

Business Register and Employment (BRES) Survey: Released November 2020

The following briefing is based on the number of employees.

Key points

- In the Black Country there were 444,000 jobs in 2019. This is a decrease of 1.3% (-6,000 jobs) from 2018, nationally there was an increase of 1.4%.
- In the Black Country, the retail sector accounted for the highest percentage of jobs at 18.8% (approximately 83,500 jobs). Although, this sector has decreased by 0.6% (-500 jobs) since 2018, nationally there was a decrease of 0.2%.

In Summary

- In the Black Country there were 444,000 jobs¹ in 2019, this is a decrease of 1.3% (-6,000 jobs) from 2018. There were around 293,000 (66.0%) full-time employees and 151,000 part-time employees (34%). The proportion of part-time employees have increased from 32% (144,000) in 2018.
- There were 26,307,000 jobs nationally in 2019, an increase of 1.4% from 2018. Around 68% of employees work full-time and 32% are part-time which are similar to proportions seen in 2018.
- Within the Black Country, Dudley was the only local authority to experience an increase compared to 2018 by 2,000 employees (+1.8%) to reach 114,000. Wolverhampton has remained at 103,000 jobs since 2018. While Sandwell decreased by 3,000 jobs when compared to 2018 (from 127,000 to 124,000) and Walsall decreased by 5,000 (from 108,000 to 103,000).

Figure 1: Black Country and England Jobs, 2018 and 2019

	2018	2019	Change over the last year	% Change over the last year
Dudley	112,000	114,000	2,000	1.8%
Sandwell	127,000	124,000	-3,000	-2.4%
Walsall	108,000	103,000	-5,000	-4.6%
Wolverhampton	103,000	103,000	0	0%
Black Country LEP	450,000	444,000	-6,000	-1.3%
England	25,946,000	26,307,000	361,000	1.4%

Jobs by Sector²

- The Black Country has a higher percentage of jobs in 6 sectors when compared to nationally; advanced manufacturing (15.5% vs 10.5%), environmental technologies (1.3% vs 1.1%), transport technologies (6.4% vs 5.0%), health (15.5% vs 12.9%), building technologies (4.9% vs 4.8%) and retail (18.8% vs 15.1%).
- In the Black Country, the retail sector accounted for the highest percentage of jobs at 18.8% (approximately 83,500 jobs). Although, this sector has decreased by 0.6% (-500 jobs) since 2018, nationally there was a decrease of 0.2%.

¹ Based off the total numbers recorded against the four local authorities

² Please note, when broken down by 2-digit sic code for sectors the figures will vary and when all sectors added together it will not equal the overall figure.

- The second highest percentage of jobs in the Black Country was in the business services sector at 16.1% (71,290). However, this sector has decreased by 10.1% (-8,010 jobs) from 2018, nationally there was an increase of 2.0%.

Figure 2: Jobs by Sector for the Black Country and England, 2018 and 2019:

	BCLEP 2018	BCLEP 2019	BCLEP Change	BCLEP % Change	BCLEP % 2019	Eng. 2018	Eng. 2019	Eng. % Change	Eng. % 2019
Advanced Manufacturing	67,190	68,925	1,735	2.6%	15.5%	2,721,300	2,768,750	1.7%	10.5%
Building Technologies	23,300	21,725	-1,575	-6.8%	4.9%	1,202,000	1,271,000	5.7%	4.8%
Business Services	79,300	71,290	-8,010	-10.1%	16.1%	6,564,000	6,695,000	2.0%	25.4%
Environmental Technologies	6,110	5,910	-200	-3.3%	1.3%	295,000	278,000	-5.8%	1.1%
Health	65,750	68,775	3,025	4.6%	15.5%	3,360,000	3,404,000	1.3%	12.9%
Public Sector Inc. Education	61,650	62,250	600	1.0%	14.0%	3,981,000	3,969,000	-0.3%	15.1%
Retail	84,000	83,500	-500	-0.6%	18.8%	3,981,000	3,974,000	-0.2%	15.1%
Sports	6,900	7,350	450	6.5%	1.7%	469,000	461,000	-1.7%	1.8%
Transport Technologies	27,790	28,365	575	2.1%	6.4%	1,279,000	1,326,000	3.7%	5.0%
Visitor Economy	21,630	27,075	5,445	25.2%	6.1%	2,100,000	2,159,000	2.8%	8.2%
Total	450,000	444,000	-6,000	-1.3%	100%	25,946,000	26,307,000	1.4%	100%

Source: Business Register Employment Survey, 2020

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/businessregisterandemploymentsurveybresrevised2018andprovisional2019estimates>