

Black Country Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) Statistics: Released October 2021¹

Summary

- In total, the Black Country area had 24,900 employments furloughed on the 31st August 2021. This reflects a 5.2% take-up of eligible employments for the scheme, compared to UK-wide of 4.6%. When compared to 31st July 2021, the number of employments furloughed in the Black Country area decreased by 4,300 (-14.7%, UK -16.6%).
- As of 31st August 2021, there was a higher percentage of males furloughed at 6% (14,400), compared to females at 4.4% (10,500). Whereas the UK had a take up rate of 4.9% for males and 4.3% for females.
- The manufacturing sector had the highest number of employments furloughed in the Black Country on the 31st August 2021 with 5,400 people.
- Latest UK figures show that there were 440,500 employers with 1.3 million staff on furlough on 31st August 2021. This is a decrease of 260,000 employments from 31st July where there were 1.6 million employments on furlough. Since the start of the scheme a total of 11.7 million jobs have been put on furlough for at least part of the duration of the scheme.
- For all age bands the number of employments on furlough and the take-up rates decreased across February to August 2021. The largest reductions in the number of employments on furlough in June and August were for younger employees in the under 18, 18 to 24 and 25 to 34 age bands.
- The largest reduction is for employers with 250 or more employees where the number of employments on furlough decreased by 78,900 from 264,700 employments at 31st July 2021 to a provisional estimate of 185,800 (1% take-up) at 31st August 2021.
- Provisional figures show for the UK that all sectors saw a reduction in levels of furlough between 31st July and 31st August. The arts, entertainment and recreation sector, and accommodation and food services sector had the highest take-up rate of all the sectors, with 12% of employments eligible for furlough on furlough at 31st August 2021.

Full Briefing

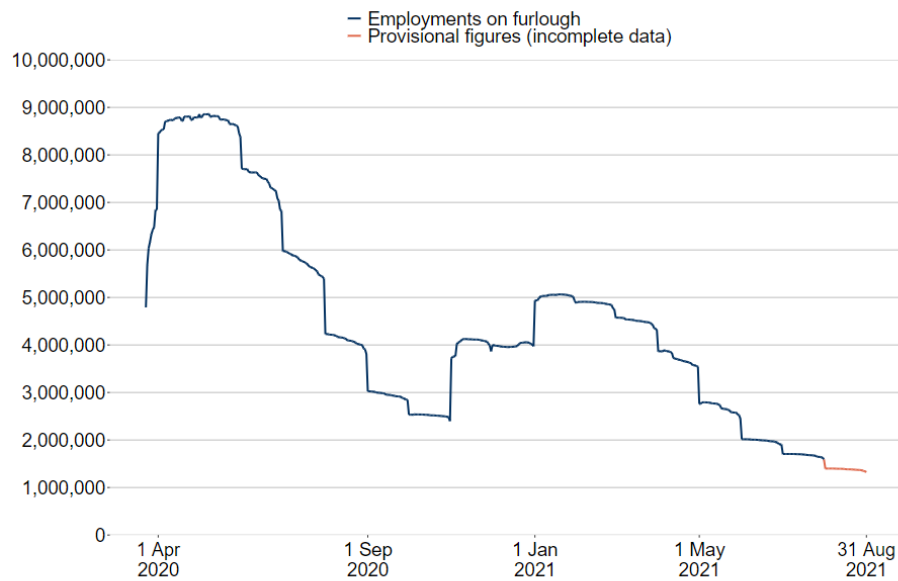
United Kingdom

Furloughed Employments Over Time

- For the UK, the number of employments on furlough peaked at 8.9 million on 8th May 2020. This fell to 2.4 million at 31st October, rose again to 4.9 million employments on furlough at 31st January 2021. However, the number of employments on furlough has fallen since January and the latest provisional figures show that as the scheme is coming to an end, the number of employments on furlough was 1.3 million on the 31st August 2021. Since the start of the scheme a total of 11.7 million jobs have been put on furlough for at least part of the duration of the scheme.

¹ Source: HMRC, Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme statistics: October 2021. Please note, the figures for August 2021 are based on claims received to the deadline of 14th September 2021. In some circumstances, late claims can be made with a reasonable excuse and in agreement with HMRC. Claims for August could also be amended until 30th September 2021. Therefore, the data for August 2021 is incomplete and should be considered provisional.

The following chart shows the total number of employments furloughed in the UK over time to 31st August 2021:

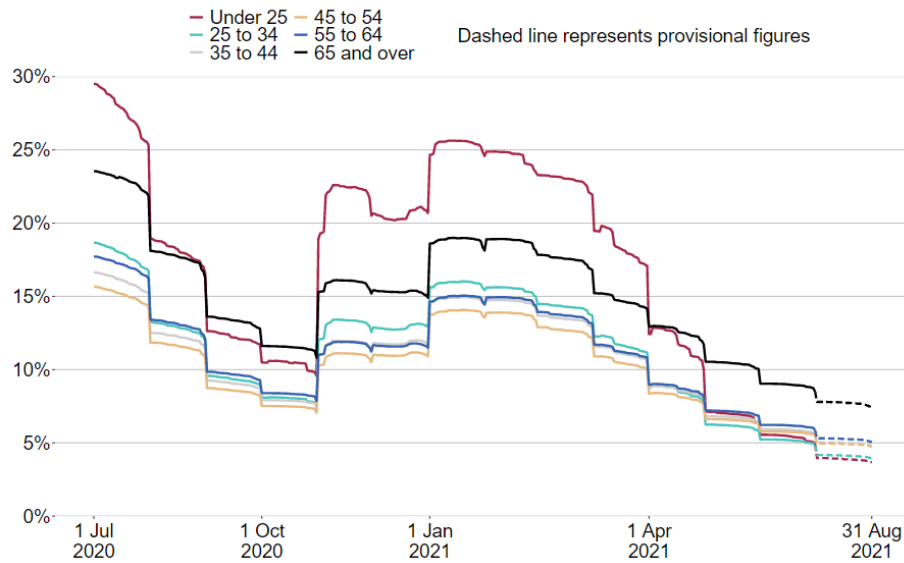


Source: HMRC CJRS data

Employments Furloughed Over Time by Age

- For all age bands the number of employments on furlough and the take-up rates decreased across February to August 2021. The largest reductions in the number of employments on furlough in June and August were for younger employees in the under 18, 18 to 24 and 25 to 34 age bands.
- Take-up rates for the youngest age bands - under 18 and 18 to 24 - decreased dramatically in July and August 2021 and are now lower than other age bands. This reduction is in line with the easing of restrictions across the UK, particularly in hospitality.
- Take-up rate for the 65 and over age band reduced more slowly than for the youngest age groups through July and August 2021. Thus, at the end of August this age band had the highest take-up of all age groups. The 65 and over age band had take-up rates of 7% and 8% for female and male employments at 31st August 2021, in comparison with the 4% and 5% respectively for the total female and male populations.

The following chart shows the proportion of employments furloughed for the UK by the age of the employee between July 2020 to August 2021:



Source: HMRC CJRS and PAYE Real Time Information data

Furlough by Gender

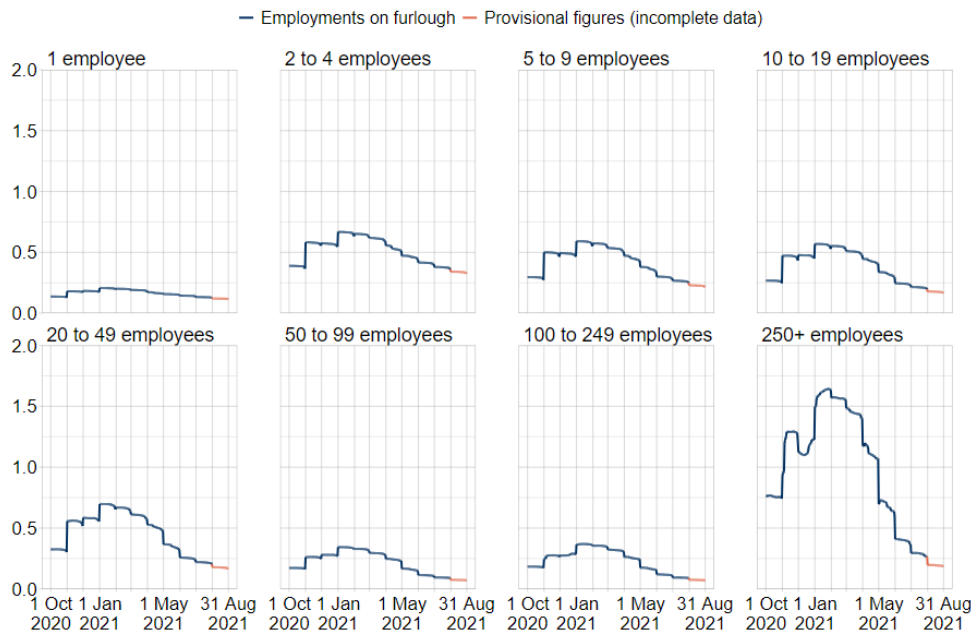
- For the UK, more employments were put on furlough with male job holders than where the employee was female through May to August 2021. This reflects decreases in the number of jobs on furlough in sectors such as accommodation and food which typically have higher numbers of female employees.
- For employments where the employee was female, there were 739,500 employments on furlough at 31st July 2021. Provisional figures show that this decreased throughout August to 617,200 at 31st August 2021. For employments where the employee was male, there were 822,800 employments on furlough at 31st July 2021. Provisional figures show the number of employments on furlough decreased to 697,300 at 31st August 2021.

Furlough by Employer Size

- For the UK, for all employer sizes, the number of employments on furlough decreased from February to August 2021. The largest reduction is for employers with 250 or more employees where the number of employments on furlough decreased by 78,900 from 264,700 employments at 31st July 2021 to a provisional estimate of 185,800 at 31st August 2021.
- Employers with one employment had 126,300 employments on furlough at 31st July 2021. Provisional figures show that this decreased only slightly in August to 116,000 employments on furlough at 31st August 2021.
- Employers with 2 to 4 employees had the highest proportion of eligible employments on furlough at 18%. Medium and large sized businesses have the lowest proportion of eligible employments on furlough. Provisional figures for 31st August 2021 show that employers with 250 or more employees had 1% of eligible employees on furlough.

- Between January and the end of August 2021, the number of employments on furlough decreased by a larger proportion amongst large employers. Employers with 250 or more employees have seen an 89% reduction in employments on furlough since the peak in January, in comparison with a 44% reduction amongst employers with one employee. This may reflect the varying impact of the pandemic on businesses of differing sizes.

Total employments on furlough (millions) by employer size (number of employees), October 2020 to August 2021 for the UK:



Source: HMRC CJRS and PAYE Real Time Information data

Furlough by Industry

- Provisional figures show for the UK that all sectors saw a reduction in levels of furlough between 31st July and 31st August 2021. The arts, entertainment and recreation sector had the highest take-up rate of all the sectors, with 12% of employments eligible for furlough on furlough at 31st August 2021.
- The accommodation and food services sector saw the largest reduction in the number of employments on furlough between 31st July and 31st August. There were 193,800 employments on furlough (11% of those eligible) in this sector at 31st August 2021, a reduction of 69,900. The construction, transportation and storage has relatively high take-up rates (8%) and have been slower than other sectors in reducing the number of employments on furlough in August.
- Diving further into the broad sectors to an industry level; the ten more detailed industry groups with the highest rates of jobs being put on furlough at 31st August 2021 were passenger air transport (44%), travel agency and tour operators (40%), photographic activities (34%), manufacture of wearing apparel (25%), creative; arts and entertainments activities (24%), printing and service activities relating to printing (23%), organisation of conventions and trade shows (23%), other reservation service and related activities (22%), retail sale via stalls and markets (21%), and reproduction of recorded media (20%).

Black Country

Employments Furloughed by Gender

- In total, the Black Country area had 24,900 employments furloughed on the 31st August 2021. This reflects a 5.2% take-up of eligible employments for the scheme, compared to UK-wide of 4.6%. When compared to 31st July 2021, the number of employments furloughed in the Black Country area decreased by 4,300 (-14.7%, UK -16.6%).
- As of 31st August 2021, there was a higher percentage of males furloughed at 6% (14,400), compared to females at 4.4% (10,500). Whereas the UK had a take up rate of 4.9% for males and 4.3% for females.
- As of the 31st August 2021, the local authorities with the highest percentage of employments furloughed was Sandwell and Walsall both at 5.5%. The local authority with the highest percentage of males furloughed was Sandwell at 6.4%. The local authority with the highest percentage of female employments furloughed was Walsall at 4.7%.

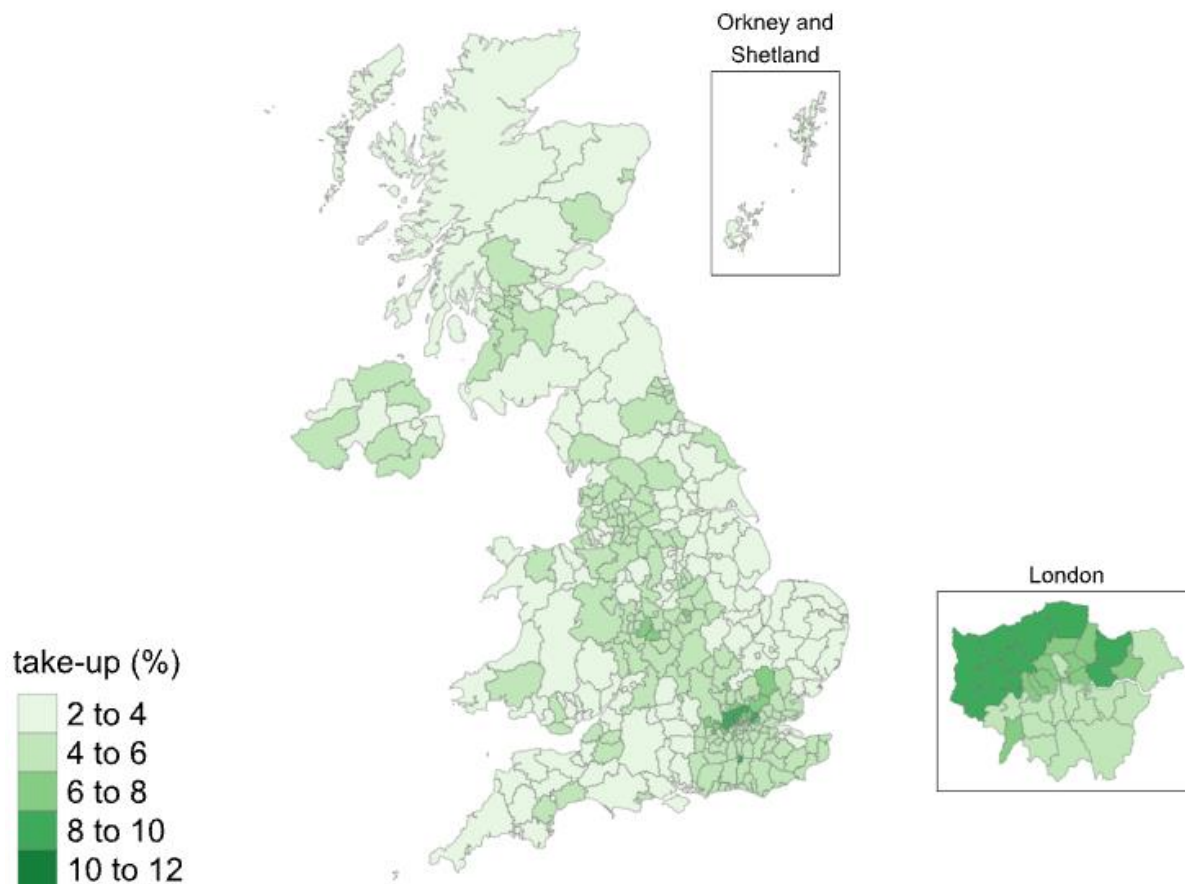
The following table shows employments furloughed, eligible employments and the take-up rate for the Black Country area by gender as of 31st August 2021²:

	Female eligible employments	Female employments furloughed	Female take up-rate	Male eligible employments	Male employments furloughed	Male take up-rate	Total eligible employments	Total employments furloughed	Total take up-rate
Dudley	66,200	2,600	3.9%	65,600	3,500	5.3%	131,800	6,100	4.6%
Sandwell	65,900	3,000	4.6%	67,000	4,300	6.4%	132,900	7,300	5.5%
Walsall	54,800	2,600	4.7%	55,800	3,500	6.3%	110,600	6,100	5.5%
Wolverhampton	53,800	2,300	4.3%	53,300	3,100	5.8%	107,000	5,400	5.0%
Black Country LEP	240,700	10,500	4.4%	241,700	14,400	6.0%	482,300	24,900	5.2%
West Midlands Region	1,208,800	52,400	4.3%	1,215,600	66,700	5.5%	2,424,300	119,000	4.9%
United Kingdom	14,452,600	617,200	4.3%	14,239,600	697,300	4.9%	28,692,200	1,324,600	4.6%

- The parliamentary constituency in the Black Country area with the highest take-up rate on 31st August 2021 was Walsall South at 6.1%. Walsall South was also the parliamentary constituency with the highest male take-up rate with 7.3%. The parliamentary constituency with the highest female take-up rate with 5.1% was Warley.

² Please note 'unknown' has been excluded from the table, the total UK figure will not sum.

The following map shows employments on furlough as a proportion of eligible employments at 31st August 2021 (provisional), by Parliamentary Constituency:



Employments Furloughed by Age and Gender³

- When proportioning out furloughed workers by gender and age bracket as a proportion of the total number of female or male furloughed workers, the Black Country area had a higher proportion of female workers furloughed when compared to the UK rate in four age bands. These age bands for females were; aged under 25 (11% vs 9.5%), aged 25-29 (9.2% vs 9.0%), aged 35-39 (12.1% vs 11.9%) and aged 55-59 (10.7% vs 10.5%).
- the Black Country area had a higher proportion of male workers furloughed when compared to the UK rate in four age bands. These age bands for males were; aged 45-49 (11.3% vs 11.2%), aged 50-54 (12.5% vs 11.6%) and aged 55-59 (10.6% vs 10.5%) and aged 60-64 (8.2% vs 8%)

³ UK analysis excludes unknown or missing, figure may not sum.

The following tables shows a breakdown of employments furloughed by gender and grouped by age for the 31st August 2021⁴:

		Black Country	Black Country %	UK	UK %
Female	Under 25	1,150	11.0%	58,600	9.5%
	25 to 29	960	9.2%	55,600	9.0%
	30 to 34	1,120	10.7%	68,400	11.1%
	35 to 39	1,260	12.1%	73,700	11.9%
	40 to 44	1,120	10.7%	71,300	11.6%
	45 to 49	1,130	10.8%	69,200	11.2%
	50 to 54	1,200	11.5%	73,300	11.9%
	55 to 59	1,120	10.7%	64,900	10.5%
	60 to 64	780	7.5%	47,100	7.6%
	65 and over	590	5.7%	35,000	5.7%
	All	10,500	100%	617,200	100%
Male	Under 25	1,250	8.6%	61,000	8.7%
	25 to 29	1,270	8.8%	63,800	9.2%
	30 to 34	1,610	11.1%	77,500	11.1%
	35 to 39	1,700	11.7%	82,000	11.8%
	40 to 44	1,670	11.5%	81,700	11.7%
	45 to 49	1,640	11.3%	78,100	11.2%
	50 to 54	1,810	12.5%	81,000	11.6%
	55 to 59	1,530	10.6%	73,000	10.5%
	60 to 64	1,190	8.2%	56,000	8.0%
	65 and over	800	5.5%	43,100	6.2%
	All	14,400	100%	697,300	100%
Total	Under 25	2,410	9.7%	119,700	9.1%
	25 to 29	2,230	9.0%	119,400	9.1%
	30 to 34	2,730	11.0%	145,900	11.1%
	35 to 39	2,960	11.9%	155,700	11.8%
	40 to 44	2,770	11.1%	153,000	11.6%
	45 to 49	2,770	11.1%	147,300	11.2%
	50 to 54	3,000	12.0%	154,300	11.7%
	55 to 59	2,650	10.6%	137,900	10.5%
	60 to 64	1,980	8.0%	103,100	7.8%
	65 and over	1,400	5.6%	78,100	5.9%
	All	24,900	100%	1,324,600	100%

Employments Furloughed by Broad Sector

- The manufacturing sector had the highest number of employments furloughed in the Black Country on the 31st August 2021 with 5,400 people. This was followed by wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles with 4,170 employments furloughed.
- Since 31st July 2021, accommodation and food services experienced a reduction of 1,060 (down to 3,160, but remains third highest sector).
- On the 31st August, arts, entertainment and recreating had the smallest number of employments furloughed with 740.

⁴ Figures will not sum due to rounding and for the UK missing and unknown has been excluded.



The following table shows the total employments furloughed by broad sector for the overall Black Country as of 31st July 2021 and 31st August 2021:

	31 st July 2021	31 st August 2021	Change
Accommodation and food services	4,220	3,160	-1,060
Administrative and support services	2,400	2,060	-340
Arts, entertainment and recreation	860	740	-120
Construction	2,000	1,720	-280
Health and social work	1,310	1,080	-230
Information and communication, Financial and insurance & Real estate	1,190	1,050	-140
Manufacturing	6,130	5,400	-730
Other	1,370	1,140	-230
Other service activities	1,210	1,080	-130
Professional, scientific and technical	1,630	1,510	-120
Transportation and storage	2,140	1,810	-330
Wholesale and retail; repair of motor vehicles	4,640	4,170	-470
Total	29,200	24,900	-4,300