) and Copeland (6.1%) but lower in Eden (2.7%) and South Lakeland (2.8%).
- The number of UC claimants on “UC health” has risen by 19.4% (+2,358) in the year to Mar 2024 in Cumbria even though the overall number of UC claimants has only risen by 12.8% over the same period. They now make up 36.2% of all UC claimants which is higher than the national proportion (31.2%).
- Data for households on Universal Credit are published quarterly and the latest are for May 2024. This shows that there were 34,497 households in receipt of Universal Credit, up by 3,549 (11.5%) from a year previously.
- There were an estimated 31,663 children/young people under the age of 20 living in Universal Credit households May 2024 which is 4,965 more than a year ago (+18.6%).
- There were 357 young people (aged 16/17) classed as NEET (inc not knowns) in July 2024 which is 19 more than in Jun. There were 234 NEET/NKs in Cumberland and 123 in Westmorland & Furness.
- The NEET rate was 3.5% in Cumbria in July 2024, up 0.2ppt from Jun but the same as a year ago. The rate was 4.1% in Cumberland and 2.8% in Westmorland & Furness with the highest rates in the former districts of Barrow (4.7%) and Copeland (4.4%) The national rate was 5.8% (national comparison should be treated with caution).
- The participation rate for 16/17 year olds was 90.6% in Cumbria in July 2024 (88.9% in Cumberland and 92.8% in Westmorland & Furness) compared to 91.1% nationally.
- According to Lightcast there were 9,035 active online job postings in Aug 2024, 17 more than in June (0.2%) with increases in the former district areas of Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle and Copeland but decreases in Eden and South Lakeland. The volume of new postings during the month rose by 85 (2.2%).
- The occupations most in demand were care workers, cleaners & domestics, sales and kitchen & catering assistants.
- The sectors accounting for most postings were employment activities (usually recruitment companies), health, food & beverage services, retail and manufacture of other transport equipment.
- Job-related skills most in demand were auditing, export control, housekeeping and project management, whilst the personal attributes most in demand were communication, customer service and management.
- The recruiting organisations with the most active job postings were the NHS, BAE Systems, Adecco and Randstad (the latter two are both agencies).
- There were 504 small business start-ups in the quarter ending July 2024 which is 24 fewer than last quarter and 74 fewer than the same quarter last year.

- Start-ups were highest in real estate & professional services (120), recreation, personal & community services (78) and construction (72).
- There were 165 new Companies House incorporations in July 2024, 34 fewer than in Jun and 74 fewer than in July last year. There were 160 businesses newly recorded as dissolved/in liquidation during Aug 2024.
- There were 30,710 active companies in Cumbria at the end of Aug 2024, 2 fewer than in July.
- Of the active businesses in Aug 2024, 1,882 had posted financial results showing a 10% increase in employment and/or turnover in their most recent accounts (6.1% of businesses) whilst 1,473 had posted results showing a 10% decline in one or both measures (4.8% of all businesses) (note: the majority of businesses do not file detailed financial accounts).
- In Aug 2024, 5.5% 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 9.2%. It was highest in the former district areas of Barrow (7.7%) and Carlisle (6.5%).
- A third of businesses on the Red Flag Alert system are assigned a growth score and of these, 17.2% in Cumbria were rated as very likely or likely to grow compared to 16.0% for the UK.

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.

- The UK employment rate for May to July 2024 (74.8%) is below estimates of a year ago (May to July 2023), but increased in the latest quarter.
- The UK unemployment rate for May to July 2024 (4.1%) is below estimates of a year ago (May to July 2023), and decreased in the latest quarter.
- The UK economic inactivity rate for May to July 2024 (21.9%) is above estimates of a year ago (May to July 2023), but decreased in the latest quarter.
- Estimates for payrolled employees in the UK decreased by 6,000 (0.0%) between June and July 2024, but rose by 203,000 (0.7%) between July 2023 and July 2024.
- The early estimate of payrolled employees for August 2024 decreased by 59,000 (negative 0.2%) on the month but increased by 122,000 (0.4%) on the year, to 30.3 million. The August 2024 estimate should be treated as a provisional estimate and is likely to be revised when more data are received next month.
- The estimated number of vacancies in the UK in June to August 2024 was 857,000, a decrease of 42,000 or 4.7% from March to May 2024.
- Vacancy numbers decreased on the quarter for the 26th consecutive period in June to August 2024, with vacancies decreasing in all 18 industry sectors.
- Total estimated vacancies were down by 143,000 (14.3%) in June to August 2024, from the level of a year ago, although they remained 61,000 (7.7%) above their pre-coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic January to March 2020 levels.
- The number of unemployed people per vacancy was 1.6 in May to July 2024, down from 1.7 in the previous quarter (February to April 2024).
- The estimated number of Workforce Jobs was up by 503,000 (1.4%) in June 2024, from the level of a year ago, to 37.1 million, with human health and social work activities showing the largest increase, up by 288,000 (6.0%).
- The total Workforce Jobs estimate decreased in June 2024 by 28,000 or 0.1% on the quarter, with a decrease of 92,000 (2.1%) in self-employment jobs and an increase of 62,000 (0.2%) in employee jobs.
- Annual growth in employees' average regular earnings (excluding bonuses) was 5.1%; growth was last lower than this in April to June 2022, when it was 4.7%.
- Annual growth in total earnings (including bonuses) was 4.0%; this total growth rate is affected by the NHS and civil service one-off payments made in June and July 2023.
- Annual growth in real terms (adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH)) was 2.2% for regular pay and 1.1% for total pay.
- Annual average regular earnings growth for the public sector remains strong at 5.7%, although down on the previous three-month period (6.0%); for the private sector this was 4.9%, with growth last lower than this in February to April 2022 (4.8%).
- The manufacturing sector saw the largest annual regular growth rate at 5.9%, while the construction sector saw the smallest annual regular growth rate at 3.9%.
- There were an estimated 42,000 working days lost because of labour disputes across the UK in July 2024. Most of the strikes were in the health and social work sector.

3. PAYROLLED EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS

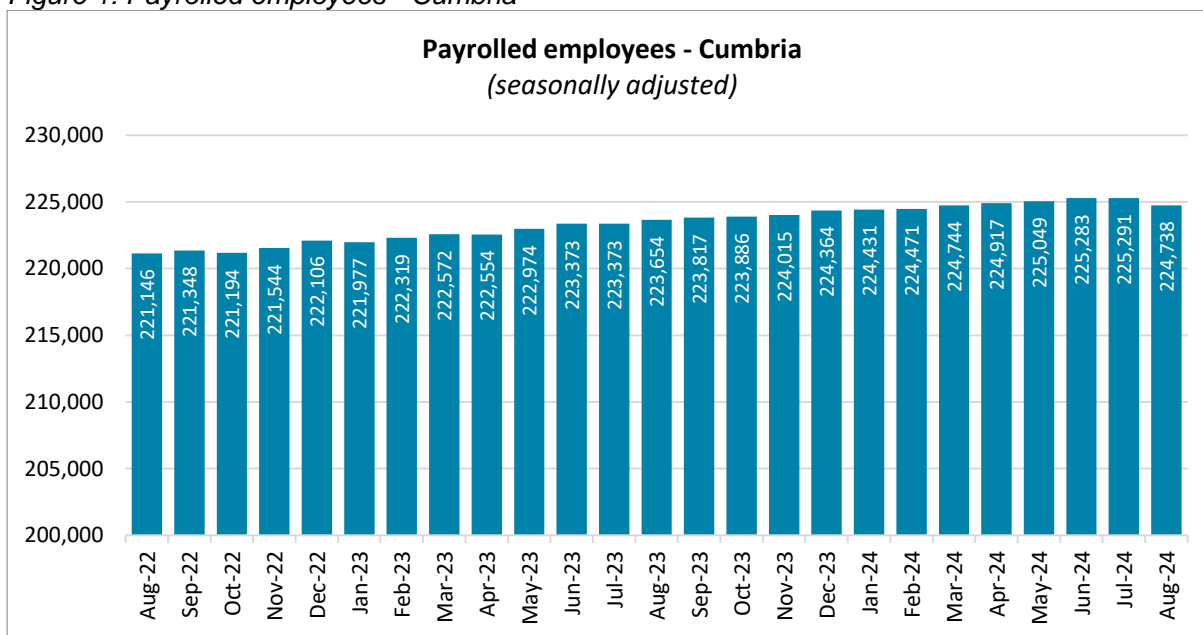
These data are from HMRC's Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) system. They cover employees payrolled by employers and not self-employment income or income from other sources such as pensions. This data is *not a measure of total employment and can be influenced by administrative changes 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 were 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 224,738 residents in Cumbria in payrolled employment in Aug 2024, a decrease of 553 from the revised July total but 1,084 more than a year ago, an annual increase of 0.5% which is just above the national increase (0.4%).

Figure 1: Payrolled employees - Cumbria



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

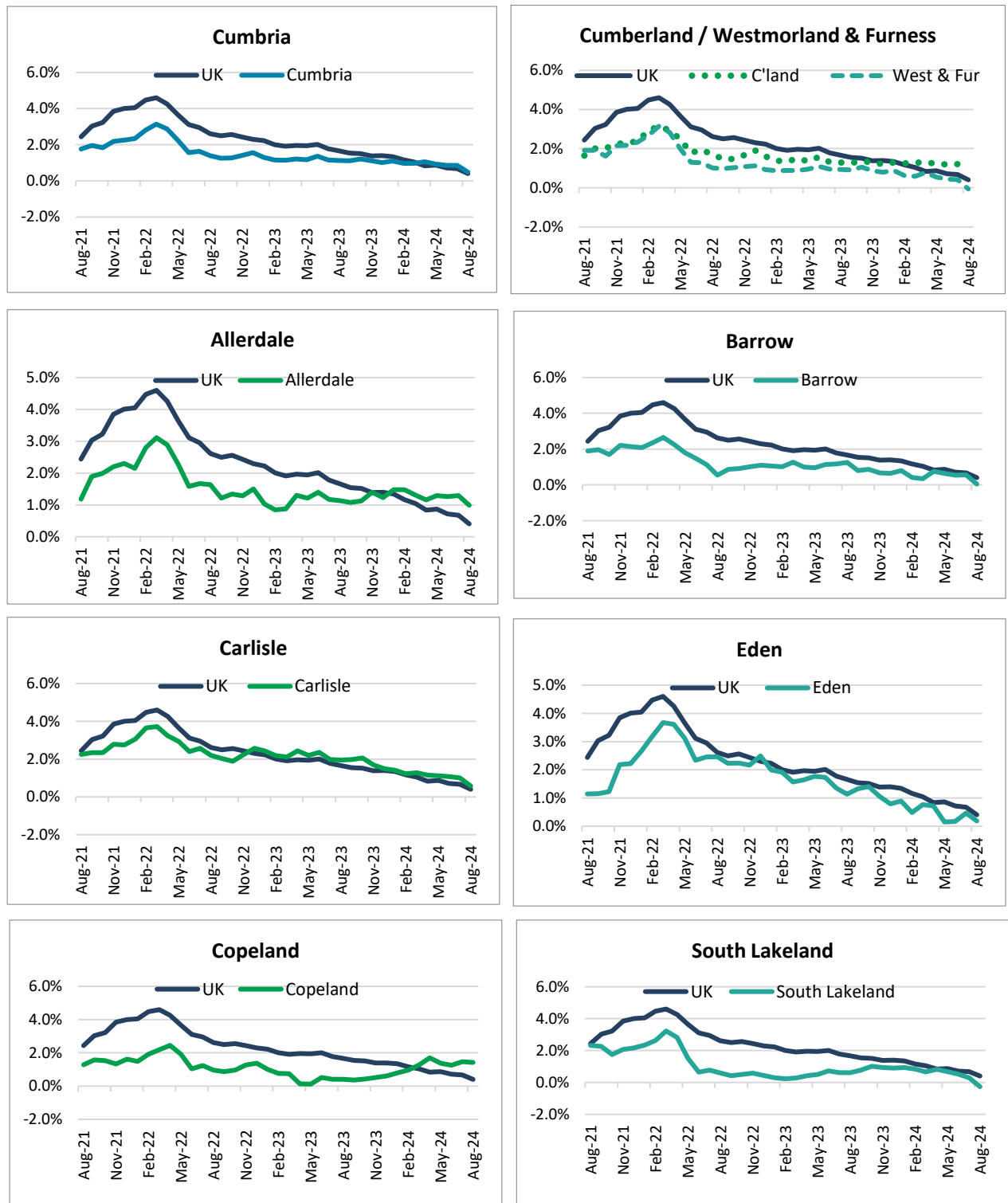
Figure 2: Payrolled employees – Seasonally adjusted

Payrolled employees (seasonally adjusted)					
	Aug 2024	Month change		One year change	
	No	No	%	No	%
UK	30,319,679	-58,569	-0.2%	121,969	0.4%
England	25,738,995	-49,771	-0.2%	100,836	0.4%
Cumbria	224,738	-553	-0.2%	1,084	0.5%
Cumberland	125,338	-208	-0.2%	1,148	0.9%
Allerdale	42,647	-67	-0.2%	419	1.0%
Carlisle	52,168	-148	-0.3%	300	0.6%
Copeland	30,523	7	0.0%	429	1.4%
Westmorland & Furness	99,400	-345	-0.3%	-63	-0.1%
Barrow	31,351	-83	-0.3%	13	0.0%
Eden	23,317	-49	-0.2%	44	0.2%
South Lakeland	44,732	-213	-0.5%	-120	-0.3%
West Cumbria ITL	104,521	-143	-0.1%	860	0.8%
East Cumbria ITL	120,218	-409	-0.3%	224	0.2%

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

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

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



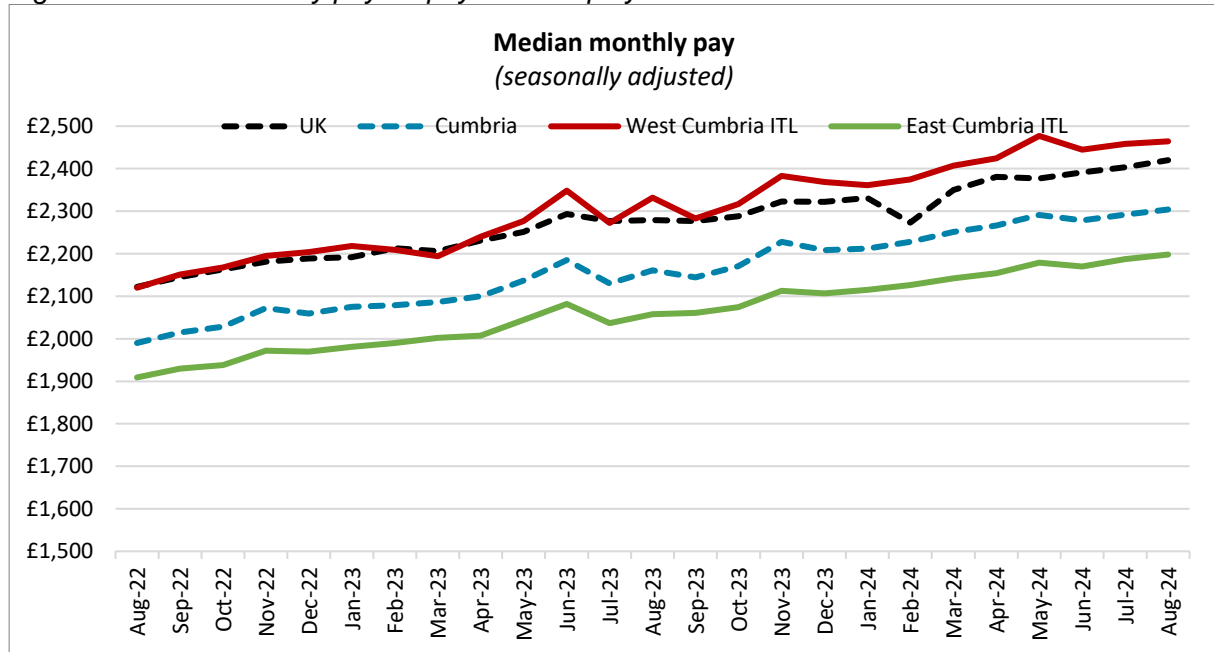
Source: HMRC / ONS. District data are released quarterly. Latest month data are provisional.

3b. Median monthly pay (seasonally adjusted)

Median monthly pay for employees in Cumbria was £2,304 in Aug 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) just above the UK average (102%) 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)						
	Aug 2024	UK Index	Month change		One year change	
	No	Index	No	%	No	%
UK	2,420	100	17	0.7%	141	6.2%
Cumbria	2,304	95	12	0.5%	143	6.6%
Allerdale	2,326	96	15	0.6%	156	7.2%
Carlisle	2,230	92	-3	-0.1%	137	6.5%
Copeland	2,767	114	2	0.1%	186	7.2%
Barrow	2,435	101	-36	-1.5%	79	3.4%
Eden	2,160	89	12	0.6%	151	7.5%
South Lakeland	2,173	90	16	0.7%	138	6.8%
West Cumbria ITL	2,464	102	6	0.2%	132	5.7%
East Cumbria ITL	2,198	91	11	0.5%	140	6.8%

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

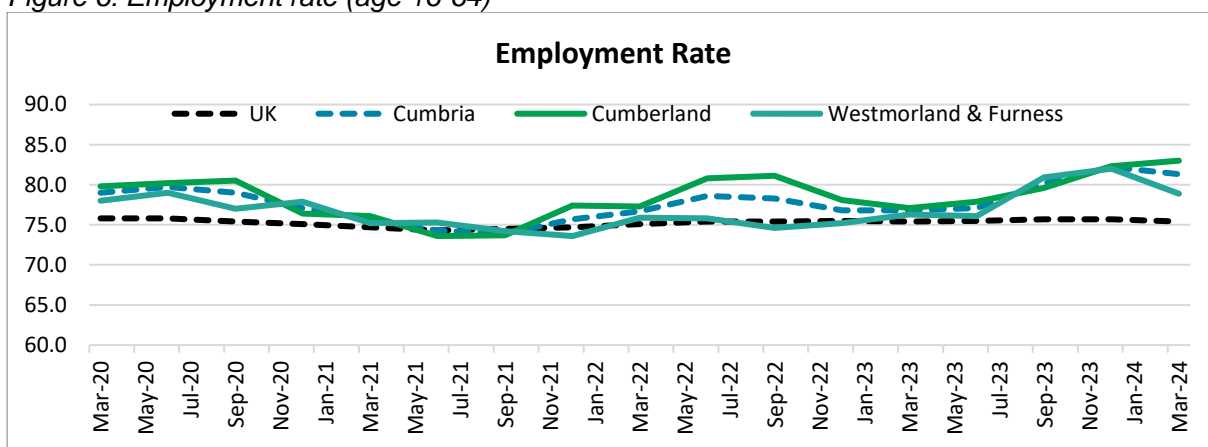
4. ANNUAL POPULATION SURVEY (released quarterly – next release Oct 24)

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 Mar 2024, an estimated 81.3% 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 75.4%. The rate was higher in Cumberland (83.0%) than in Westmorland & Furness (78.9%) although survey is more significant at this level of geography so this difference should be treated with caution.

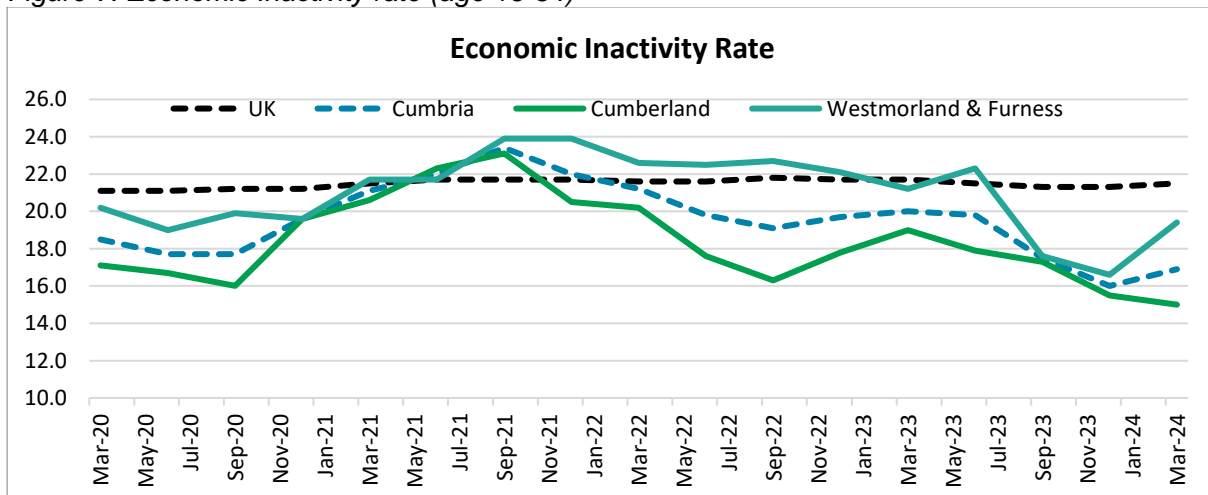
Figure 6: Employment rate (age 16-64)



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 Mar 2024, the inactivity rate in Cumbria was estimated to be 16.9% which is lower than the national average of 21.5%. This equates to approximately 48,600 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 15.0% in Cumberland and 19.4% in Westmorland & Furness (see earlier note about survey error). The survey estimates that 83.0% 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)

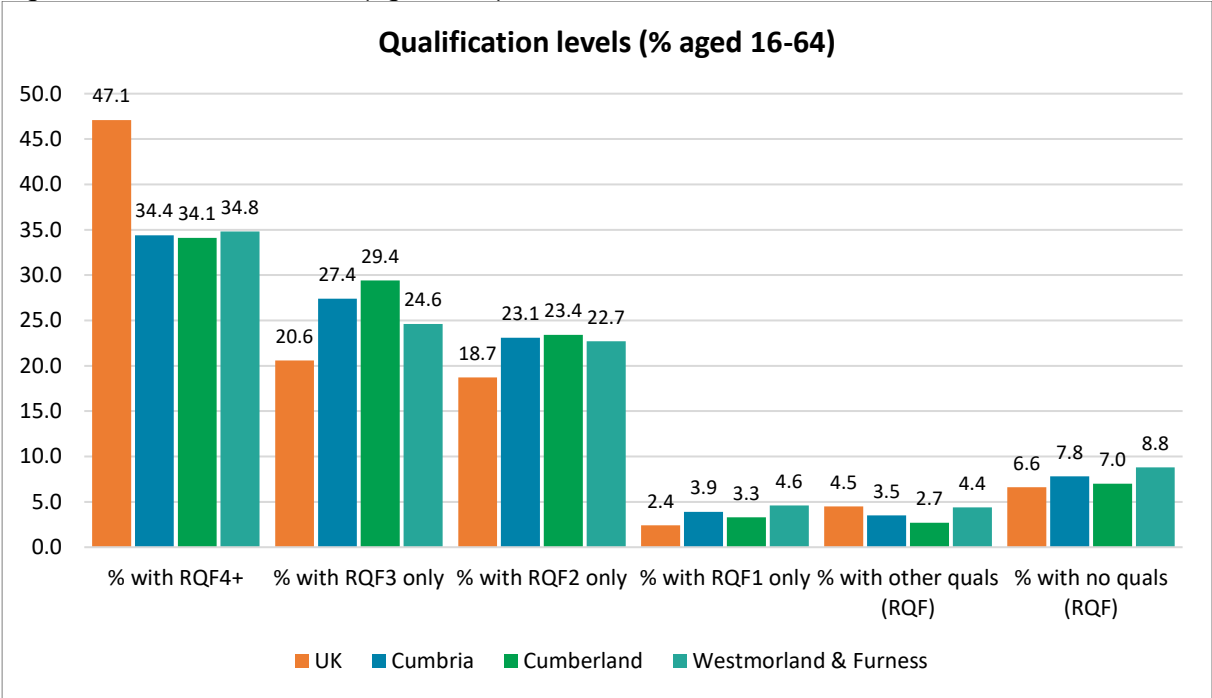


Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

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 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 monthly) – count 8th Aug 2024

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 May the Administrative Earnings Threshold (AET) increased meaning individuals earning below £892 (£1,437 for couples) per assessment period are required to take steps to increase their earnings. Whilst this does not directly change the number of claimants, it has the effect of bringing more of them into the claimant count.

There was an increase of 50 in the number of claimants seeking work in Cumbria in Aug 2024 compared to the revised July figure, up to a total of 7,590. This is a monthly increase of 0.7% compared to a national rise of 0.9%. The count rose in all former districts except Carlisle and south Lakeland. The claimant rate in Cumbria was 2.5% which is below the national rate of 4.3% and is unchanged from last month. The claimant count at county level is 910 higher than a year ago and the rate is 0.3ppt higher.

Figure 9: Standard Claimant Count – Aug 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	967,550	4.7	826,855	3.9	1,794,405	4.3	16,785	0.9	0.0	264,660	17.3	0.6
Cumbria	4,030	2.7	3,560	2.4	7,590	2.5	50	0.7	0.0	910	13.7	0.3
Cumberland	2,460	3.0	2,190	2.6	4,650	2.8	20	0.4	0.0	495	11.9	0.3
Allerdale	830	3.0	805	2.8	1,635	2.9	25	1.5	0.0	200	14.0	0.4
Carlisle	1,035	3.1	915	2.7	1,950	2.9	-5	-0.3	0.0	230	13.5	0.3
Copeland	595	2.9	470	2.3	1,060	2.6	0	0.0	0.0	65	6.3	0.2
Westmorland & Furness	1,570	2.3	1,370	2.0	2,940	2.2	30	1.1	0.0	415	16.5	0.3
Barrow	785	3.8	575	2.8	1,360	3.3	10	0.9	0.0	115	9.2	0.3
Eden	310	1.9	350	2.2	660	2.0	25	3.6	0.1	165	33.2	0.5
South Lakeland	475	1.6	445	1.5	920	1.5	-5	-0.3	0.0	135	17.5	0.2
of which LDNPA	150	1.3	165	1.4	315	1.4	-5	-1.6	0.0	10	3.6	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.

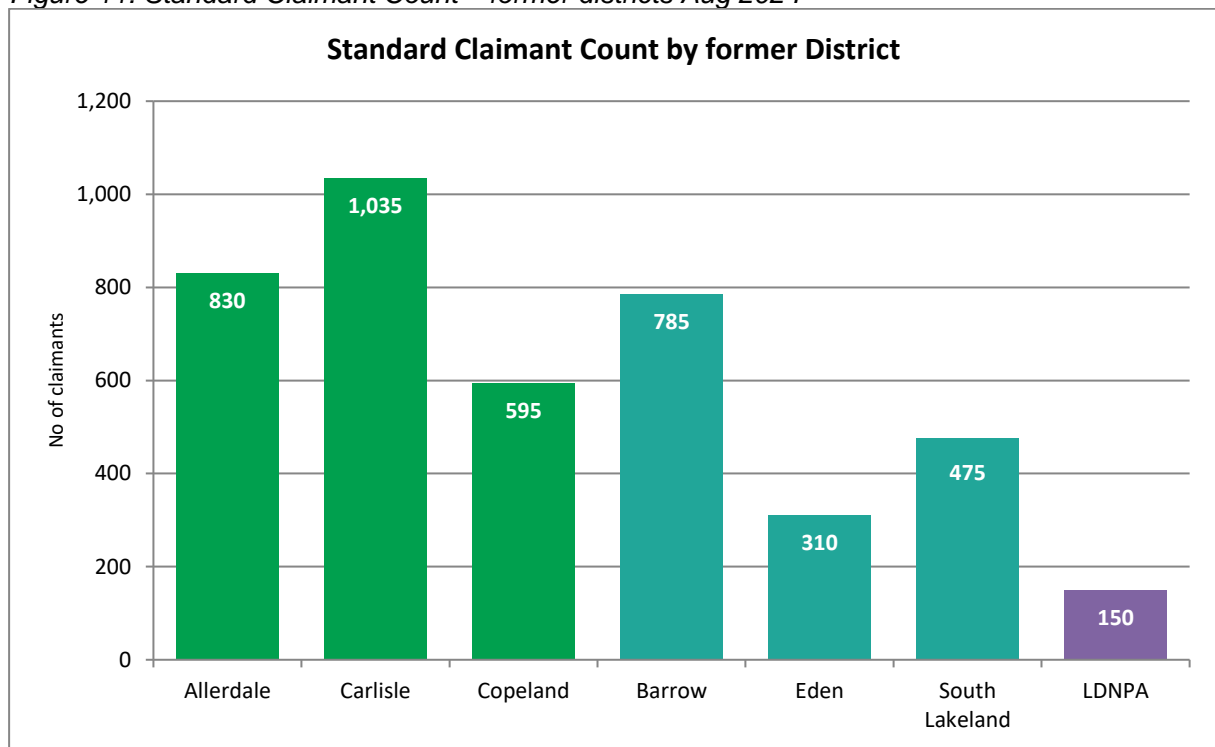
The following table shows the claimant count and rate by broad age group. Claimant rates at Cumbria level are below the national average for all age groups and this is also the case for all districts with the exception of 18-24 year olds in Barrow where the rate remains well above the national average (6.5% v 5.2%).

Figure 10: Standard Claimant Count & Rate by Age Group in Cumbria – Aug 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	291,250	5.3%	435,690	4.8%	469,510	5.4%	331,930	3.7%	262,195	3.1%	1,794,405	4.3%
Cumbria	1,260	3.9%	1,905	3.4%	1,910	3.5%	1,240	1.8%	1,255	1.6%	7,590	2.5%
Cumberland	735	4.0%	1,205	3.8%	1,215	4.0%	695	1.9%	790	1.9%	4,650	2.8%
Allerdale	265	4.4%	415	4.0%	425	4.2%	260	2.0%	275	1.9%	1,635	2.9%
Carlisle	255	3.2%	515	3.7%	550	4.2%	295	2.0%	330	2.1%	1,950	2.9%
Copeland	215	4.9%	275	3.6%	240	3.3%	145	1.6%	190	1.8%	1,060	2.6%
Westmorland & Furness	525	3.7%	700	2.9%	695	2.9%	545	1.8%	460	1.3%	2,940	2.2%
Barrow	315	6.3%	360	4.1%	295	3.9%	185	2.1%	200	2.1%	1,360	3.3%
Eden	80	2.5%	130	2.4%	185	3.3%	150	2.0%	115	1.2%	660	2.0%
South Lakeland	130	2.1%	210	2.0%	215	2.0%	215	1.5%	155	0.9%	920	1.5%
of which LDNPA	25	1.1%	75	2.3%	85	2.1%	75	1.3%	50	0.7%	315	1.4%

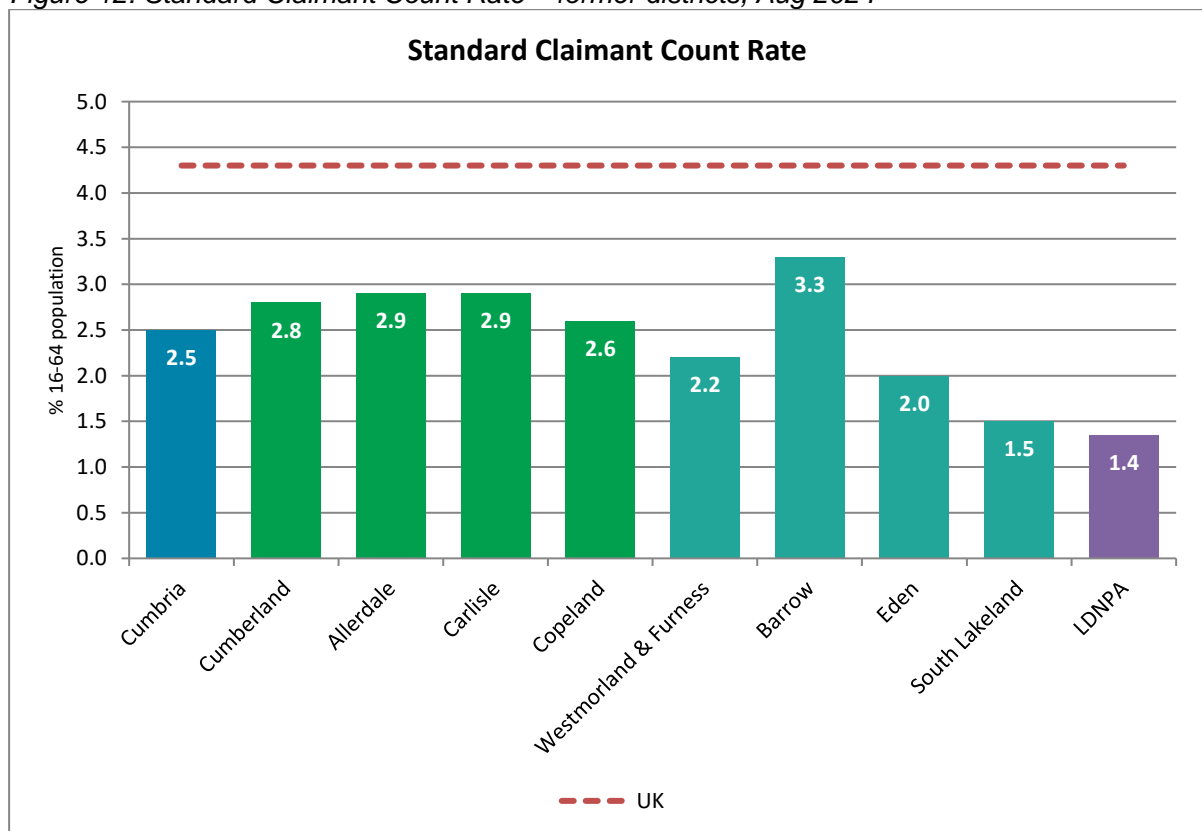
Source: ONS (data are rounded). LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 11: Standard Claimant Count – former districts Aug 2024



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, Aug 2024



Source: ONS/DWP

Figure 13: Standard Claimant Count - timeseries

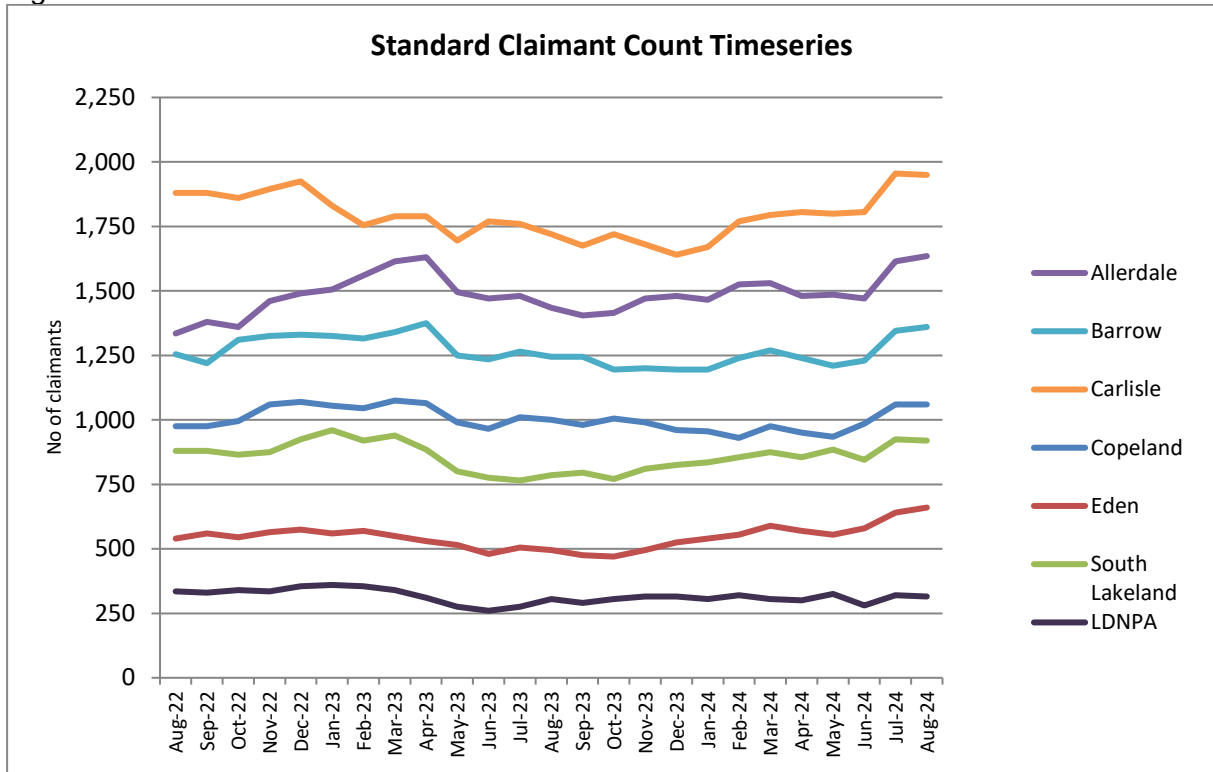
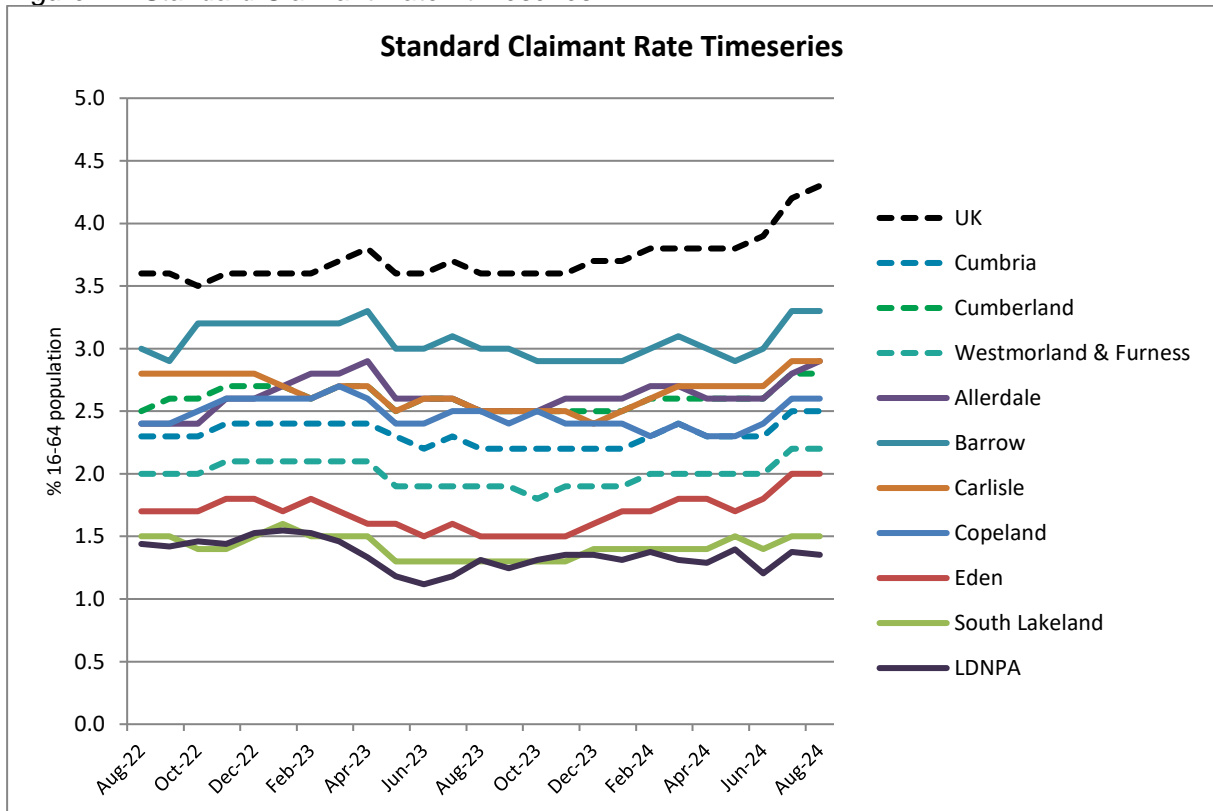


Figure 14: Standard Claimant Rate - timeseries



Source: ONS/DWP

6. UNIVERSAL CREDIT (released monthly) – count taken 8th Aug 2024

Universal Credit (UC) is gradually replacing existing benefits including Housing Benefit, Child Tax Credit, Income Support, Working Tax Credit, Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.

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

NB: in May the Administrative Earnings Threshold (AET) increased meaning individuals earning below £892 (£1,437 for couples) per assessment period are required to take steps to increase their earnings. Whilst this does not directly change the number of claimants, it has the effect of moving some between the various conditionality groups.

6a. Individuals on Universal Credit

There were 41,285 people on Universal Credit in Cumbria in Aug 2024 (both in work and out of work). This is a rise of 579 from the revised July total (+1.4%) and 5,124 more than a year ago (+14.2%). The count rose from last month in all the former district areas. The number searching/planning/preparing for work increased by 22, the number claiming while in work rose by 108 and the number with no work requirements rose by 449 (see note above). The latest total means that 13.8% of the working age population is claiming Universal Credit compared to a national rate of 17.0%. 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 were also above the national average for 25-34 year olds in Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle and Copeland and for 35-44 year olds in Allerdale and Copeland.

Figure 15: Universal Credit Claimants – Aug 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	6,895,174	33.9%	2,933,783	14.0%	7,030,042	17.0%	134,866	2.0%	0.3%	989,986	16.4%	2.4%
Cumbria	40,706	27.3%	16,890	11.2%	41,285	13.8%	579	1.4%	0.2%	5,124	14.2%	1.7%
Cumberland	25,534	31.2%	10,645	12.8%	25,890	15.7%	356	1.4%	0.2%	2,976	13.0%	1.8%
Allerdale	9,074	32.4%	3,760	13.1%	9,178	16.2%	104	1.1%	0.2%	937	11.4%	1.7%
Carlisle	10,217	30.4%	4,216	12.3%	10,367	15.3%	150	1.5%	0.2%	1,387	15.4%	2.0%
Copeland	6,240	30.8%	2,669	13.2%	6,350	15.7%	110	1.8%	0.3%	663	11.7%	1.6%
W&F	15,178	22.6%	6,237	9.3%	15,396	11.5%	218	1.4%	0.2%	2,146	16.2%	1.6%
Barrow	6,475	31.2%	2,769	13.5%	6,581	15.9%	106	1.6%	0.3%	819	14.2%	2.0%
Eden	3,155	19.3%	1,240	7.6%	3,195	9.8%	40	1.3%	0.1%	552	20.9%	1.7%
South Lakeland	5,540	18.5%	2,237	7.4%	5,620	9.3%	80	1.4%	0.1%	776	16.0%	1.3%
of which LDNPA	2,039	17.4%	817	7.1%	2,057	8.8%	18	0.9%	0.1%	156	8.2%	0.7%

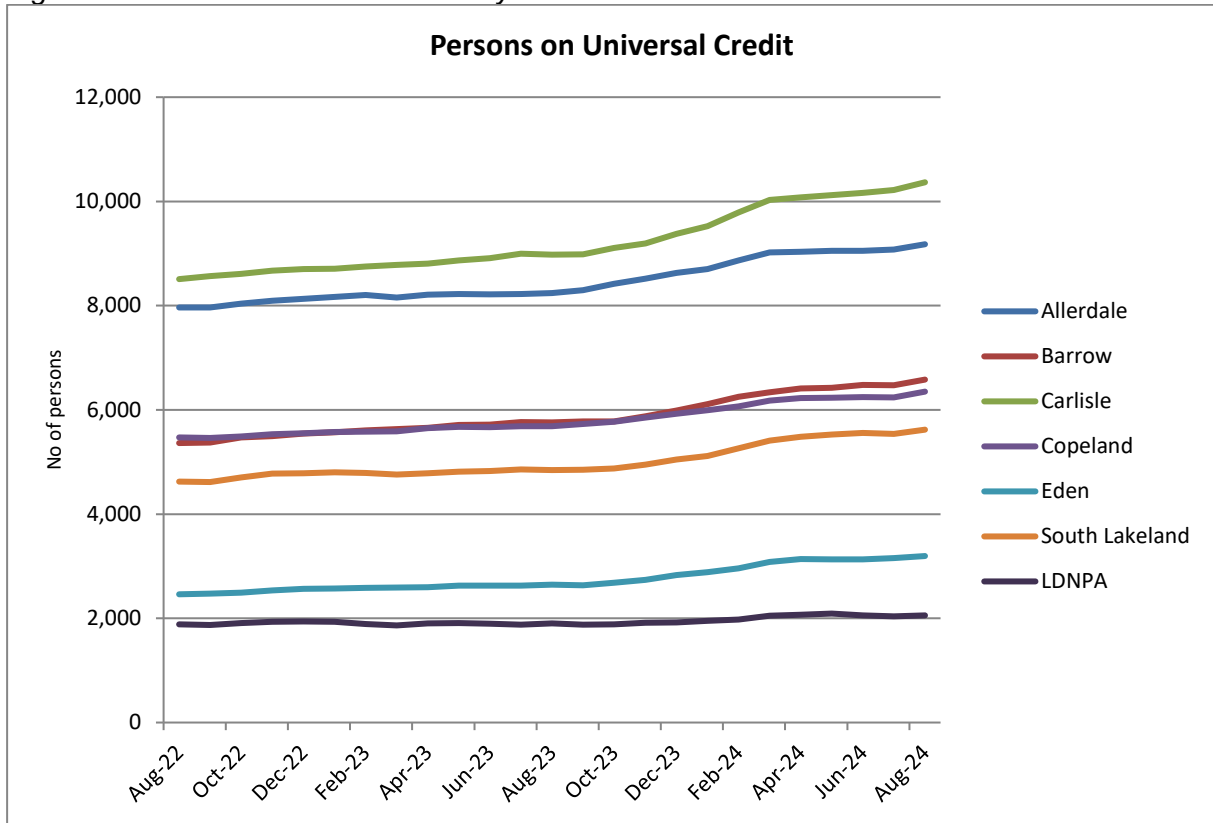
Source: DWP (due to disclosure control, gender totals may not sum to overall total): LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 16: Universal Credit Claimants by Age – Aug 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	724,339	13.2%	1,748,826	19.9%	2,053,325	23.9%	1,392,106	16.5%	1,103,043	12.0%	7,030,042	16.7%
Cumbria	4,156	13.0%	10,646	18.8%	11,765	21.2%	7,724	11.8%	6,939	8.1%	41,285	13.5%
Cumberland	2,510	14.2%	6,779	21.1%	7,415	23.8%	4,721	13.2%	4,434	9.6%	25,890	15.4%
Allerdale	914	15.8%	2,291	21.8%	2,529	24.5%	1,750	13.7%	1,685	10.2%	9,178	15.8%
Carlisle	927	12.2%	2,900	20.8%	3,090	23.0%	1,857	13.1%	1,579	8.9%	10,367	15.0%
Copeland	668	15.5%	1,590	20.6%	1,799	24.2%	1,114	12.8%	1,167	9.9%	6,350	15.3%
W&F	1,646	11.6%	3,868	15.7%	4,353	17.8%	3,004	10.1%	2,504	6.3%	15,396	11.2%
Barrow	843	16.8%	1,841	20.9%	1,789	23.1%	1,109	13.0%	986	9.4%	6,581	15.6%
Eden	271	8.4%	756	13.8%	930	16.1%	645	8.6%	584	5.7%	3,195	9.6%
South Lakeland	530	8.9%	1,264	12.2%	1,635	15.0%	1,248	9.1%	932	5.0%	5,620	9.1%
of which LDNPA	135	5.7%	425	12.9%	656	16.5%	453	7.8%	392	5.5%	2,057	8.8%

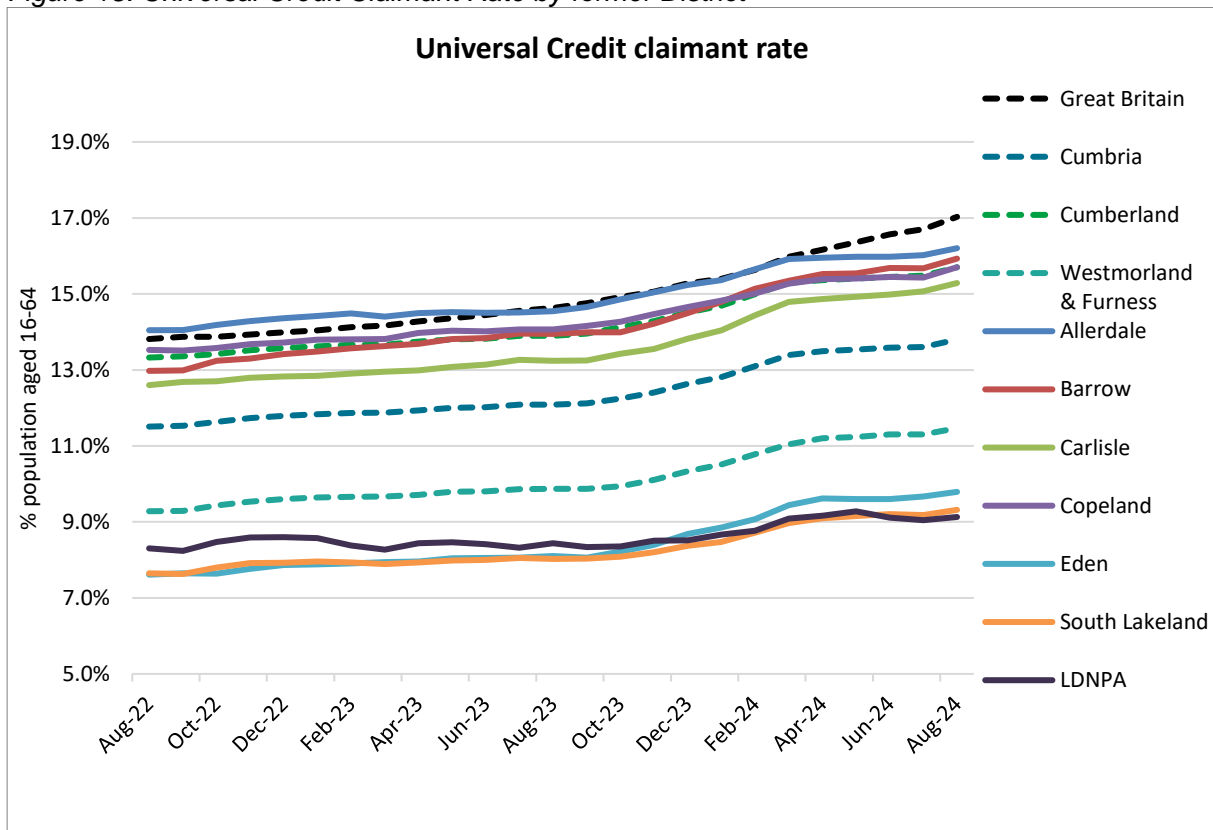
Source: DWP (due to disclosure control, age totals may not sum to overall total): LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 17: Universal Credit Claimants by former district



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

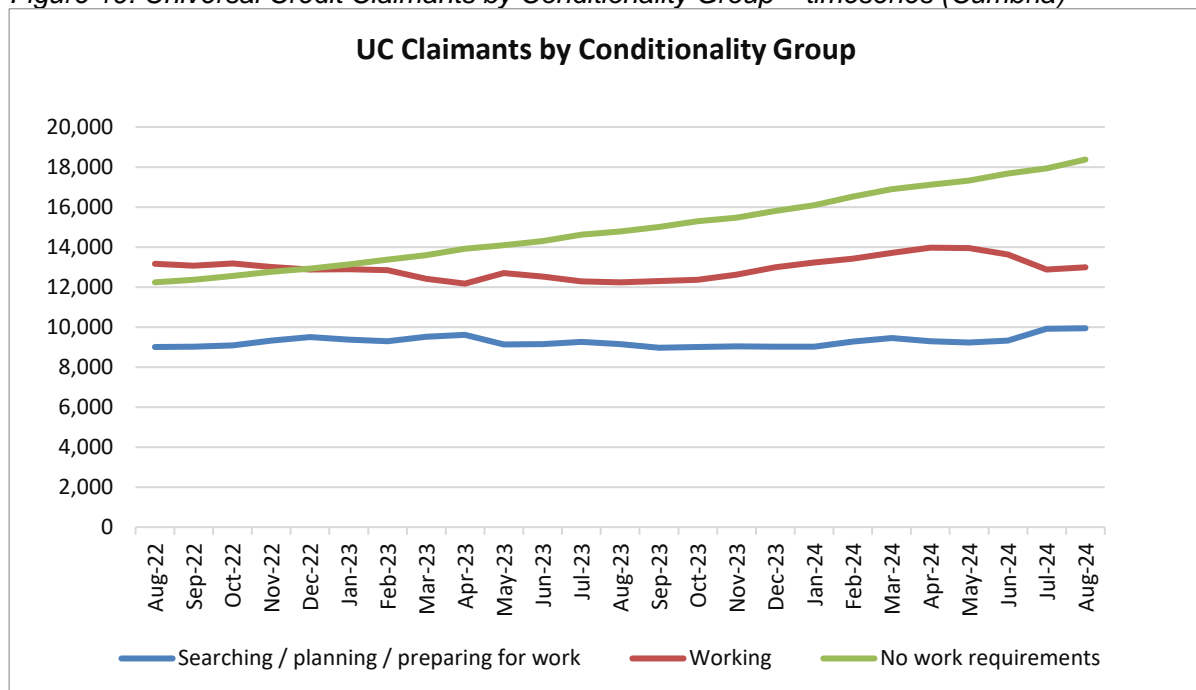
Figure 18: Universal Credit Claimant Rate by former District



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 Aug 2024 the number of people searching/planning/preparing for work rose by 22 the number claiming while in work rose by 108 and the number with no work requirements rose by 449 (see note at start of this section).

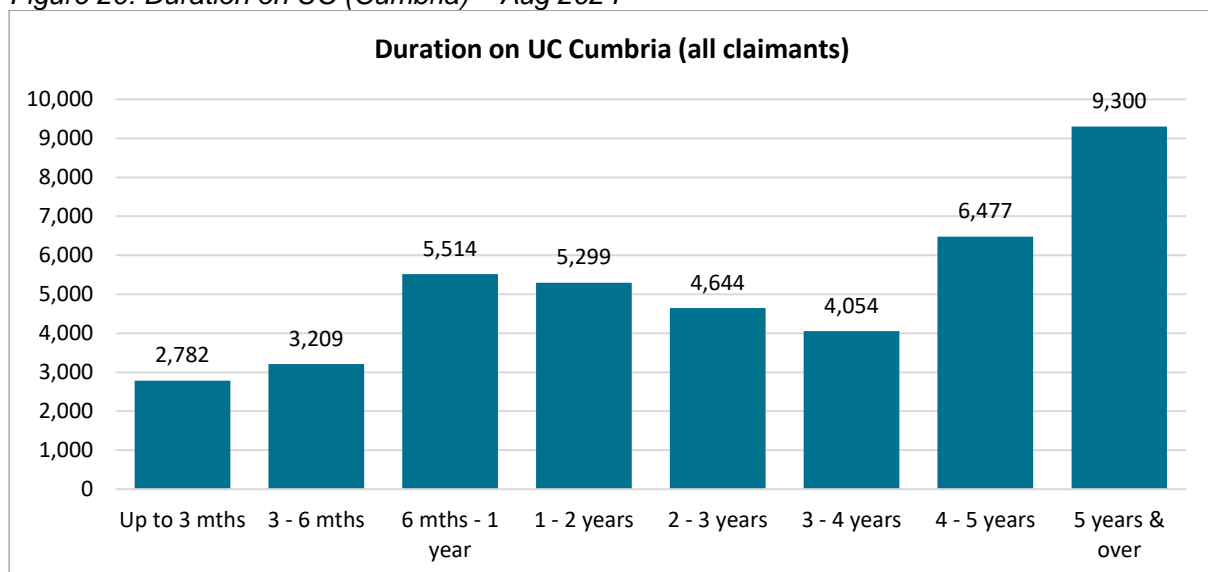
Figure 19: Universal Credit Claimants by Conditionality Group – timeseries (Cumbria)



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

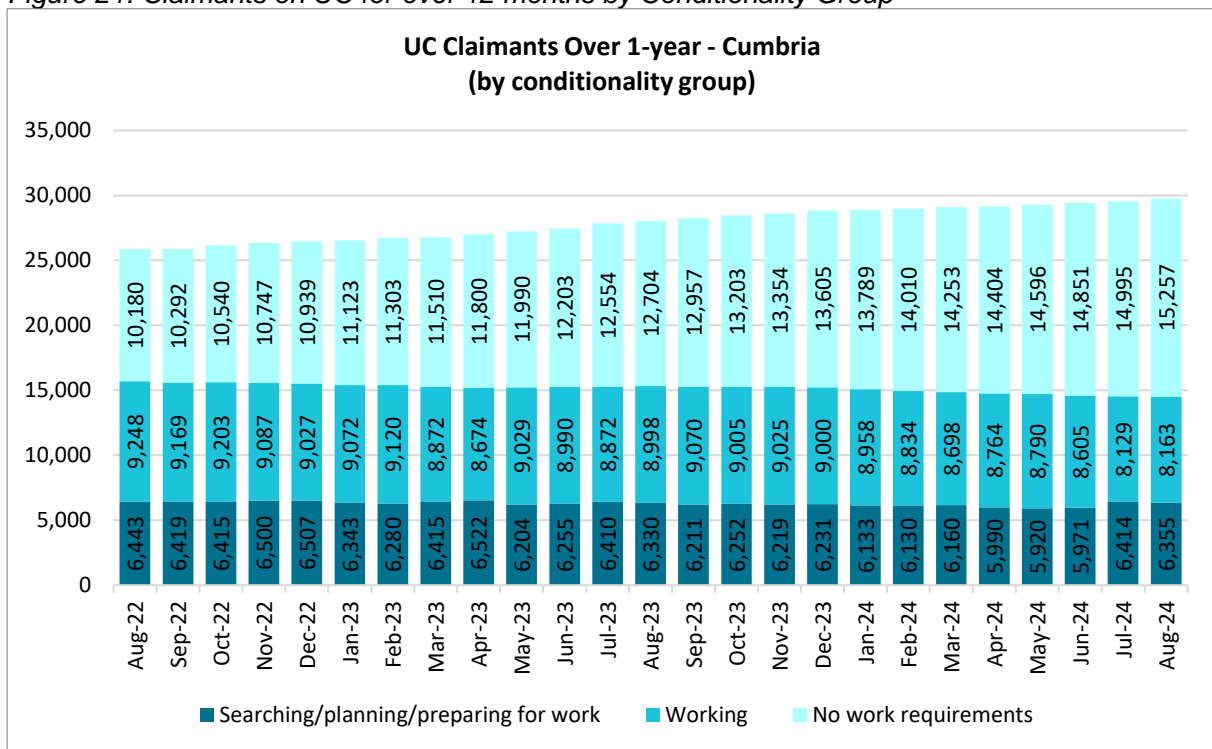
In Aug 2024, almost three quarters of UC claimants (29,780) had been claiming for over 12 months an annual increase of 1,744 (6.2%). The highest proportions of these long term claimants were in the working and no work requirements conditionality groups (27% and 51% of the total respectively), although they may have been in different groups during their claim. Long term claimants made up 72% of all UC claimants.

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



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

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

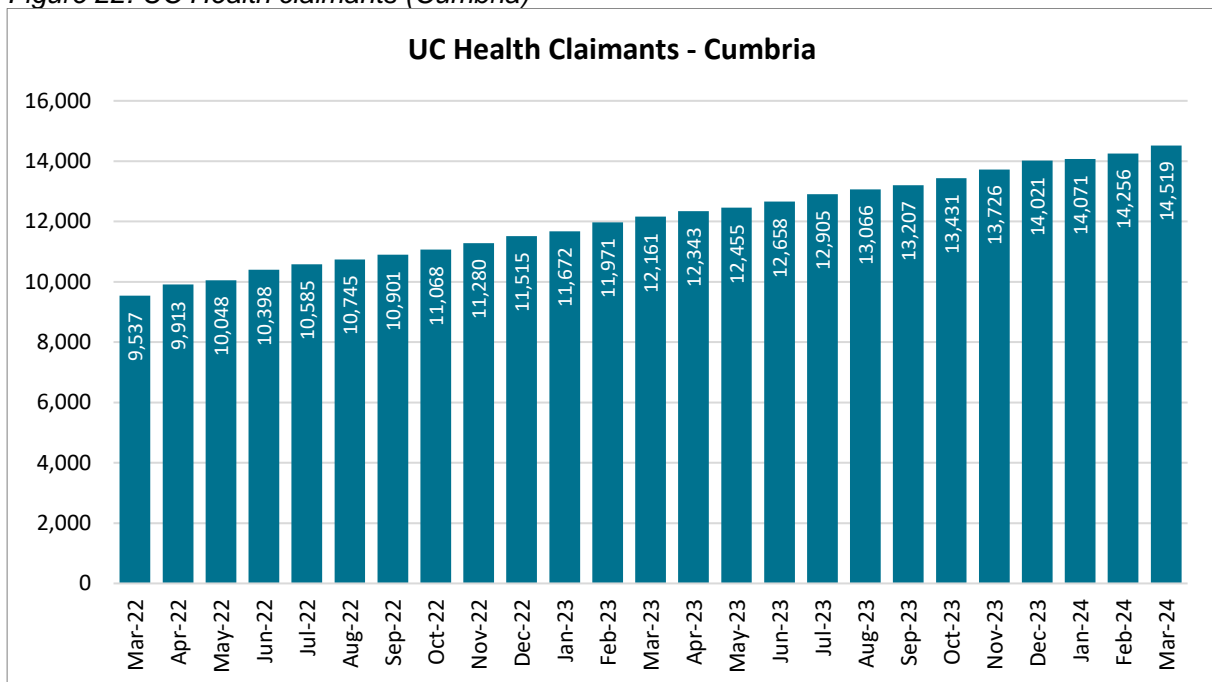


Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

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

In Mar 2024, 14,519 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 52.2% (+4,982) in the past 2 years compared to an increase of 20.0% in the overall number of UC claimants. UC Health claimants made up 36.2% of all UC claimants in Cumbria in Mar 2024.

Figure 22: UC Health claimants (Cumbria)



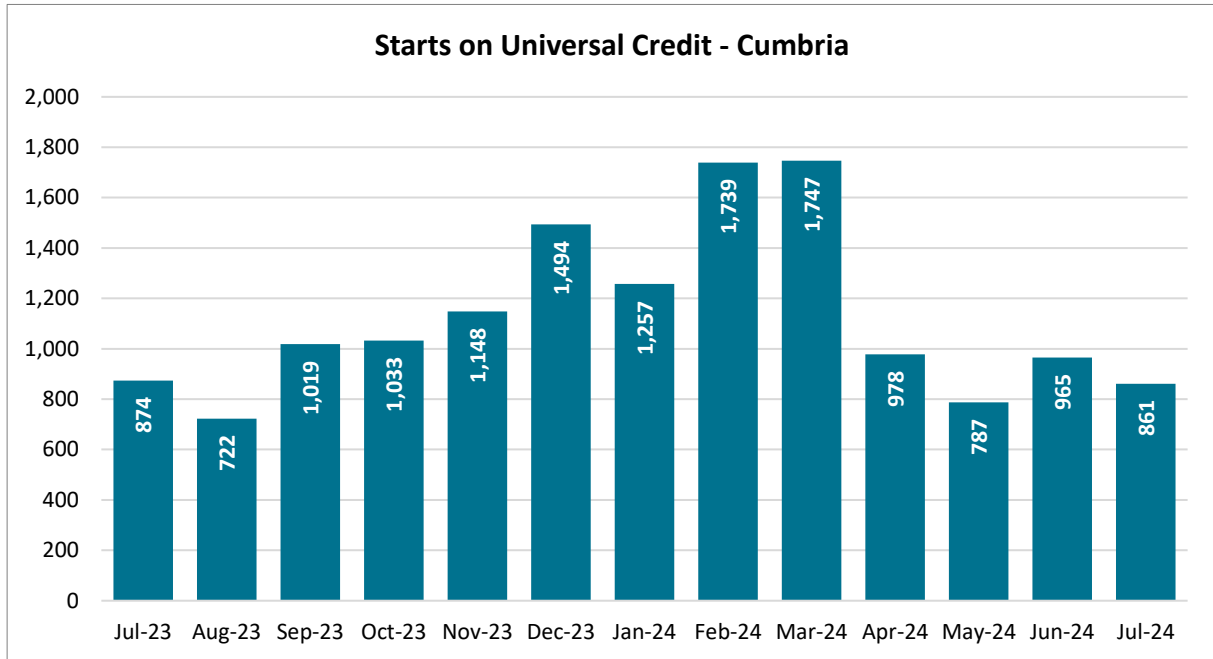
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

6b. Starts to Universal Credit (next data release November 2024)

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.

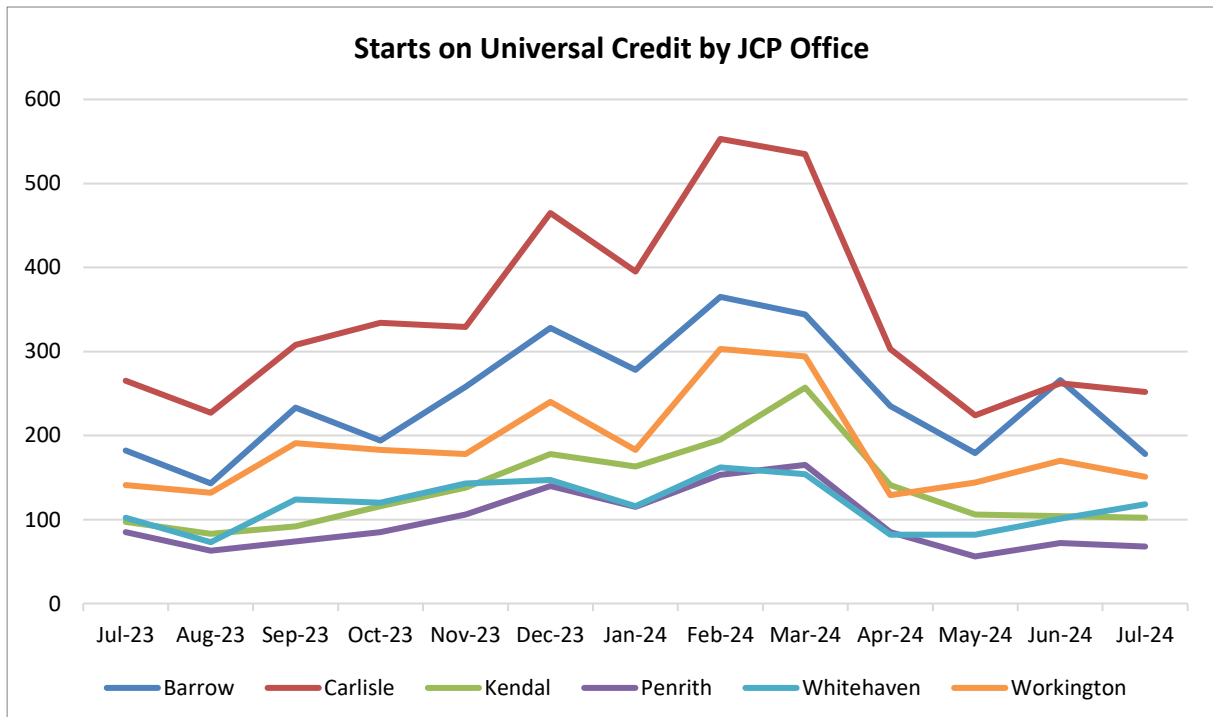
The number of starts on Universal Credit is primarily influenced by labour market conditions but there is also some element of administrative effect as claimants migrating onto UC from other benefits also count as a new start (it is not possible to separate the two in the data). This was particularly apparent in the early part of 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 November 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 May 2024 when there were 34,497 households on Universal Credit in Cumbria, a rise of 3,549 from the same month last year (11.5%). The number of households on UC rose year on year in all 6 districts in Cumbria with the biggest percentage increase in Eden (+16.7%).

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

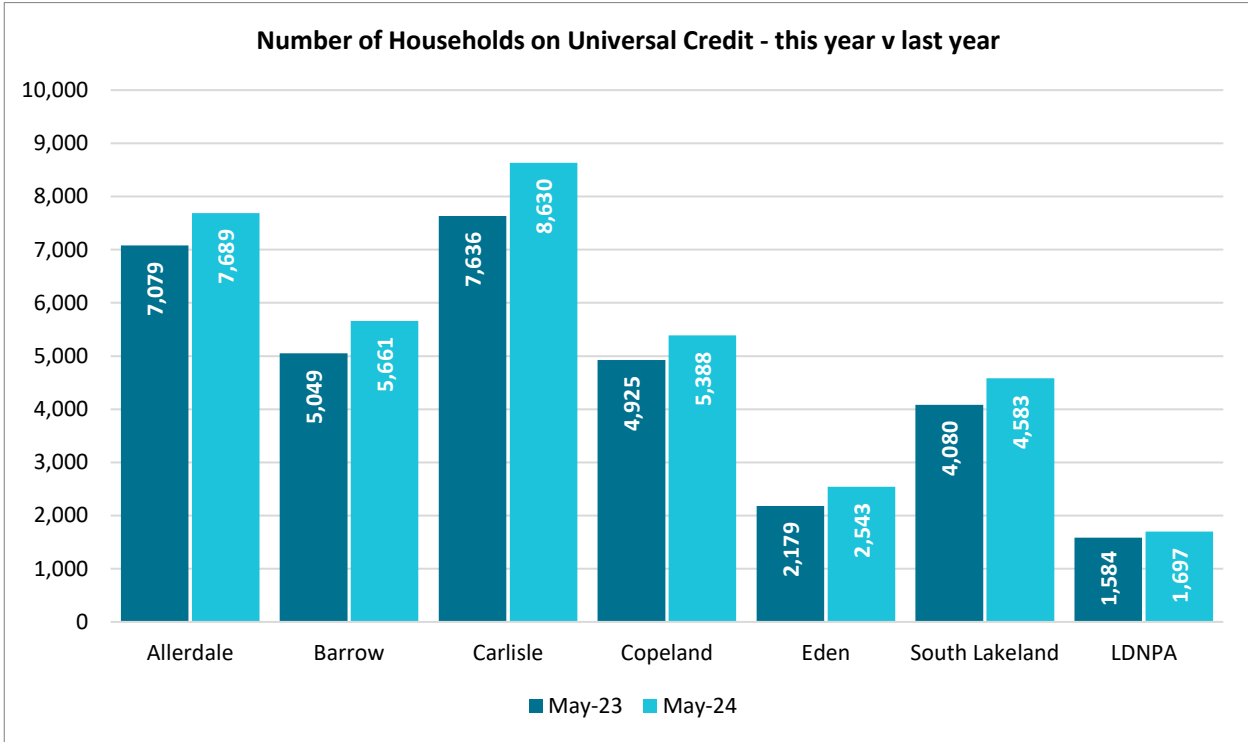
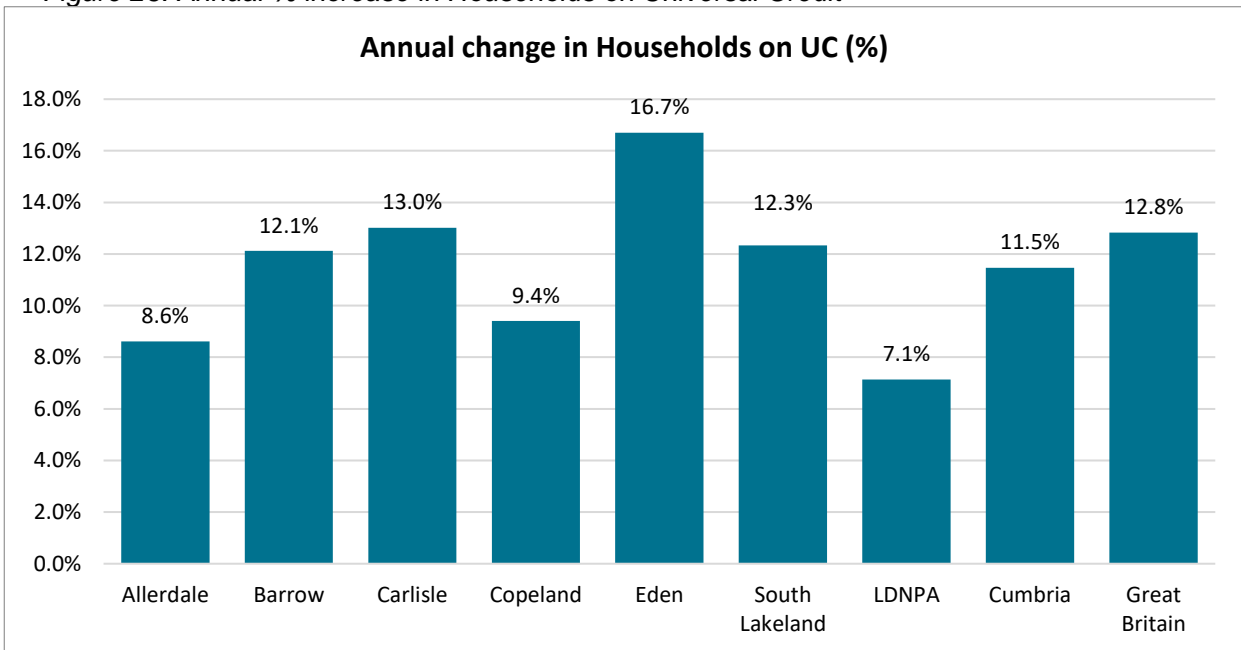


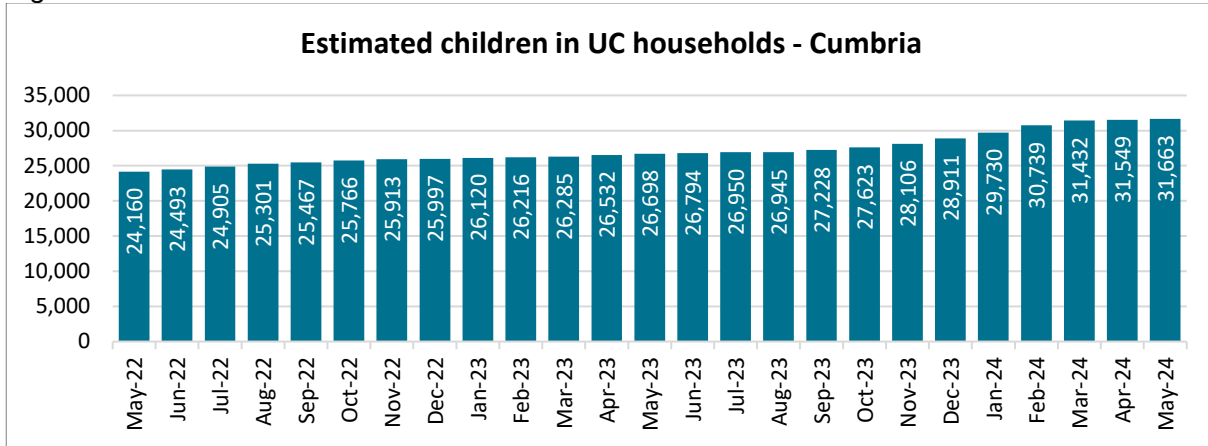
Figure 26: Annual % increase in Households on Universal Credit



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

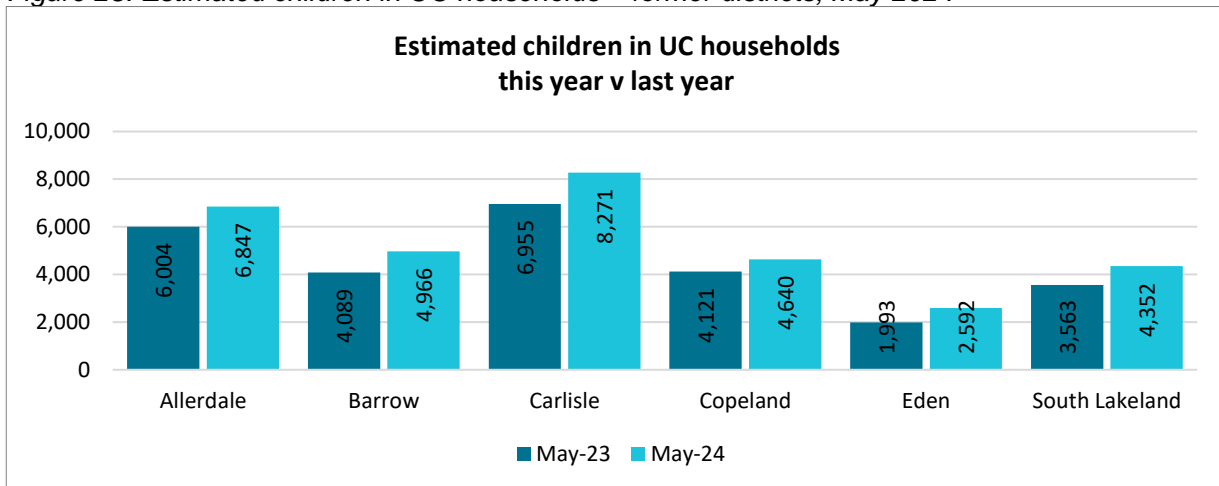
An estimated 34,497 children in Cumbria were living in UC households in May 2024. The number has risen by 4,965 from May last year (18.6%). The number of households containing children has increased by 16.9% year on year compared to a rise of 6.6% in households without children. More specifically, couple households with children have increased by 22.5% year on year and single households with children have risen by 14.8%. 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



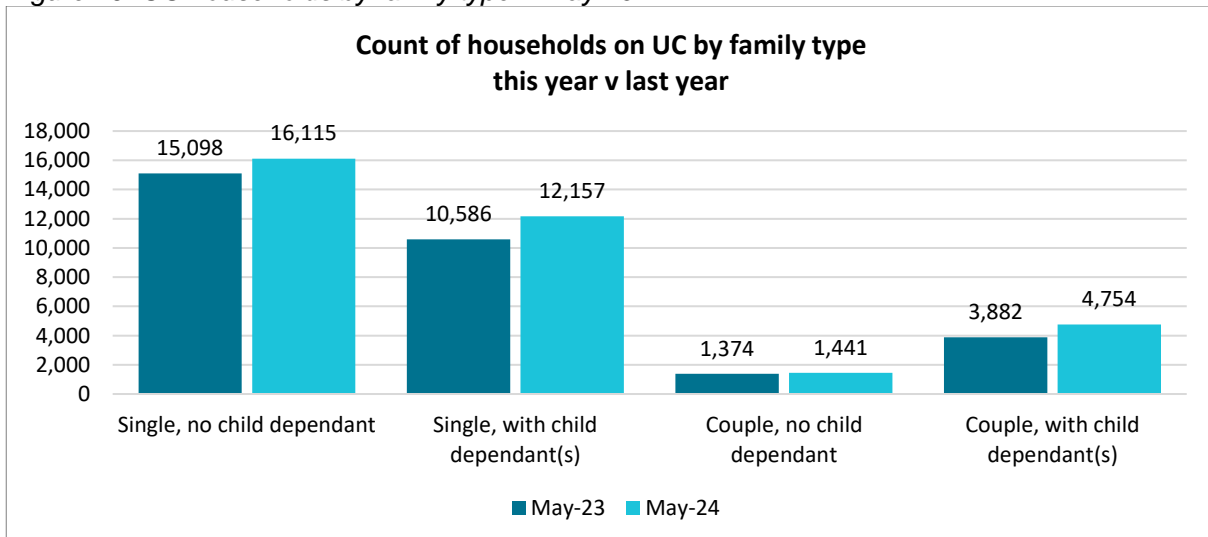
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

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



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

Figure 29: UC households by family type – May 2024



Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

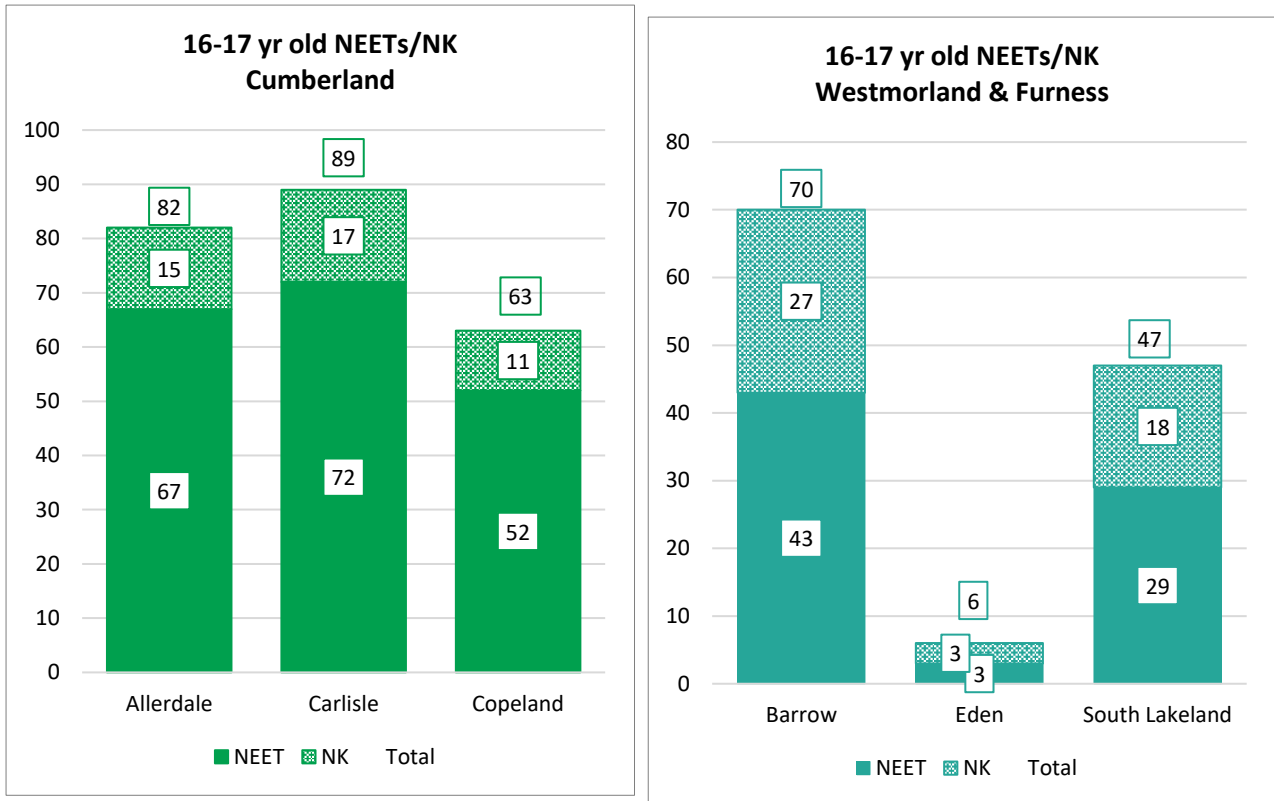
7. NEETs & Participation (released monthly)

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.

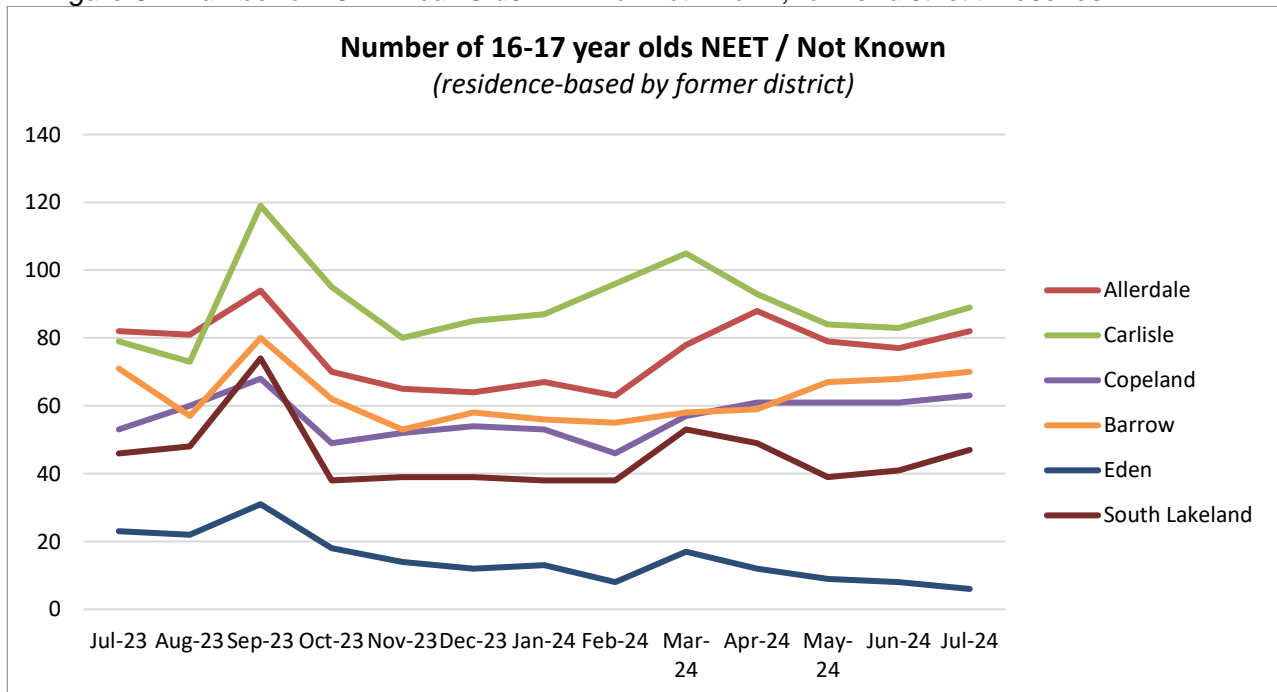
In July 2024, there were 357 16-17 year olds classed as NEET in Cumbria (266 NEET and 91 whose status was Not Known), an increase of 19 from Jun. The highest number of NEET/NKs was in the former district of Carlisle where there were 89 followed by Allerdale where there were 82.

Figure 30: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, July 2024



Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

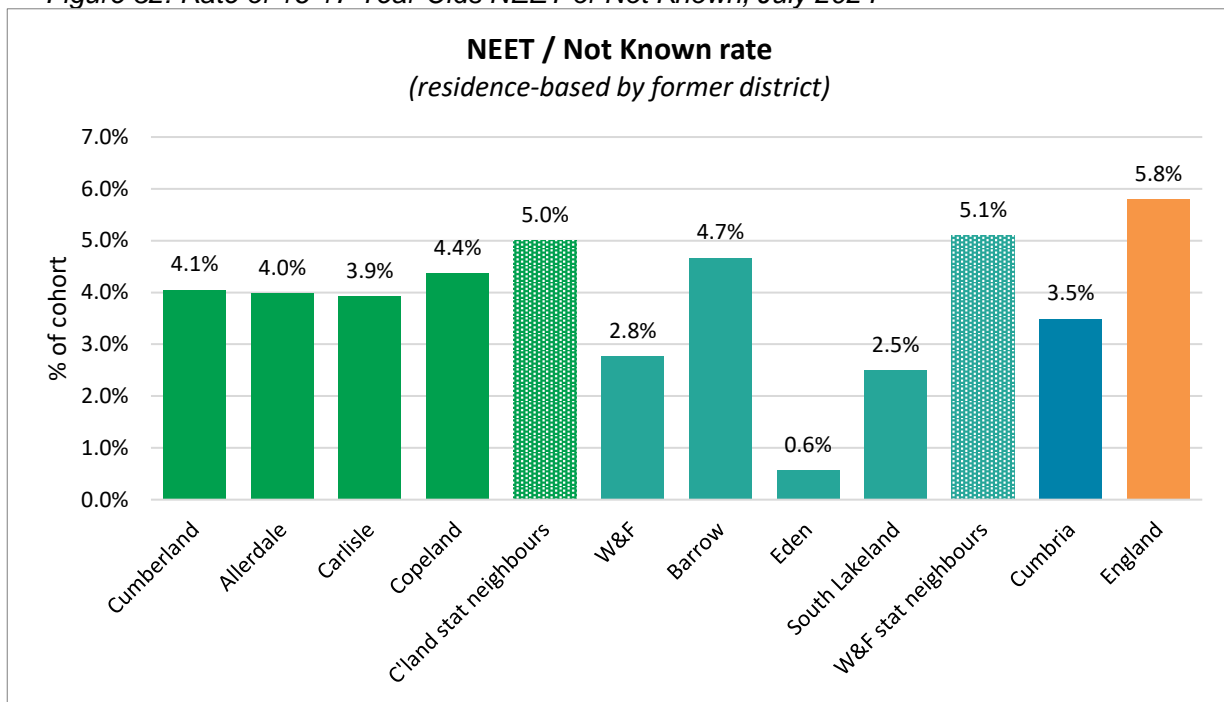
Figure 31: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, former district timeseries



Source: Inspira / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

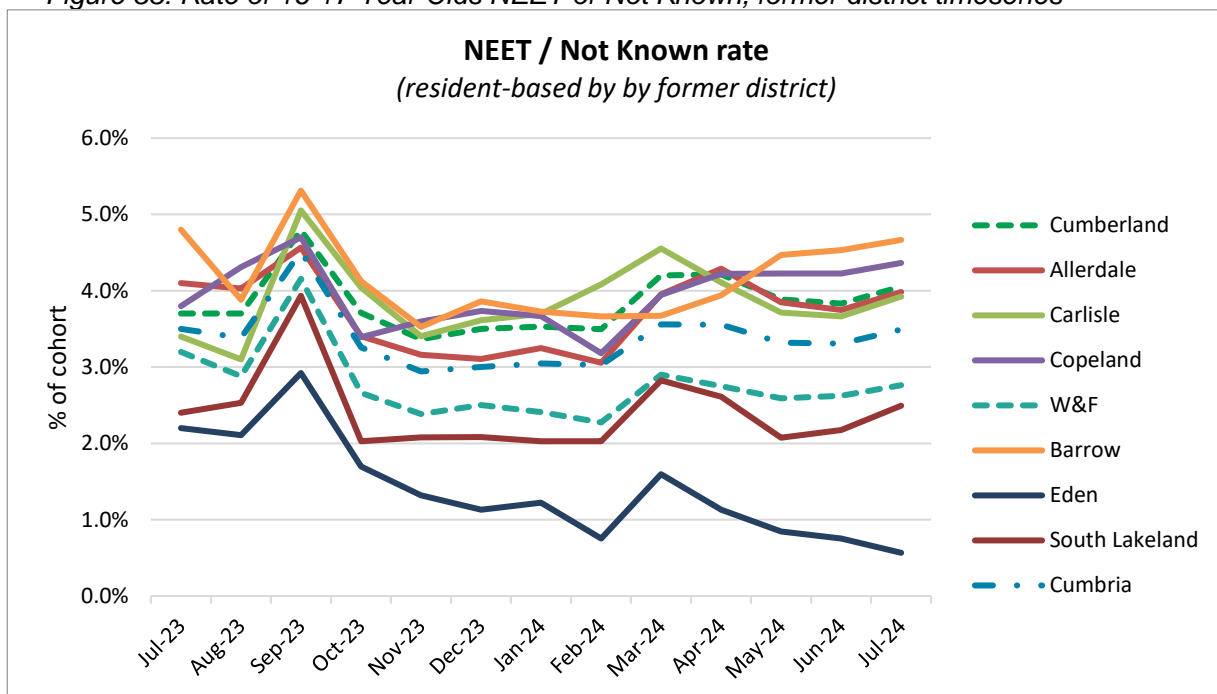
The county NEET/NK rate (% of cohort) was 3.5% in July 2024 compared to an England rate of 5.8%. The highest local rates were in in the former districts of Barrow (4.7%) and Copeland (4.4%). The NEET rate in Cumbria was unchanged from a year ago. NB: comparisons with England and areas outside Cumbria 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, July 2024



Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

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



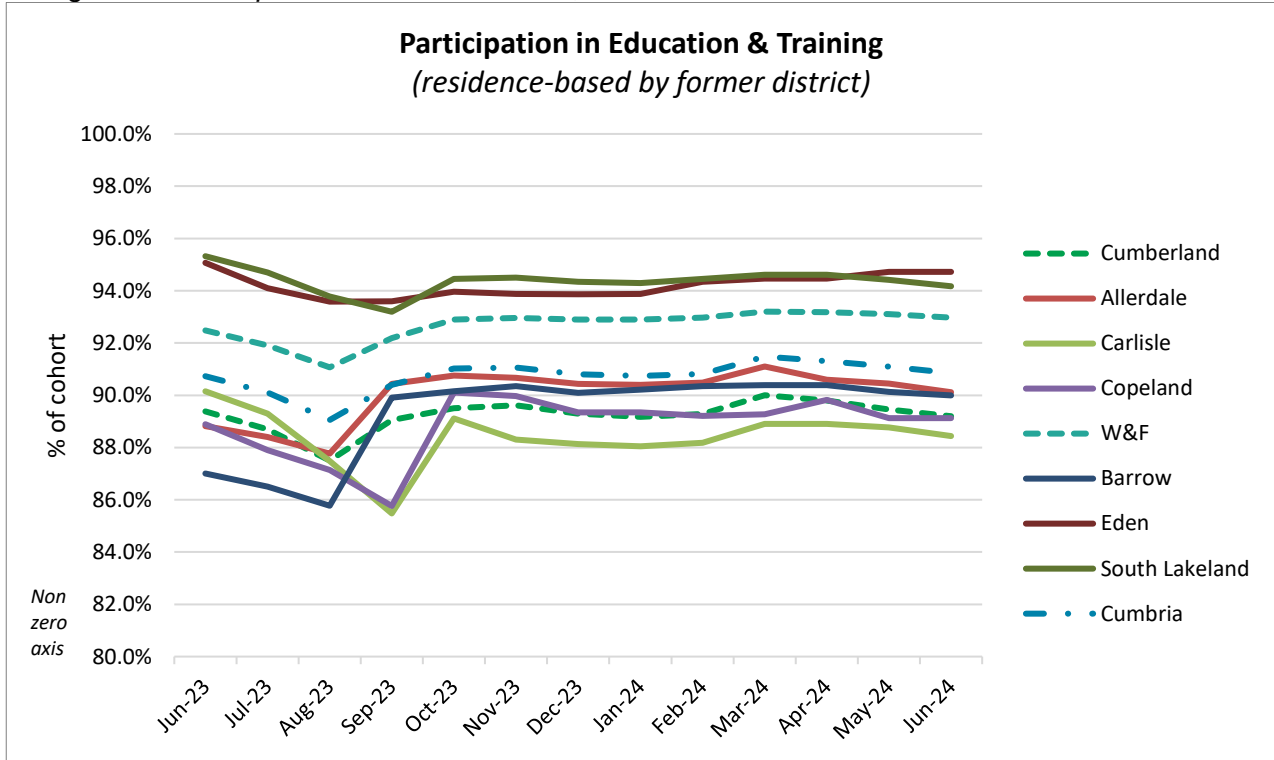
Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumbria Intelligence Observatory

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.

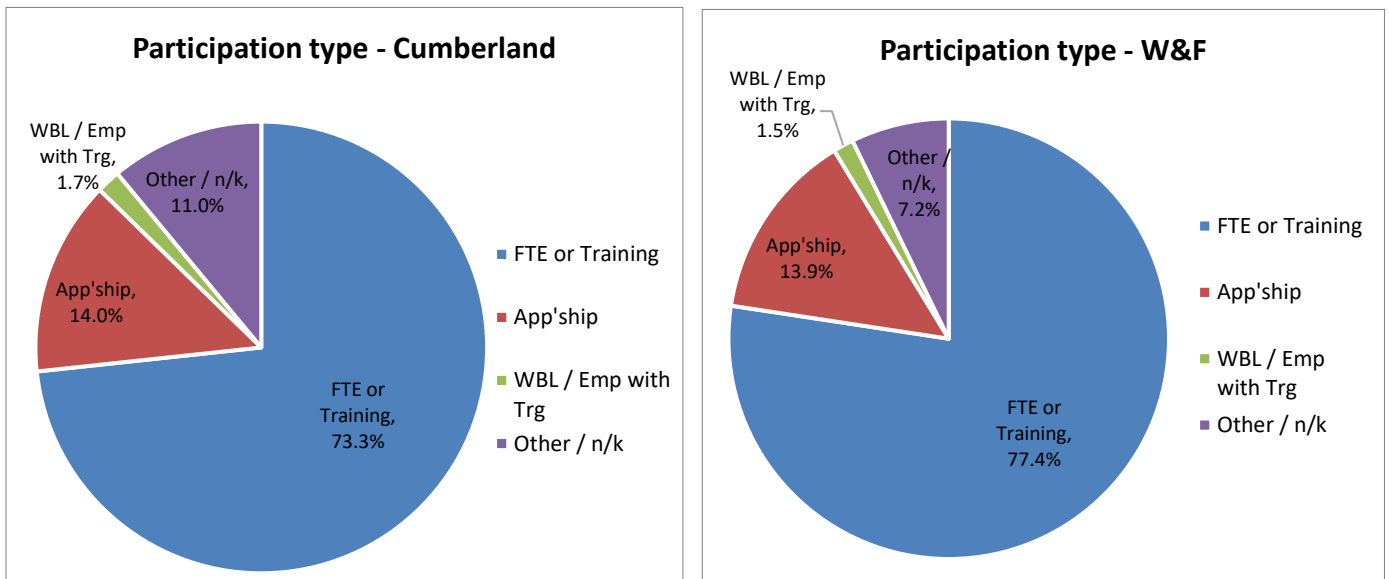
In July 2024, 90.6% of young people in Cumbria were classed as meeting the participation requirement compared to 91.2% for England. The rates were 88.9% in Cumberland and 92.8% in Westmorland & Furness.

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 – July 2024



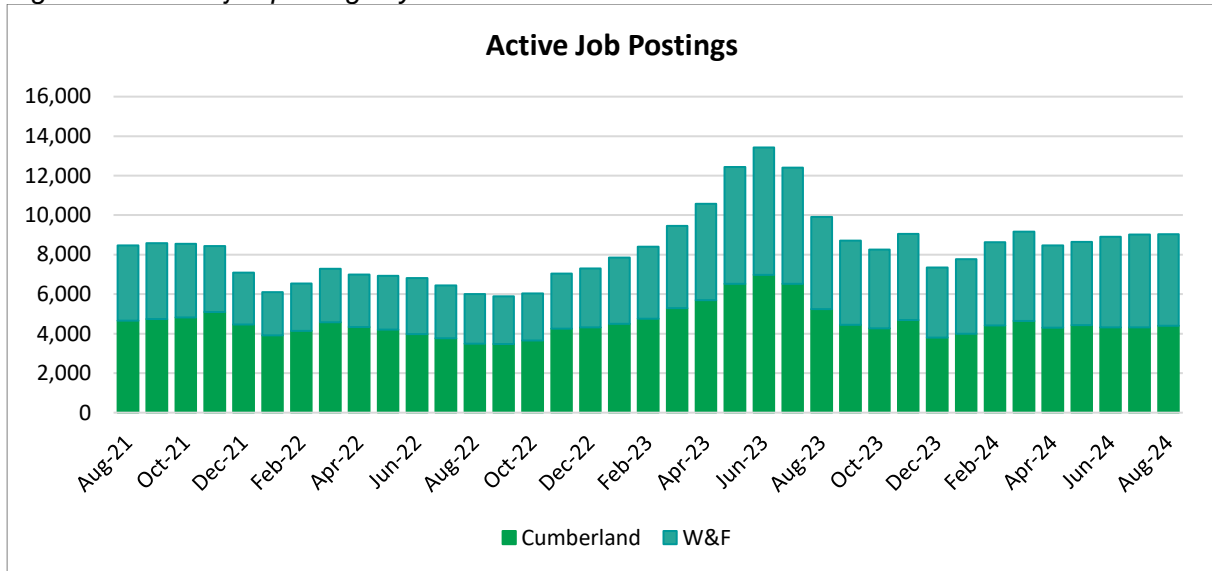
Source: NCCIS

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 Aug 2024 there were 9,035 active job postings in Cumbria, 3,904 of which were new postings during the month. The number of active postings was 17 higher than in July (0.2%) and the number of new postings was 85 higher (2.2%). Active postings rose in the former district areas of Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle and Copeland but fell in Eden and South Lakeland.

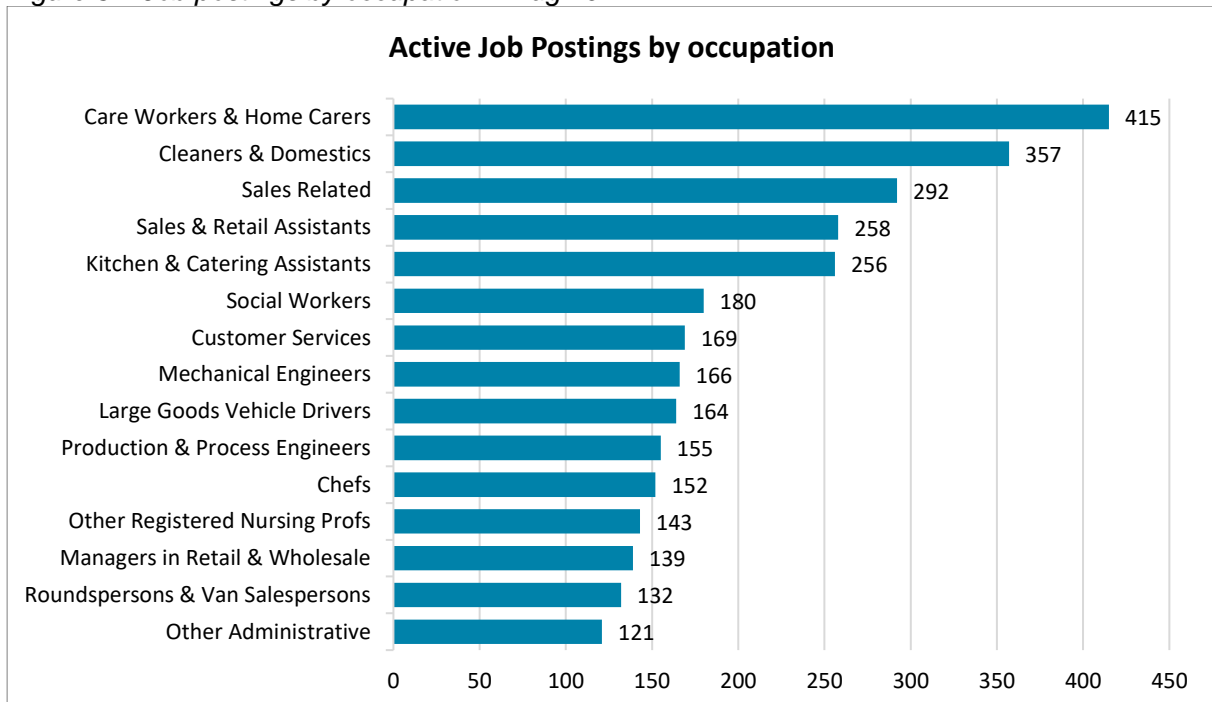
Figure 36: Active job postings by month



Source: © Lightcast 2024

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

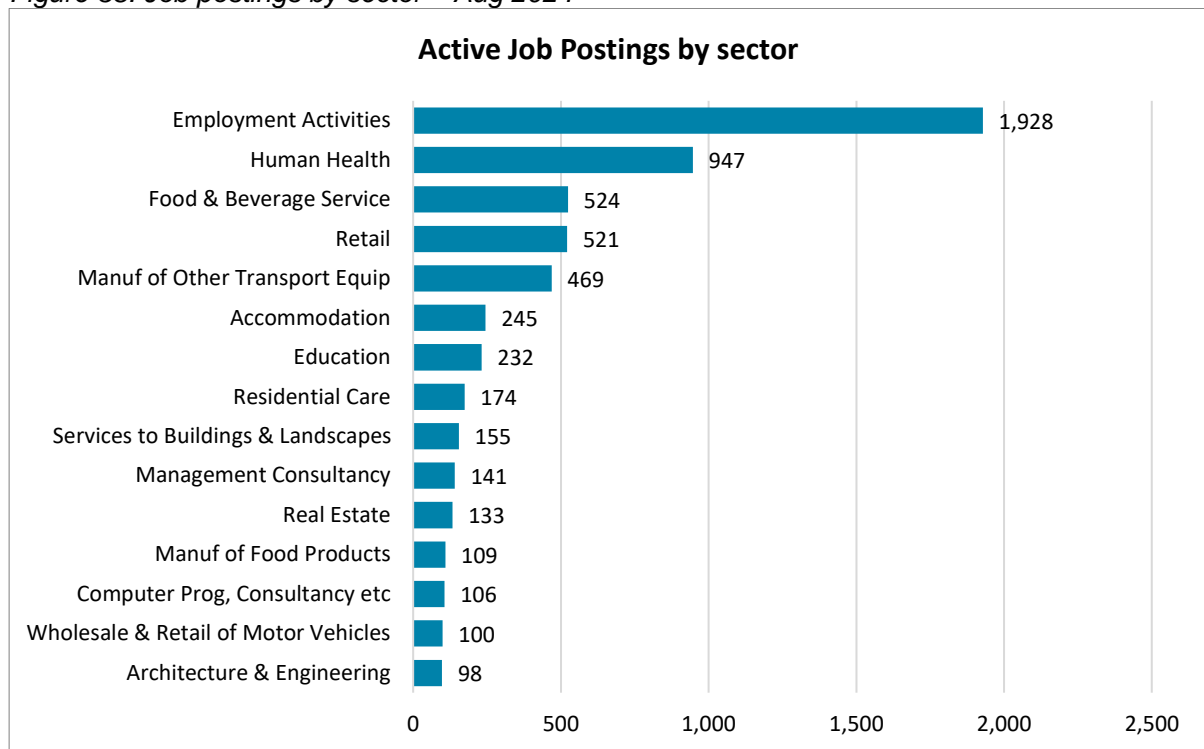
Figure 37: Job postings by occupation – Aug 2024



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

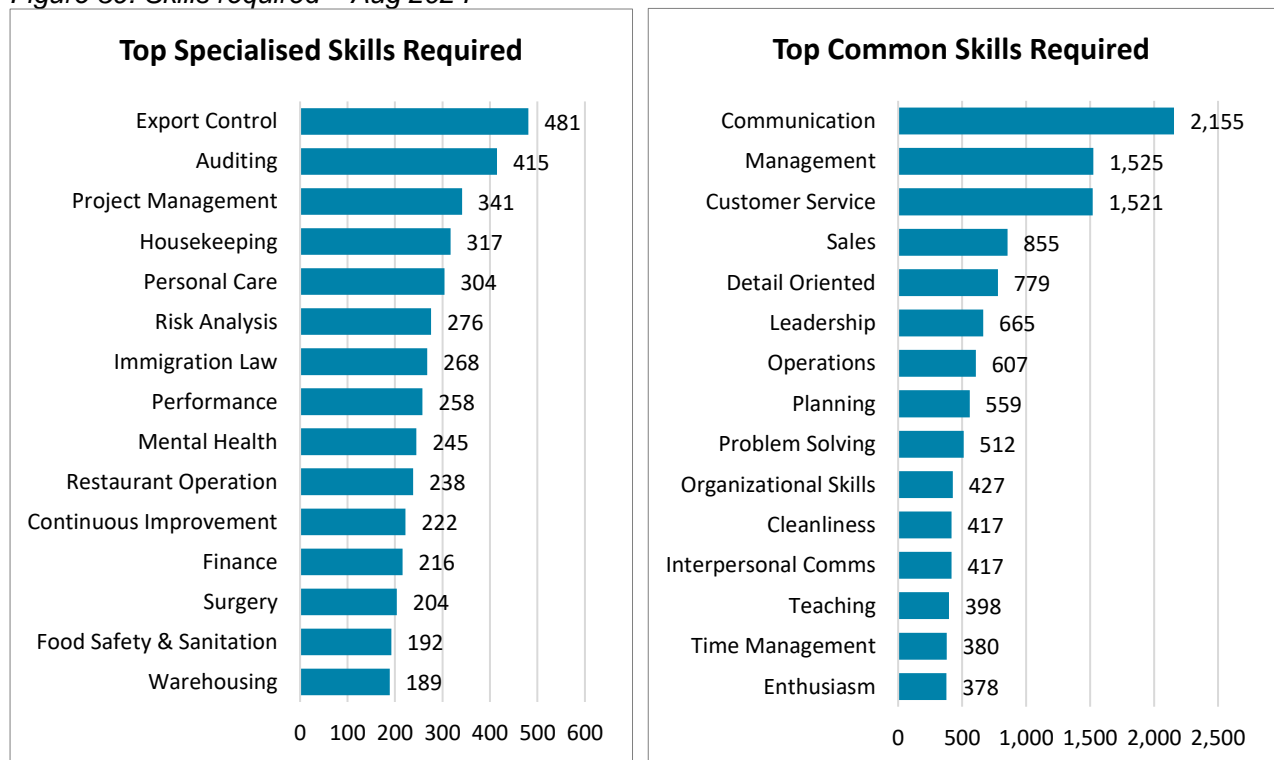
Figure 38: Job postings by sector – Aug 2024



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.

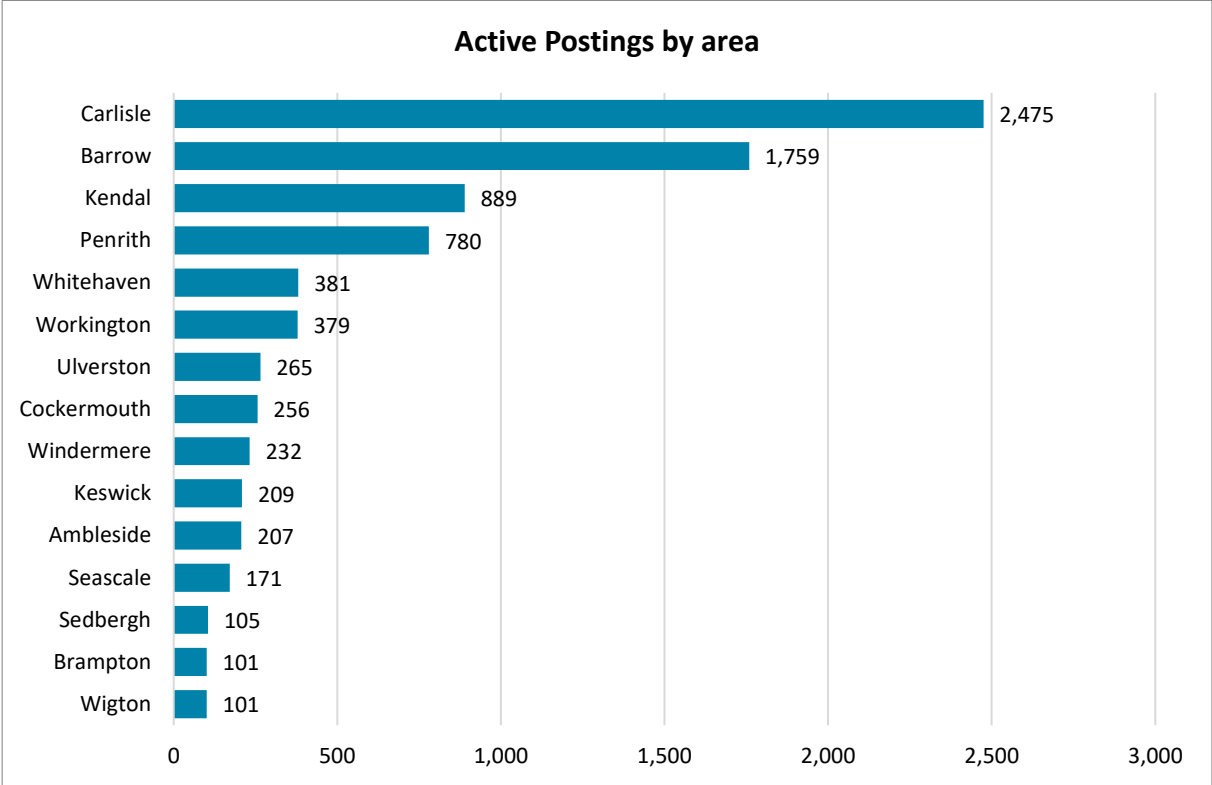
Figure 39: Skills required – Aug 2024



Source: © Lightcast 2024

Active postings rose month on month in the former district areas of Allerdale, Barrow, Carlisle and Copeland but fell in Eden and South Lakeland. The specific locations mentioned most frequently in postings were Carlisle, Barrow, Kendal and Penrith.

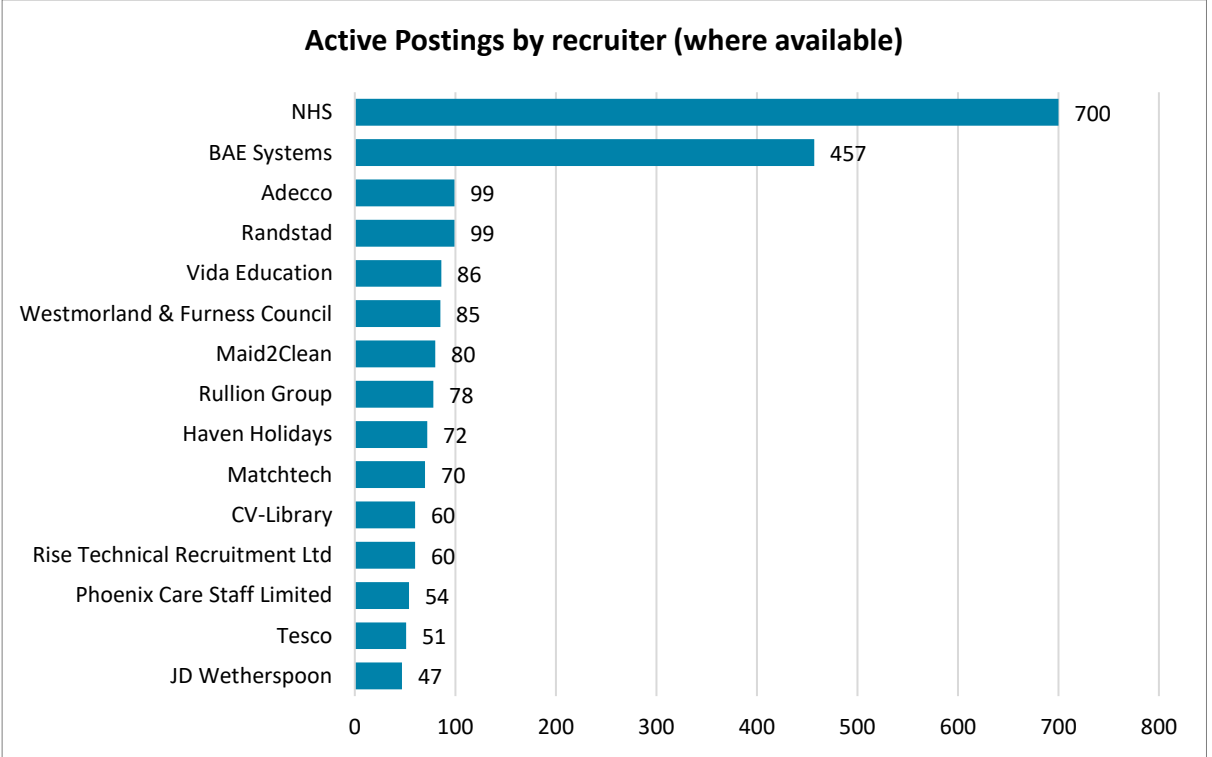
Figure 40: Job location – Aug 2024



Source: © Lightcast 2024

As is usually the case, the NHS advertised the most vacancies during the month followed by BAE Systems, Adecco and Randstad (the latter two are both recruitment agencies).

Figure 41: Recruiting organisation – Aug 2024



Source: © Lightcast 2024

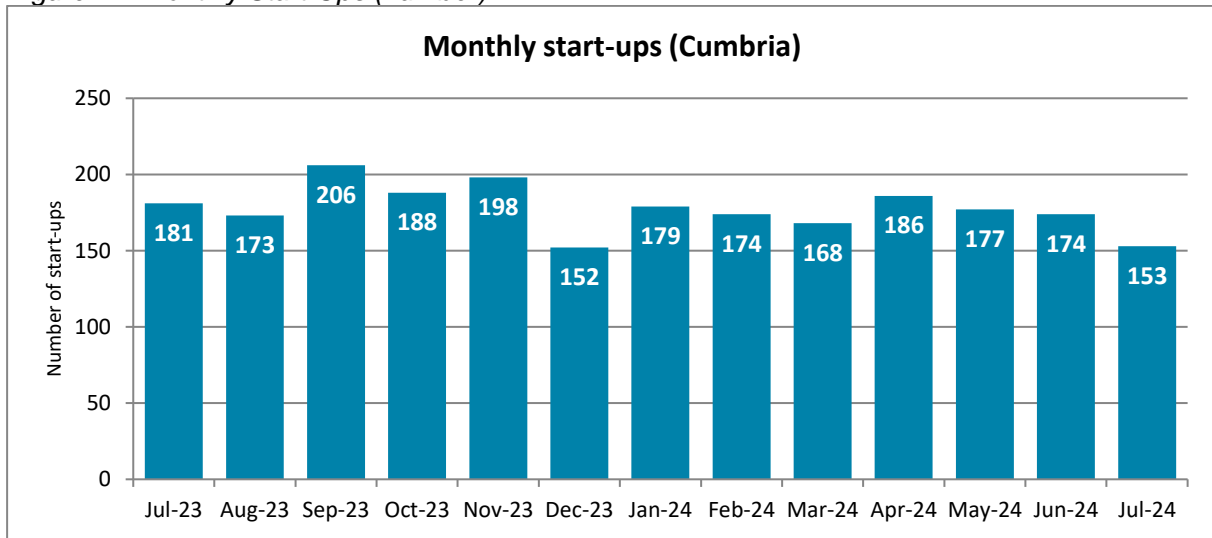
9. BUSINESS START-UPS

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 153 business start-ups in Cumbria in July 2024, 21 fewer than the previous month and 28 fewer than the same month last year. Over the quarter (May-Jul) there were 504 start-ups which is 24 fewer than last quarter and 74 fewer than the same quarter last year.

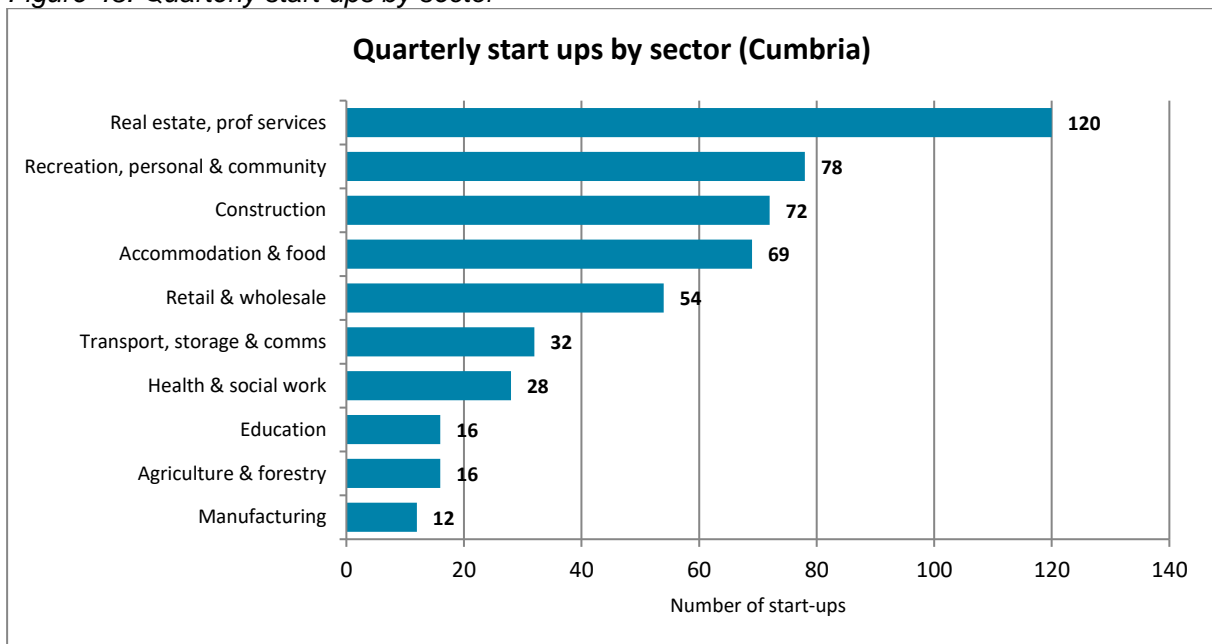
Figure 42: Monthly Start-Ups (number)



Source: BankSearch

The highest volume of start-ups in the quarter (May-Jul) was in real estate, prof services & support activities (120) followed by recreation, personal & community services (78) and construction (72).

Figure 43: Quarterly start-ups by sector



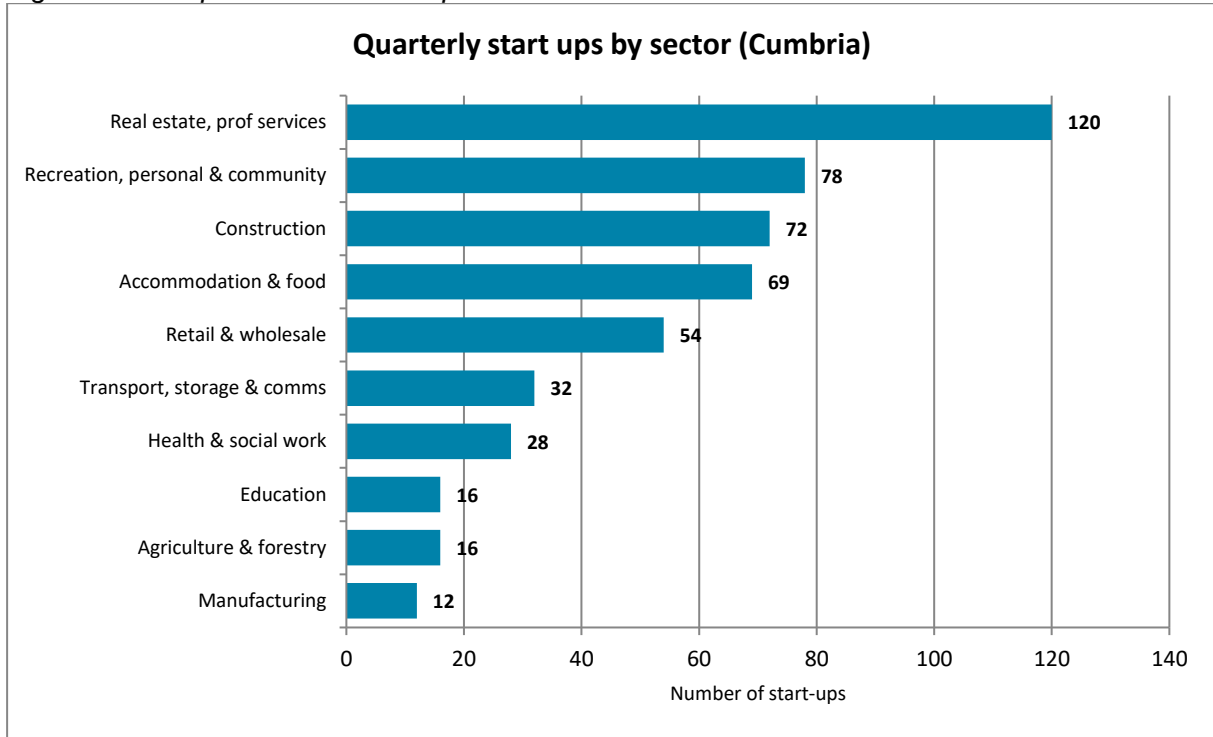
Source: BankSearch

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.

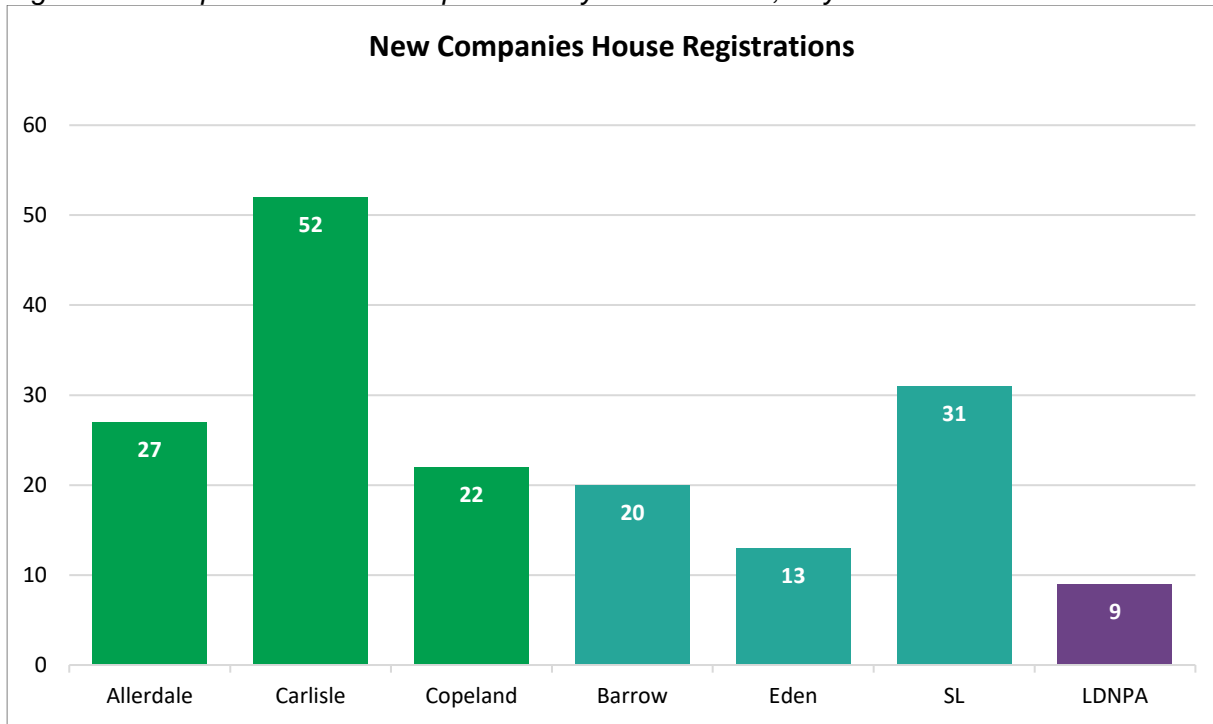
There were 165 new Companies House incorporations in July 2024, 34 fewer than the previous month and 74 fewer than the same month last year. New registrations fell from last month in Allerdale, Eden and South Lakeland but rose slightly in Carlisle and Copeland.

Figure 44: Companies House Incorporations in Cumbria - timeseries



Source: BankSearch, data relate to registered office address.

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



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.

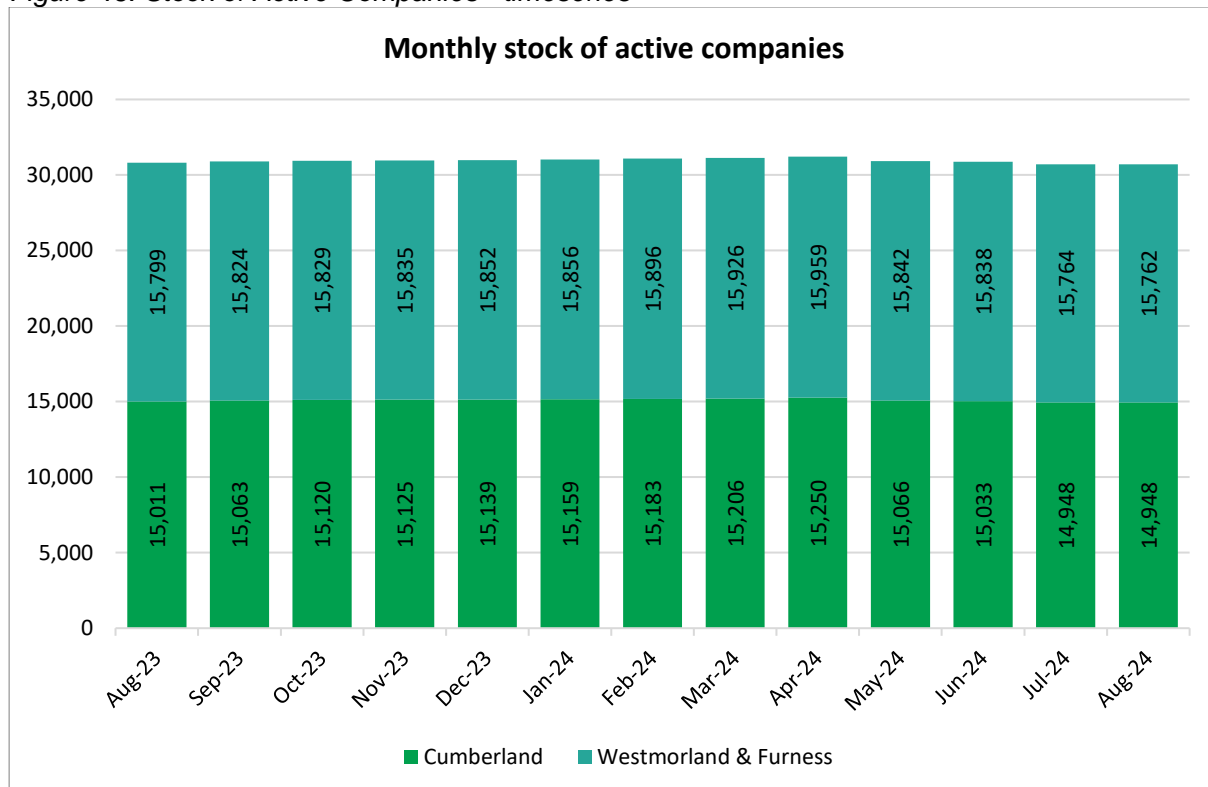
10. COMPANIES HOUSE STOCK – ACTIVE, DISSOLVED, FINANCIAL HEALTH

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.

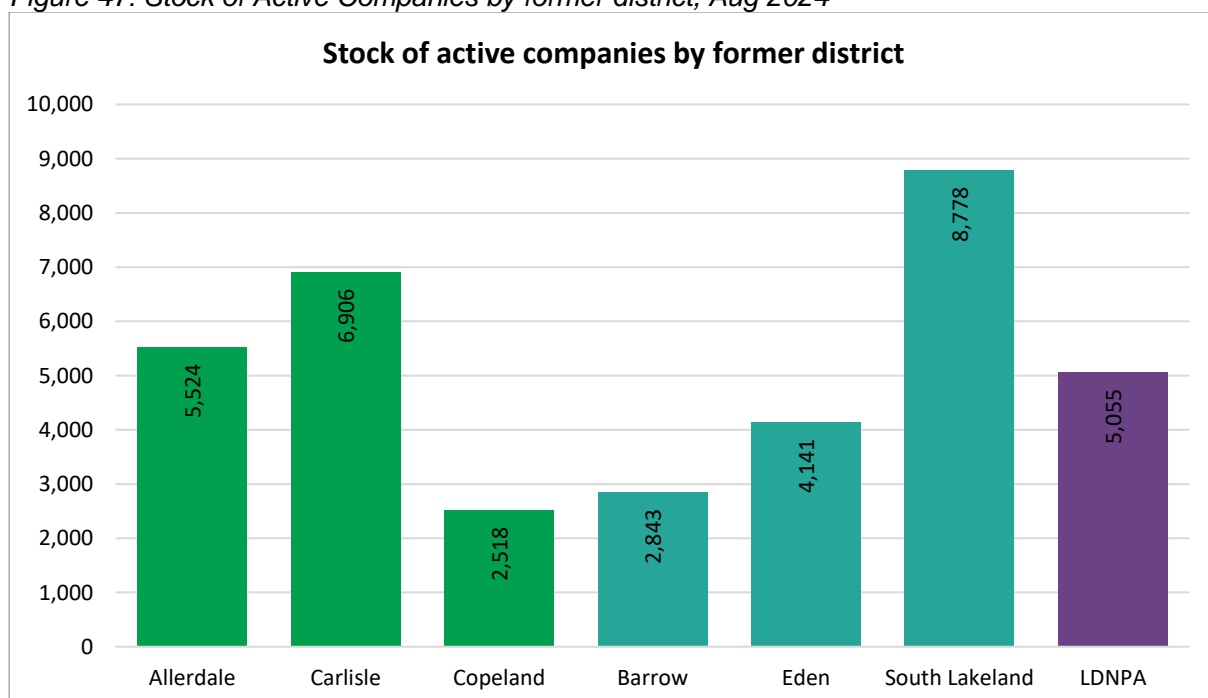
At the end of Aug 2024 there were 30,711 entries on the FAME database for Cumbria, a decrease of 2 from last month. There were 160 dissolutions/liquidations (157 dissolutions, 3 liquidations) which is 38 fewer than last month.

Figure 46: Stock of Active Companies - timeseries



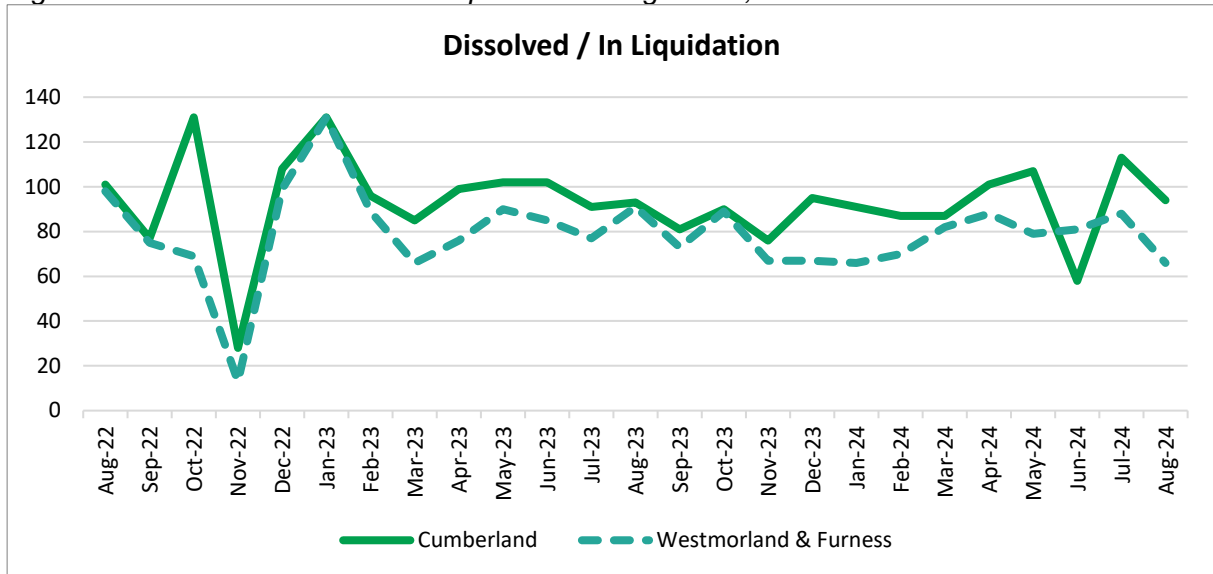
Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

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



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

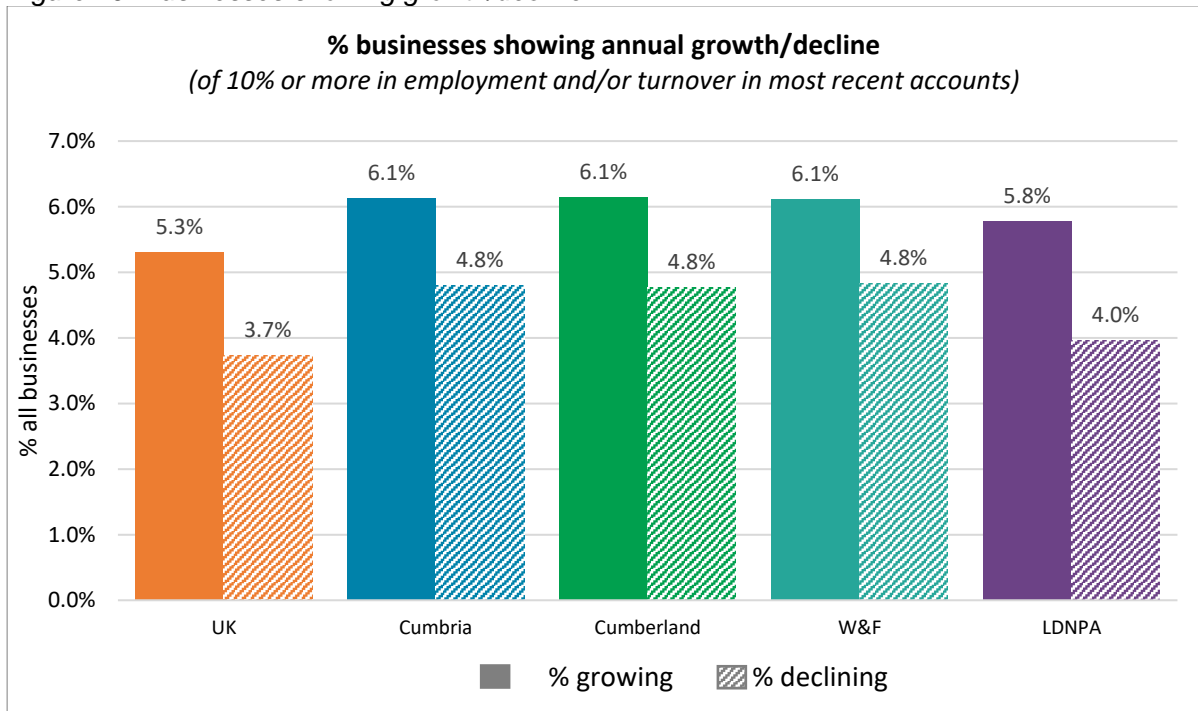
Figure 48: Businesses dissolved/in liquidation during month, timeseries



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

Of the businesses which were active in Cumbria in Aug 2024, 1,882 had shown an increase of 10% in either employment or turnover in their most recent accounts whilst 1,473 had shown a decrease. This represents 6.1% of businesses growing on one or both measures and 4.8% 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) NB: % is of all active businesses including those without financial results

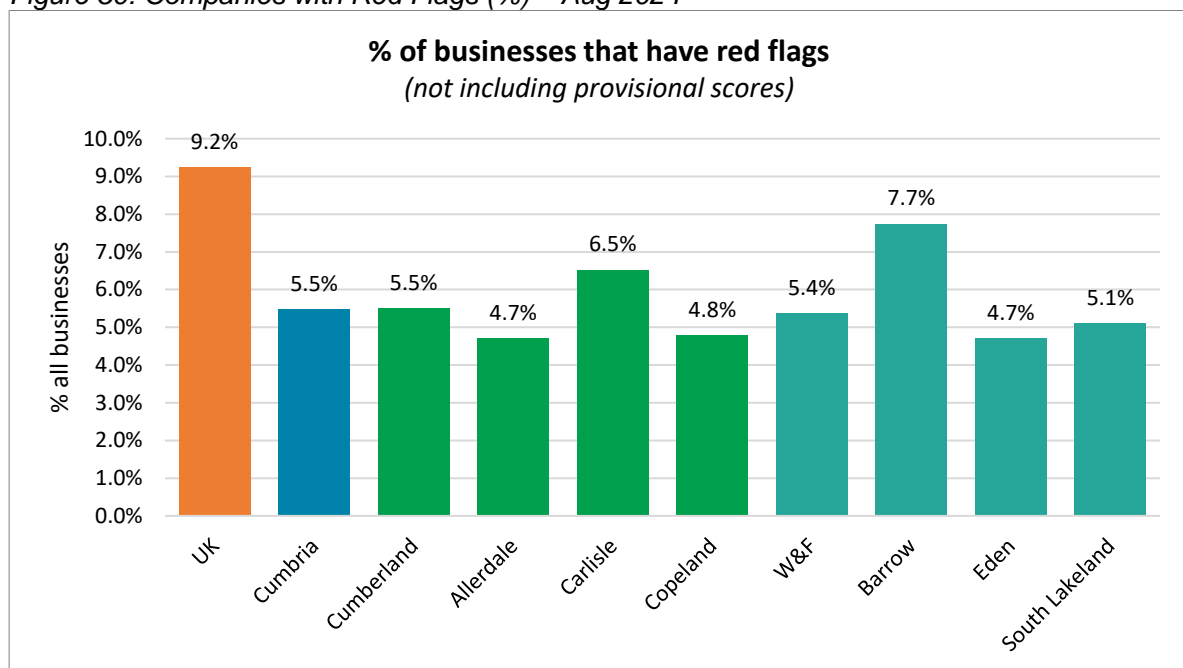
10b Financial Health

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 Aug 2024, 2,191 companies in Cumbria were rated as having Red Flags (not including provisional flags) which equates to 5.5% of Cumbria's companies on the system compared to 9.2% nationally. This was highest in the former district areas of Barrow and Carlisle (7.7% and 6.5% respectively).

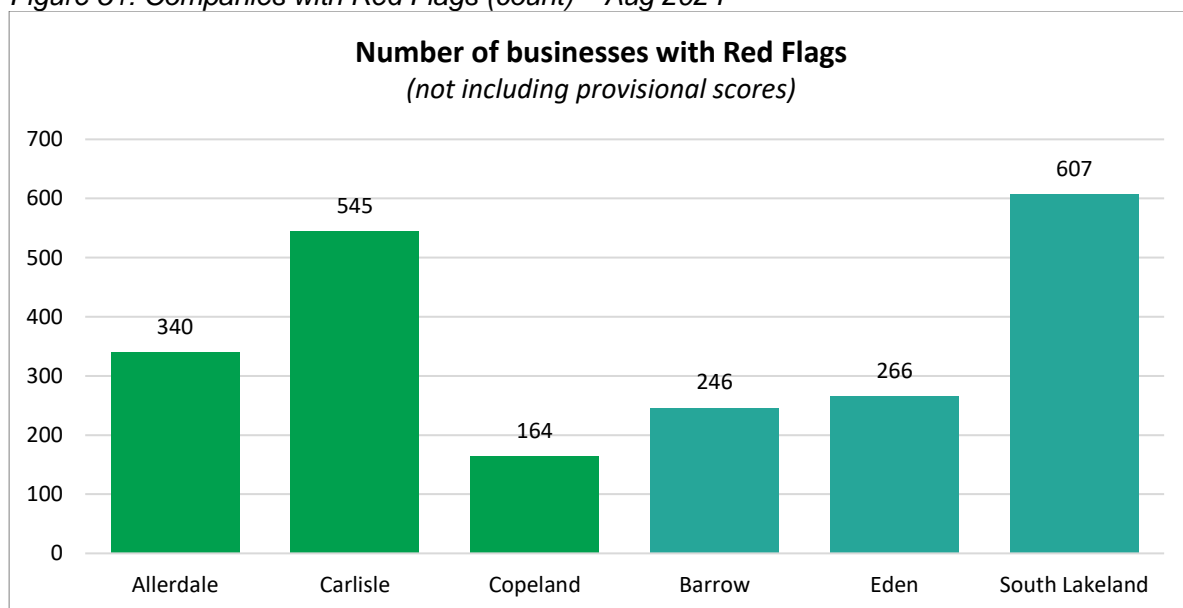
The RFA system also assigns a "likelihood of growth" score to businesses where sufficient data exists – last month this was around a third of businesses on the system. Among these, 82.8% of Cumbrian businesses were rated very unlikely or unlikely to grow compared to 84.0% for the UK and 17.2% were rated likely or very likely to grow compared to 16.0% for the UK..

Figure 50: Companies with Red Flags (%) – Aug 2024



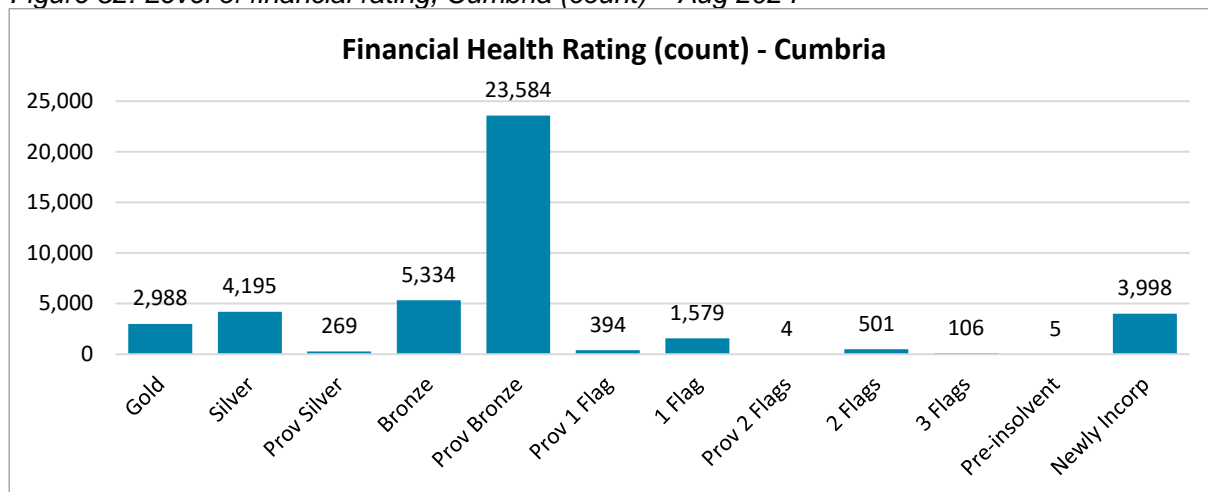
Source: Red Flag Alert

Figure 51: Companies with Red Flags (count) – Aug 2024



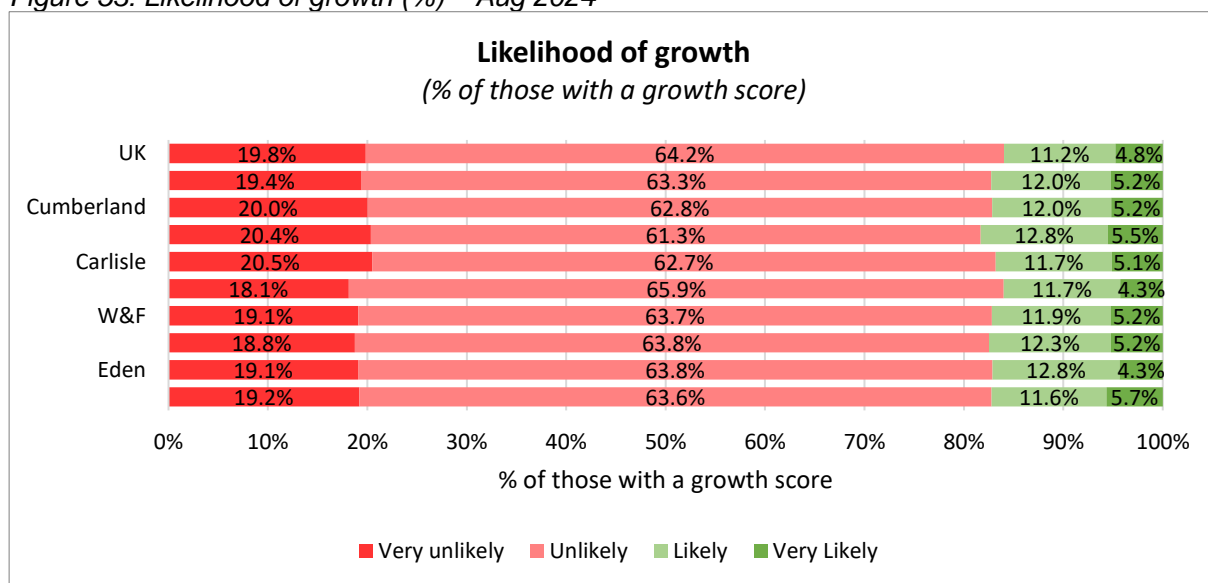
Source: Red Flag Alert

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



Source: Red Flag Alert

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



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)				
	Aug 2024		Change from Jul 2024			Aug 2024		Change from Jul 2024		
	No	Rate	No	%	Rate	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
GB	1,751,740	4.3	15,210	0.9	0.0	7,030,042	17.0	134,866	2.0	0.3
Cumbria	7,590	2.5	50	0.7	0.0	41,285	13.8	579	1.4	0.2
Cumberland	4,650	2.8	20	0.4	0.0	25,890	15.7	356	1.4	0.2
1. Carlisle West	650	3.5	-20	-3.0	-0.1	3,544	18.9	49	1.4	0.3
2. Petteril	780	4.2	10	1.3	0.1	4,306	23.1	65	1.5	0.3
3. Border, Fellside & North Carlisle	465	2.0	5	1.1	0.0	2,226	9.8	39	1.8	0.2
4. Fells & Solway	360	2.0	15	4.3	0.1	2,070	11.4	28	1.4	0.2
5. Lakes to Sea	555	2.3	-5	-0.9	0.0	3,324	13.6	30	0.9	0.1
6. Workington Together	770	3.9	5	0.7	0.0	4,073	20.7	48	1.2	0.2
7. Whitehaven & Coastal	525	2.6	-5	-0.9	0.0	3,400	16.7	48	1.4	0.2
8. South Cumberland	540	2.6	20	3.8	0.1	2,948	14.3	55	1.9	0.3
Aspatria	100	3.3	0	0.0	-0.2	515	16.9	14	2.8	0.5
Belah	70	1.7	0	0.0	0.0	456	11.3	10	2.2	0.2
Belle Vue	140	3.4	-10	-6.9	-0.1	674	16.4	29	4.5	0.7
Botcherby	180	4.3	-5	-2.8	0.0	848	20.0	4	0.5	0.1
Bothel & Wharrels	40	1.4	-5	-11.1	-0.2	161	5.8	2	1.3	0.1
Brampton	100	3.1	10	10.0	0.0	458	14.3	11	2.5	0.3
Bransty	130	3.9	0	0.0	0.0	427	12.8	15	3.6	0.5
Castle	190	4.6	0	0.0	-0.1	834	20.3	4	0.5	0.1
Cleator Moor East & Frizington	75	2.3	0	0.0	-0.2	505	15.4	8	1.6	0.2
Cleator Moor West	90	2.5	5	6.3	0.3	663	18.7	3	0.5	0.1
Cockermouth North	90	2.3	0	0.0	0.1	532	13.6	3	0.6	0.1
Cockermouth South	55	1.6	-5	-8.3	-0.1	188	5.4	-4	-2.1	-0.1
Corby & Hayton	40	1.5	5	14.3	0.2	191	7.2	5	2.7	0.2
Currock	210	4.9	0	0.0	0.0	988	23.3	8	0.8	0.2
Dalston & Burgh	60	1.3	-5	-8.3	0.0	296	6.4	7	2.4	0.2
Dearham & Broughton	60	1.6	5	8.3	0.0	353	9.7	4	1.1	0.1
Denton Holme	140	3.1	-5	-3.7	0.1	808	17.8	6	0.7	0.1
Egremont	125	3.6	5	4.3	0.3	719	20.5	16	2.3	0.5
Egremont North & St. Bees	75	2.3	0	0.0	0.0	574	17.4	15	2.7	0.5
Gosforth	50	1.5	0	0.0	0.0	299	8.9	3	1.0	0.1
Harraby North	145	3.4	5	3.6	0.1	951	22.2	27	2.9	0.6
Harraby South	90	2.4	-5	-5.3	-0.1	601	16.1	8	1.3	0.2
Harrington	135	3.3	0	0.0	0.0	733	18.1	19	2.7	0.5
Hillcrest & Hensingham	55	1.7	0	0.0	0.2	229	7.0	2	0.9	0.1
Houghton & Irthington	45	1.5	0	0.0	-0.2	207	6.7	8	4.0	0.3
Howgate	75	2.2	0	0.0	0.1	561	16.4	5	0.9	0.1
Kells & Sandwith	115	2.8	0	0.0	-0.1	976	24.1	8	0.8	0.2
Keswick	50	1.7	0	0.0	0.0	303	10.3	-1	-0.3	0.0
Longtown	70	2.4	0	0.0	0.0	387	13.3	0	0.0	0.0
Maryport North	125	3.4	-5	-3.7	-0.3	669	18.5	11	1.7	0.3
Maryport South	135	3.4	15	12.0	0.3	1,118	28.5	15	1.4	0.4
Millom	140	4.1	10	7.4	0.1	566	16.8	19	3.5	0.6
Millom Without	60	2.2	0	0.0	0.0	196	7.2	6	3.2	0.2
Mirehouse	75	2.3	-5	-5.9	-0.3	633	19.4	3	0.5	0.1
Morton	130	3.5	-5	-3.6	-0.3	798	21.2	2	0.3	0.1
Moss Bay & Moorclose	250	6.1	10	4.2	0.2	1,430	34.9	18	1.3	0.4
Seaton	125	3.2	10	8.7	0.3	529	13.7	9	1.7	0.2
Solway Coast	65	2.3	0	0.0	0.0	437	15.3	3	0.7	0.1
St. John's & Great Clifton	90	2.4	-15	-15.0	-0.3	395	10.4	-1	-0.3	0.0
St. Michael's	170	4.7	0	0.0	-0.1	986	27.3	3	0.3	0.1
Stanwix Urban	60	1.9	5	9.1	0.2	240	7.5	3	1.3	0.1
Thursby	20	0.7	0	0.0	0.2	201	6.7	-5	-2.4	-0.2
Upperby	155	4.1	15	10.3	0.3	918	24.4	18	2.0	0.5
Wetheral	80	1.9	-5	-6.3	0.0	287	7.0	2	0.7	0.0
Wigton	115	2.9	15	15.0	0.4	621	15.6	9	1.5	0.2
Yewdale	50	1.6	5	9.1	-0.2	430	13.7	8	1.9	0.3

WESTMORLAND & FURNESS	Claimant Count (JSA / UC seeking work)					Universal Credit (all claimants)				
	Aug 2024		Change from Jul 2024			Aug 2024		Change from Jul 2024		
	No	Rate	No	%	Rate	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
GB	1,751,740	4.3	15,210	0.9	0.0	7,030,042	17.0	134,866	2.0	0.3
Cumbria	7,590	2.5	50	0.7	0.0	41,285	13.8	579	1.4	0.2
Westmorland & Furness	2,940	2.2	30	1.1	0.0	15,396	11.5	218	1.4	0.2
Barrow	1,360	3.3	10	0.9	0.0	6,581	15.9	106	1.6	0.3
Eden	660	2.0	25	3.6	0.1	3,195	9.8	40	1.3	0.1
South Lakeland	920	1.5	-5	-0.3	0.0	5,620	9.3	80	1.4	0.1
Alston & Fellside	65	1.7	0	0.0	0.0	307	8.2	-4	-1.3	-0.1
Appleby & Brough	90	2.6	15	20.0	0.4	341	9.9	12	3.6	0.3
Bowness & Lyth	25	1.1	-5	-16.7	-0.2	181	8.1	3	1.7	0.1
Burton & Holme	15	0.7	0	0.0	0.0	141	6.8	-2	-1.4	-0.1
Coniston & Hawkshead	20	1.2	0	0.0	-0.3	134	7.8	6	4.7	0.4
Dalton North	60	1.6	0	0.0	0.0	306	8.3	2	0.7	0.1
Dalton South	80	2.1	0	0.0	0.1	414	11.1	8	2.0	0.2
Eamont & Shap	50	2.0	5	10.0	0.0	198	8.1	-5	-2.5	-0.2
Eden & Lyvennet Vale	55	1.6	5	7.7	-0.3	233	6.8	11	5.0	0.3
Grange & Cartmel	80	1.5	5	6.7	0.1	387	7.2	5	1.3	0.1
Greystoke & Ulswater	35	1.4	0	0.0	0.2	109	4.5	3	2.8	0.1
Hawcoat & Newbarns	95	1.6	0	0.0	0.0	403	6.6	4	1.0	0.1
Hesket & Lazonby	45	1.2	5	10.0	-0.1	200	5.5	2	1.0	0.1
High Furness	35	1.6	0	0.0	0.0	150	6.8	6	4.2	0.3
Kendal Castle	55	1.6	5	11.1	0.3	242	7.0	-1	-0.4	0.0
Kendal Highgate	70	1.9	0	0.0	0.0	619	16.5	5	0.8	0.1
Kendal Nether	70	1.8	0	0.0	0.1	481	12.2	-2	-0.4	-0.1
Kendal South	50	1.4	0	0.0	0.0	283	8.1	0	0.0	0.0
Kendal Strickland & Fell	80	1.9	-10	-11.1	-0.2	591	14.1	6	1.0	0.1
Kent Estuary	30	0.9	-10	-28.6	-0.2	279	8.8	5	1.8	0.2
Kirkby Stephen & Tebay	45	1.6	-5	-10.0	-0.2	321	11.2	-3	-0.9	-0.1
Levens & Crooklands	5	0.2	0	0.0	-0.2	122	5.7	6	5.2	0.3
Low Furness	30	1.3	0	0.0	0.0	137	5.8	1	0.7	0.0
Old Barrow	585	7.2	10	1.7	0.0	2,534	31.4	33	1.3	0.4
Ormsgill & Parkside	240	3.4	5	2.0	-0.1	1,194	17.1	15	1.3	0.2
Penrith North	115	2.5	5	4.5	0.1	606	13.2	8	1.3	0.2
Penrith South	150	2.5	0	0.0	-0.2	884	14.7	14	1.6	0.2
Risedale & Roosecote	180	2.8	10	5.7	0.1	974	15.0	28	3.0	0.4
Sedbergh & Kirkby Lonsdale	55	1.2	5	9.1	0.0	267	5.9	3	1.1	0.1
Ulverston	175	2.5	10	6.3	0.2	814	11.5	11	1.4	0.2
Upper Kent	40	1.7	-10	-22.2	-0.2	211	8.8	-2	-0.9	-0.1
Walney Island	120	1.9	-5	-4.2	0.0	756	12.2	13	1.7	0.2
Windermere & Ambleside	80	1.3	5	6.7	0.1	575	9.2	14	2.5	0.2

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. Petteiril	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		

Figure Number and Description	Page
Figure 1: Payrolled employees - Cumbria	4
Figure 2: Payrolled employees – Seasonally adjusted	4
Figure 3: % change in employees from same month previous year (seasonally adjusted)	5
Figure 4: Median monthly pay for payrolled employees.....	6
Figure 5: Median pay for payrolled employees	6
Figure 6: Employment rate (age 16-64)	7
Figure 7: Economic Inactivity rate (age 16-64).....	7
Figure 8: Qualification levels (age 16-64) – Dec 2023	8
Figure 9: Standard Claimant Count – Aug 2024	9
Figure 10: Standard Claimant Count & Rate by Age Group in Cumbria – Aug 2024	9
Figure 11: Standard Claimant Count – former districts Aug 2024.....	10
Figure 12: Standard Claimant Count Rate – former districts, Aug 2024.....	10
Figure 13: Standard Claimant Count - timeseries	11
Figure 14: Standard Claimant Rate - timeseries	11
Figure 15: Universal Credit Claimants – Aug 2024 and monthly / annual change.....	12
Figure 16: Universal Credit Claimants by Age – Aug 2024.....	12
Figure 17: Universal Credit Claimants by former district.....	13
Figure 18: Universal Credit Claimant Rate by former District	13
Figure 19: Universal Credit Claimants by Conditionality Group – timeseries (Cumbria)	14
Figure 20: Duration on UC (Cumbria) – Aug 2024.....	14
Figure 21: Claimants on UC for over 12 months by Conditionality Group	15
Figure 22: UC Health claimants (Cumbria)	15
Figure 23: Monthly Starts to Universal Credit – timeseries	16
Figure 24: Starts on Universal Credit by JCP Office – timeseries.....	16
Figure 25: Number of Households on Universal Credit by former district.....	17
Figure 26: Annual % increase in Households on Universal Credit.....	17
Figure 27: Estimated children in UC households - timeseries	18
Figure 28: Estimated children in UC households – former districts, May 2024	18
Figure 29: UC households by family type – May 2024.....	18
Figure 30: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, July 2024	19
Figure 31: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, former district timeseries	19
Figure 32: Rate of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, July 2024	20
Figure 33: Rate of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, former district timeseries	20
Figure 34: Participation of 16/17 Year Olds, former district timeseries	21
Figure 35: Participation of 16/17 Year Olds, by activity type – July 2024	21
Figure 36: Active job postings by month	22
Figure 37: Job postings by occupation – Aug 2024	22
Figure 38: Job postings by sector – Aug 2024	23
Figure 39: Skills required – Aug 2024	23
Figure 40: Job location – Aug 2024.....	24
Figure 41: Recruiting organisation – Aug 2024.....	24
Figure 42: Monthly Start-Ups (number).....	25
Figure 43: Quarterly start-ups by sector	25
Figure 44: Companies House Incorporations in Cumbria - timeseries	26
Figure 45: Companies House Incorporations by former district, July 2024	26
Figure 46: Stock of Active Companies - timeseries	27
Figure 47: Stock of Active Companies by former district, Aug 2024	27
Figure 48: Businesses dissolved/in liquidation during month, timeseries	28
Figure 49: Businesses showing growth/decline	28
Figure 50: Companies with Red Flags (%) – Aug 2024	29
Figure 51: Companies with Red Flags (count) – Aug 2024	29
Figure 52: Level of financial rating, Cumbria (count) – Aug 2024	30
Figure 53: Likelihood of growth (%) – Aug 2024	30
Figure 54: Ward claimant data	31