

## Employment and Skills Briefing (May 2015)



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The following information summarises the DWP (Central England Group) [State of the Group Report May 2015](#) and provides a focus on East Midlands through District level / local authority / LEP data.

National data is also covered, providing a context for regional and local employment and skills.

### JSA Unemployment (claimant count)

The seasonally adjusted JSA Register (Central England Group) currently stands at **148,500**. This is **down 2,200 (1.5%)** from the previous month (April), continuing a downward trend from Summer 2012.

### Unemployment Rate

The national claimant count currently stands at 2.0% (of the working age population) compared to 2.9% a year ago.

The claimant count for the East Midlands based districts is 3.2%.

The ILO Unemployment\* Rate nationally stands at 5.5% (of the working age population). For the East Midlands it is 4.9%, up 0.1% from the previous quarter.

### Employment Rate

The employment rate for working age people in the UK was 73.5% for the period January to March 2015. This is an increase of 0.3% from the previous quarter (October to December 2014).

For the **East Midlands**, it was **73.8%** (down 0.7% from previous quarter).

### Vacancies

ONS statistics show that across the **UK**, there were **733,000** job vacancies available at any one time for the period February to April 2015.

This was **up 9,000 on the previous quarter** and up 95,000 from the same time last year.

### New JSA Claims (on-flows) Rate

Seasonally adjusted on-flows (the number of people making new claims to Jobseeker's Allowance) in the Central England Group totalled 107,100 over the three-month period February to April 2015, down 22.3% on the corresponding period a year ago.

Nationally, on-flows fell by 22.8%. The recent trend remains downwards; on-flows are 3.6% lower compared to the previous quarter (November 2014 to January 2015).

In the **East Midlands based districts**, unadjusted on-flows are **up by 4.5% from the previous quarter**.

### Stopping JSA Claims (off-flows) Rate

Seasonally adjusted off-flows in the Central England Group over the period February to April 2015 totalled 119,100 and are up by 2.8% from the previous quarter.

For the **East Midlands based districts** they are **up by 5.5% from the previous quarter**.

### Age and Duration of the Unemployed

The number of people (Central England Group) who have been claiming for more than six months has fallen sharply over the past year, down 37% to 67,200, almost back to pre-recession levels – a low of 55,220 was reached in February 2008.

### Youth Unemployment

The Central England Group continues to see significant reductions in its 18-24 register. The current total of 36,065 is the lowest ever recorded since comparable records began in 1985.

In the **East Midlands based districts**, the number of young people (18-24) claiming for more than 6 months has **fallen by 39% since April 2014**.

*\*ILO Unemployment is different from the claimant count, which measures only those people who are claiming unemployment-related benefits (JSA since 1996). The claimant count is normally the lower measure because some unemployed people are not entitled to claim unemployment-related benefits, or choose not to do so.*

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### JSA Claimant Count (unadjusted): Local Enterprise Partnerships (East Midlands) March to April 2015

Local Enterprise Partnership	March 2015	April 2015	Change	
	number	number	change	% change
Greater Lincolnshire	14,671	14,190	-481	-3.3
Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire	27,933	27,137	-796	-2.8
Northamptonshire	7,792	7,568	-224	-2.9
South East Midlands	17,506	17,055	-451	-2.6
Leicester and Leicestershire	9,971	9,768	-203	-2.0

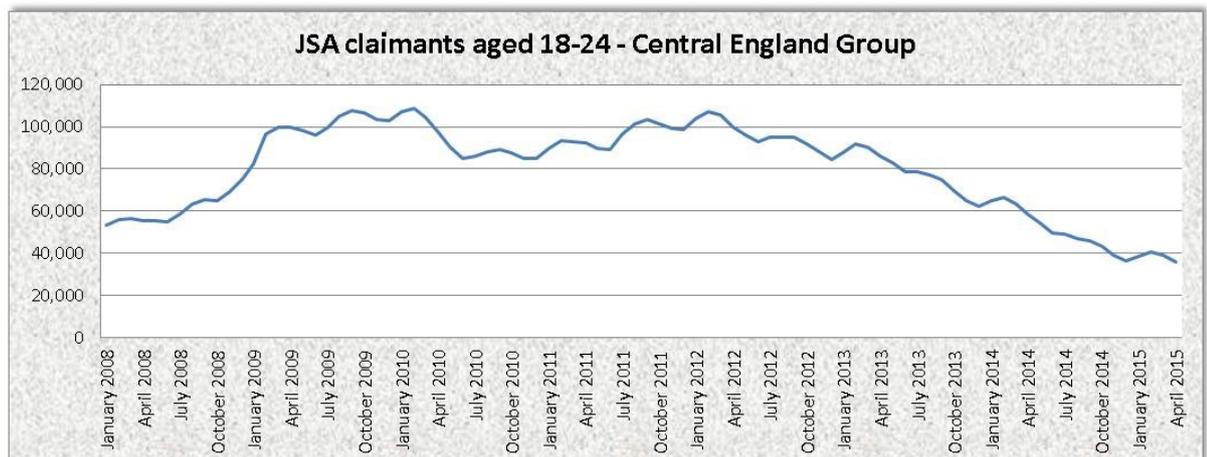
### Skills: Qualification levels in the East Midlands

Data on the qualification levels of the working age population is currently available for the year to December 2013.

(East Midlands District data below):

District	NVQ level 4+	NVQ level 3+	NVQ level 2+	NVQ level 1+	% No Quals
Leicestershire & Northamptonshire	31.4%	53.0%	70.0%	82.7%	10.5%
Midland Shires*	27.9%	50.6%	69.5%	83.2%	10.2%
Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire & Rutland	29.2%	52.6%	69.5%	82.8%	10.7%

\*Includes Derbyshire



As of April 2015



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### Potential redundancies notified by employers in East Midlands (March 2015\*)

This data should be treated as an indicator of redundancies that are due to occur where employers have announced at least 20 job losses at a single site (via HR1 notifications)

District	All employers notifying redundancies	Public sector employers notifying redundancies	All potential job losses	Public sector potential job losses
Leicestershire & Northamptonshire	9	3	757	141
Midland Shires**	9	2	744	334
Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire & Rutland	9	0	357	0
<i>Central England</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>3011</i>	<i>876</i>

\*Redundancies as notified in previous State of The Group Report April, 2015. \*\*Includes Derbyshire

### Jobs Sought by Occupation (Central England Group)

Over the past 3 months, jobseekers who have made new claims in the Central England Group have registered for work in the following top 15 occupational areas. It is worth noting that the SOC code for 'senior officials in national government' is '1111' and it is possible this accounts for the strangely high volumes for this occupation (i.e. people may be typing this in to complete a mandatory field instead of don't know')

Occupation	Jobseeker volumes	Percentage of Total Jobseekers
Sales and retail assistants	48,990	43.7%
Senior officials in national government	12,490	11.1%
Other goods handling and storage occupations	10,265	9.2%
General office assistants/clerks	6,100	5.4%
Labourers in process and plant operations	2,090	1.9%
Packers, bottlers, canners, fillers	1,620	1.4%
Retail cashiers and check-out operators	1,140	1.0%
Care assistants and home carers	1,065	0.9%
Cleaners, domestics	1,025	0.9%
Kitchen and catering assistants	895	0.8%
Customer care occupations	815	0.7%
Labourers in other construction trades	815	0.7%
Bar staff	760	0.7%
Labourers in building and woodworking trades	775	0.7%

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### UK Labour Market, May (ONS)

#### *Main points for January to March 2015*

- There were 31.10 million people in work, 202,000 more than for October to December 2014 and 564,000 more than for a year earlier.
- The proportion of people aged from 16 to 64 in work (the employment rate) was 73.5%, the highest since comparable records began in 1971.
- There were 1.83 million unemployed people. Comparing January to March 2015 with a year earlier, there were 386,000 fewer unemployed people.
- There were 8.98 million people aged from 16 to 64 who were out of work and not seeking or available to work (known as economically inactive), 69,000 fewer than for October to December 2014.
- Comparing January to March 2015 with a year earlier, pay for employees in Great Britain increased by 1.9% including bonuses and by 2.2% excluding bonuses.

*For full report please click [here](#)*

### Regional Economic Indicators (East Midlands)\*

*Key economic data for the East Midlands compared to the National average (2010-2024)*

Forecast economic growth data is provided by Oxford Economics, an economic advisory service. Other data is from Office for National Statistics (ONS).

#### **Economy: 2013**

		East Midlands	UK
Total GVA	£ billions	89	1,525
GVA per Head	£	19,317	23,755
Economic growth 2010-2013	Real terms % change	2.2%	3.0%

#### **Forecast economic growth (2014-24)**

		East Midlands	UK
2014	% change on year	3.2%	3.3%
2014-24	Average % change on year	2.6%	2.8%

#### **Industries-employment, Q4 2014**

		East Midlands	UK
Manufacturing	% of workforce jobs	12.0%	7.8%
Public Sector	% of employment	16.1%	17.5%