

## East Sussex Claimant Statistics - December 2022

Total number claiming Universal Credit (UC) any conditionality - **46,487**

Total claiming UC any conditionality as % of the working-age population - **14.46%**

Number of claimants of UC searching for work or Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) - **11,385**

UC/JSA searching for work % of the working-age population - **3.6%**

Source: East Sussex in Figures (ESiF)

## DWP Universal Credit “searching for work”/Job Seekers Allowance for East Sussex

	November 2022	December 2022	
UC Intensive + JSA	All ages		% Change
Bexhill	915	920	0.5%
Bognor	1,400	1,515	8.2%
Brighton	5,390	5,590	3.7%
Chichester	1,815	1,880	3.6%
Crawley	1,855	1,810	-2.4%
Crawley Forest Gate	1,970	1,995	1.3%
Eastbourne	3,875	3,890	0.4%
Hastings	3,965	4,035	1.8%
Haywards Heath	1,025	1,030	0.5%
Horsham	1,595	1,610	0.9%
Hove	2,590	2,690	3.9%
Lewes Medwyn House	870	865	-0.6%
Littlehampton	1,245	1,270	2.0%
Newhaven	1,165	1,195	2.6%
Worthing	3,085	3,105	0.6%
<b>Sussex</b>	<b>32,760</b>	<b>33,400</b>	<b>2.0%</b>

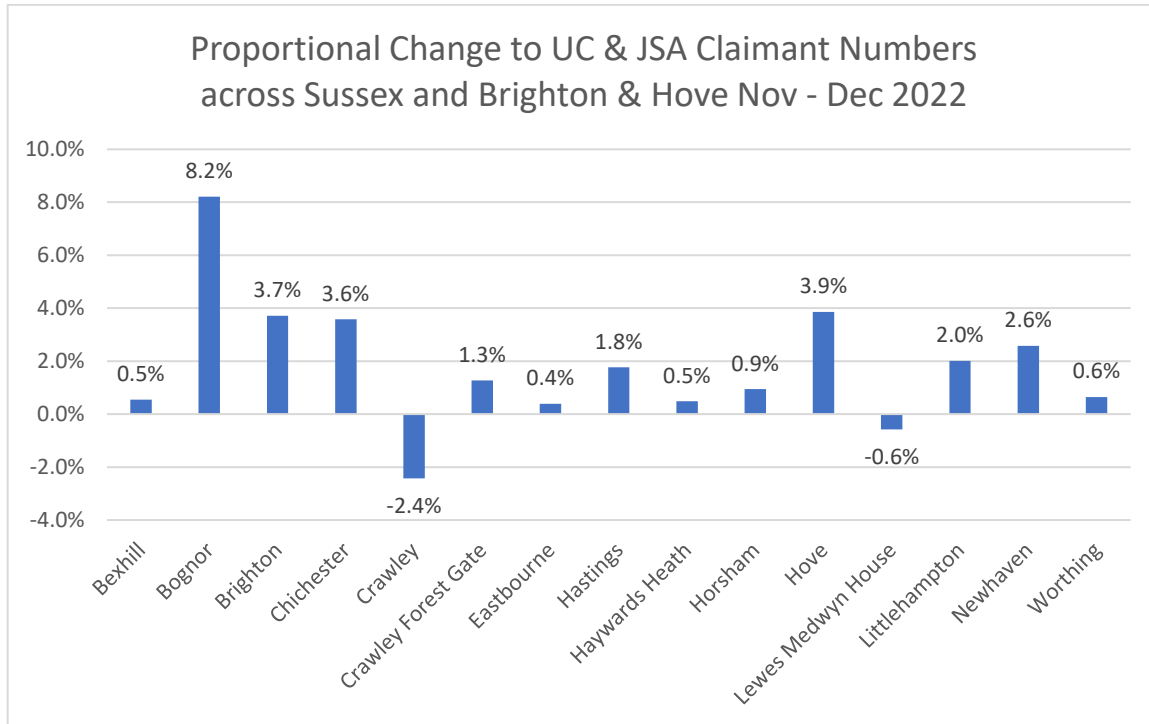
Source: ONS/Nomis as of 21 January 2023 (DWP Surrey & Sussex)

Note: Figures are provisional each month until the next set of figures are published, and data cross-referenced.

The above table shows adult benefit claimants who are looking for work and registered at job centres across Sussex and Brighton and Hove in both November and December 2022.

January 2023 Edition

Of the 15 Job Centre Sites included, 13 have recorded higher numbers of claimants over the last month. Between November and December 2022 there was a 2% rise in claimants across Sussex and the Brighton & Hove area, equating to 640 new claimants.

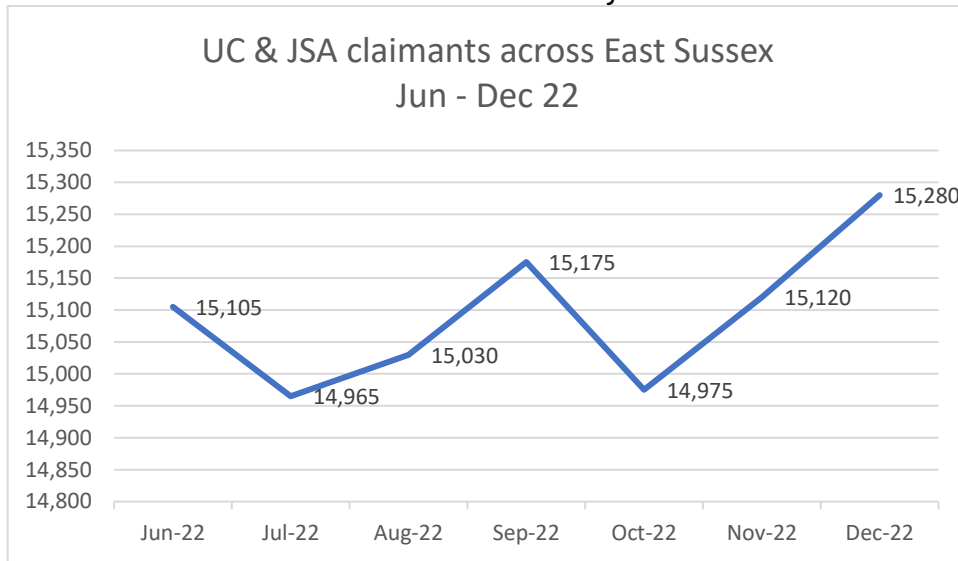


**Source: DWP Surrey and Sussex**

The above graph shows the percentage changes by area to claimant numbers across Sussex and Brighton & Hove between November and December 2022.

Overall, there were proportionally more new claimants across West Sussex and Brighton and Hove than in East Sussex. Notably in December, Bognor recorded 115 more claimants than in November, an 8.2% rise from the previous month. All East Sussex Boroughs recorded a relatively marginal rise in UC & JSA claimants. A standout area was Newhaven which saw a 2.6% rise (30 new claims).

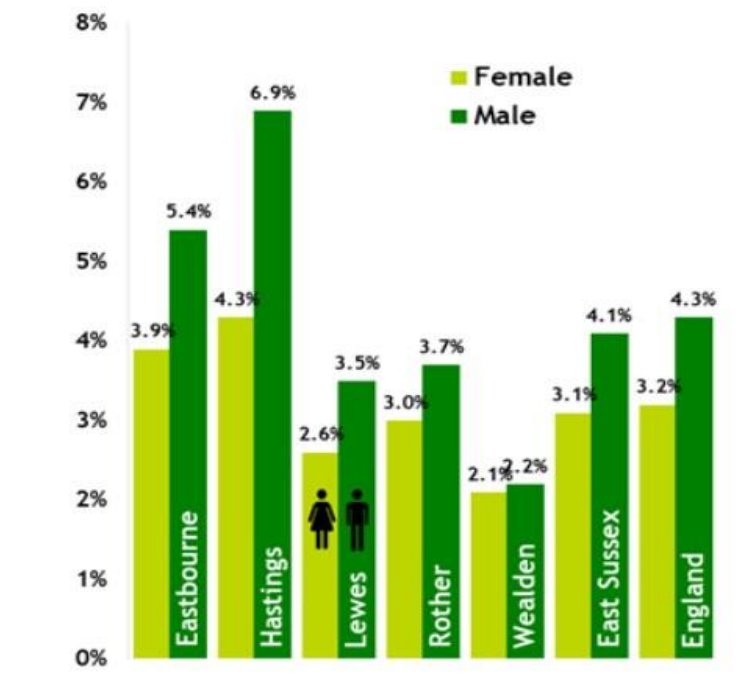
January 2023 Edition



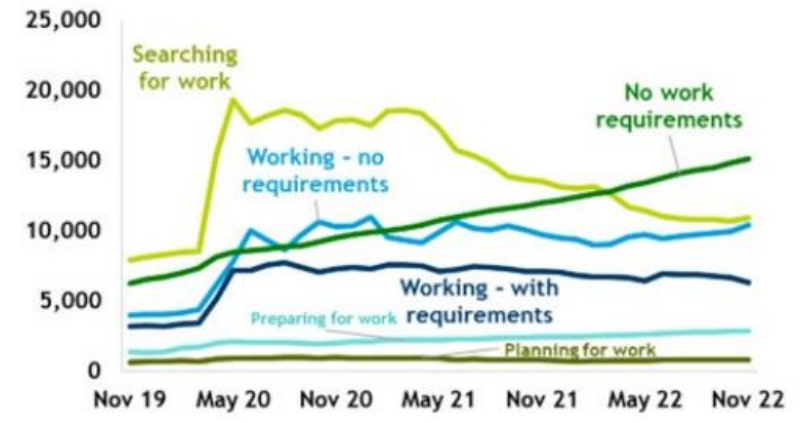
**Source: DWP Surrey and Sussex**

As shown in the above graph, the number of UC & JSA claimants has remained relatively level across the county over the last 7 months.

**All UC claimant rates in East Sussex by sex, December 2019-22**



### UC claimant rates in East Sussex by conditionality, December 2019-22



Graphs: Courtesy of ESIF

### East Sussex Vacancy Statistics

Vacancies (unique job postings) by District (data taken on 17/01/23):

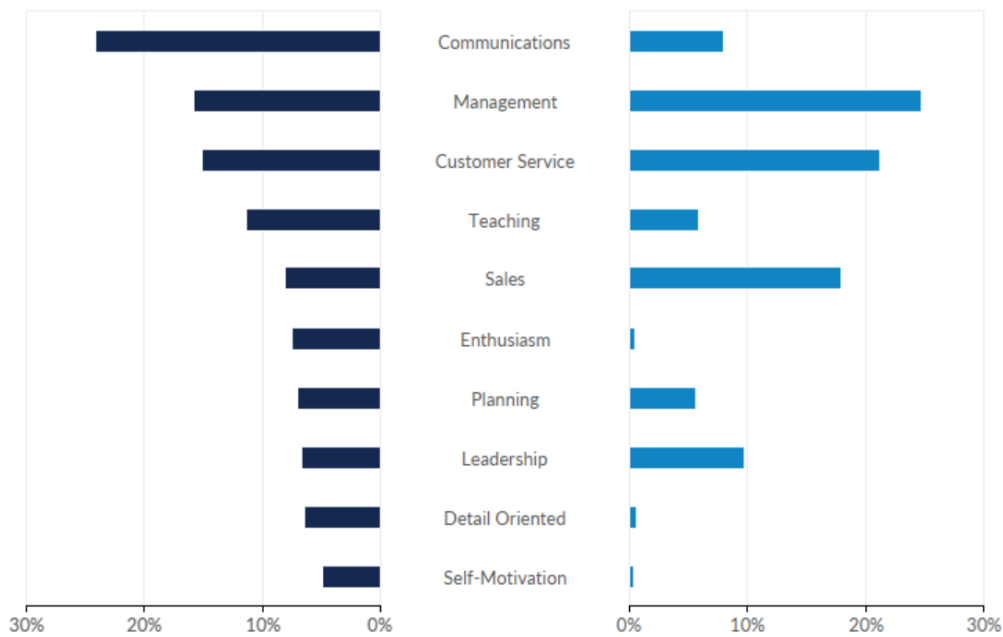
- Eastbourne - 2,695
- Wealden - 2,341
- Lewes - 2,006
- Hastings - 1,623
- Rother - 900

### Top 5 Posted Job Titles in East Sussex (Last 30 days as of 17/01/23)

1. Support Worker
2. Care Assistants
3. Secondary Education Teacher
4. Teaching Assistants
5. Cleaners

### Skills demand in East Sussex

The graph represents the most common skills that have appeared in job postings and workforce profiles in East Sussex within the last thirty days as of (17/01/23).

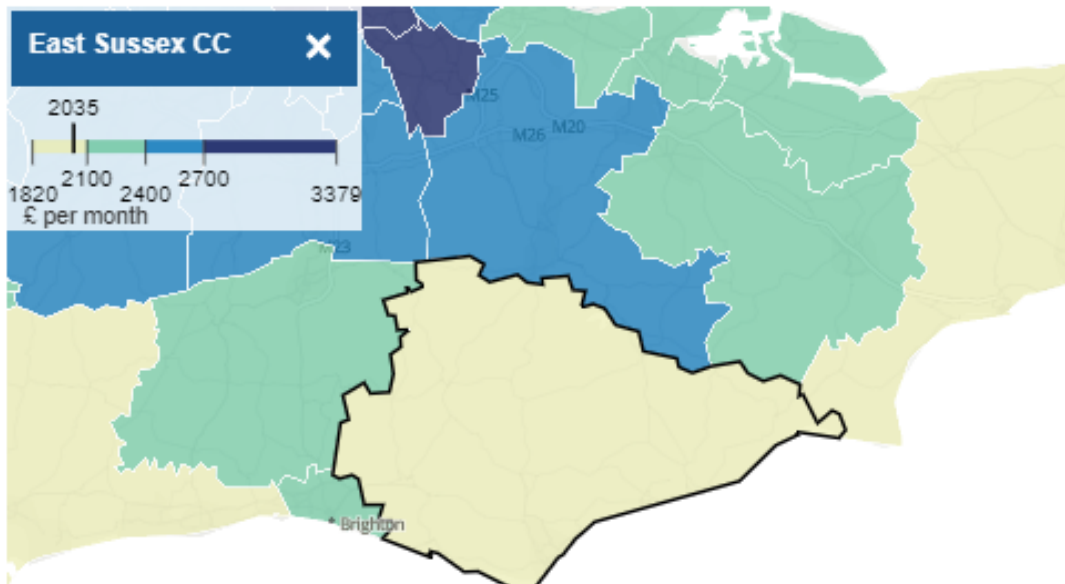


Source: Lightcast

## Monthly Median Pay in East Sussex

Monthly median pay in East Sussex was recorded as £2,035 per month using the HM Revenue and Customs Pay As You Earn Real Time Information.

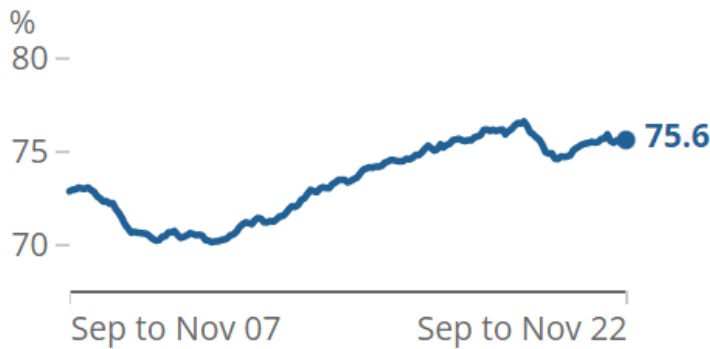
Median pay, seasonally adjusted, UK, NUTS3 level, November 2022



## National Employment Picture

The employment rate of 75.6% for September-November 2022 remains a percentage point below pre-pandemic levels. This is 290,000 fewer workers.

Employment rate %



The number of payrolled employees for December 22 is up by 28,000 to 29.9million.

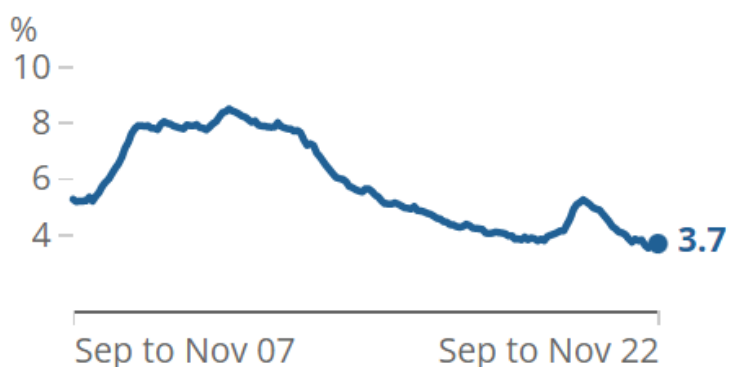
Pay growth is at its highest in recent years. For the private sector this was an average 7.2% in September-November 22, and for the public sector 3.3%.

Adjusting for inflation, however, pay fell by 2.6%. This is one of the largest falls since 2001, when comparable records started.

Total hours worked is below pre-pandemic levels. The quarterly change is down 10million hours. It is more than 16million hours fewer than pre-pandemic levels.

467,000 working days were lost due to industrial disputes.

Unemployment rate



There was a 0.2% increase in those listed as unemployed for the close of November 22.

The number of claimants who have been unemployed for over 12 months or more fell by about 10,000 to 273,534. However, those unemployed between 6-12 months rose by about 20,000 to 172,359.

### Economic inactivity rate

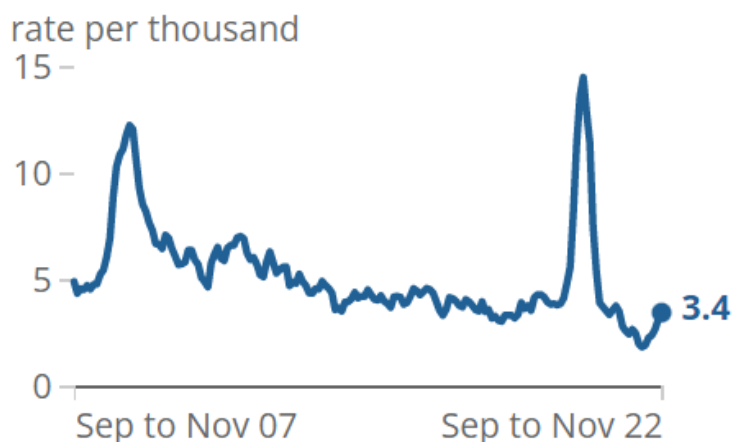


The economic inactivity rate had a slight fall (0.1%) over the month October to November 22. It remains higher than pre-pandemic levels. There was an historic increase during the pandemic which although appearing to plateau, remains high.

Economically inactive numbers due to retirement (those aged 50-64) are no longer rising. This suggests people are remaining in work. Full-time students are included in the economically inactive.

It is reported that nearly a fifth of this cohort (more than 1.5 million of the 5.7 million) would like to have a job. This includes those with long-term health conditions.

### Redundancy rate



Redundancy rates are increasing. At 3.4 per thousand employees, it's up 30,000 on the September-November quarter. However, redundancy rates are considered to be relatively low versus historic norms.

Vacancy numbers remain high, but are showing signs of decline. Vacancies decreased by 75,000 from July-September to 1,161,000. Nationally, the number of vacancies per

January 2023 Edition

unemployed person is 1. This means filling vacancies is still difficult for employers, and the right skills for each role are needed where the jobs are.

Graphs: ONS

### **Job Postings Nationally (20/01/23)**

- London - 380,149
- South East - 286,146
- North West - 220,894
- South West - 175,227
- Yorkshire and The Humber - 158,448

Source: *lightcast*

### **Sector Focus - Logistics**

Logistics is one of the largest and fastest growing employment sectors in the UK according to a study by Frontier Economics, employing 1.25 million people (4.1% of all UK jobs).

The logistics sector contributes £139 billion Gross Value Added (GVA) to the UK economy.

The study outlined that between 2019 and 2022 alone the UK logistics industry expanded by 190,000 employees and provided 125,000 jobs to the national labour market. To put this into context, employment in logistics is currently on track to surpass NHS England (the UK's largest employer) in 2023. ([GetFile.aspx \(logistics.org.uk\)](#))

Logistics activity is also more geographically balanced across the UK than many other industries and as a result contributes to reducing regional inequality and pay. For example, logistics jobs are less likely than other jobs to be clustered in London (which accounts for 17% of non-logistics jobs and 8% of logistics jobs in the UK). ([GetFile.aspx \(logistics.org.uk\)](#))

Furthermore, logistics has been an integral driver of social mobility in the UK. It has been found to provide growth opportunities for people with little or no formal qualifications. Almost all logistics workers (87%) receive training in valuable skills that 59% believe would be transferable to starting a new role with a different employer. In addition, entry-level logistics jobs such as warehouse operatives, warehouse associates and couriers are relatively well paid, each of these roles earning on average around £23,500 per annum. ([Employee earnings in the UK - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#))

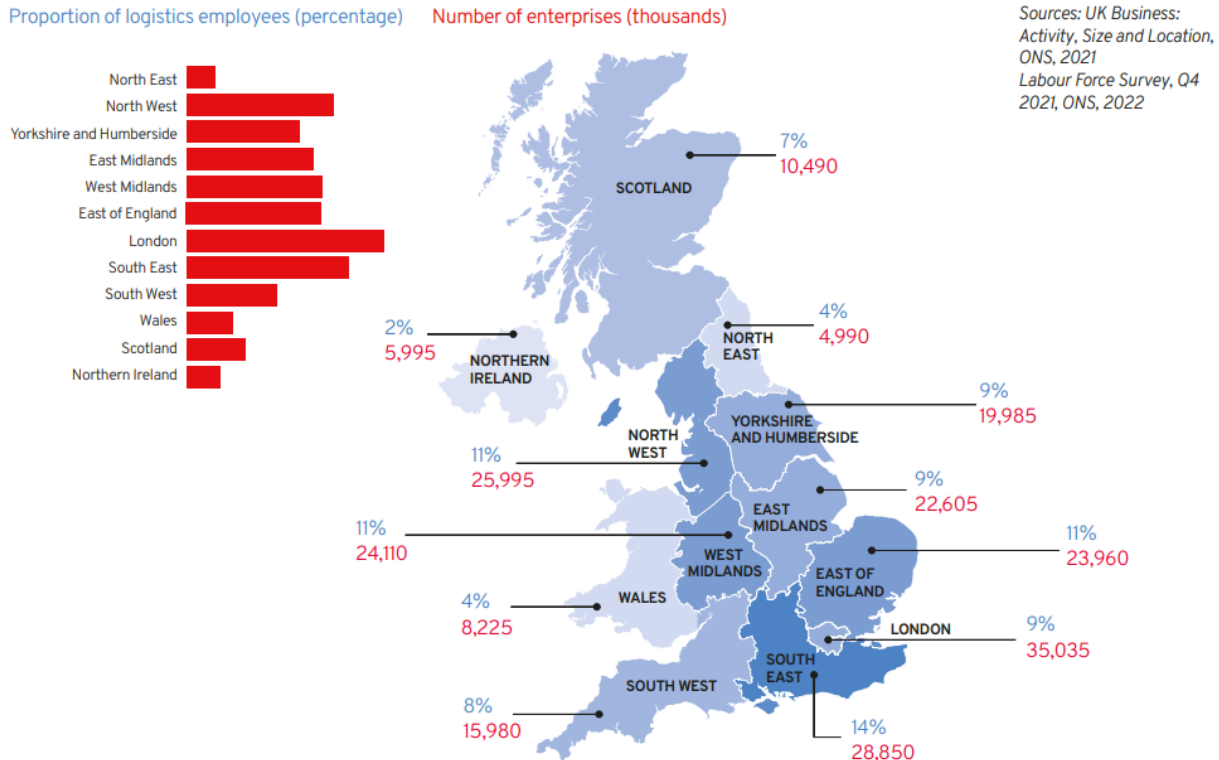
The growth of logistics in the UK has been particularly crucial in reducing national unemployment. An independent YouGov survey found that 20% of people currently employed in logistics were previously unemployed. Large organisations such as RHA have worked closely with the government's Kickstart scheme to actively assist unemployed people under the age of 24 into their first roles in the industry ([RHA supports the unemployed into the logistics sector](#)).



January 2023 Edition

There are 226,220 logistics enterprises in the UK and 28,850 logistics in the South East of England.

**Logistics employees and number of enterprises**



**Jobs and Careers in Logistics**

- Logistics Administrator
- Warehouse Manager
- Inventory Manager
- Load Planner
- Purchasing and Procurement Manager
- Demand and Inventory Planner
- Logistics Analyst
- Logistics Manager

Video resource for those working with children, young people and adults who want to find out more about a career in logistics - [Logistics Careers - Student Interviews - YouTube](#).

**Education and Training for the Logistics Sector**

- Business A-Level
- Skills for Business
- Pathway to Business and Travel Services
- Economics A-Level

January 2023 Edition

- Purchasing and Supply Management Apprenticeship
- Logistics Operations Apprenticeship

A wider range of qualifications at school and college will give individuals transferable skills to allow them to build a career in the logistics sector. These include problem solving, communication, people management and computer skills which will be essential in developing a career in the logistics sector.

If you are interested in an apprenticeship in the logistics sector, check out the [Find an apprenticeship \(findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk\)](https://findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk) website to stay up to date with logistics opportunities in East Sussex.

## **Education and Training News**

On 11 January, the national government announced that £15m will be added to the hardship fund for 2022/23. This fund is for universities to provide financial support to students in need.

University tuition fees for a standard full-time course in England will remain at £9,250 for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 academic year. The aim is to reduce student debt levels and to encourage learners to invest in their future.

[Department for Education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Other news meant we did not cover the news on apprenticeships take up and withdrawal rates last month. For more on this topic and social mobility, it is worth taking a look at [The Recent Evolution of Apprenticeships - Sutton Trust's report](#). It is a complex area and worth thinking about what lies behind some of the headlines.

The National Youth Agency launched the Level 4 Certificate in Professional Development (Youth Work) in January 2023. It's in collaboration with the Education Training Standards in England and in Wales. To take it, one should hold a Level 3 Youth Work or related qualification - it's aimed on building on those skills. There are a range of [Youth Work Jobs - East Sussex County Council](#) advertised via the council's website.

[Level 4 Certificate in Professional Development \(Youth Work\) – NYA](#)

Three pet grooming organisations have combined forces. iPET Network (Ofqual regulated awarding organisation), The Grooming Spotlight and BIGA (British Isles Grooming Association) have teamed up to provide continuous professional development opportunities for those who work caring for pets. Bite size courses are to be made available so that professionals can do them alongside the day job.

[iPET Network: International Pet Education and Training Network | iPET Network News](#)

## Focus on Census 2021

As always with the Census 2021 data, please note that 2021's Census took place during the coronavirus pandemic. As such, the data is impacted by lockdowns, furlough and instructions to work from home.

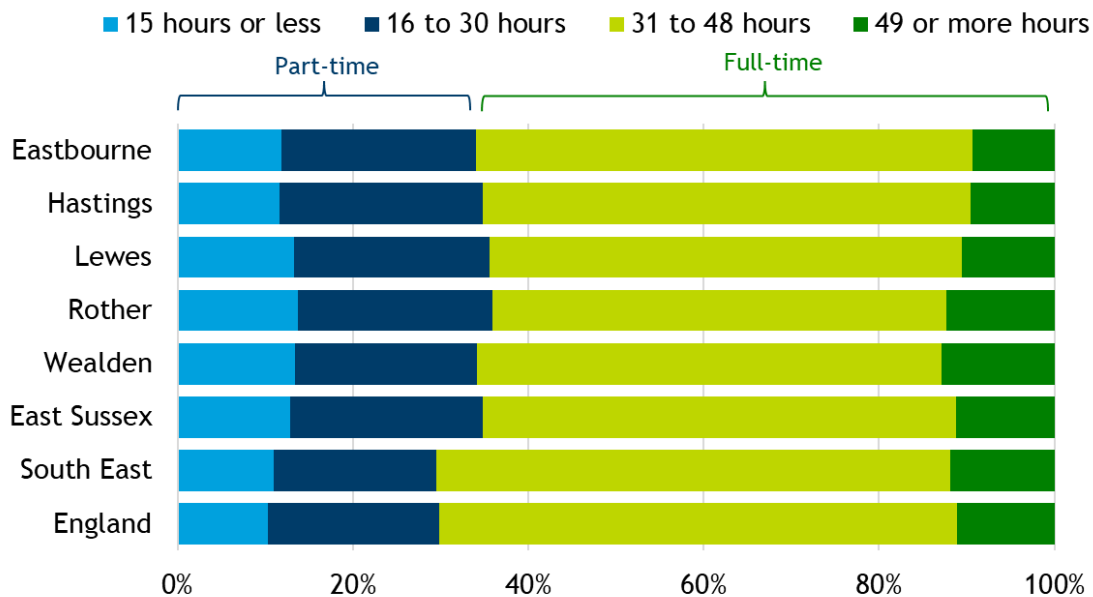
17,000 self-employed people made a claim to the fourth grant of the Self-Employed Income Support Scheme (30 April 2021) in East Sussex.

32,100 East Sussex employees are estimated to have been enrolled on the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme which furloughed workers to protect jobs (31 March 2021). Some people who were furloughed were permitted to continue on restricted hours as the scheme evolved over time.

East Sussex had 254,750 (55.9%) economically active people aged 16+ in 2021. This compares to the England rate of 60.9%.

East Sussex self-employment was at 12.5%, higher than the national figure of 9.6%.

### Percentage of adults in employment by hours worked in 2021



Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021

The hours worked in 2021 was lower than those in 2011. Full-time workers decreased by 2.7% on the last census, part-time increased by 5.6%. Some reductions in hours may be accounted for by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The fastest growing sector since 2011 was information and communications. This rose by 21.7%. This represents 3.6% of all employment in East Sussex in 2021 (a rise from 2.9% of all employment in 2011).

January 2023 Edition

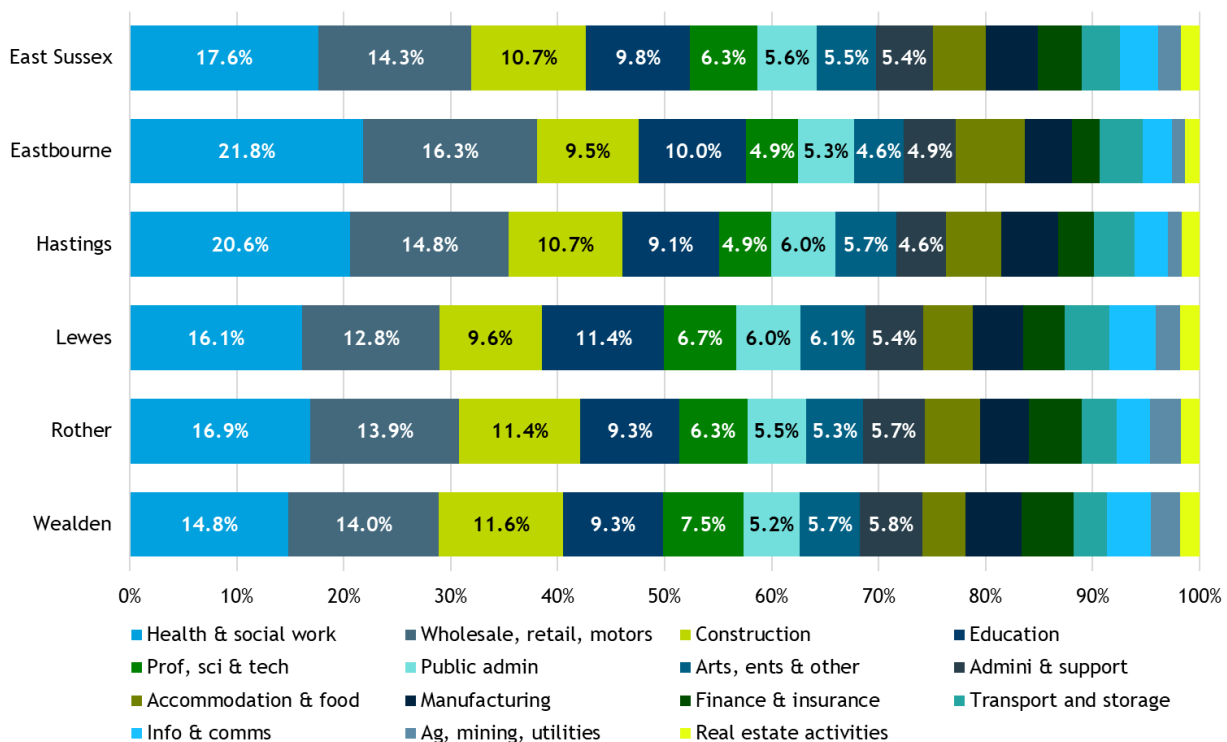
Administration and support roles grew strongly (18.6%) and public administration grew too (0.7%). There was also growth in Construction (13.4%), a key local industry.

Manufacturing numbers fell. Some of this may be accounted for by the pandemic and reduced activity due to supply chain issues. Overall, the rate of employment for manufacturing was 4.9% of all East Sussex employment (6.1% in 2011).

Health and social work grew from 15.5% of the East Sussex workforce to 17.6%, becoming the largest industry sector for the county.

The table below illustrates the percentage of those employed in sectors across East Sussex.

Percentage of people working in different industrial sectors in 2021



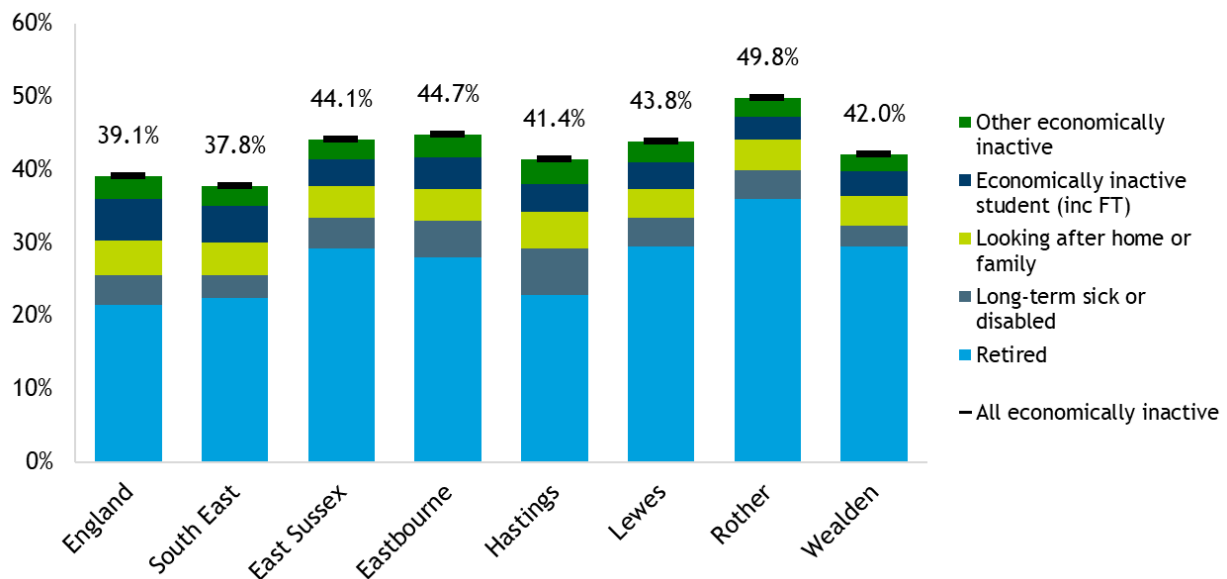
Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021

Wholesale, retail and motors fell by over 10%, but at 14.3% remains a large industry locally.

Skilled trades accounted for 12.5% of those in work in East Sussex (10.2% in England) with the highest rate in Rother (13.9%).

East Sussex' percentage of adults identifying as managers, directors and senior official was 14.3% versus a national rate of 12.9%

Percentage of adults who are economically inactive by type in 2021



Source: Office for National Statistics - Census 2021

For East Sussex, the percentage of economically inactive was 44.1% (39.1% in England). The county has 29.9% retired people, significantly higher than the 21.5% national average.

Economically inactive due to long-term sickness or disability was highest in Hastings (6.4%). As a county, the economic inactivity average was 4.2% versus 4.1% nationally. The lowest rate was Wealden at 2.8%.

England's rate for economic inactivity linked to care responsibilities was 4.8%. It was 4.3% for East Sussex, with the highest rate in Hastings at 5%.

*For more information about the census data visit the [ONS website](https://www.ons.gov.uk). For queries specifically relating to East Sussex, please contact the Research and Intelligence Team via email at [esif@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:esif@eastsussex.gov.uk).*

## **And Finally!**

You may have noticed some recent headlines about 'ChatGPT'. This is Chat Generative Pre-Trained Transformer. It is an open source Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbot program.

Chatbots aims are to imitate human conversation. The recent news is that Chatbot has been doing this rather well. A GPT-3 recently successfully passed an MBA exam in the US(a leading to concerns that students could use AI to pass their exams).

The chatbot was noted to do 'an amazing job' on questions including those that are based on case studies. However, it made 'surprising mistakes in relatively simple calculations', ironically, quite a human trait.

Some sectors foresee AI replacing some jobs while others anticipate it becoming a major tool in reducing workload burden on staff. Knowing how to use AI may even become an

January 2023 Edition

essential skill as much as the basic use of the Internet, word processing and spreadsheets are currently.

Here are some interesting articles on the subject:

[I'm a copywriter. I'm pretty sure artificial intelligence is going to take my job | Henry Williams | The Guardian](#)

[ChatGPT won't make you lose your job - here's why | TechRadar](#)

[Concerns mount as ChatGPT passes MBA exam given by Wharton professor | The Independent](#)

### **Further useful LMI and Careers resources**

- **LMI For All** - [Explore LMI data - LMI For All](#)
- **Careers Hub** - [Careers > East Sussex \(careerseastsussex.co.uk\)](#)
- **Advice for Young People making choices** [Careers > East Sussex \(careerseastsussex.co.uk\)](#)
- **Advice for helping a child making choices** - [Careers > East Sussex \(careerseastsussex.co.uk\)](#)
- **East Sussex in Figures (ESiF)** - [Welcome to ESiF \(eastsussexinfigures.org.uk\)](#)
- **Office for National Statistics** - [Labour market overview, UK Statistical bulletins - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)
- **Government funded training** - [Free courses for jobs - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

### **More links/further reading for this month's topics**

[Census - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)

[Labour market quality information for Census 2021 - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)

Note on economic inactivity given by the ONS:

1. Other reasons for being economically inactive include those who are waiting for the results of a job application, those who have not yet started looking for work, those who do not need or want employment, those who have given an uncategorised reason for being economically inactive, or those who have not given a reason for being economically inactive.