

Introduction

This briefing contains the latest available data from the ONS Claimant Count as well as on payrolled employment and earnings, job postings, NEETs, business start-ups and active companies. Please note that since May 2026 DWP has changed from monthly to quarterly releases of Universal Credit caseload data and so this monthly briefing no longer contains this data.

For more information or to be added to / removed from the distribution list, please contact Ginny Murphy, Senior Analyst, Cumbria Combined Authority. Email: ginny.murphy@cumbria-ca.gov.uk Tel: 07826 859026. This briefing can also be found on the Cumbria Intelligence Observatory website: www.cumbriaobservatory.org.uk.

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1. KEY FINDINGS FOR CUMBRIA

- There were estimated to be 224,185 payrolled employees resident in Cumbria in the provisional Jun 2026 data, a decrease of 30 from the revised May figure. There were estimated to be 1,456 fewer residents in payrolled employment than this time last year. NB: provisional estimates are subject to revision in the next release.
- Median monthly payrolled earnings in Jun 2026 in Cumbria were provisionally estimated to be £2,532 which is 96% of the UK average. They were higher than the UK in West Cumbria (104%) but lower in East Cumbria (92%). NB: figures are calculated per employee irrespective of whether they work full time or part time. See note above about provisional estimates.
- Median payrolled earnings growth in Cumbria year on year was estimated to be 4.6% which is stronger than the UK growth rate of 4.3%.
- There were 6,580 claimants of JSA / UC (out of work and seeking work) in Jun 2026, which is 65 more than the revised May figure (+1.0%). The count rose everywhere except Allerdale where it was unchanged and South Lakeland where there was a minimal decrease. Compared to the same time last year, the claimant count (actively seeking work) is 90 higher (+1.4%). However this varies – the count is 185 higher in Cumberland than a year ago but 95 lower in Westmorland & Furness.
- The claimant rate (actively seeking work) in Cumbria was 2.2% in Jun 2026 unchanged from May and it remains below the national rate of 3.9% in all the former district areas. The claimant rate in Cumbria is unchanged from a year ago (nationally it is also unchanged).
- Claimant rates (of those actively seeking work) are below the national average in all age groups at Cumbria level. However, the rate for 18-24 year olds in Copeland remains above the national rate (5.9 v 5.6%).
- The quarterly economic activity data shows no clear change in the employment rate or the economic inactivity rate in Cumbria – the survey-based estimate of employment was 77.8% in Cumbria compared to 75.4% nationally and the economic inactivity estimate was 19.7% compared to 21.0% nationally. In both cases the difference is within the range of statistical variation due to the small sample size locally.

- There were 420 young people (aged 16/17) classed as NEET (inc not knowns) in May 2026 which is 2 more than in Apr and 46 more than the same month last year. There were 278 NEET/NKs in Cumberland and 142 in Westmorland & Furness.
- The NEET rate was 3.9% in Cumbria in May 2026, unchanged from Apr but 0.4ppt higher than a year ago. The rate was 4.4% in Cumberland and 3.1% in Westmorland & Furness. Both areas have a rate lower than the England rate of 5.7%.
- The participation rate for 16/17 year olds was 90.4% in Cumbria in May 2026 (89.1% in Cumberland and 92.3% in Westmorland & Furness) which compares to a rate of 91.8% for England.
- According to Lightcast there were 9,900 active online job postings in Jun 2026, 881 more than in May (+9.8%). The number of newly advertised postings during the month also rose, with 1,170 new postings than in May (+30.2%). Nationally there were similar scale increases.
- The occupations most in demand were care workers, chefs, cleaners & domestics and kitchen & catering assistants.
- Job-related skills most in demand were auditing, food safety & sanitation, continuous improvement and housekeeping whilst the personal attributes most in demand were communication, customer service and management.
- The recruiting organisations with the most active job postings were the NHS and BAE Systems.
- There were 705 small business start-ups in the quarter ending May 2026 which is 203 more than last quarter and 190 more than the same quarter last year. Start-ups were highest in real estate & professional services (199), construction (121), retail & wholesale (84) and recreation, personal & community services (79).
- There were 30,234 active companies on the FAME database in Cumbria at the end of Jun 2026, 2 more than in May.
- There were 163 new Companies House incorporations in Jun 2026, 34 fewer than in May and 49 fewer than the same month last year.
- There were 149 businesses recorded as dissolved/in liquidation during Jun 2026, 15 fewer than in May.
- Of the active businesses in Jun 2026, 1,709 had posted financial results showing a 10% increase in employment and/or turnover in their most recent accounts (5.7% of businesses) whilst 1,483 had posted results showing a 10% decline in one or both measures (4.9% of all businesses) (note: the majority of businesses do not file detailed financial accounts).
- Among businesses with a credit score in Jun 2026, 669 had a high risk credit score (1-20) which represents 4.1% of those with a credit score (UK 6.8%).
- At the end of Jun 2026, 1,791 businesses (3.0%) were identified on the Growth Flag platform as having high growth potential whilst 1,445 (2.4%) were rated as having financial red flags (not including provisional ratings).

2. **NATIONAL LABOUR MARKET OVERVIEW (Source: ONS release)**

NB: Unemployment figures in the national overview are calculated on a different basis to local data and therefore these figures should not be compared to the local area data.

- Estimates for payrolled employees in the UK fell by 85,000 (0.3%) between May 2025 and May 2026. However, it was largely unchanged on the month, increasing by 3,000 (0.0%) between April and May 2026. This is based on administrative data from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC).
- When looking at March to May 2026, the period comparable with our Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates, the number of payrolled employees fell by 90,000 (0.3%) over the year and by 30,000 (0.1%) over the quarter.
- The early estimate of payrolled employees for June 2026 decreased by 71,000 (0.2%) on the year, but was largely unchanged on the month, decreasing by just 4,000 (0.0%) to 30.3 million. Figures for June should be treated as provisional estimates and are likely to be revised when more data are received next month.
- The estimated UK employment rate decreased by 0.1 percentage points on the year, but increased by 0.1 percentage points, to 75.1%, in the latest quarter (March to May 2026), compared with the previous quarter (December 2025 to February 2026).
- The estimated UK unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points on the year, but decreased by 0.1 percentage points in the latest quarter, to 4.9%.
- The estimated UK economic inactivity rate decreased by 0.1 percentage points on the year and in the latest quarter, to 20.9%.

- The UK Claimant Count for June 2026 increased on the month but decreased on the year to an estimated 1.689 million.
- Vacancy estimates decreased on the quarter, with early estimates for April to June 2026 suggesting a decrease of 7,000 (0.9%) vacancies to 712,000, compared with January to March 2026.
- Vacancy estimates decreased in 10 of the 18 industry sectors; the largest decreases were in professional, scientific and technical activities and in human health and social work activities (both down 4,000 vacancies).
- Vacancy estimates decreased in 3 of the 5 employment size bands; the largest decrease was for businesses with 1 to 9 employees (down 8,000 vacancies).
- Total estimated vacancies were down by 18,000 (2.5%) in April to June 2026 from the level of a year ago, decreasing in 11 of the 18 industry sectors, and in 3 of the 5 employment size bands.
- There were 2.5 unemployed people per vacancy in March to May 2026; this ratio has remained at 2.5 since July to September 2025, after previously increasing quarter on quarter since July to September 2024.
- Annual growth in employees' average earnings was 3.4% for regular earnings (excluding bonuses) and 4.3% for total earnings (including bonuses).
- Annual growth in real terms, adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH), was 0.3% for regular pay and 1.1% for total pay.
- Using the Consumer Prices Index excluding owner occupiers' housing costs (CPI) to adjust for inflation, annual growth in real terms was 0.4% for regular pay and 1.3% for total pay.
- Annual average regular earnings growth was 5.5% for the public sector and 2.9% for the private sector; public sector annual pay growth continues to be affected by variations in the timing of pay awards this year.
- After the public sector, the wholesaling, retailing, hotels and restaurants sector showed the strongest regular annual growth rate (3.6%).

3. PAYROLLED EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS

These data are from HMRC's Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) system. The dataset covers employees payrolled by employers and not self-employment income or income from other sources such as pensions so is not a measure of total employment. Payrolled employees are recorded at their place of residence not work and latest month figures are a "flash estimate" which is revised in the subsequent publication. Unless otherwise stated, figures here are seasonally adjusted.

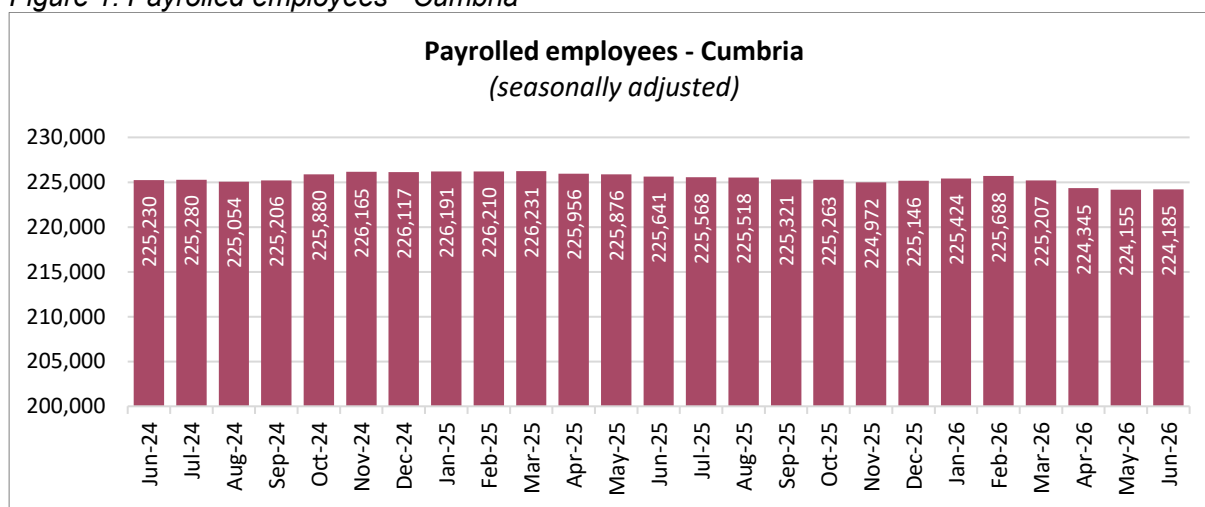
Note 1: District data are released quarterly, the ITL areas of West Cumbria (Allerdale, Copeland, Barrow) and East Cumbria (Carlisle, Eden, South Lakeland) are released monthly.

Note 2: provisional estimates are subject to revision in the next release and the scale of revisions is often greater at the start of the tax year.

3a. Payrolled employees (seasonally adjusted)

There were estimated to be 224,185 residents in Cumbria in payrolled employment in the provisional Jun 26 data, a decrease of 30 from the revised May total. There were estimated to be 1,456 fewer payrolled employees than a year earlier.

Figure 1: Payrolled employees - Cumbria



Source: HMRC / ONS. Latest month data are always provisional.

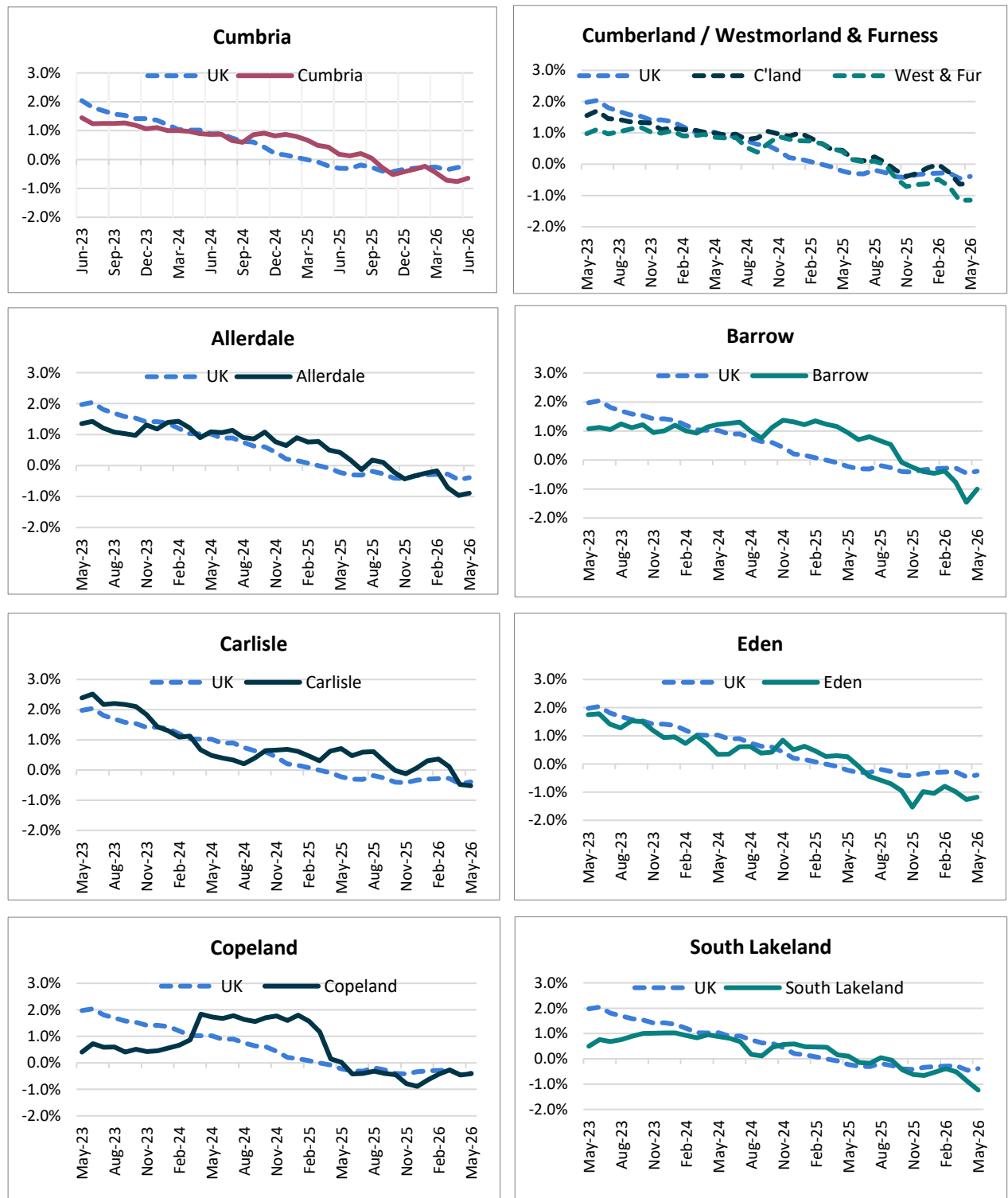
Figure 2: Payrolled employees – Seasonally adjusted

Payrolled employees (seasonally adjusted)					
	Jun 2026	Month change		One year change	
	No	No	%	No	%
UK	30,282,581	-3,864	0.0%	-71,460	-0.2%
England	25,704,478	-2,883	0.0%	-78,587	-0.3%
Cumbria	224,185	30	0.0%	-1,456	-0.6%
West Cumbria ITL	104,154	10	0.0%	-614	-0.6%
East Cumbria ITL	120,031	20	0.0%	-842	-0.7%

Source: HMRC / ONS. Unitary and former district data are only released quarterly. ITL areas are those in place prior to 2025. Latest month data are provisional.

These charts show the % year on year change in payrolled employees each month (seasonally adjusted) compared to the same month the previous year. It shows that employment growth has slowed considerably from three years ago. NB: district / unitary data only updated quarterly.

Figure 3: % change in employees from same month previous year (seasonally adjusted)

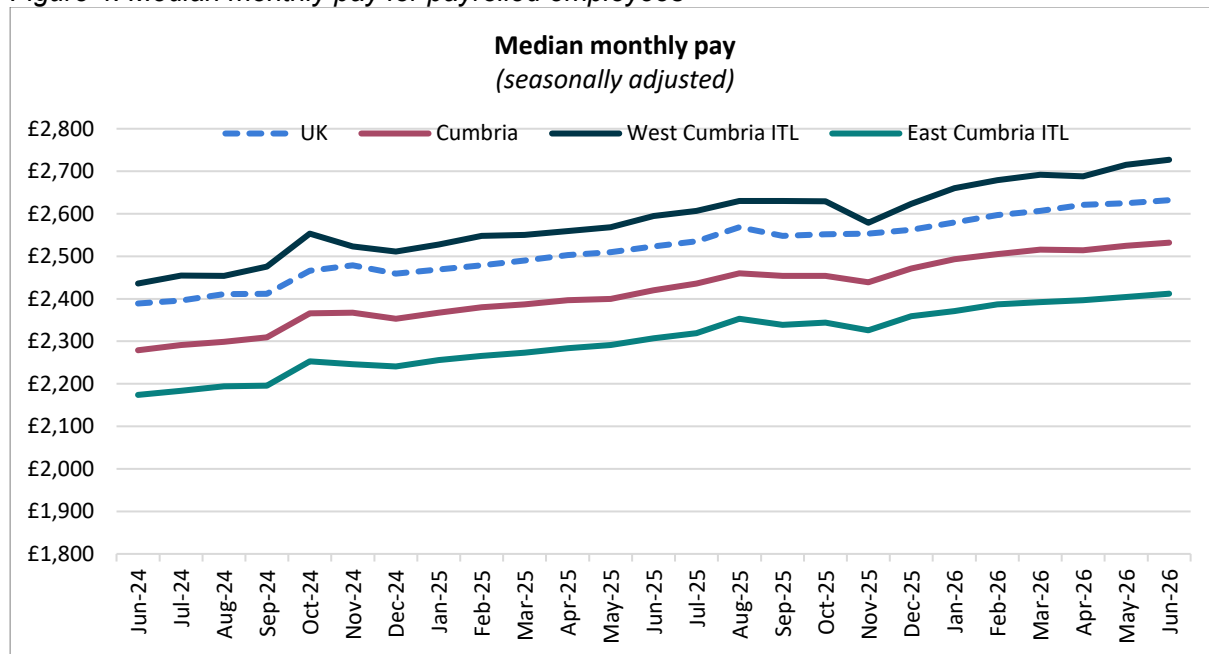


Source: HMRC / ONS. Unitary and former data are released quarterly. Latest month data are provisional.

3b. Median monthly pay (seasonally adjusted)

Median monthly pay for employees in Cumbria was estimated to be £2,532 in Jun 2026 which is 96% of the UK average. There was variation between areas with earnings in West Cumbria (Allerdale, Barrow and Copeland) being above the national average (104%) but lower in East Cumbria (92%). NB median earnings are measured per employee and do not account for full time / part time patterns. Median earnings data are not currently available for the unitary areas.

Figure 4: Median monthly pay for payrolled employees



Source: HMRC / ONS. Latest month data are always provisional. Unitary data are not available.

Figure 5: Median pay for payrolled employees

Median monthly pay (seasonally adjusted)						
	Jun 2026	UK Index	Month change		One year change	
	No	Index	No	%	No	%
UK	2,632	100	7	0.3%	109	4.3%
Cumbria	2,532	96	7	0.3%	112	4.6%
West Cumbria ITL	2,727	104	12	0.4%	132	5.1%
East Cumbria ITL	2,412	92	8	0.3%	105	4.6%

Source: HMRC / ONS. Former district data only released quarterly, unitary data not available. ITL areas are those in place prior to 2025. Latest month data are provisional.

4. UNEMPLOYMENT (CLAIMANTS) (released monthly) – count 11th Jun 2026

Important notes: The claimant count measures those on Job Seekers Allowance and those on Universal Credit who are required to seek work. It is not the same as the internationally agreed definition of unemployment which includes non-claimants and which is derived from a survey and published at national level on a monthly basis (see section 2). Similar figures are not available on a reliable or timely basis for local areas.

Please see Appendix 1 at the end of the briefing for ward level data and data for Community Panel (Cumberland) / Locality Board (Westmorland & Furness) areas.

The number of claimants in Cumbria actively seeking work in Jun 2026 rose by 65 compared to the revised May figure, up to a total of 6,580 which is a monthly increase of 1.0% (UK +1.1%). It was a mixed picture with the count rising in most former district areas except Allerdale where it was unchanged and South Lakeland where it fell minimally. The claimant rate in Cumbria was 2.2% which is below the national rate of 3.9% and is unchanged from last month. Compared to a year ago, the claimant count in Cumbria is 90 higher and the rate is unchanged.

Figure 6: Standard Claimant Count – Jun 2026

	Male		Female		All Persons		Monthly Change (all persons)			Annual Change (all persons)		
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	% chg	Rate chg	No	% chg	Rate chg
UK	957,020	4.5	740,100	3.4	1,697,120	3.9	19,255	1.1	0.0	-300	0.0	0.0
Cumbria	3,795	2.5	1,010	1.8	6,580	2.2	65	1.0	0.0	90	1.4	0.0
Cumberland	2,405	2.9	2,785	2.1	4,175	2.5	55	1.3	0.0	185	4.6	0.1
Allerdale	820	2.9	650	2.3	1,470	2.6	0	0.1	0.0	15	1.2	0.0
Carlisle	975	2.8	725	2.1	1,700	2.4	15	0.8	0.0	140	9.1	0.2
Copeland	605	3.0	400	2.0	1,005	2.5	40	3.9	0.1	25	2.8	0.1
Westmorland & Furness	1,390	2.1	1,775	1.5	2,400	1.8	10	0.5	0.0	-95	-3.8	-0.1
Barrow	690	3.3	370	1.8	1,060	2.5	10	0.8	0.0	-85	-7.3	-0.2
Eden	255	1.6	275	1.7	530	1.6	15	2.7	0.0	-5	-0.6	0.0
South Lakeland	445	1.5	370	1.2	815	1.3	-10	-1.3	0.0	-5	-0.9	0.0
of which LDNPA	135	1.3	135	1.3	270	1.3	5	1.5	0.0	-10	-3.6	0.0

Source: ONS/DWP, due to rounding, totals may not sum. Note: LDNPA is a "best-fit" comprising LSOAs with 50%+ of population within NP. LDNPA data are also included in relevant district.

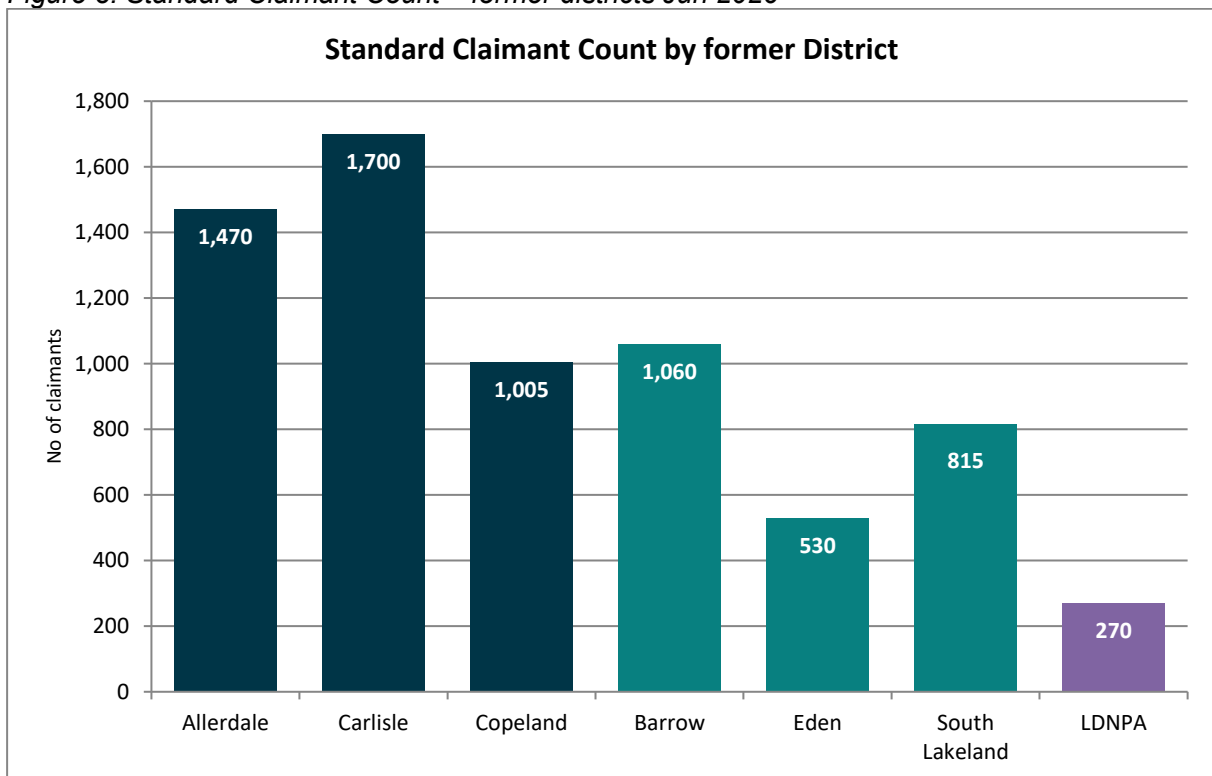
The following table shows the claimant count and rate by broad age group. Claimant rates at Cumbria level are below the national average for all age groups. The young adult rate in Copeland continues to be above the national rate for that age group.

Figure 7: Standard Claimant Count & Rate by Age Group in Cumbria – Jun 2026

	Aged 18-24		Aged 25-34		Aged 35-44		Aged 45-54		Aged 55-64		Total	
	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate	No	Rate
UK	325,260	5.6%	403,945	4.3%	411,650	4.4%	298,505	3.5%	253,865	2.9%	1,697,120	4.0%
Cumbria	1,290	4.0%	1,575	2.7%	1,650	2.8%	990	1.6%	1,055	1.3%	6,580	4.6%
Cumberland	850	4.8%	1,020	3.1%	1,025	3.1%	600	1.8%	670	1.6%	4,175	5.2%
Allerdale	310	5.5%	370	3.5%	340	3.1%	215	1.8%	235	1.5%	1,470	5.5%
Carlisle	285	3.7%	425	2.9%	470	3.3%	260	1.9%	255	1.5%	1,700	4.8%
Copeland	250	5.9%	225	2.9%	220	2.8%	125	1.5%	180	1.6%	1,005	5.2%
Westmorland & Furness	440	3.1%	555	2.2%	630	2.4%	395	1.4%	385	1.0%	2,400	3.8%
Barrow	245	4.9%	295	3.3%	255	3.1%	145	1.8%	120	1.2%	1,060	5.1%
Eden	75	2.4%	100	1.8%	155	2.6%	100	1.4%	95	1.0%	530	3.6%
South Lakeland	115	1.9%	160	1.5%	225	2.0%	150	1.2%	165	0.9%	815	3.0%
of which LDNPA	30	1.4%	55	1.6%	75	1.9%	60	1.3%	50	0.7%	270	2.8%

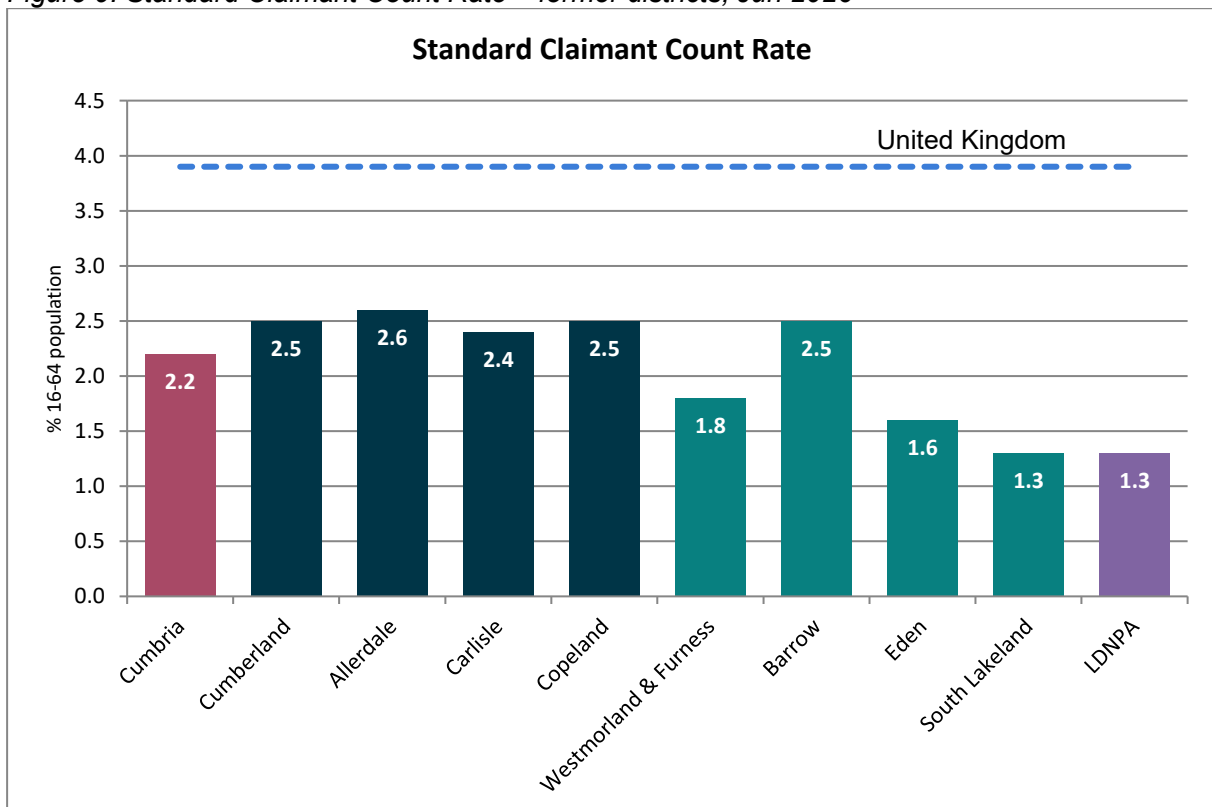
Source: ONS (data are rounded). LDNPA is a "best-fit" of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 8: Standard Claimant Count – former districts Jun 2026



Source: ONS. LDNPA is a “best-fit” of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 9: Standard Claimant Count Rate – former districts, Jun 2026



Source: ONS/DWP

Figure 10: Standard Claimant Count - timeseries

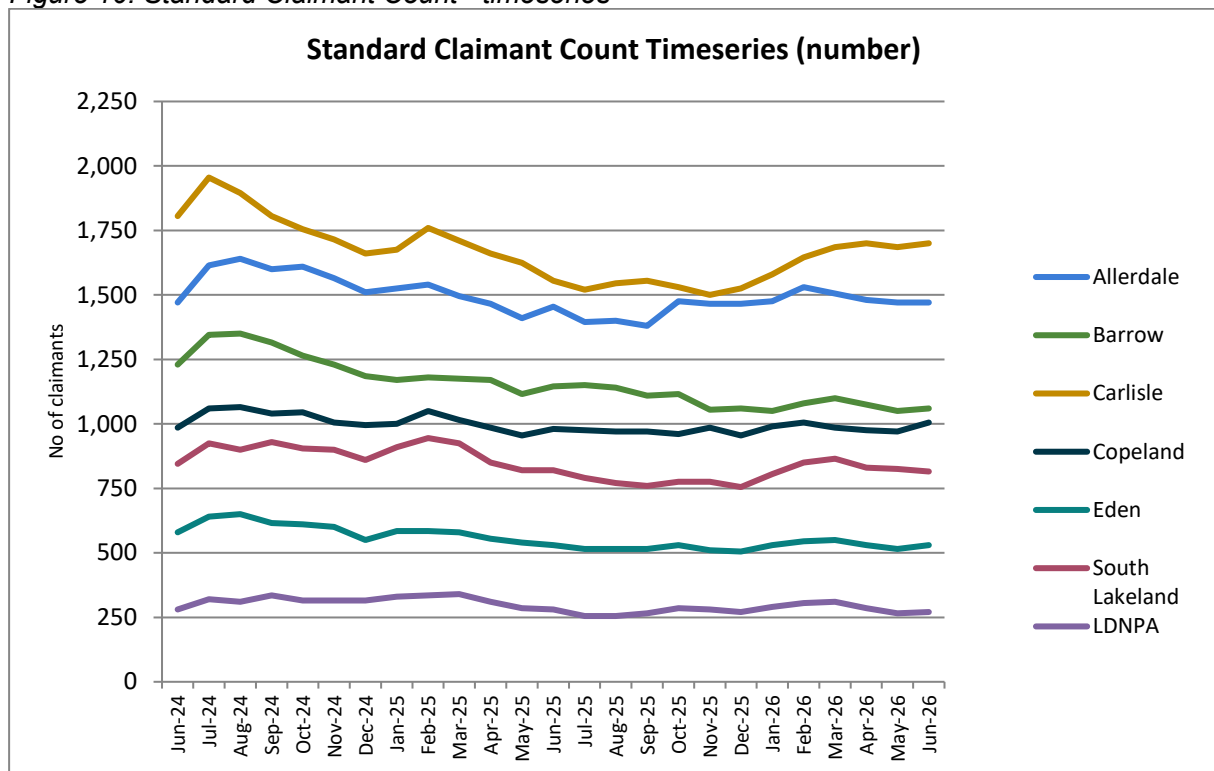
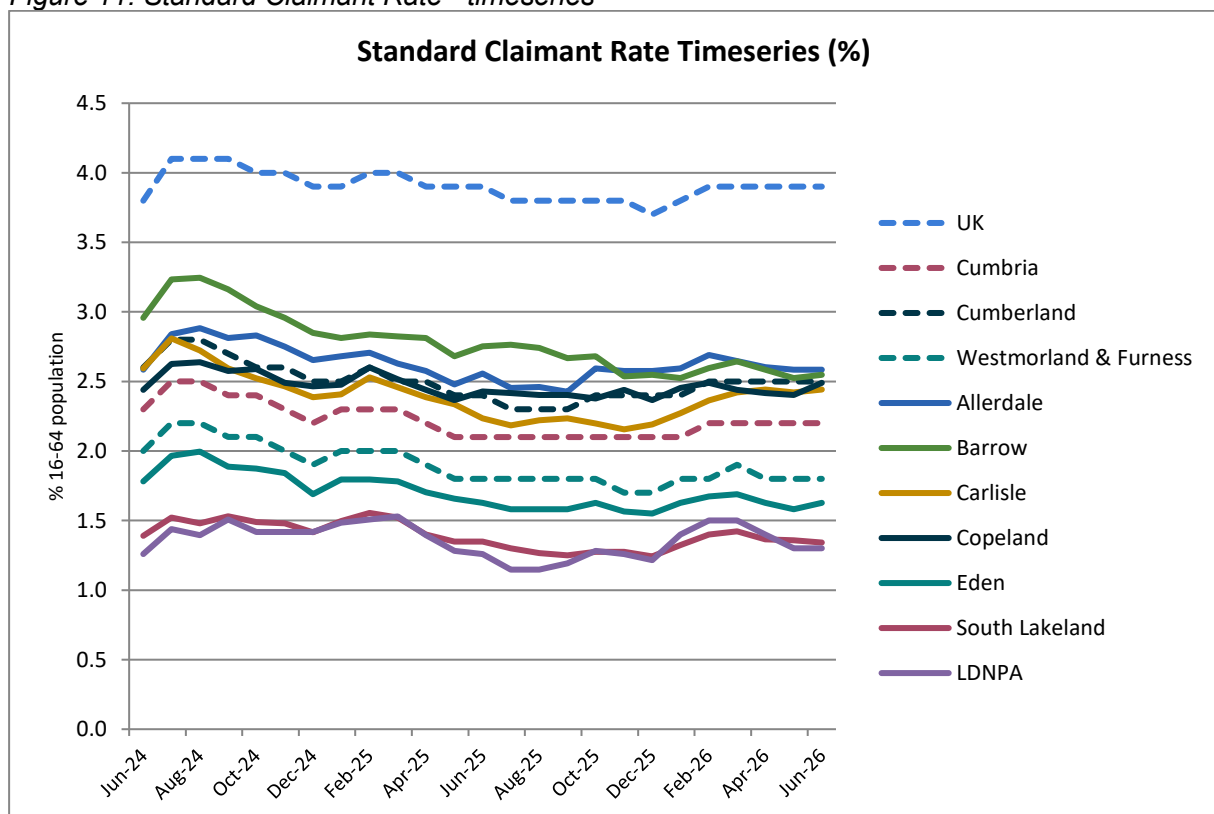


Figure 11: Standard Claimant Rate - timeseries



Source: ONS/DWP

5. NEETs & Participation (released monthly)

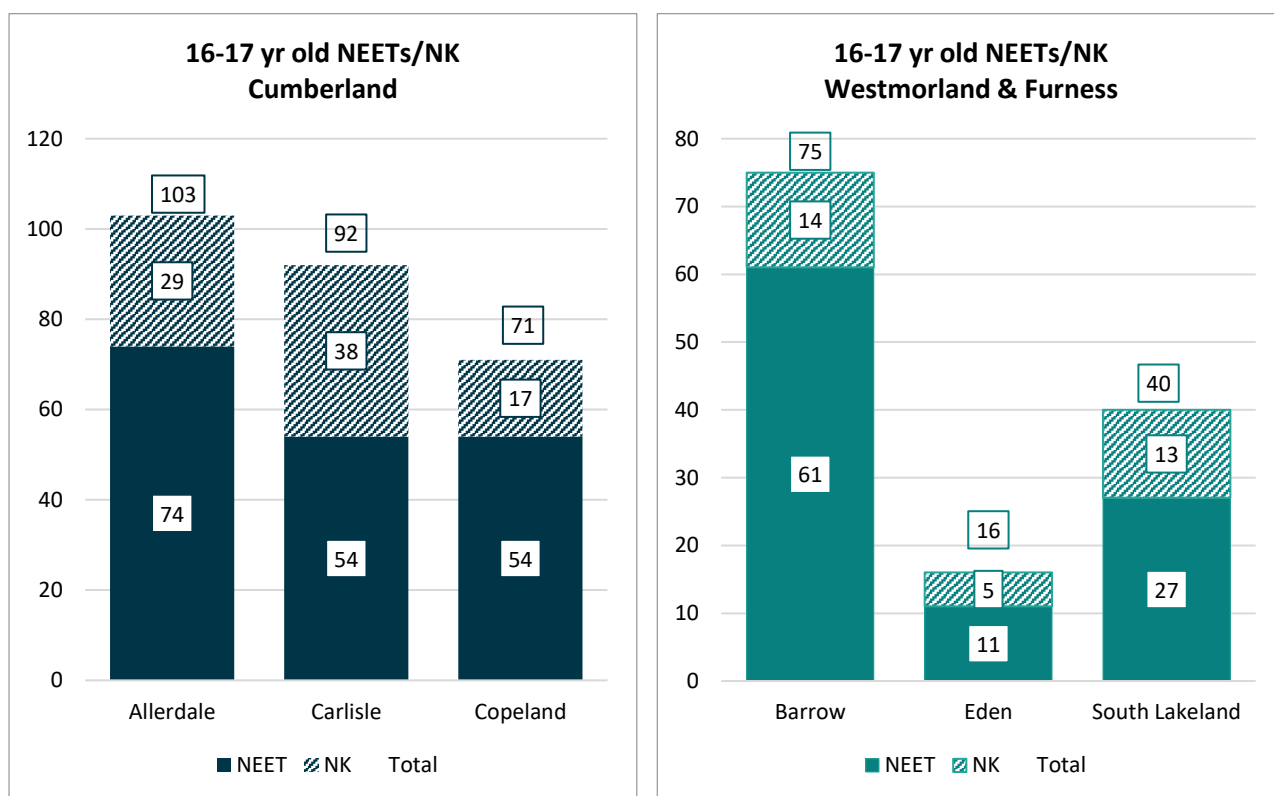
5a. Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

Young people are described as NEET if they are not in any form of education, employment or training. Those whose status is Not Known at the time of follow up are also classed as NEET.

The most representative period of the academic year is Dec-Feb and this is the period used by DfE for their annual “scorecard” of NEET performance. In Dec 2025-Feb 2026 the NEET rate in Cumbria was 3.4% compared to a national average of 5.8% (4.0% in Cumberland and 2.7% in Westmorland & Furness). The Cumbria rate was 0.4ppt higher than in 2024/25.

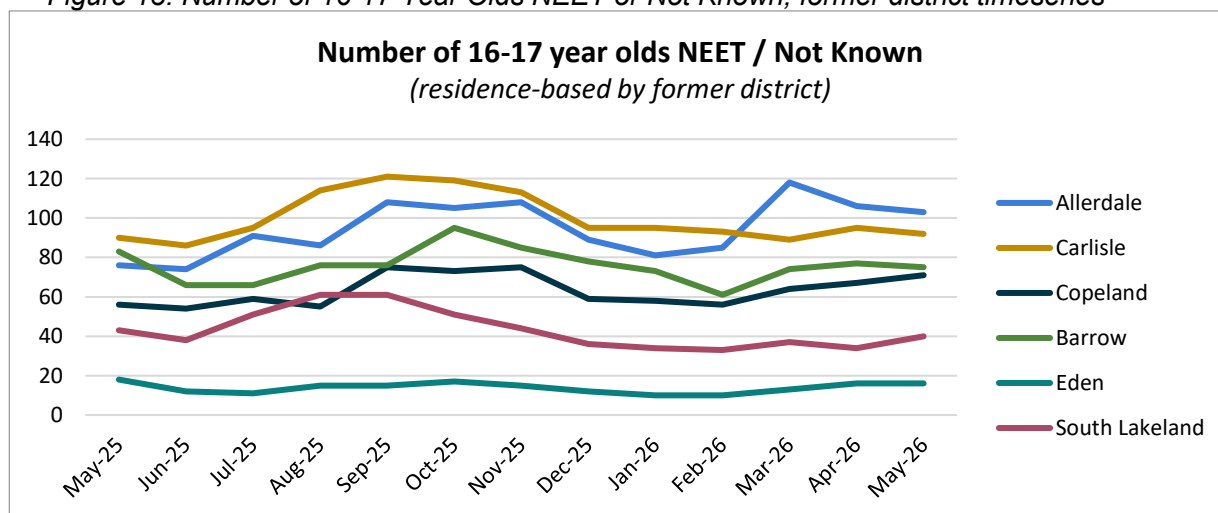
The monthly data are more volatile and caution should be exercised when interpreting changes. In May 2026 there were 424 16-17 year olds classed as NEET/NK in Cumbria (282 NEET and 138 whose status was Not Known). There were 278 NEET/NKs resident in Cumberland and 142 in Westmorland & Furness. The number was up by 2 from last month and up by 46 on the same month last year.

Figure 12: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, May 2026



Source: Inspira / Cumberland Council. NB: district totals may not sum to unitary total due to incomplete address data

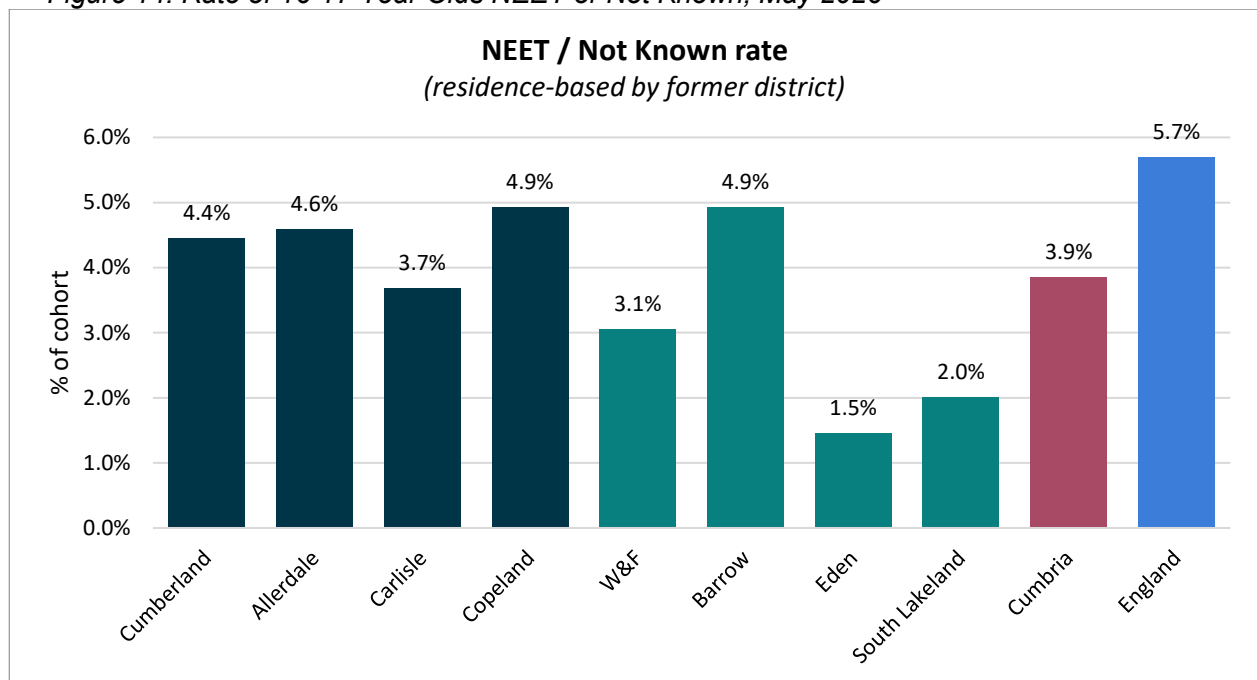
Figure 13: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, former district timeseries



Source: Inspira / Cumberland Council

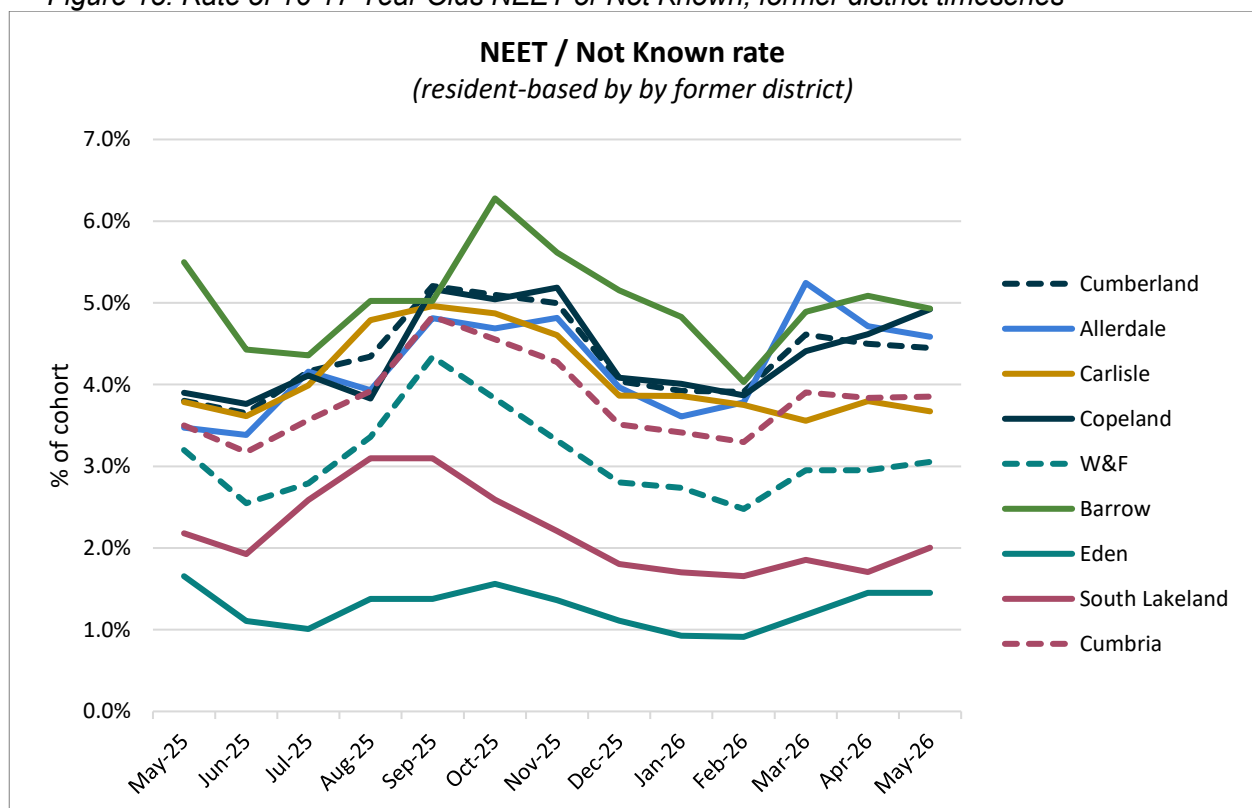
The county NEET/NK rate (% of cohort) was 3.9% in May 2026. The rate was 4.4% in Cumberland and 3.1% in Westmorland & Furness which compares to a national rate of 5.7%.

Figure 14: Rate of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, May 2026



Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumberland Council

Figure 15: Rate of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, former district timeseries



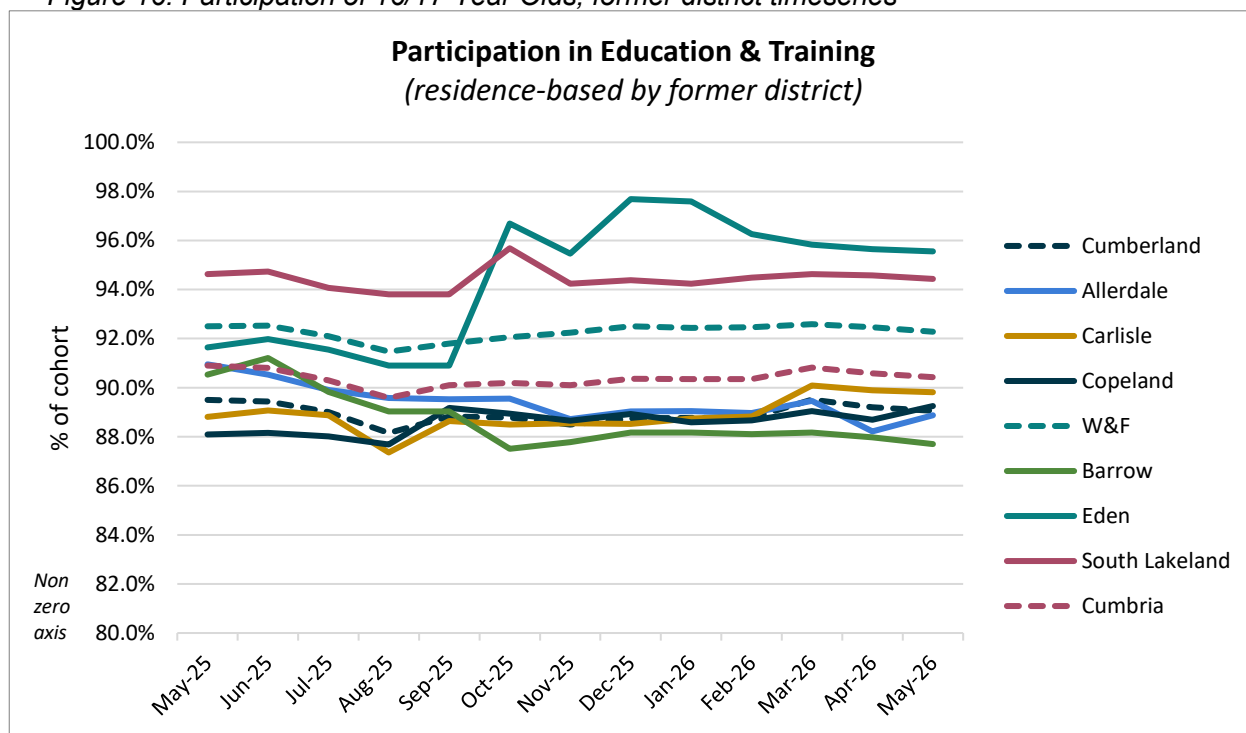
Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumberland Council

5b. Participation

The Education & Skills Act 2008 introduced a requirement for young people to remain in education or training until at least their 18th birthday and a duty on local authorities to encourage, enable and assist young people to participate. As part of the tracking process that produces the NEET data, participation data is also produced at county level on a monthly basis.

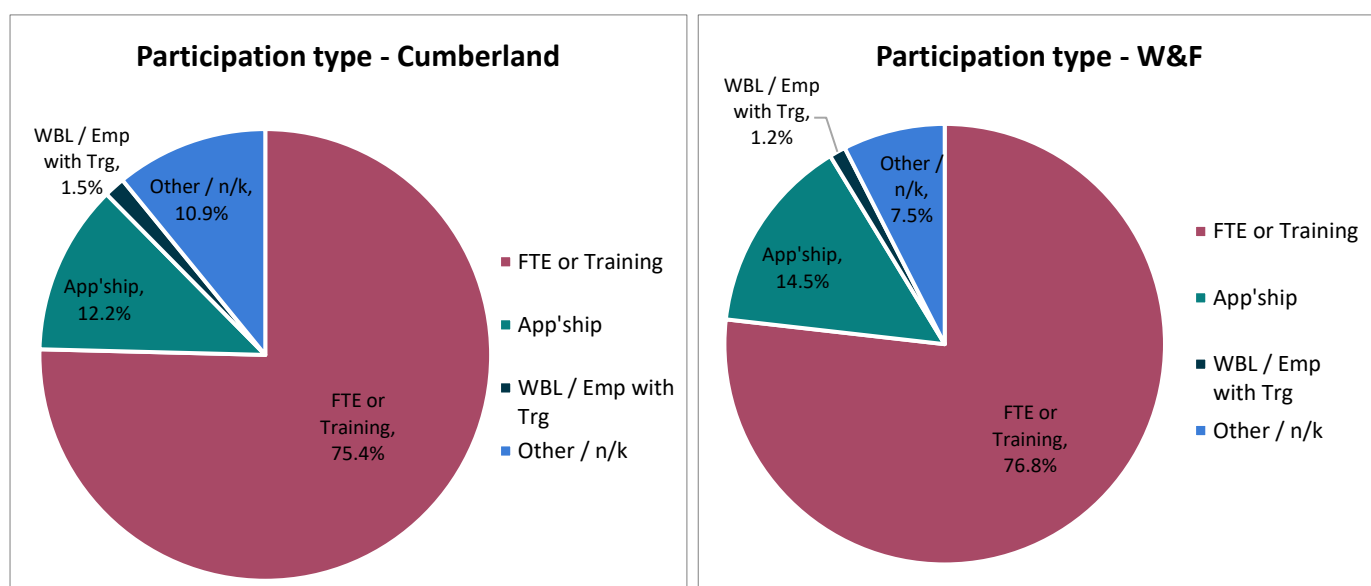
In May 2026, 90.4% of young people in Cumbria were classed as meeting the participation requirement. The rates were 89.1% in Cumberland and 92.3% in Westmorland & Furness compared to an England average of 91.8%. Young people in both Cumberland and Westmorland & Furness are significantly more likely to be undertaking an Apprenticeship than nationally, 12.2% and 14.5% respectively compared to 3.7% in England as a whole.

Figure 16: Participation of 16/17 Year Olds, former district timeseries



Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumberland Council

Figure 17: Participation of 16/17 Year Olds, by activity type – May 2026



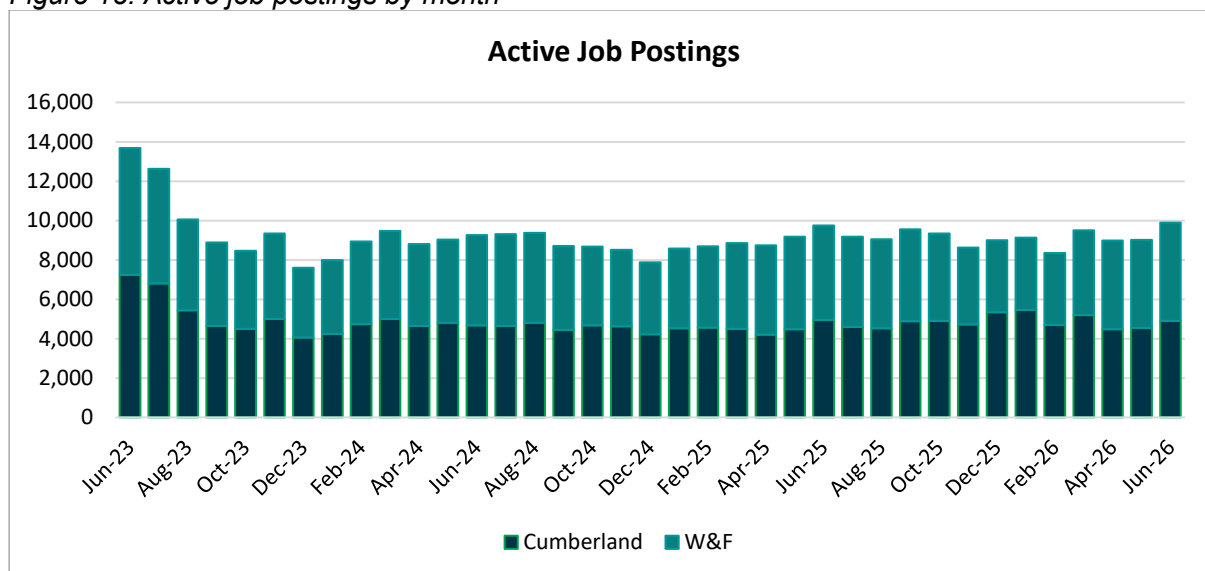
Source: NCCIS / Cumberland Council

6. JOB POSTINGS

The following data are drawn from Lightcast, an interactive tool which delivers real time access to job postings from a range of sources including job boards, employer sites, newspapers, public agencies etc. Data extraction and analysis technologies mine and code data from each posting to provide analysis on occupations and skills.

During Jun 2026 there were 9,900 active job postings in Cumbria, 5,039 of which were new postings during the month. The number of active postings was 881 higher than in May (+9.8%) and the number of new postings was 1,170 higher.

Figure 18: Active job postings by month



Source: © Lightcast 2026

The most commonly advertised jobs were for care workers, chefs, cleaners & domestics and kitchen & catering assistants.

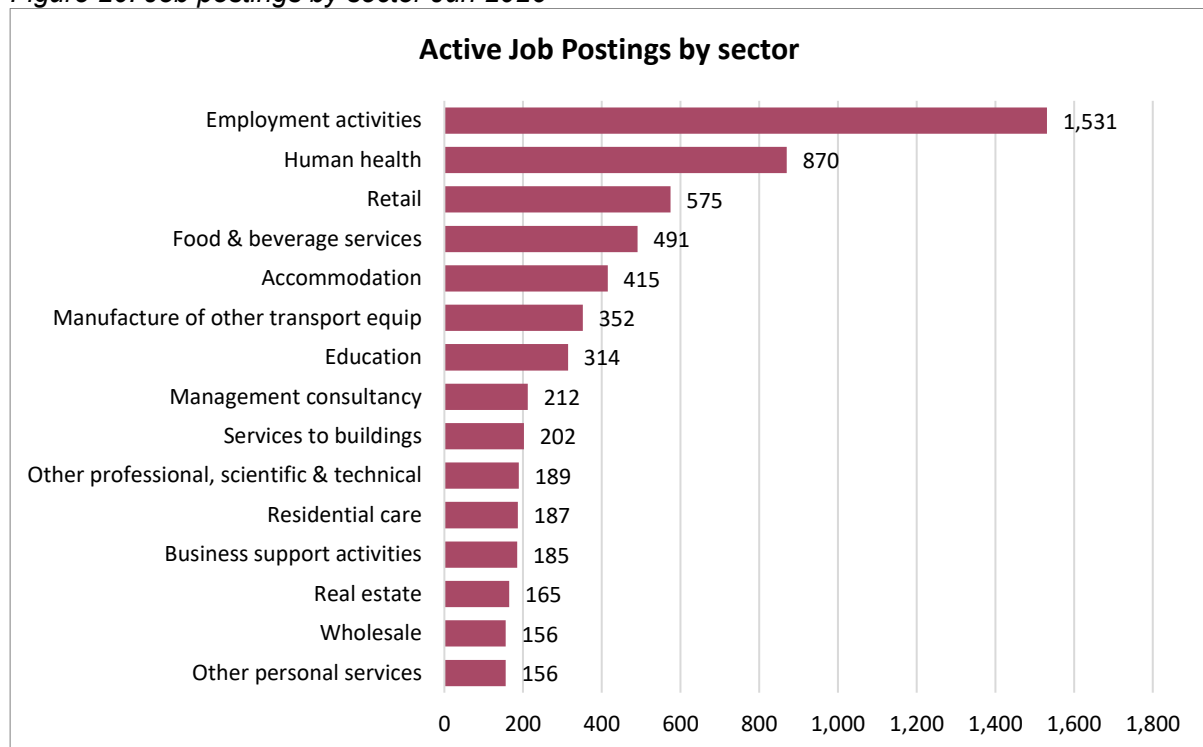
Figure 19: Job postings by occupation – Jun 2026



Source: © Lightcast 2026

The sector posting the most vacancies was employment activities (most of these will be recruitment agencies where the sector of the actual job cannot be determined). This was followed by health, retail, food & beverage services and accommodation.

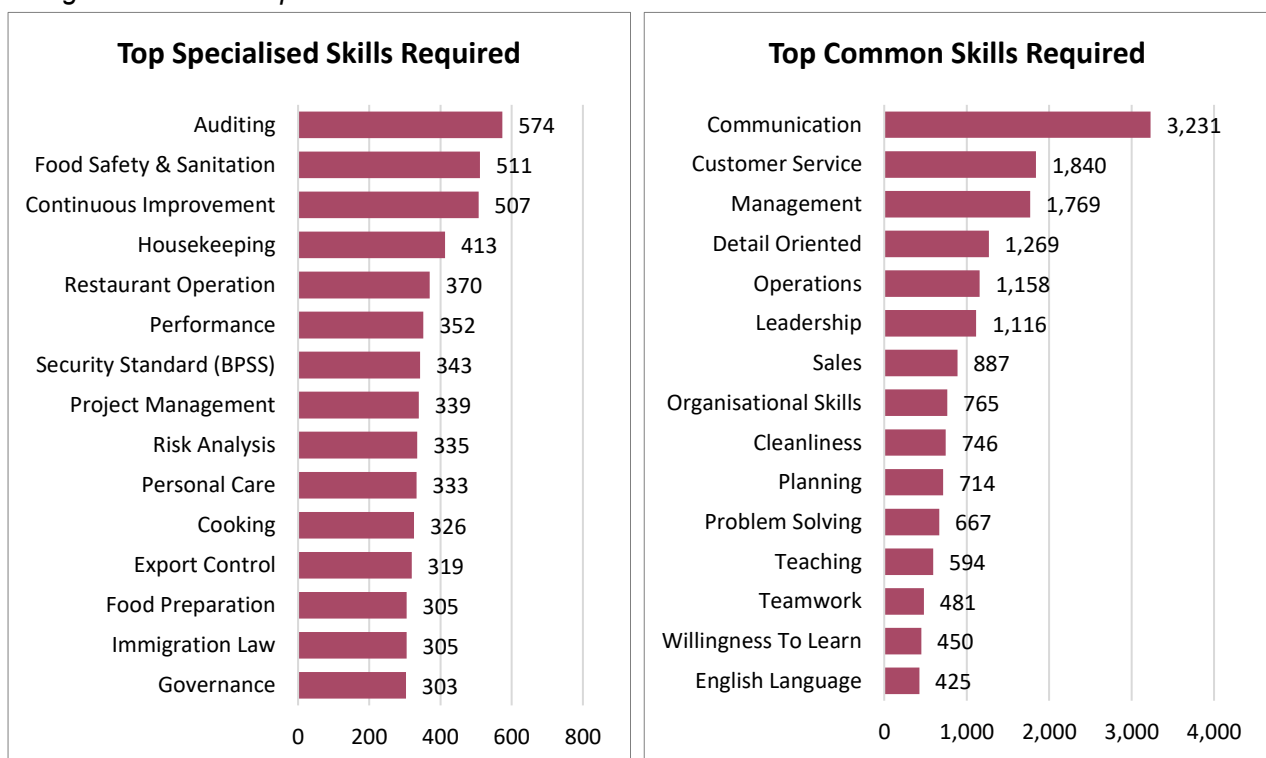
Figure 20: Job postings by sector Jun 2026



Source: © Lightcast 2026

The web scraping software analyses key words about job requirements and where possible classifies them as “specialised skills” which are those specific to a job role and as “common skills” which are typically self-developed / personal attributes that candidates need.

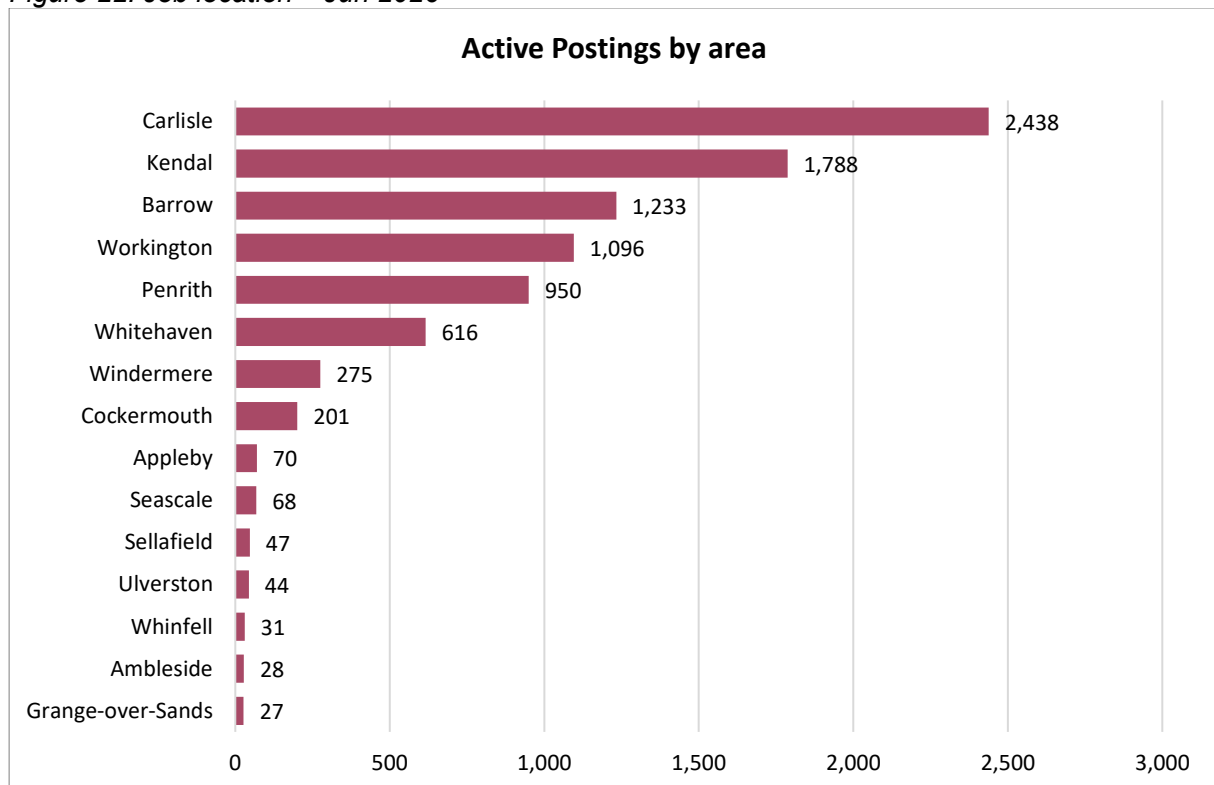
Figure 21: Skills required – Jun 2026



Source: © Lightcast 2026

Active postings rose in all six former district areas.

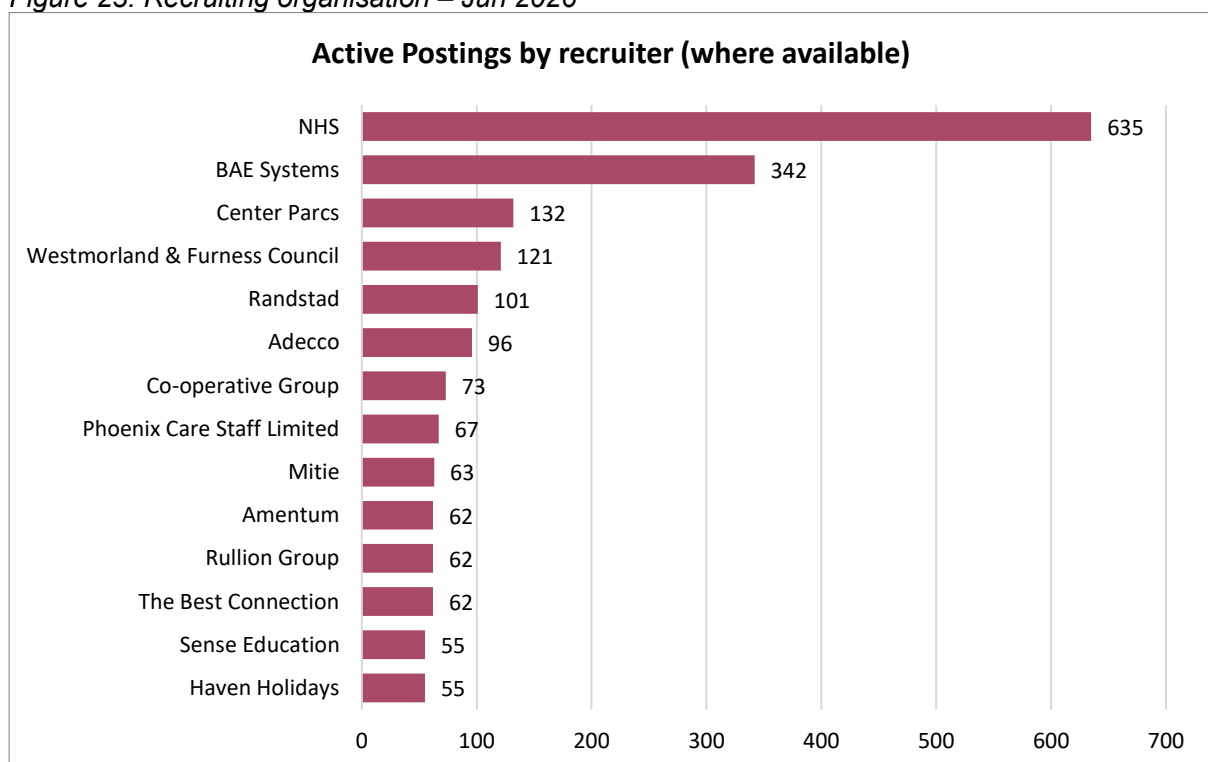
Figure 22: Job location – Jun 2026



Source: © Lightcast 2026

The NHS and BAE Systems continue to dominate, between them accounting for around a third of postings (where a recruiting organisation could be identified). Recruitment agencies also feature highly, together with local government and Centre Parcs also featured highly last month.

Figure 23: Recruiting organisation – Jun 2026



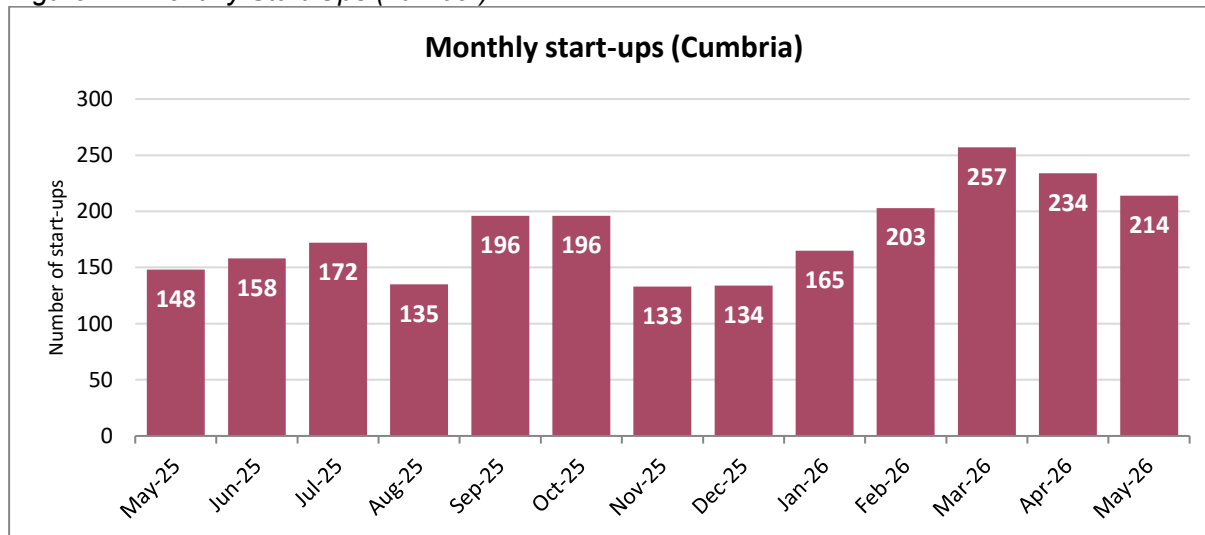
Source: © Lightcast 2026

7. SMALL BUSINESS START-UPS

The following data are from BankSearch, a service which collects data from Barclays, Co-operative Bank, HSBC, Lloyds Banking Group, Royal Bank of Scotland Group, Santander and TSB Bank. In addition, the dataset now includes Neobank / Challenger bank starts. A 'Start-up' reflects the opening of a first current account from a small business banking product range by a business new to banking or previously operated through a personal account. The data exclude businesses operating through personal accounts, those without banking relationships or those banking with institutions other than those mentioned.

There were 214 business start-ups in Cumbria in May 2026, 20 fewer than the previous month. Over the quarter (Mar-May) there were 705 start-ups which is 203 more than last quarter and 190 more than the same quarter last year.

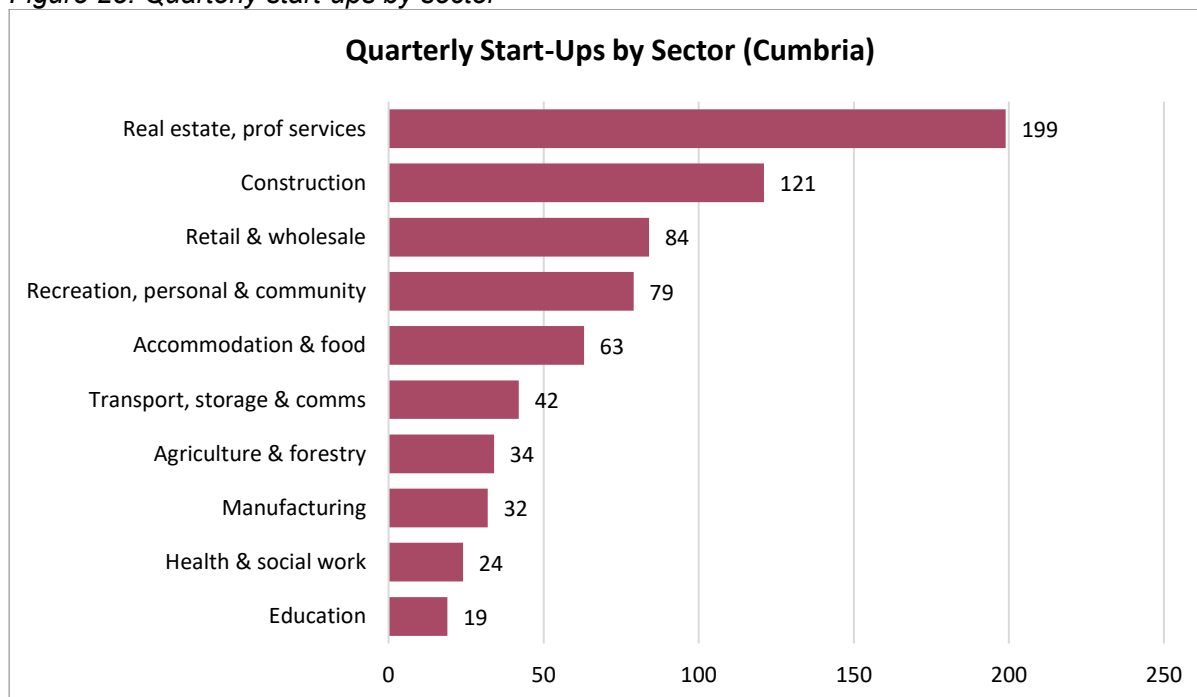
Figure 24: Monthly Start-Ups (number)



Source: BankSearch

The highest volume of start-ups in the quarter (Mar-May) was in real estate, prof services & support activities (199) followed by construction (121), retail & wholesale (84) and recreation, personal & community services (79).

Figure 25: Quarterly start-ups by sector



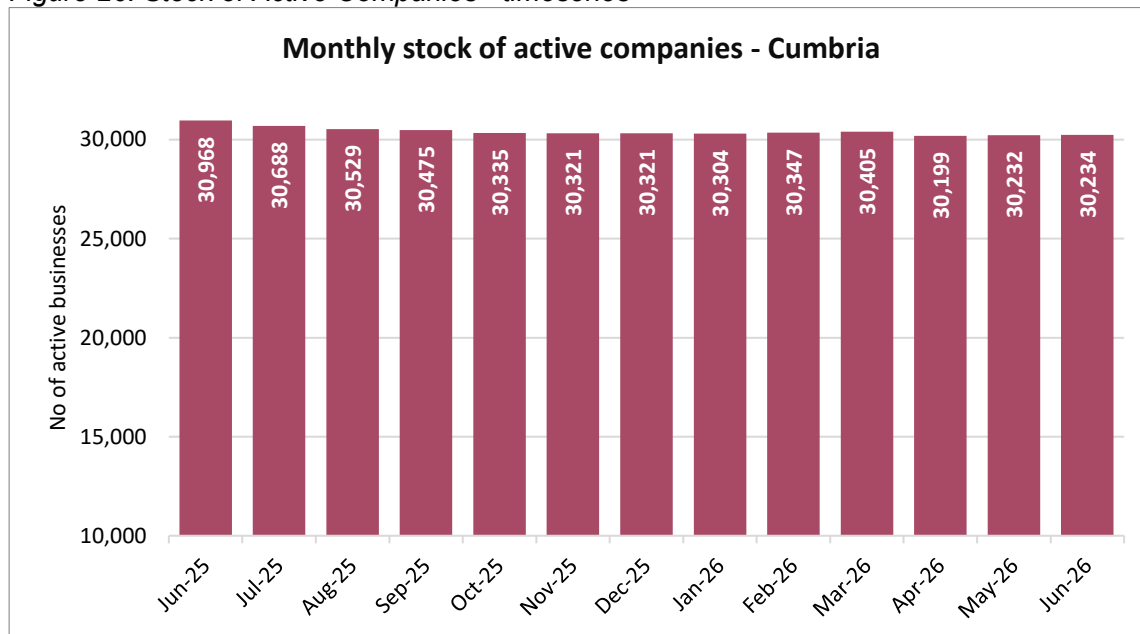
Source: BankSearch

8. COMPANIES HOUSE STOCK – ACTIVE, DISSOLVED, FINANCIAL HEALTH

These data are extracted from the FAME database of over 5 million active companies (including unincorporated businesses) and measure those with a registered office or primary trading address in Cumbria.

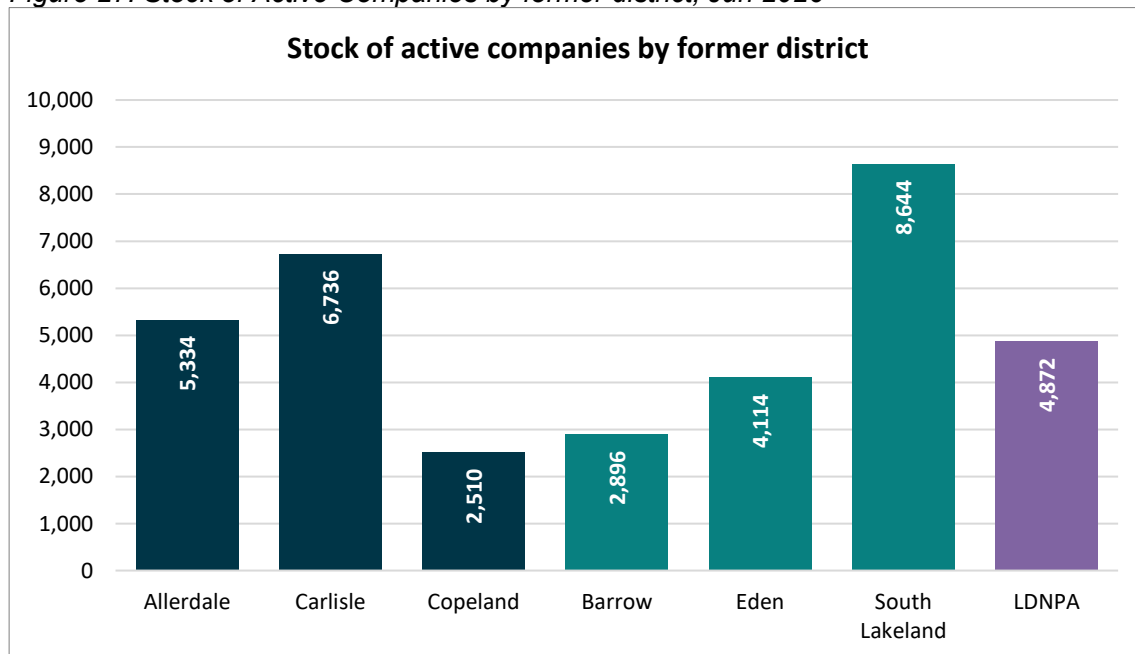
At the end of Jun 2026 there were 30,234 entries on the FAME database for Cumbria, 2 more than last month.

Figure 26: Stock of Active Companies - timeseries



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

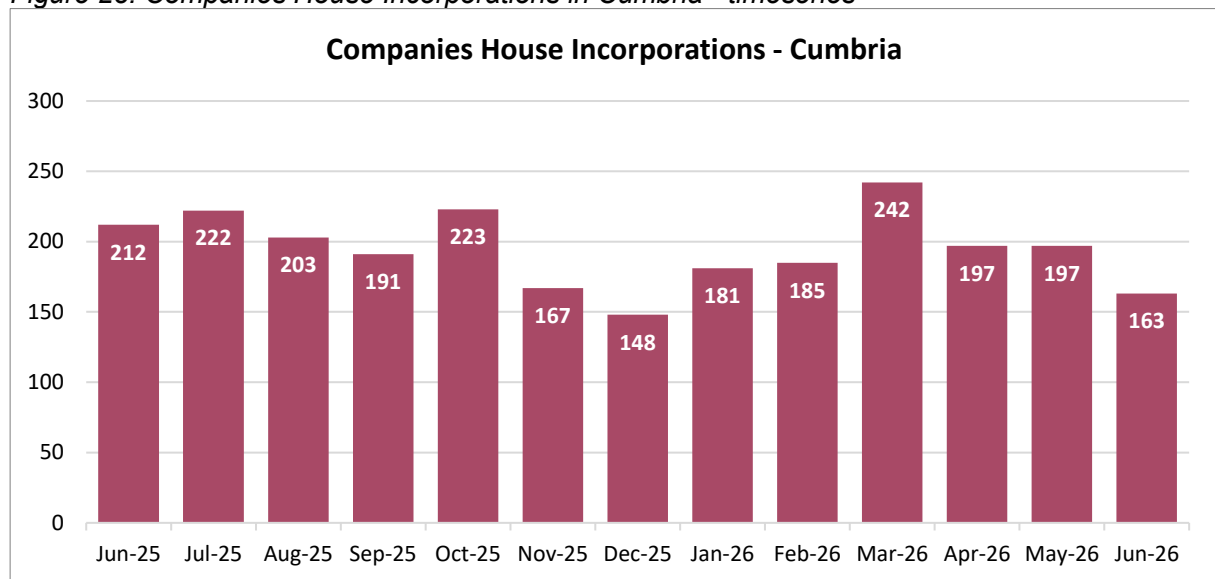
Figure 27: Stock of Active Companies by former district, Jun 2026



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk) LDNPA is based on wards and counts are also included in the relevant unitary.

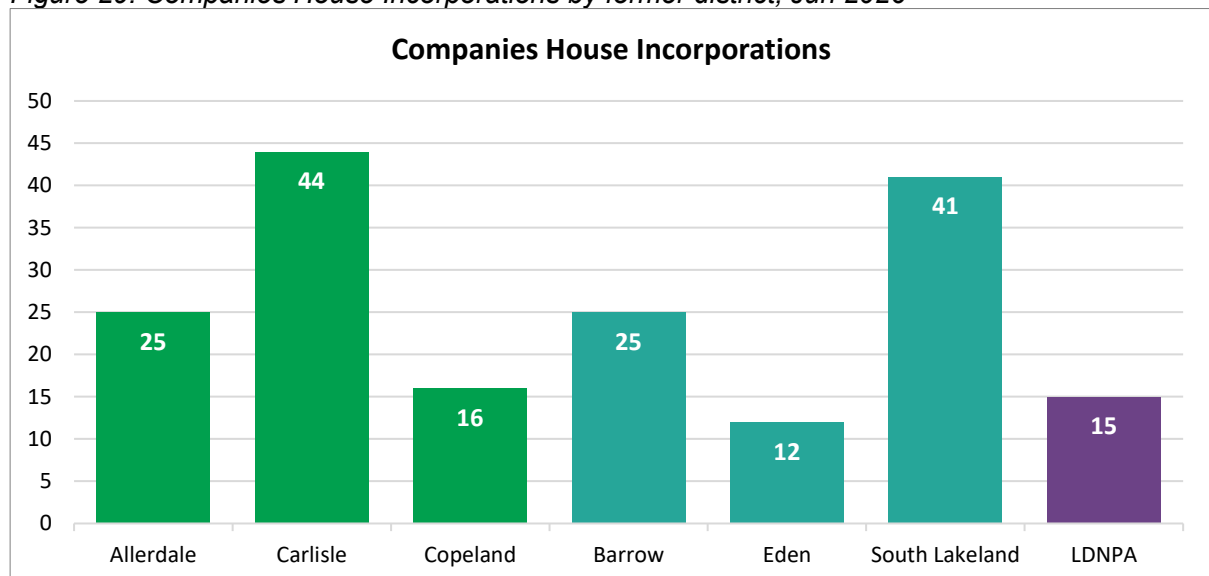
There were 163 new Companies House incorporations in Jun 2026, 34 fewer than last month and 49 fewer than the same month last year. NB: a change of name, address, merger or other changes can result in a new record and therefore these figures do not necessarily all represent newly formed businesses.

Figure 28: Companies House Incorporations in Cumbria - timeseries



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk).

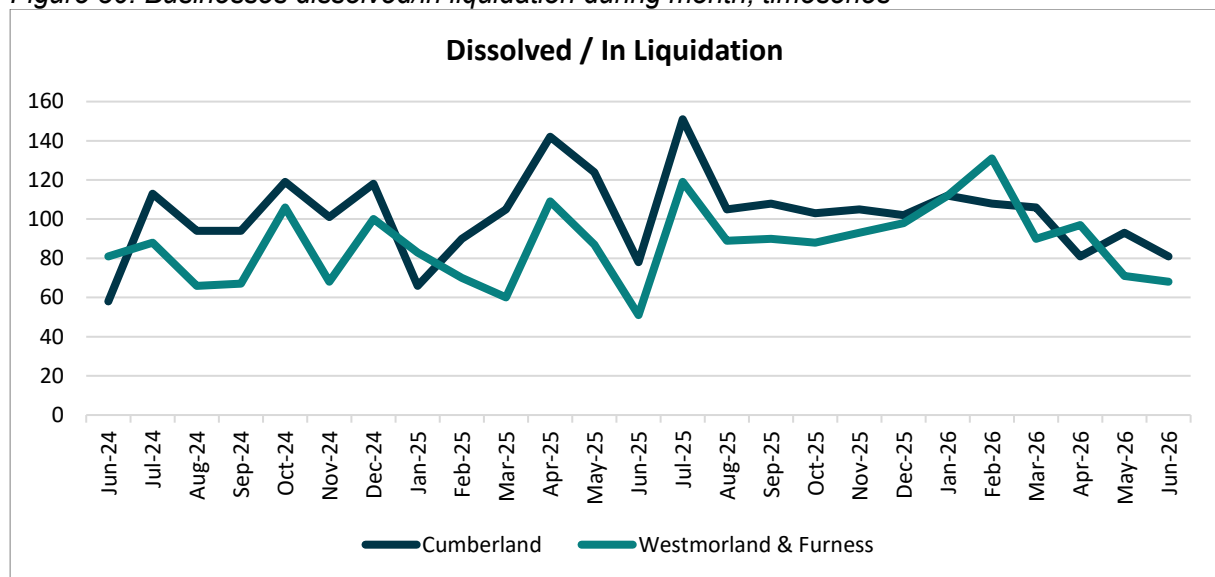
Figure 29: Companies House Incorporations by former district, Jun 2026



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk) LDNPA is based on wards and counts are also included in the relevant unitary.

There were 149 dissolutions/liquidations during the month (148 dissolutions, 1 liquidations) which is 13 fewer than last month.

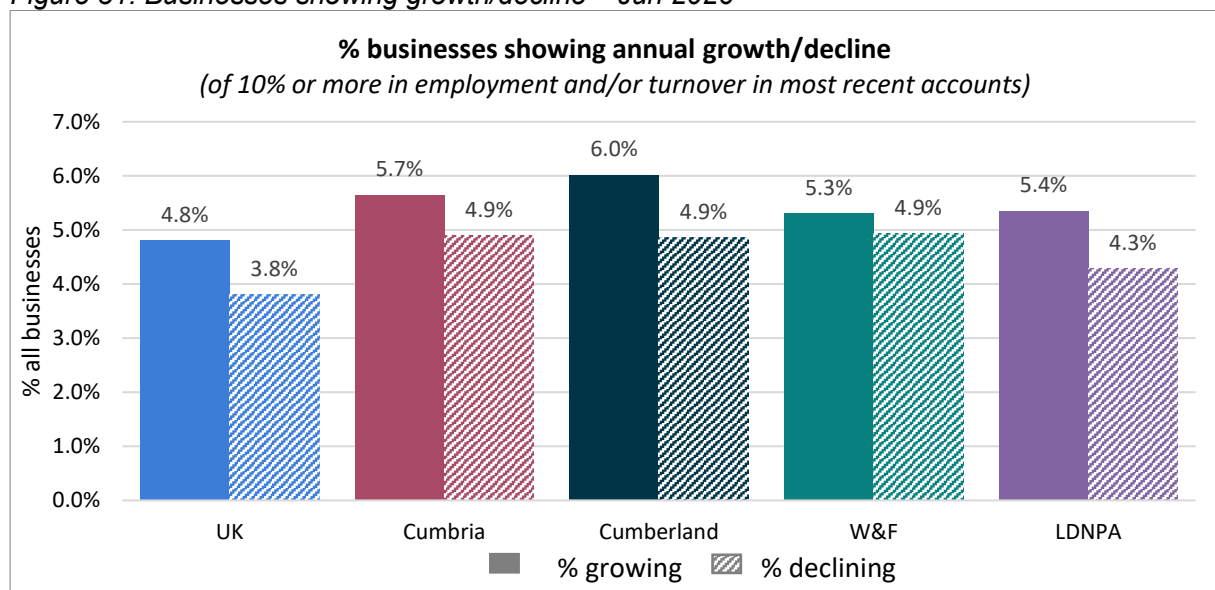
Figure 30: Businesses dissolved/in liquidation during month, timeseries



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

Of the businesses which were active in Cumbria in Jun 2026, 1,709 had shown an increase of 10% in either employment or turnover in their most recent accounts whilst 1,483 had shown a decrease. This represents 5.7% of businesses growing on one or both measures and 4.9% declining. In both cases these percentages are higher than for the UK as a whole. (NB: the majority of businesses do not file detailed accounts at Companies House. Business may appear in both measures if they reported differing trends in employment and turnover.)

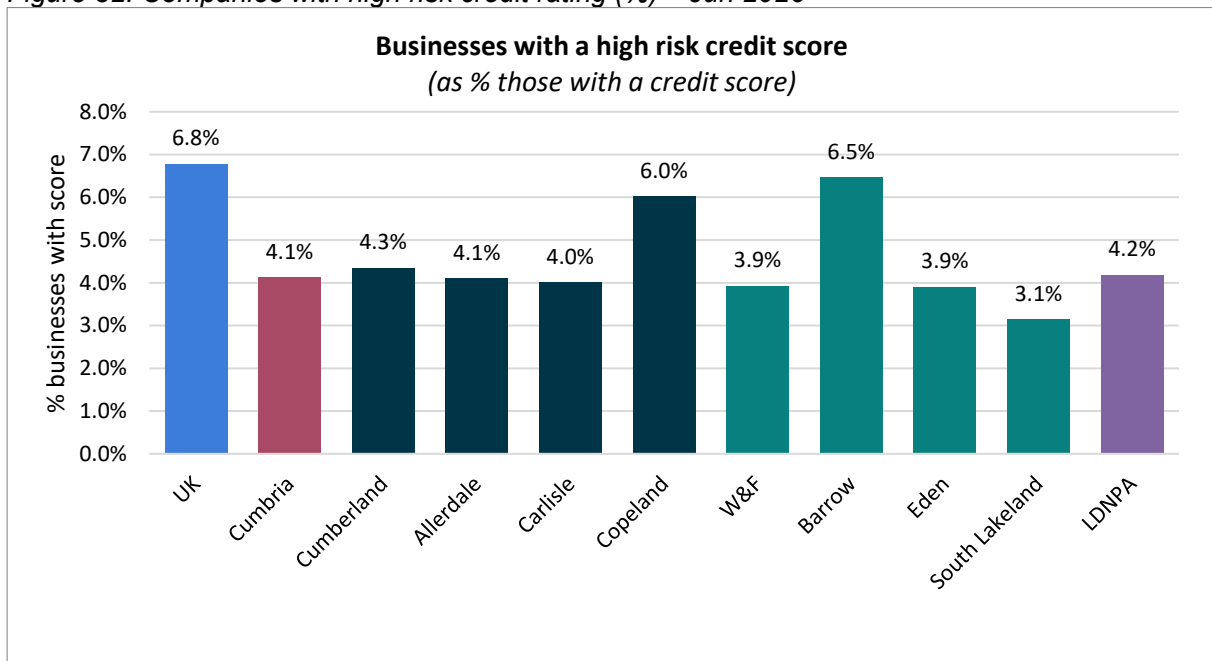
Figure 31: Businesses showing growth/decline – Jun 2026



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk). LDNPA is based on wards and counts are also included in the relevant unitary.

At the end of Jun 2026, 669 companies in Cumbria had a high risk credit score (1-20) which is 4.1% of the companies on the system with a score and compares to to 6.8% nationally. The rate was highest in the former district areas of Copeland (6.0%) and Barrow (6.5%)

Figure 32: Companies with high risk credit rating (%) – Jun 2026

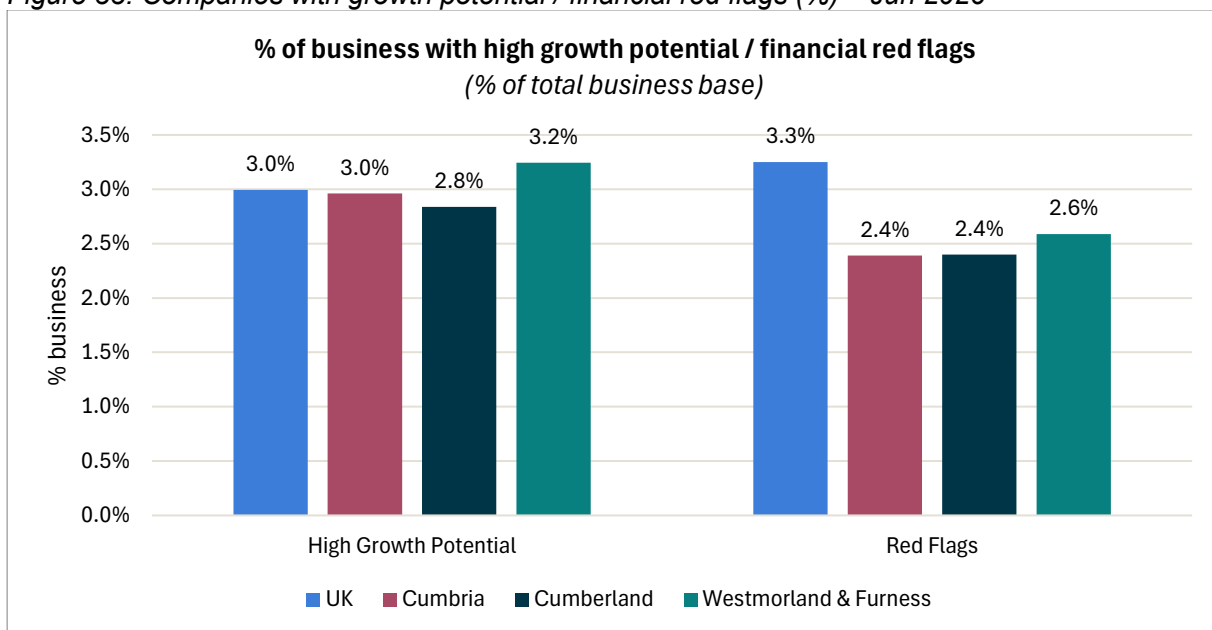


Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk) NB: % is of all active businesses with a credit score.

Business Growth Potential and Financial Red Flags

These data are extracted from the Growth Flag platform and measure those with a registered office or trading address in Cumbria. At the end of Jun 2026, 3.0% of businesses in Cumbria were rated as having high growth potential (likely or very likely) whilst 2.4% were rated as having financial red flags (not including provisional ratings). In both cases, these proportions are lower than nationally.

Figure 33: Companies with growth potential / financial red flags (%) – Jun 2026



Source: Growth Flag

Figure 34: Ward claimant data

CUMBERLAND	Jobseeker Claimant Count (JSA / UC seeking work)				
	Jun 2026		Change from May 2026		
	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
GB	1,663,755	3.9	19,140	1.2	0.0
Cumbria	6,580	2.2	65	1.0	0.0
Cumberland	4,175	2.5	55	1.3	0.0
1. Carlisle West	615	3.1	5	1	0.0
2. Petteril	705	3.3	10	1	0.0
3. Border, Fellside & North Carlisle	330	1.4	-10	-3	0.0
4. Fells & Solway	320	1.8	20	6	0.1
5. Lakes to Sea	515	2.1	-5	-1	0.0
6. Workington Together	690	3.5	-5	-1	0.0
7. Whitehaven & Coastal	520	2.5	20	4	0.1
8. South Cumberland	485	2.5	20	4	0.1
Aspatria	85	2.8	0	1	0.0
Belah	50	1.1	-5	-9	-0.1
Belle Vue	120	2.9	5	6	0.2
Botcherby	145	3.3	5	5	0.2
Bothel & Wharrels	35	1.3	5	9	0.1
Brampton	60	1.9	0	-3	-0.1
Bransty	90	2.7	-5	-5	-0.2
Castle	210	4.7	10	4	0.2
Cleator Moor East & Frizington	80	2.4	0	1	0.0
Cleator Moor West	85	2.3	0	1	0.0
Cockermouth North	80	2.0	5	10	0.2
Cockermouth South	50	1.4	-5	-9	-0.1
Corby & Hayton	35	1.3	0	-6	-0.1
Currock	190	4.1	5	3	0.1
Dalston & Burgh	50	1.0	10	23	0.2
Dearham & Broughton	40	1.1	0	-5	-0.1
Denton Holme	135	2.9	5	5	0.1
Egremont	125	3.8	10	10	0.4
Egremont North & St. Bees	90	2.7	10	16	0.4
Gosforth	50	1.5	-5	-7	-0.1
Harraby North	145	3.2	-10	-5	-0.2
Harraby South	100	2.6	0	0	0.0
Harrington	120	2.8	10	7	0.2
Hillcrest & Hensingham	35	1.0	-5	-11	-0.1
Houghton & Irthington	20	0.6	0	-5	0.0
Howgate	65	1.9	5	10	0.2
Kells & Sandwith	150	3.5	0	0	0.0
Keswick	45	1.6	0	2	0.0
Longtown	70	2.4	0	0	0.0
Maryport North	105	2.9	0	-1	0.0
Maryport South	155	3.9	-10	-5	-0.2
Millom	105	3.2	5	5	0.2
Millom Without	40	1.5	5	14	0.2
Mirehouse	95	2.9	10	11	0.3
Morton	100	2.7	-10	-9	-0.3
Moss Bay & Moorclose	205	4.9	-10	-4	-0.2
Seaton	100	2.6	-5	-3	-0.1
Solway Coast	65	2.3	5	5	0.1
St. John's & Great Clifton	75	2.0	0	0	0.0
St. Michael's	190	5.2	0	-1	0.0
Stanwix Urban	50	1.5	0	0	0.0
Thursby	25	0.8	0	9	0.1
Upperby	125	3.3	5	3	0.1
Wetheral	45	1.1	0	0	0.0
Wigton	95	2.3	5	4	0.1
Yewdale	50	1.7	-5	-7	-0.1

WESTMORLAND & FURNESS	Jobseeker Claimant Count (JSA / UC seeking work)				
	Jun 2026		Change from May 2026		
	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
GB	1,663,755	3.9	19,140	1.2	0.0
Cumbria	6,580	2.2	65	1.0	0.0
Westmorland & Furness	2,400	1.8	10	0.5	0.0
Barrow	1,060	2.5	10	0.8	0.0
Eden	530	1.6	15	2.7	0.0
South Lakeland	815	1.3	-10	-1.3	0.0
Alston & Fellside	55	1.4	10	18	0.2
Appleby & Brough	45	1.3	0	0	0.0
Bowness & Lyth	35	1.6	0	3	0.0
Burton & Holme	20	1.0	0	0	0.0
Coniston & Hawkshead	25	1.6	5	23	0.3
Dalton North	45	1.3	-5	-13	-0.2
Dalton South	55	1.5	5	6	0.1
Eamont & Shap	40	1.7	0	2	0.0
Eden & Lyvennet Vale	35	1.1	5	9	0.1
Grange & Cartmel	60	1.1	-5	-6	-0.1
Greystoke & Ulswater	20	0.7	0	13	0.1
Hawcoat & Newbarns	80	1.3	5	7	0.1
Hesket & Lazonby	35	1.0	0	6	0.1
High Furness	30	1.3	0	-3	0.0
Kendal Castle	25	0.7	-5	-17	-0.1
Kendal Highgate	95	2.4	5	3	0.1
Kendal Nether	60	1.5	0	-3	-0.1
Kendal South	35	1.0	0	-3	0.0
Kendal Strickland & Fell	100	2.3	5	5	0.1
Kent Estuary	40	1.2	-5	-14	-0.2
Kirkby Stephen & Tebay	55	1.9	5	8	0.1
Levens & Crooklands	15	0.6	0	8	0.0
Low Furness	20	0.8	-5	-17	-0.2
Old Barrow	440	5.3	5	1	0.1
Ormsgill & Parkside	210	3.0	-5	-1	0.0
Penrith North	100	2.2	0	1	0.0
Penrith South	145	2.2	-5	-5	-0.1
Risedale & Roosecote	125	1.9	5	2	0.0
Sedbergh & Kirkby Lonsdale	55	1.3	10	19	0.2
Ulverston	110	1.5	-5	-5	-0.1
Upper Kent	25	1.0	-5	-11	-0.1
Walney Island	100	1.6	0	2	0.0
Windermere & Ambleside	75	1.2	-5	-4	0.0

Source: ONS/DWP & CCA calculations. Totals may not sum due to rounding & disclosure controls

Areas contained in Cumberland Community Panels / Westmorland & Furness Locality Board Areas

Cumberland Community Panels			
Community Panel	Wards covered	Community Panel	Wards covered
1. Carlisle West	Belle Vue	5. Lakes to Sea	Bothel & Wharrels
	Castle		Cockermouth North
	Denton Holme		Cockermouth South
	Morton		Dearham & Broughton
	Yewdale		Keswick
2. Petteril	Botcherby	6. Workington Together	Maryport North
	Currock		Maryport South
	Harraby North		Harrington
	Harraby South		Moss Bay & Moorclose
3. Border, Fellside & North Carlisle	Upperby	7. Whitehaven & Coastal	Seaton
	Belah		St. John's & Great Clifton
	Brampton		St Michael's
	Corby & Hayton		Bransty
	Houghton & Irthington		Egremont North & St. Bees
	Longtown		Hillcrest & Hensingham
4. Fells & Solway	Stanwix Urban	8. South Cumberland	Howgate
	Wetheral		Kells & Sandwith
	Aspatria		Mirehouse
	Dalston & Burgh		Cleator Moor East & Frizington
	Solway Coast		Cleator Moor West
	Thursby		Egremont
	Wigton		Gosforth
			Millom
			Millom Without
Westmorland & Furness Locality Boards			
Locality Board	Areas covered		
Eden	former Eden district		
South Lakeland	former South Lakeland district		
Furness	former Barrow-in-Furness district		

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