

Labour Market Information Bulletin

December 2022 Edition

East Sussex Claimant Statistics - November 2022

Total number claiming Universal Credit (UC) any conditionality - 46,491

Total claiming UC any conditionality as % of the working-age population - 14.6%

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 \(ESiF\)](#)

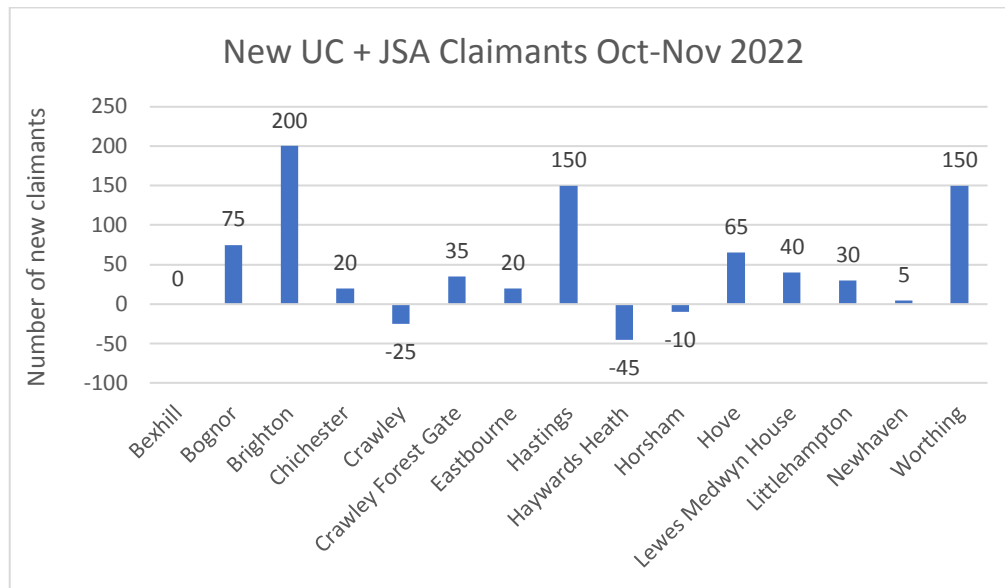
DWP Universal Credit “searching for work”/Job Seekers Allowance for East Sussex

	October 2022	November 2022	
UC Intensive + JSA	All ages		% Change
Bexhill	925	925	0.0%
Bognor	1,325	1,400	+5.7%
Brighton	5,290	5,490	+3.8%
Chichester	1,800	1,820	+1.1%
Crawley	1,850	1,825	-1.4%
Crawley Forest Gate	1,980	2,015	+1.8%
Eastbourne	3,910	3,930	+0.5%
Hastings	3,885	4,035	+3.9%
Haywards Heath	1,080	1,035	-4.2%
Horsham	1,625	1,615	-0.6%
Hove	2,570	2,635	+2.5%
Lewes Medwyn House	830	870	+4.8%
Littlehampton	1,235	1,265	+2.4%
Newhaven	1,165	1,170	+0.4%
Worthing	3,025	3,175	+5.0%
Total	32,495	33,205	+2.2%
Source:ONS/Nomis as of 14 December 2022, courtesy of DWP Surrey & Sussex			

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

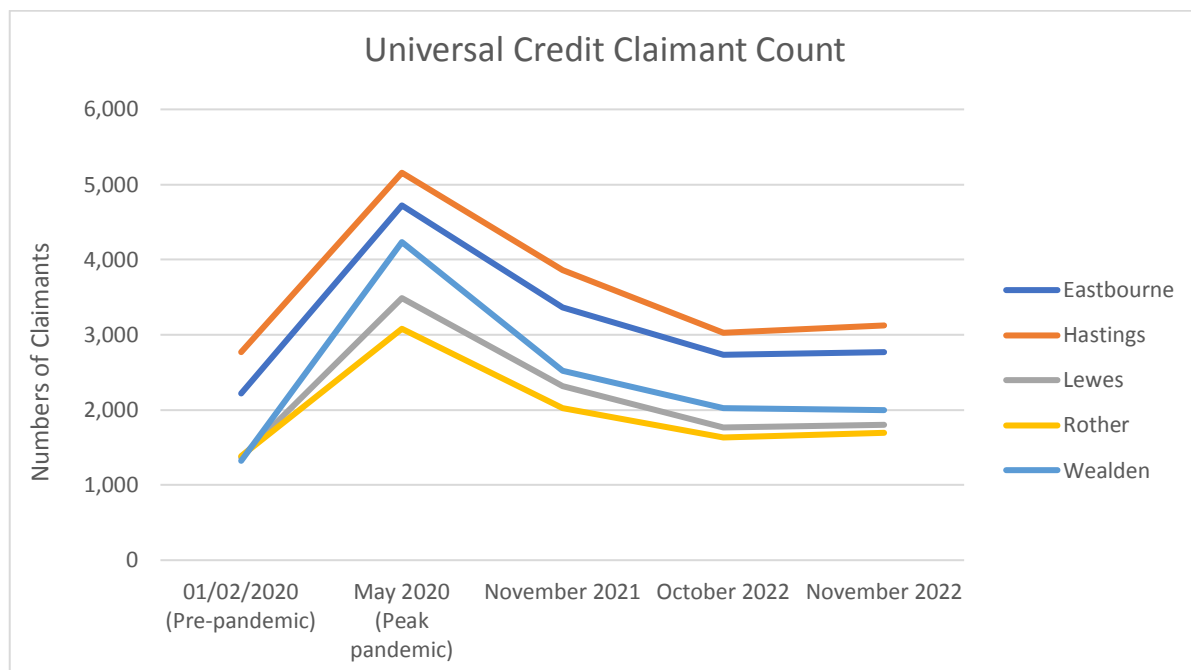
The above table shows adult benefit claimants who are looking for work and registered at job centres across Sussex and Brighton and Hove in both October and November 2022.

Of the 16 Job Centre sites included, 12 have seen a rise in claimants over the last month. This equates to 710 new claimants, an increase of 2.2%.



The graph provides a visualisation of the changing number of new claimants in each area over the last month.

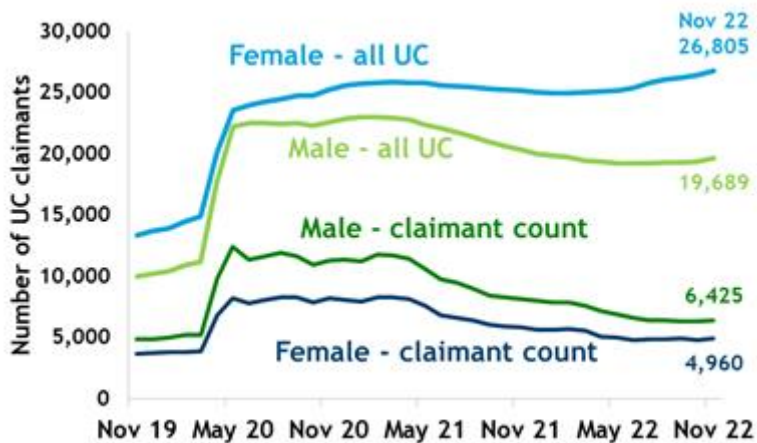
Hastings has seen the largest rise with 150 new claimants over the past month. The 4.8% rise in Lewes reflects relatively small numbers, 4.8% equating to 40 people. Overall, there continues to be a larger number of new claimants across West Sussex and Brighton and Hove although this is relative to the sizes of those populations.



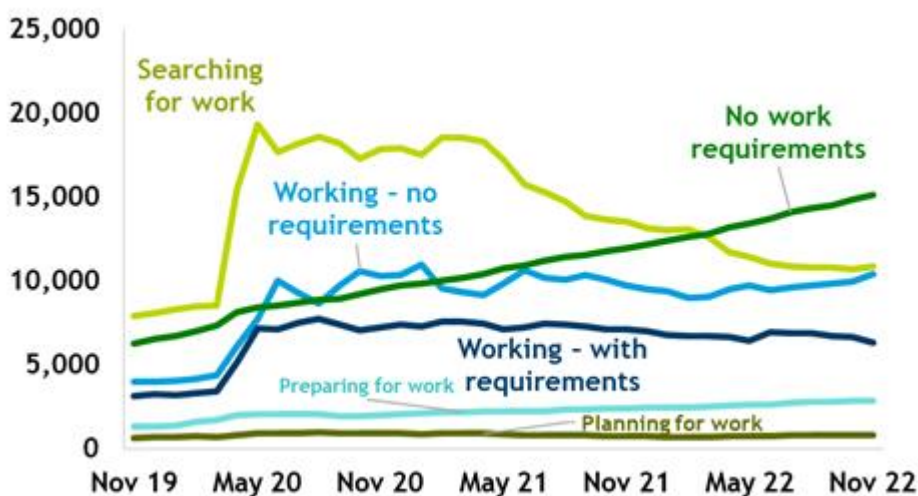
[Data Source: DWP Survey and Sussex \(author's graph\)](#)

Claimant numbers have dropped substantially since the peak of the pandemic in May 2020 (45.8% lower). They have not returned to pre-pandemic levels, currently tracking at 23.9% higher February 2020.

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



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



Graphs: Courtesy of [ESIF](#)

There is a continued rise (reflected nationally) in those with 'no work requirements' in the data. These are the people who are 'economically inactive' and not reflected in the unemployment figures.

DWP 'in work progression' and '50+' initiatives are being piloted in Sussex to target key groups within the claimant count.

East Sussex has fewer vacancies per job seeker than seen across the South East. This means there is less choice of available jobs for our jobseekers than elsewhere in the UK. Additionally, a large number of East Sussex job seekers are identified as needing significant support to be ready for work. These combining factors are contributing to lower median salaries being offered in the County versus the rest of the South East.

East Sussex Vacancy Statistics

Vacancies (unique job postings) by District (data taken on 13/12/22):

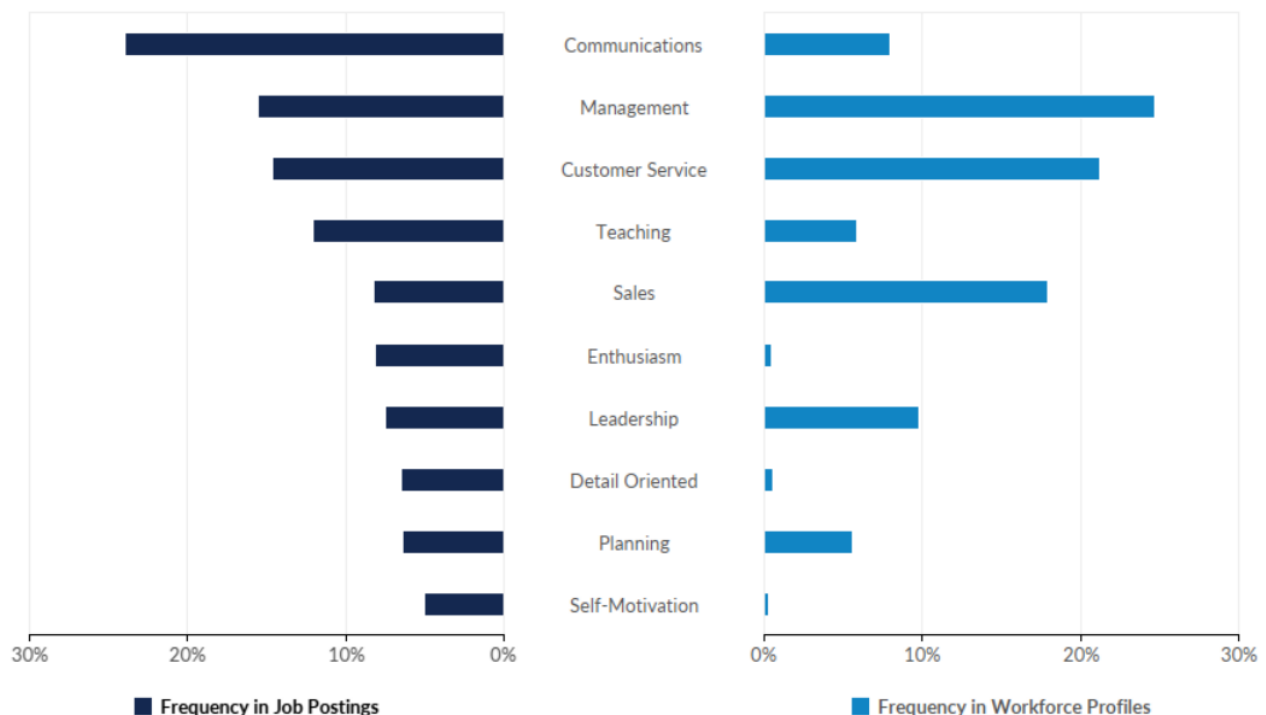
- Eastbourne - 2,930
- Wealden - 2,477
- Lewes - 2,127
- Hastings - 2,086
- Rother - 1,051

Top 5 Posted Job Titles in East Sussex (Last 30 days as of 13/12/22)

1. Care Worker
2. Nurse
3. Teaching Assistant
4. Administration Staff
5. Customer Service Staff

Skills demand in East Sussex

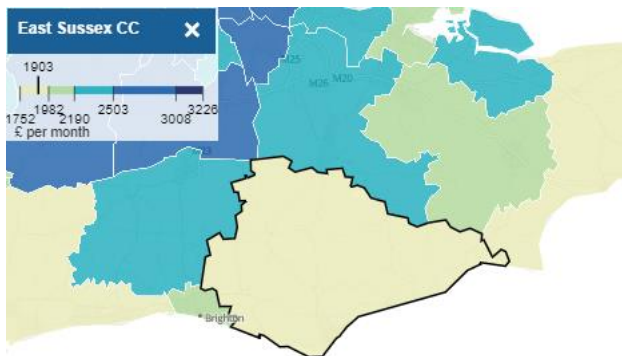
The graph represents the most common skills that have appeared in job postings and workforce profiles in East Sussex within the last thirty days as of (13/12/22).



[Source: Lightcast](#)

Monthly Median Pay in East Sussex

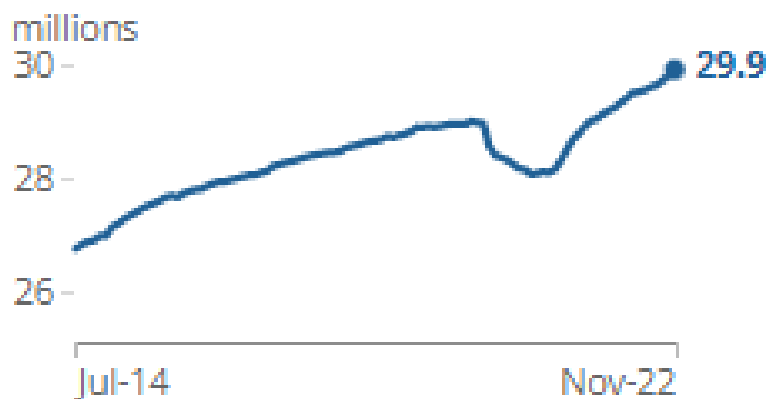
Monthly median pay in East Sussex was recorded as £1,903 per month using the HM Revenue and Customs Pay As You Earn Real Time Information.



National Employment Picture

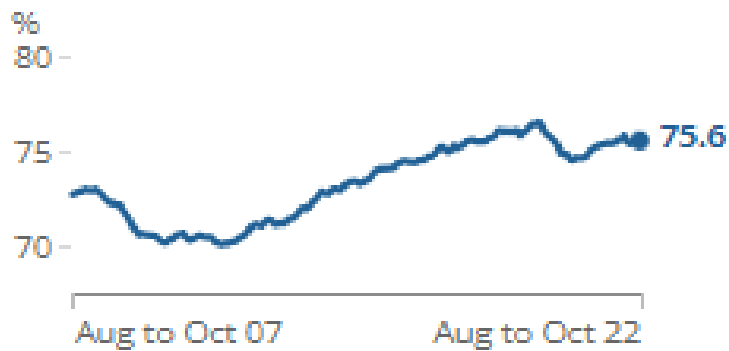
Employment has grown in the UK from August to October 2022 by 0.2%, rising to 75.6%, however, the employment rate is still below pre-pandemic levels. It is important to note that those deemed economically inactive are not included in this statistic.

The amount of payrolled employees increased nationally in November by 107,000 to a new high of 29.9 million.

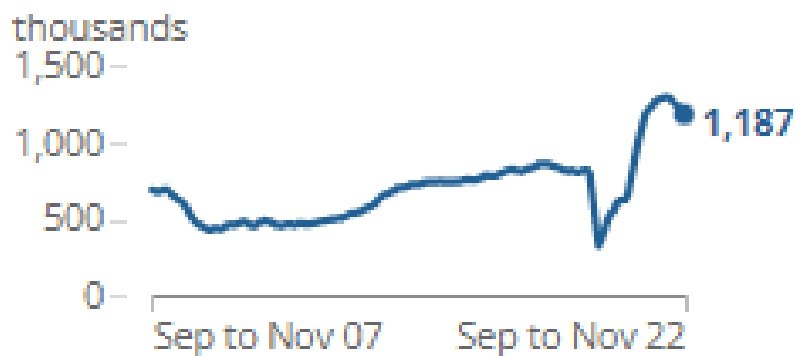


The unemployment rate from August to October increased by 0.1 percentage points and rose overall to 3.7%.

In the last three months the amount of people unemployed for up to six months increased across all age groups. This potentially demonstrates a trend of a worsening outlook for job seekers.



Between September to November 2022, the number of vacancies fell by an estimated 65,000 to 1,187,000. Even after five quarterly falls in vacancy levels they still remain at extremely high levels.



The numbers of economically inactive people of working age remains high, at more than one-fifth of those aged 16-64.

Graphs: [ONS](#)

Job Postings Nationally (13/12/22)

- London - 413,776
- South East - 318,050
- North West - 238,733
- South West - 188,379
- Yorkshire and The Humber - 166,417

Source: [lightcast](#)

Sector Focus - Automotive

The automotive industry is a significant contributor to the UK economy. It currently contributes £37 billion to the UK economy and supplies 742,600 jobs to the labour market.

78% of these jobs are within automotive retail and the remaining 22% are in automotive manufacturing. See table below for a full breakdown of employment in the automotive sector in 2021:

Automotive Retail			
SIC	Description	2021 Jobs	2021 Establishments
4511	Sale of Cars and Light Motor Vehicles	168,795	22141
4519	Sale of Other Motor Vehicles	13,896	1555
4520	Maintenance and Repair of Motor Vehicles	229,718	51313
4531	Wholesale Trade of Motor Vehicle Parts and Accessories	63,854	6009
4532	Retail Trade of Motor Vehicle Parts and Accessories	37,065	6195
4540	Sale, Maintenance and Repair of Motorcycles and Related Parts and Accessories	7,988	2108
4677	Wholesale of Waste and Scrap	9,215	1580
7711	Renting and Leasing of Cars and Light Motor Vehicles	40,013	4861
7712	Renting and Leasing of Trucks	8,274	955
		578,818	96,717

Automotive Manufacturing			
SIC	Description	2021 Jobs	2021 Establishments
2910	Manufacture of Motor Vehicles	77,700	953
2920	Manufacture of Bodies (Coachwork) for Motor Vehicles; Manufacture of Trailers and Semi-trailers	22,271	803
2931	Manufacture of Electrical and Electronic Equipment for Motor Vehicles	2,410	110
2932	Manufacture of Other Parts and Accessories for Motor Vehicles	59,657	1,420
3091	Manufacture of Motorcycles	1,739	55
		163,776	3,341

[IMI - Annual Research Report 2022 summary report.pdf \(theimi.org.uk\)](#) (page 4)

The pandemic has significantly affected employment within the industry. There are now 65,000 fewer jobs available in the sector than there were in 2019. This has not been universal across roles within the sector. The shortfall has been more acute in automotive retail for example where the Sale, Maintenance and Repair of Motorcycles has seen a 22% fall in jobs.

However, factors such as the need to move to electric vehicles, an ageing population and increasing occupational mobility are all forecast to contribute to a steadily increasing demand for workers over the next decade.

According to a recent report by the Institute of the Motor Industry, there will be an estimated total net requirement of 159,925 vacancies to be filled by 2031. See table below for a full breakdown on specific roles which are forecast to have the highest number of vacancy openings over the next decade.

Table 1: UK Automotive Retail Sector Employment Requirements by specific occupation and major occupation group 2021-2031

SOC	Description	Net Change (new jobs)	Employment replacement	Total Requirement
Specific Occupations				
5231	Vehicle Technicians, Mechanics and Electricians	-1435	27024	25589
7115	Vehicle and Parts Salespersons and Advisers	-614	12144	11531
9236	Vehicle Valeters and Cleaners	-74	6923	6849
3545	Sales Accounts and Business Development Managers	-830	6180	5350
4159	Other Administrative Occupations n.e.c.	-693	6241	5548
7111	Sales and Retail Assistants	-130	4655	4526
4216	Receptionists	-675	3960	3285
4122	Book-keepers, Payroll Managers and Wages Clerks	-670	5002	4332
1190	Managers and Directors in Retail and Wholesale	-379	5120	4741
9260	Elementary Storage Occupations	-697	4743	4045
1252	Garage Managers and Proprietors	-160	5328	5167
5232	Vehicle Body Builders and Repairers	-28	3566	3538
8135	Tyre, Exhaust and Windscreen Fitters	-39	3004	2965
Other occupations rounded to major occupation group (excluding the above)				
1	Managers, Directors and Senior Officials	-792	10997	10204
2	Professional Occupations	-521	3744	3224
3	Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	-1232	10963	9732
4	Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	-1090	10958	9868
5	Skilled Trades Occupations	-413	9469	9056
6	Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations	7	746	754
7	Sales and Customer Service Occupations	-387	9946	9558
8	Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	-992	18113	17121
9	Elementary Occupations	-269	3212	2943
Total		-12113	172038	159925

[Automotive Sector Employment 2021-31 0.pdf \(theimi.org.uk\)](#) (page 11)

Careers in Automotive

There are a range of exciting careers in the Automotive sector nationally and in East Sussex.

- Car Detailer
- Auto Body Repair Technician
- Mechanic
- Car Salesperson
- Quality Tester
- And many more... [Automotive Industry - Careermap](#)

Education and Training for the Automotive Sector in East Sussex

There are a range of education and training options for those wishing to work in the automotive sector in East Sussex.

- Vehicle Maintenance Repair Certificate
- Diploma in Vehicle Maintenance

- Component Removal in Electric and Hybrid Vehicles
- Vehicle Technology
- Motor Vehicle Body Repair and Paint
- And many more including apprenticeships - [Automotive Training Centre | East Sussex College \(escg.ac.uk\)](#) and [Motor Vehicle - Plumpton College](#) and [Agricultural Engineering - Plumpton College](#)

Education and Training News

Part of the public sector

Further Education Colleges and Sixth Forms have been reclassified by the ONS. They are now part of the public sector. This means that they will transition to national government control in relation to how they spend their budgets and choose to deliver their educational outcomes.

[Economic statistics sector classification – classification update and forward work plan - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)

Nuclear apprenticeships

The next set of cohorts at [Sellafield Ltd](#) completed their 3-month induction in December. The ‘bridging course’ gives students introductions to electrical, maths, mechanical and nuclear modules. From these introductions, students gain a better idea of which of the degree apprenticeship pathways they wish to take. A level 5 Nuclear Technician apprenticeship is gained with the degree.

It is very early days, but the December breakthrough at the National Ignition Facility in the USA (the team was multinational including British scientists) has raised hopes about energy generation becoming cleaner and greener and plentiful. Engineering and science, especially nuclear continue to lay the groundwork for major changes in our future.

[Nuclear Engineer Salary UK | Get Into Nuclear](#)

[Nuclear engineer | Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)

Employer entry

The requirement for our schools and colleges to give students at least six encounters with technical and apprenticeship providers between years 8 to 13 comes into force on 1 January 2023.

[Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge for Schools and Colleges \(ASK\) Programme - SCTP](#)

Focus on Census 2021

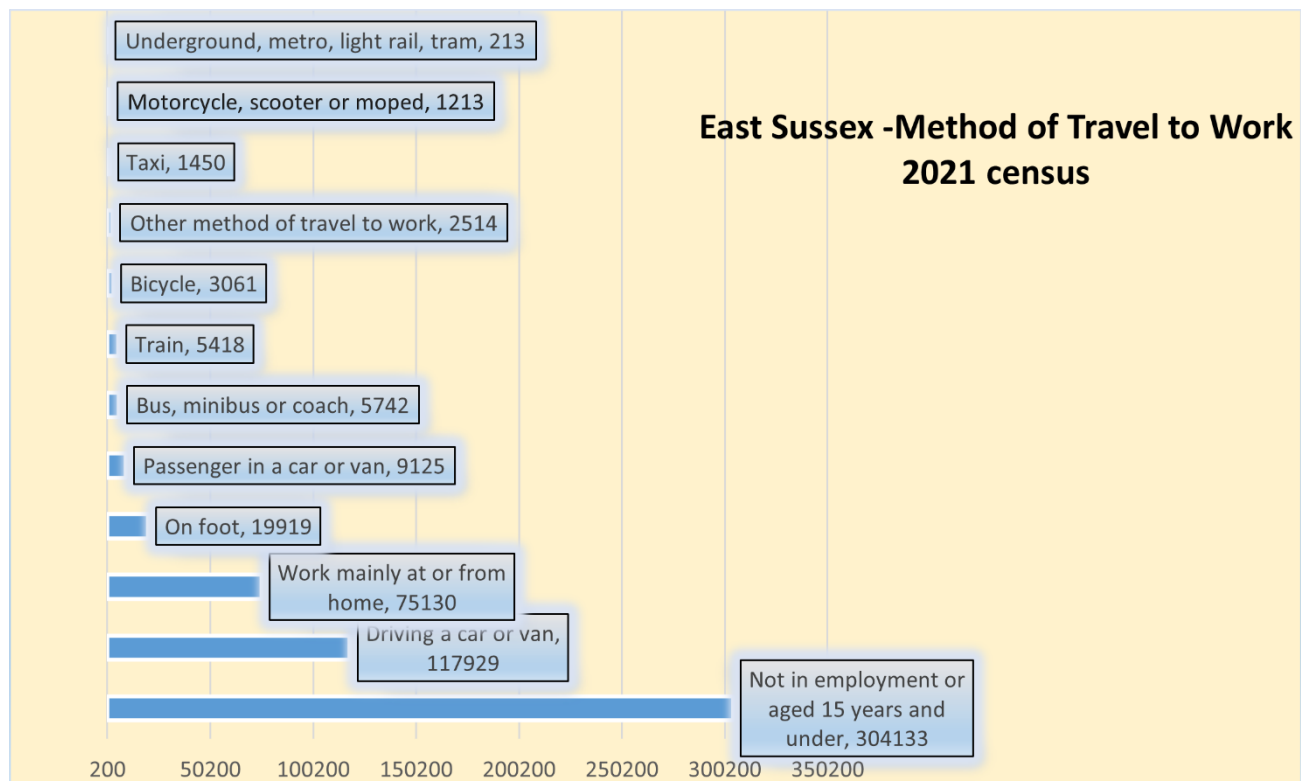
We have some 2021 Census data for you as promised last issue. Fittingly, the theme is travel to work, given automotive is our sector focus this month.

Of course, the 2021 UK Census occurred during a Covid lockdown. People were instructed to work from home wherever possible. Others will have been on furlough.

The Office for National Statistics state “People who were furloughed (about 5.6 million) were advised to answer the transport to work question based on their previous travel patterns before or during the pandemic. This means that the data does not accurately

represent what they were doing on Census Day. This variable cannot be directly compared with the 2011 Census Travel to Work data as it does not include people who were travelling to work on that day. It may however, be partially compared with bespoke tables from 2011.”

In England and Wales 45.1% (12.5million) of those aged 16 and over in employment gave driving a car or van as their usual method for travel to work. 3.6% (1.1million) travelled as passengers.



More than 22% of people drive a car or van with another 2% being given a lift.

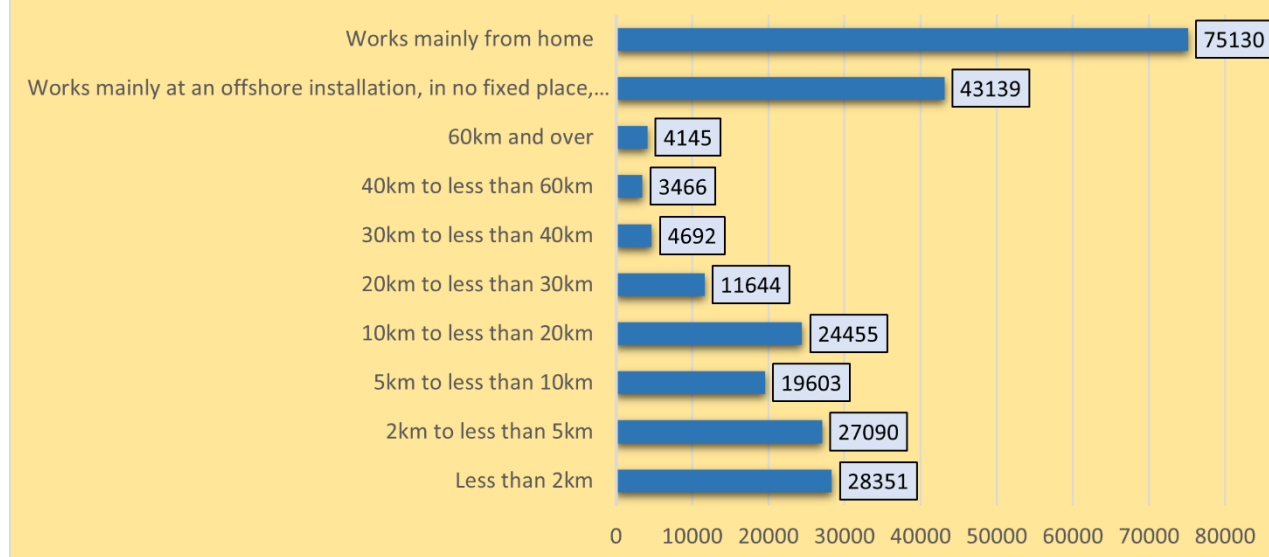
There are twice as many walkers as passengers.

Over half of those who worked (54.3%) [see table below] travelled to a depot or a workplace.

A large number had ‘no fixed place’ as a destination for their travel. Delivery drivers, couriers or agency workers will often travel to a depot or office before being assigned work.

It is more likely that those in this category are those who carry out their work at various locations - such as a plumber visiting others’ homes.

East Sussex - Distance Travelled to Work 2021 Census



And Finally!

Happy 30th Birthday to mobile phone text messages.

The first text sent to a mobile phone read 'Merry Christmas'. It was sent by Vodafone engineer Neil Papworth on 3rd December 1992 to test the software on his computer. His boss, Richard Jarvis, was at a party and did not reply. Originally texts were only up to 160 characters long, and just text. Emojis and emoticons took off later.

30 years of this mode of communication means a number of adults do not remember life before text messaging was available. These days many people would prefer to text than talk. This (alongside the tandem rise in email) has led to a significant shift in how humans communicate.

The act of texting doesn't appear to be going anywhere anytime soon. The method in which the message is sent has changed as mobile applications, rather than direct mobile to mobile messages, increase in popularity.

Try not to text when drinking (45% of people have regretted sending a text when under the influence of alcohol) and don't write a CV or job application in text-speak.

Verbal communication is still vitally important and something that many employers list as a key skill missing in applicants. You can't text your way through a job interview (yet).

[Texting is 30, which means most adults don't remember life before it | TechRadar](#)

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 \(ons.gov.uk\)](#)

[instant messaging | communication | Britannica](#)

[Automotive Sector Employment 2021-31_0.pdf \(theimi.org.uk\)](#)

[IMI - Annual Research Report 2022_summary report.pdf \(theimi.org.uk\)](#)

[UK Automotive Industry - SMMT](#)

[Transport Engineer Website - for Transport Engineers and Fleet Managers](#)

[Britain's Auto Industry Is Down but Not Out \(caranddriver.com\)](#)

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.