



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

SPICe

The Information Centre
An t-Ionad Fiosrachaidh

SPICe Briefing

Pàipear-ullachaidh SPICe

Labour market update: December 2020

Andrew Aiton

This infographic looks at the latest labour market data for Scotland from the Office for National Statistics.

Contents

(Untitled)	3
(Untitled)	4
Data	5

Labour market update: December 2020

This update provides an overview of the Scottish labour market from the latest regional labour market statistics and UK labour market statistics published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Data covers
Aug-Oct 2020

Unemployment (16+)

Number of unemployed individuals as a proportion of the total number of economically active people (unemployed + employed).

Across the UK
seasonally adjusted

North East	6.6%
London	6.3%
West Midlands	5.4%
East Midlands	5.3%
Yorks. & Hum.	5.2%
England	5.1%
UK	4.9%
North West	4.7%
East	4.7%
Wales	4.6%
South West	4.4%
Scotland	4.2%
N. Ireland	3.9%
South East	3.9%

Employment (16-64)

Number of people in employment expressed as a percentage of all people aged 16-64.

South East	78.6%
East	77.2%
South West	76.8%
England	75.6%
UK	75.2%
London	75.2%
East Midlands	75.0%
West Midlands	75.0%
Scotland	74.8%
North West	73.9%
Yorks. & Hum.	73.8%
Wales	72.4%
North East	71.2%
N. Ireland	70.6%

Inactivity (16-64)

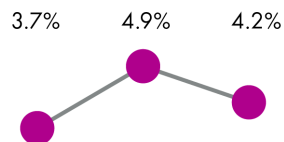
Number of people economically inactive expressed as a percentage of all people aged 16-64.

N. Ireland	26.4%
Wales	24.0%
North East	23.5%
North West	22.3%
Yorks. & Hum.	22.2%
Scotland	21.8%
UK	20.8%
East Midlands	20.6%
West Midlands	20.6%
England	20.3%
London	19.8%
South West	19.5%
East	18.9%
South East	18.0%

Scottish headline figures

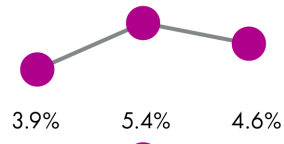
All people
Seasonally adjusted

Aug-Oct 2019 May-Jul 2020 **Aug-Oct 2020**



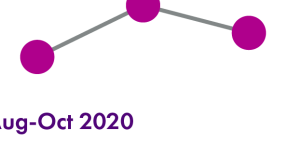
Women
Seasonally adjusted

3.4% 4.3% 3.9%



Men
Seasonally adjusted

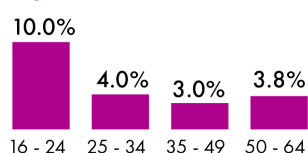
3.9% 5.4% 4.6%



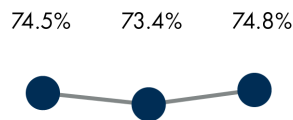
Age
Not seasonally adjusted

(Not designated as National Statistics)

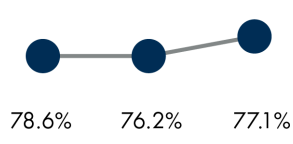
Aug-Oct 2020



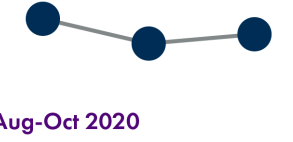
Aug-Oct 2019 May-Jul 2020 **Aug-Oct 2020**



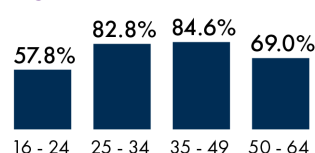
70.7% 70.7% 72.6%



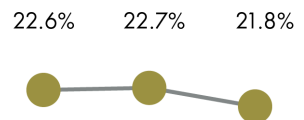
78.6% 76.2% 77.1%



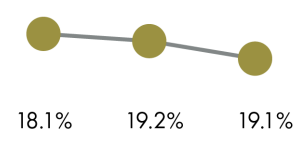
Aug-Oct 2020



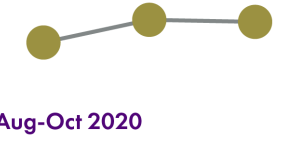
Aug-Oct 2019 May-Jul 2020 **Aug-Oct 2020**



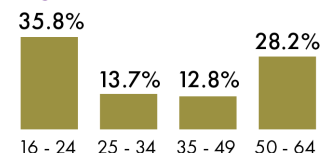
26.8% 26.1% 24.4%



18.1% 19.2% 19.1%



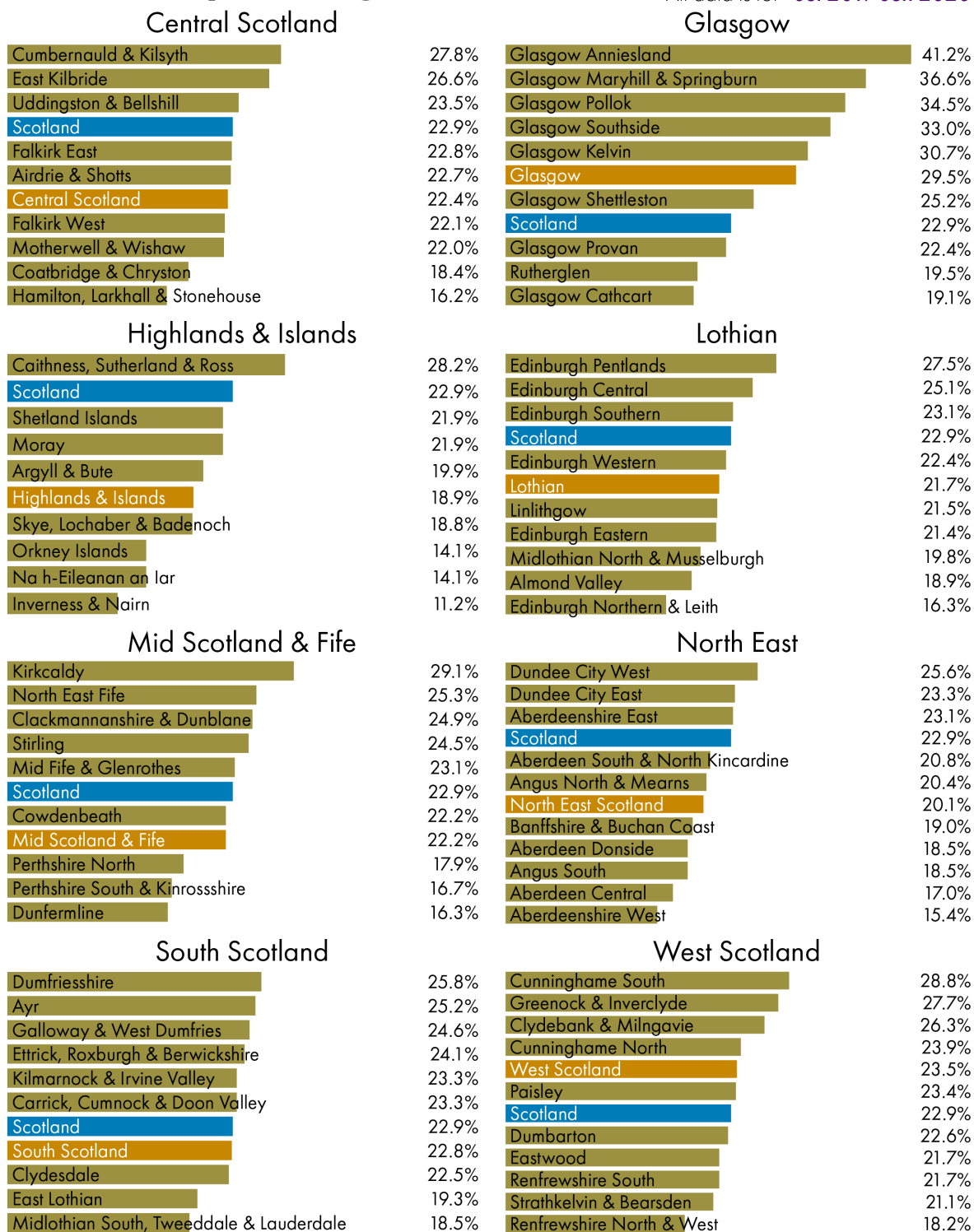
Aug-Oct 2020



Source: [Labour market in the regions of the UK: December 2020](#) and [UK labour market: December 2020](#)

Economic inactivity rates by Scottish Parliament constituency and region

All data is for - Jul 2019-Jun 2020



*This data is from the resident analysis of the APS, meaning the rate is for those who live in the constituency.

*The Scotland rate used for this data is different from the earlier quoted figure as it covers a different time period.

Source: [nomis](#)

Data

Table 1: labour market indicators rates by nation and region of the UK (%)

	Employment	Unemployment	Economically inactive
East	77.2	4.7	18.9
East Midlands	75.0	5.3	20.6
England	75.6	5.1	20.3
London	75.2	6.3	19.8
North East	71.2	6.6	23.5
North West	73.9	4.7	22.3
Northern Ireland	70.6	3.9	26.4
Scotland	74.8	4.2	21.8
South East	78.6	3.9	18.0
South West	76.8	4.4	19.5
United Kingdom	75.2	4.9	20.8
Wales	72.4	4.6	24.0
West Midlands	75.0	5.4	20.6
Yorkshire and The Humber	73.8	5.2	22.2

Source: [UK labour market: December 2020](#)

Table 2: labour market indicators rates for all people in Scotland (%)

All	Latest quarter	Last quarter	Same quarter last year
Unemployment	4.2	4.9	3.7
Employment	74.8	73.4	74.5
Economic inactivity	21.8	22.7	22.6

Source: [Labour market in the regions of the UK: December 2020](#)

Table 3: labour market indicators rates for women in Scotland (%)

	Latest quarter	Last quarter	Same quarter last year
Unemployment	3.9	4.3	3.4
Employment	72.6	70.7	70.7
Economic inactivity	24.4	26.1	26.8

Source: [Labour market in the regions of the UK: December 2020](#)

Table 4: labour market indicators rates for men in Scotland (%)

	Latest quarter	Last quarter	Same quarter last year
Unemployment	4.6	5.4	3.9
Employment	77.1	76.2	78.6
Economic inactivity	19.1	19.2	18.1

Source: [Labour market in the regions of the UK: December 2020](#)

Table 5: labour market indicators rates by age in Scotland (%)

	16-24	35-34	35-49	50-64
Unemployment	10.0	4.0	3.0	3.8
Employment	57.8	82.8	84.6	69.0
Economic inactivity	35.8	13.7	12.8	28.2

Source: [Labour market in the regions of the UK: December 2020](#)

Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) Briefings are compiled for the benefit of the Members of the Parliament and their personal staff. Authors are available to discuss the contents of these papers with MSPs and their staff who should contact Andrew Aiton on telephone number 85188 or andrew.aiton@parliament.scot.

Members of the public or external organisations may comment on this briefing by emailing us at SPICe@parliament.scot. However, researchers are unable to enter into personal discussion in relation to SPICe Briefing Papers. If you have any general questions about the work of the Parliament you can email the Parliament's Public Information Service at sp.info@parliament.scot. Every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in SPICe briefings is correct at the time of publication. Readers should be aware however that briefings are not necessarily updated or otherwise amended to reflect subsequent changes.

