

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 224,988 payrolled employees resident in Cumbria in the provisional Sep 2026 data, an increase of 223 from the revised Aug figure. There were estimated to be 301 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 Sep 2026 in Cumbria were provisionally estimated to be £2,572 which is 97% 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 4.9% which is above the UK growth rate of 4.4%.
- There were 6,600 claimants of JSA / UC (out of work and seeking work) in Sep 2026, which is 165 more than the revised Aug figure (+2.6%). The count rose everywhere except Copeland where there was a small decrease. Compared to the same time last year, the claimant count (actively seeking work) is 305 higher (+4.9%). However this varies with the count being lower than last year in Barrow and Eden but higher elsewhere.
- The claimant rate (actively seeking work) in Cumbria was 2.2% in Sep 2026 up 0.1ppt from Aug and it remains below the national rate of 3.9% in all the former district areas. The claimant rate in Cumbria is up 0.1ppt from a year ago (nationally it is also up 0.1ppt).
- 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 is above the national rate (6.1% v 5.9%).
- 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 77.7% in Cumbria compared to 75.5% for the UK and the economic inactivity estimate was 18.9% in Cumbria compared to 20.9% for the UK. In both cases the difference between Cumbria and the UK is within the range of statistical variation which is due to the small sample size locally.
- There were 428 young people (aged 16/17) classed as NEET (inc not knowns) in Aug 2026 which is 11 more than in Jul and 12 more than the same month last year. There were 286 NEET/NKs in Cumberland and 142 in Westmorland & Furness.

- The NEET rate was 3.9% in Cumbria in Aug 2026, up 0.1 from July but unchanged from a year ago. The rate was 4.6% in Cumberland and 3.1% in Westmorland & Furness. Both areas have a rate lower than the England rate of 6.7%.
- The participation rate for 16/17 year olds was 89.8% in Cumbria in Aug 2026 (88.0% in Cumberland and 92.2% in Westmorland & Furness) which compares to a rate of 90.9% for England.
- According to Lightcast there were 11,253 active online job postings in Sep 2026, 1,535 more than in Aug (+15.8%). The number of newly advertised postings during the month also rose with 876 more new postings (+21.8%). Active and new postings also rose nationally.
- The occupations most in demand were cleaners & domestics, care workers, chefs and sales related occupations.
- Job-related skills most in demand were auditing, continuous improvement, food safety & sanitation 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, Centre Parcs and BAE Systems.
- There were 571 small business start-ups in the quarter ending Aug 2026 which is 134 fewer than last quarter but 106 more than the same quarter last year. Start-ups were highest in real estate & professional services (158), retail & wholesale (74), construction (73) and recreation, personal & community services (61).
- There were 30,303 active companies on the FAME database in Cumbria at the end of Sep 2026, 17 more than in Aug.
- There were 203 new Companies House incorporations in Sep 2026, 49 more than in Aug and 12 more than the same month last year.
- There were 203 businesses recorded as dissolved/in liquidation during Sep 2026, 2 more than in Aug.
- Of the active businesses in Sep 2026, 1,706 had posted financial results showing a 10% increase in employment and/or turnover in their most recent accounts (5.6% of businesses) whilst 1,429 had posted results showing a 10% decline in one or both measures (4.7% of all businesses) (note: the majority of businesses do not file detailed financial accounts).
- Among businesses with a credit score in Sep 2026, 670 had a high risk credit score (1-20) which represents 4.1% of those with a credit score (UK 6.6%).

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.

- Early estimates for September 2026 indicate that the number of payrolled employees was 30.3 million, which is a fall of 0.2% from September 2025; this is equivalent to 66,000 fewer employees.
- The largest increase was in the administrative and support services sector, with a rise of 66,000 employees; the largest decrease was in the wholesale and retail sector, with a fall of 71,000 employees.
- Payrolled employment increased by 13,000 employees (0.04%) in September 2026, compared with August 2026; figures for September should be treated as provisional estimates and are likely to be revised when more data are received next month.
- UK payrolled employee growth for August 2026 compared with July 2026 has been revised from a decrease of 26,000 reported in the last bulletin to an increase of 1,000; this is because of the incorporation of additional real time information (RTI) submissions into the statistics, which takes place every publication and reduces the need for imputation.
- Early estimates for September 2026 indicate that median monthly pay increased by 4.4%, compared with September 2025.
- Annual growth in median pay in September 2026 was highest in the other service activities sector, with an increase of 5.6%; it was lowest in the transportation and storage sector, with an increase of 1.8%.
- The estimated UK employment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points on the year and on the quarter, to 75.3% in June to August 2026, compared with the previous quarter (March to May 2026).
- The estimated UK unemployment rate decreased by 0.1 percentage points on the year and on the quarter, to 4.7%.

- The estimated UK economic inactivity rate decreased by 0.2 percentage points on the year, and by 0.1 percentage points in the latest quarter, to 20.9%.
- Vacancy estimates decreased on the quarter, with early estimates for July to September 2026 suggesting a decrease of 21,000 (2.9%) vacancies to 691,000, compared with April to June 2026; this is the first time the total has been below 700,000 since February to April 2021.
- Vacancy estimates decreased in 14 of the 18 industry sectors, compared with April to June 2026; the largest industry decrease was in construction (down 7,000 vacancies).
- Vacancy estimates decreased in 4 of the 5 employment size bands, compared with April to June 2026; the largest decrease was for businesses with 1 to 9 employees (down 21,000 vacancies).
- There were 2.4 unemployed people per vacancy in June to August 2026, down from 2.5 in March to May 2026, a level at which the ratio has remained since July to September 2025.
- The UK vacancy rate (the proportion of unfilled jobs to total jobs in the economy) was 2.1% in July to September 2026, down 0.1 percentage points since April to June 2026.
- Annual growth in employees' average earnings was 3.7% for both regular earnings (excluding bonuses) and total earnings (including bonuses).
- Annual growth in real terms, adjusted for inflation using the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH), was 0.6% for regular pay and 0.7% for total pay.
- Using the Consumer Prices Index excluding owner occupiers' housing costs (CPI) to adjust for inflation, annual growth in real terms was 0.8% for regular pay and 0.9% for total pay.
- Annual average regular earnings growth remained at 6.3% for the public sector and 3.0% for the private sector; public sector annual pay growth continues to be affected by variations in the timing of some pay awards this year.
- After the public sector, the finances and business sector showed the strongest regular annual growth rate (3.3%).

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.

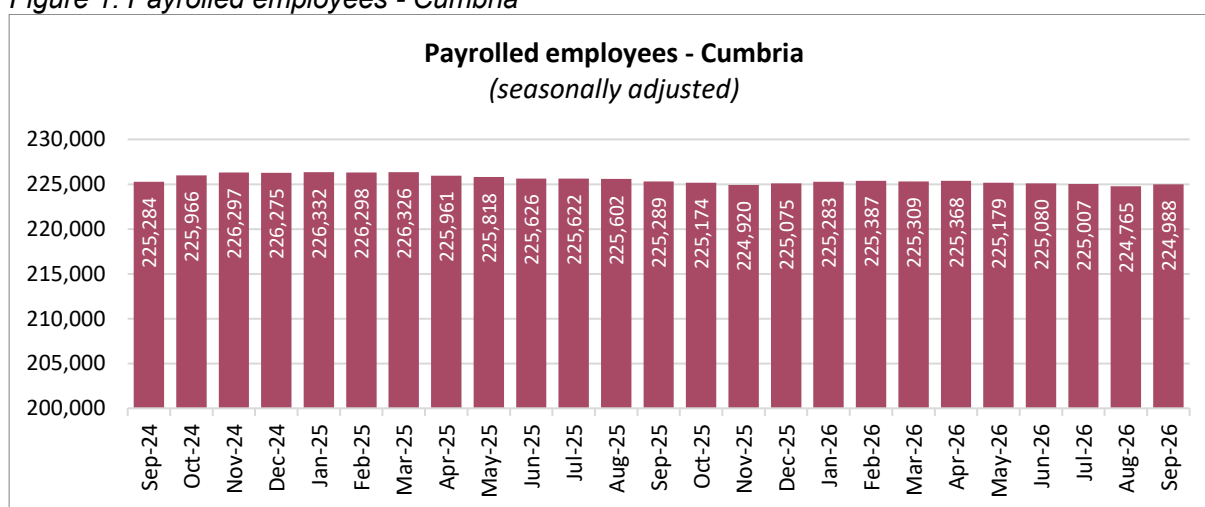
Note 1: District data are released quarterly, the ITL areas of West Cumbria (Allerdale, Copeland, Barrow) and East Cumbria (Carlisle, Eden, South Lakeland) are released monthly.

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 224,988 residents in Cumbria in payrolled employment in the provisional Sep 26 data, an increase of 223 from the revised Aug total. There were estimated to be 301 fewer payrolled employees than a year earlier.

Figure 1: Payrolled employees - Cumbria



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

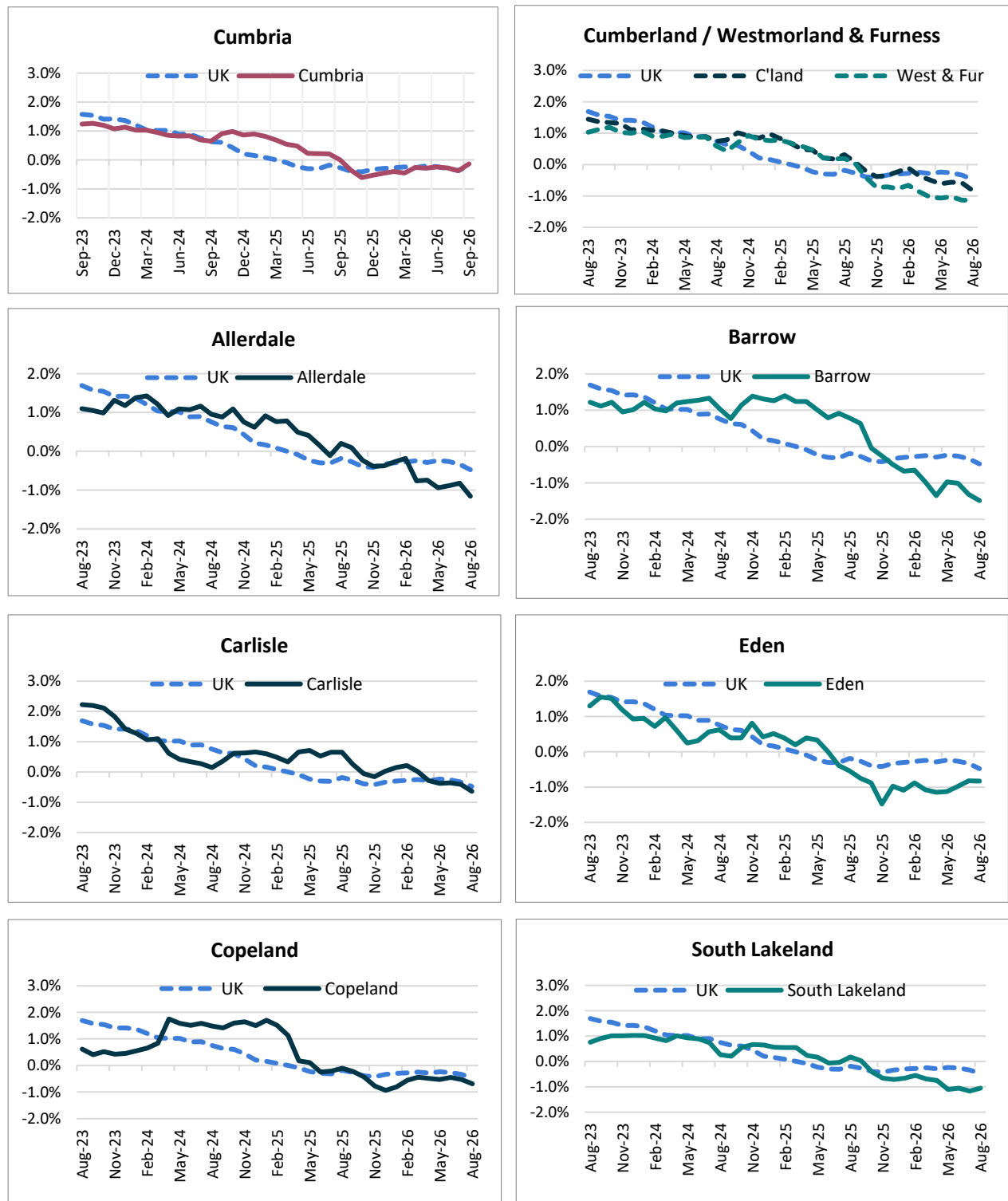
Figure 2: Payrolled employees – Seasonally adjusted

Payrolled employees (seasonally adjusted)					
	Sep 2026	Month change		One year change	
	No	No	%	No	%
UK	30,280,860	12,646	0.0%	-65,791	-0.2%
England	25,704,509	9,179	0.0%	-66,411	-0.3%
Cumbria	224,988	223	0.1%	-301	-0.1%
West Cumbria ITL	104,548	173	0.2%	-142	-0.1%
East Cumbria ITL	120,440	50	0.0%	-159	-0.1%

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)

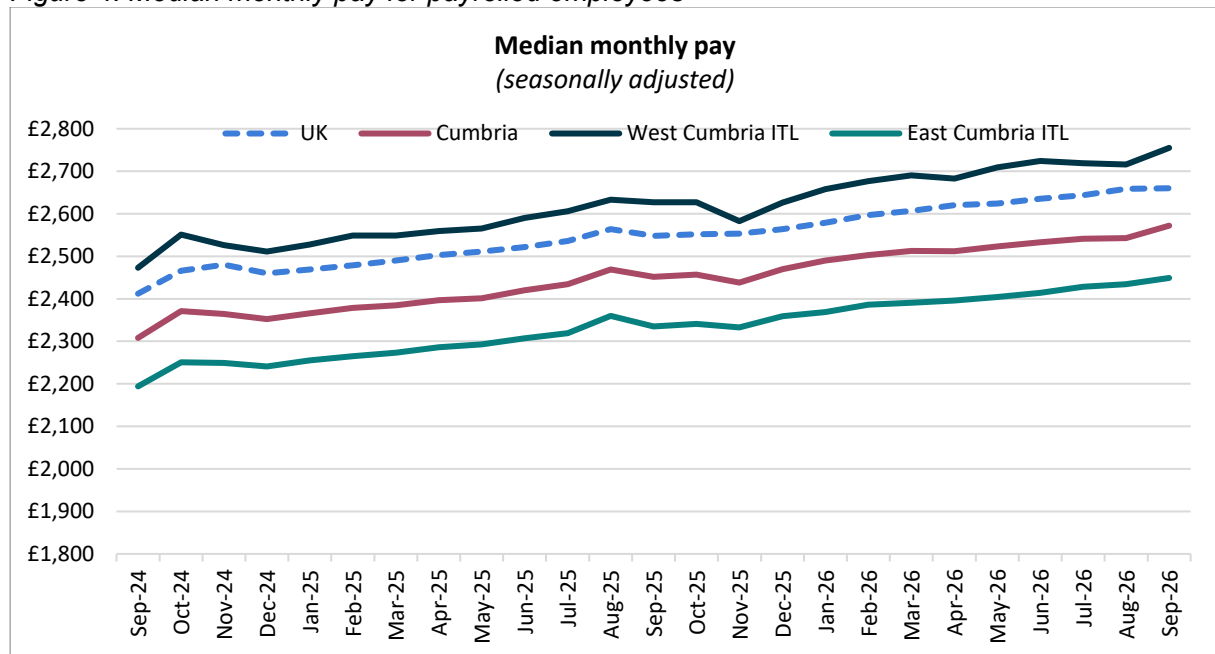


Source: HMRC / ONS. Unitary and former data are released quarterly. Latest month data are provisional.

3b. Median monthly pay (seasonally adjusted)

Median monthly pay for employees in Cumbria was estimated to be £2,572 in Sep 2026 which is 97% 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)						
	Sep 2026	UK Index	Month change		One year change	
	No	Index	No	%	No	%
UK	2,660	100	1	0.0%	112	4.4%
Cumbria	2,572	97	29	1.1%	120	4.9%
Allerdale	2,755	104	39	1.4%	128	4.9%
Carlisle	2,449	92	15	0.6%	114	4.9%

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 10th Sep 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 Sep 2026 rose by 165 compared to the revised Aug figure, up to a total of 6,600 which is a monthly increase of 2.6% (UK +2.1%). The count rose in all former districts except Copeland where it fell slightly. The claimant rate in Cumbria was 2.2% which is below the national rate of 3.9% and is up 0.1ppt from last month. Compared to a year ago, the claimant count in Cumbria is 305 higher and the rate is up by 0.1ppt.

Figure 6: Standard Claimant Count – Sep 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	951,075	4.4	751,825	3.4	1,702,905	3.9	35,810	2.1	0.1	45,795	2.8	0.1
Cumbria	3,760	2.5	2,840	1.9	6,600	2.2	165	2.6	0.1	305	4.9	0.1
Cumberland	2,395	2.9	1,775	2.1	4,175	2.5	90	2.3	0.1	270	6.9	0.2
Allerdale	810	2.9	640	2.2	1,450	2.5	5	0.5	0.0	70	5.2	0.1
Carlisle	965	2.8	755	2.2	1,720	2.5	95	5.8	0.1	165	10.5	0.2
Copeland	620	3.1	385	1.9	1,005	2.5	-10	-0.9	0.0	35	3.6	0.1
Westmorland & Furness	1,365	2.0	1,060	1.6	2,425	1.8	75	3.1	0.1	35	1.5	0.0
Barrow	700	3.4	410	2.0	1,105	2.7	45	4.4	0.1	-5	-0.4	0.0
Eden	230	1.4	250	1.5	485	1.5	5	1.0	0.0	-35	-6.4	-0.1
South Lakeland	435	1.4	400	1.3	835	1.4	20	2.6	0.0	75	9.9	0.1
of which LDNPA	135	1.3	140	1.3	270	1.3	15	5.9	0.1	5	1.9	0.1

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.

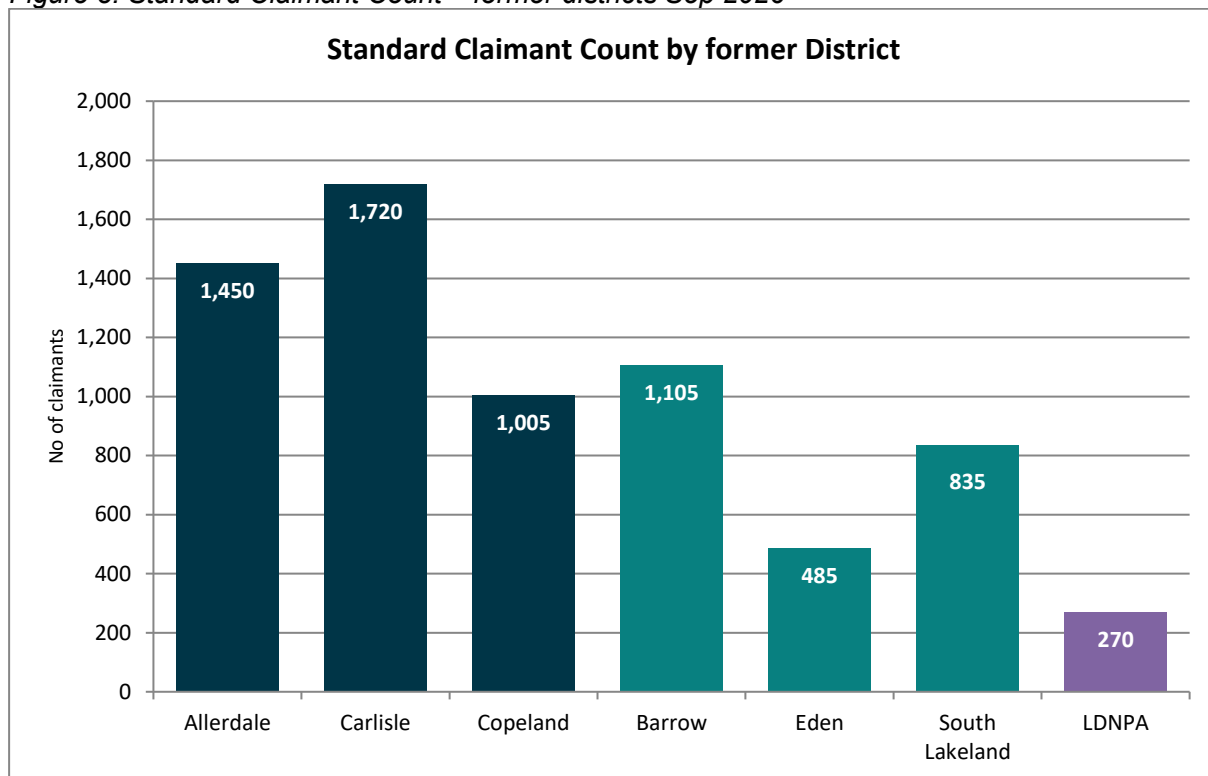
The following table shows the claimant count and rate by broad age group. Claimant rates at Cumbria level are below the national average for all age groups. The young adult rate in Copeland has fallen but continues to be above the national rate for that age group.

Figure 7: Standard Claimant Count & Rate by Age Group in Cumbria – Sep 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	342,635	5.9%	396,520	4.2%	405,285	4.4%	296,575	3.5%	258,030	2.9%	1,702,905	3.9%
Cumbria	1,335	4.2%	1,610	2.8%	1,585	2.7%	1,015	1.6%	1,050	1.3%	6,600	2.2%
Cumberland	870	4.9%	1,015	3.1%	975	2.9%	625	1.9%	680	1.6%	4,175	2.5%
Allerdale	315	5.6%	345	3.2%	315	2.9%	215	1.8%	255	1.6%	1,450	2.5%
Carlisle	290	3.7%	450	3.1%	450	3.1%	280	2.0%	240	1.4%	1,720	2.5%
Copeland	260	6.1%	225	2.9%	205	2.6%	130	1.6%	185	1.7%	1,005	2.5%
Westmorland & Furness	465	3.2%	595	2.4%	610	2.4%	390	1.4%	360	1.0%	2,425	1.8%
Barrow	270	5.4%	320	3.6%	245	3.0%	150	1.9%	120	1.2%	1,105	2.7%
Eden	75	2.4%	115	2.1%	130	2.1%	80	1.2%	85	0.9%	485	1.5%
South Lakeland	120	1.9%	165	1.6%	235	2.1%	155	1.2%	160	0.9%	835	1.4%
of which LDNPA	30	1.4%	65	1.8%	70	1.8%	60	1.3%	45	0.6%	270	1.2%

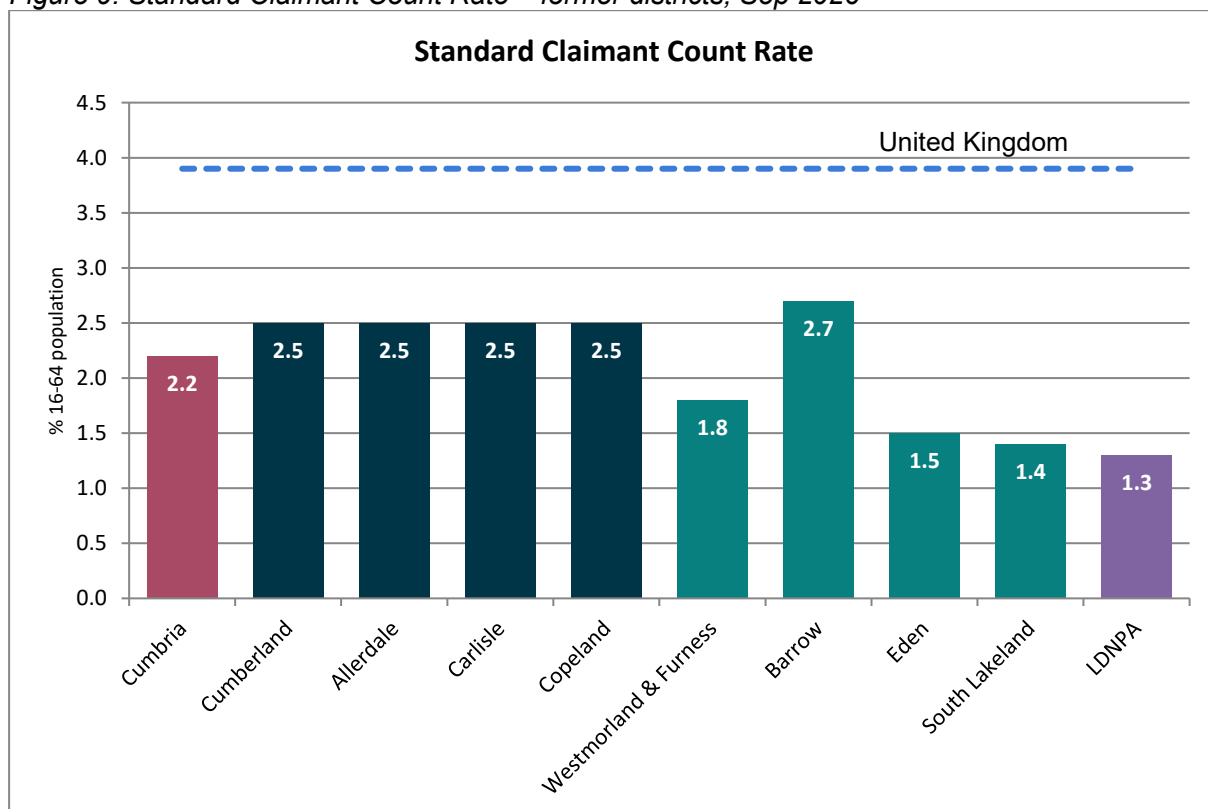
Source: ONS (data are rounded). LDNPA is a “best-fit” of LSOAs with 50%+ of pop in NP - data are also included in relevant district.

Figure 8: Standard Claimant Count – former districts Sep 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, Sep 2026



Source: ONS/DWP

Figure 10: Standard Claimant Count - timeseries

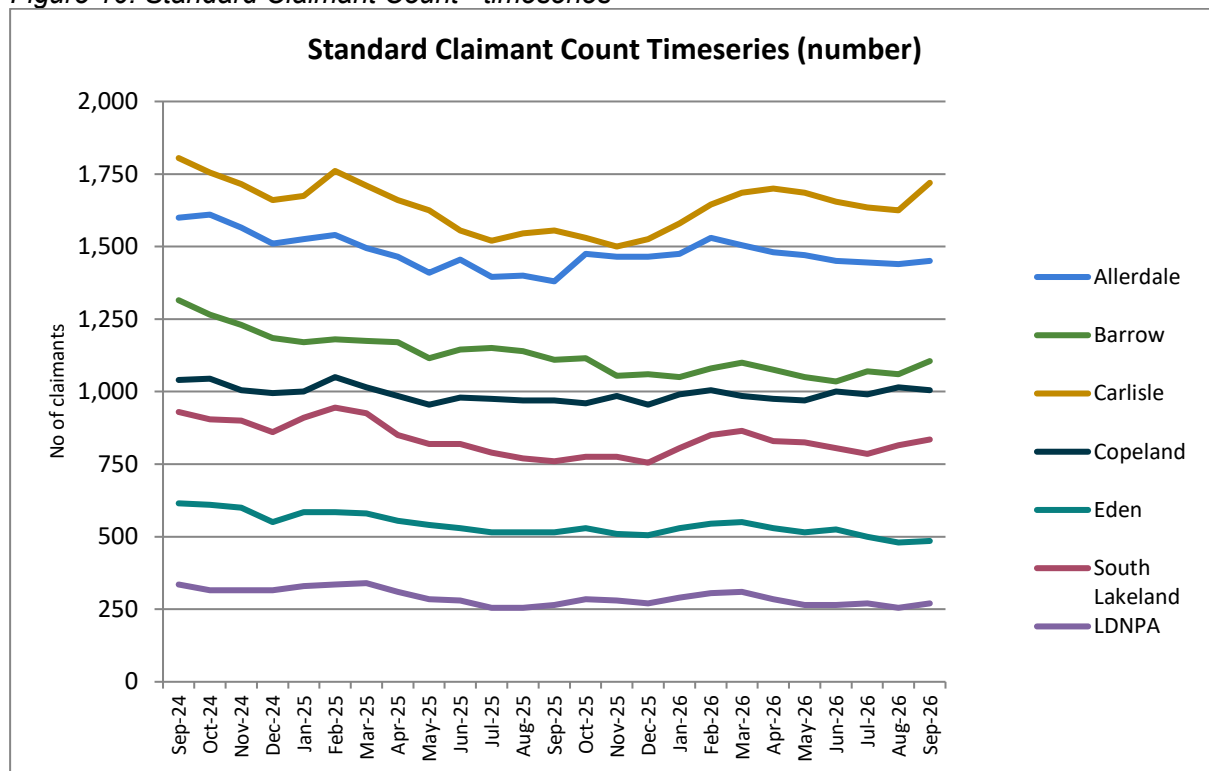
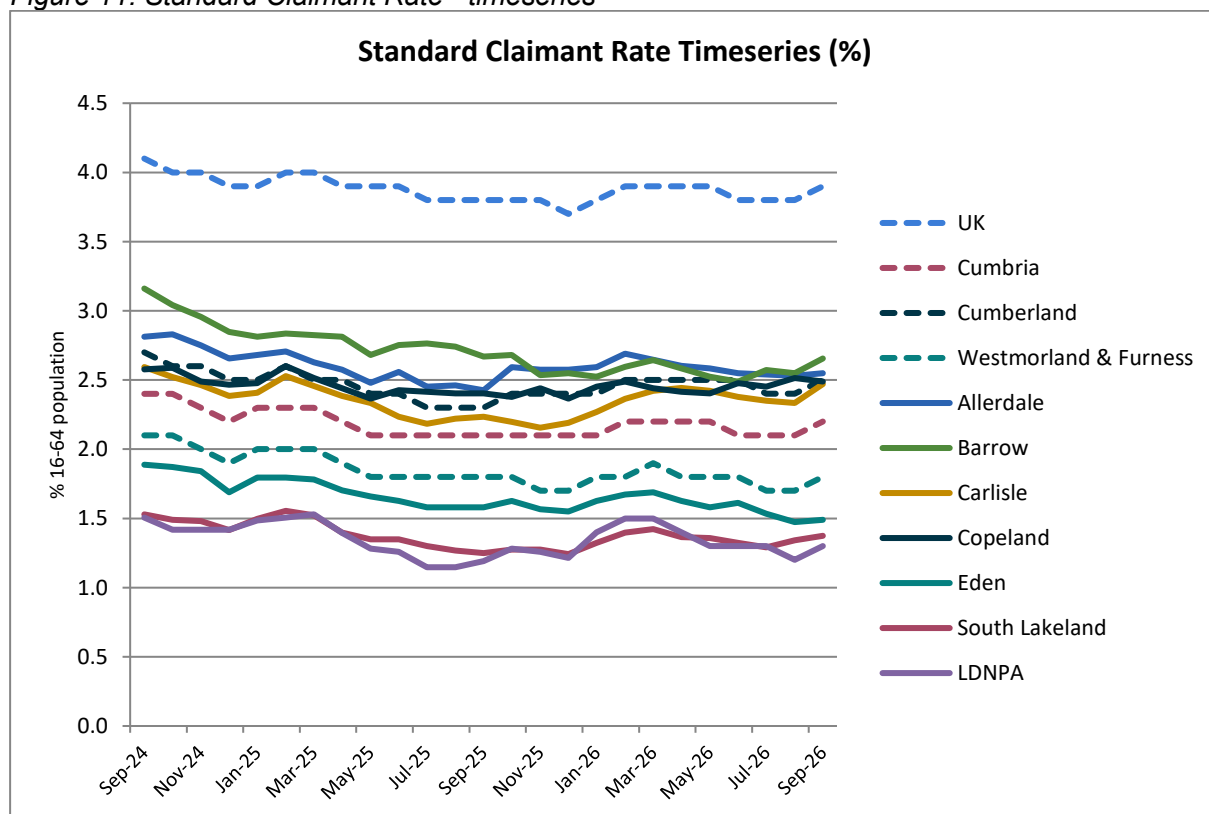


Figure 11: Standard Claimant Rate - timeseries



Source: ONS/DWP

5. NEETs & Participation (released monthly)

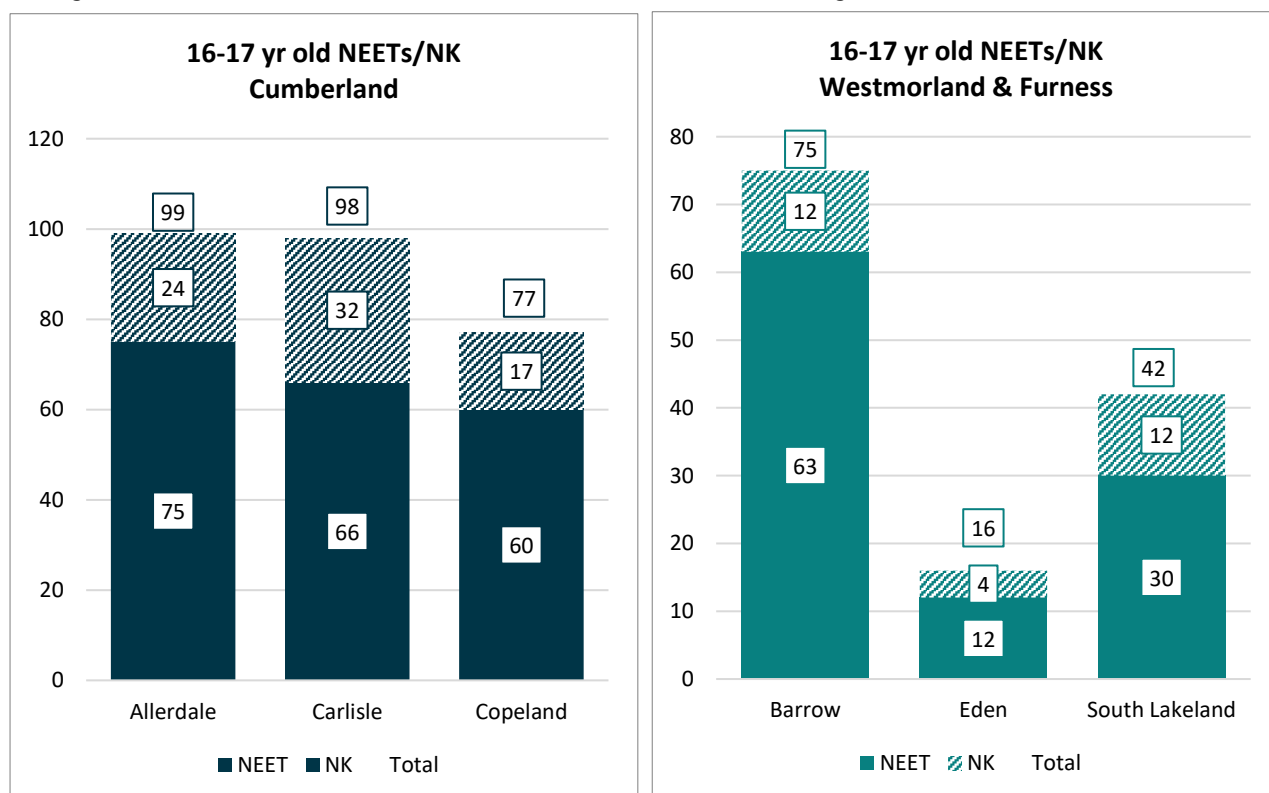
5a. Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

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.

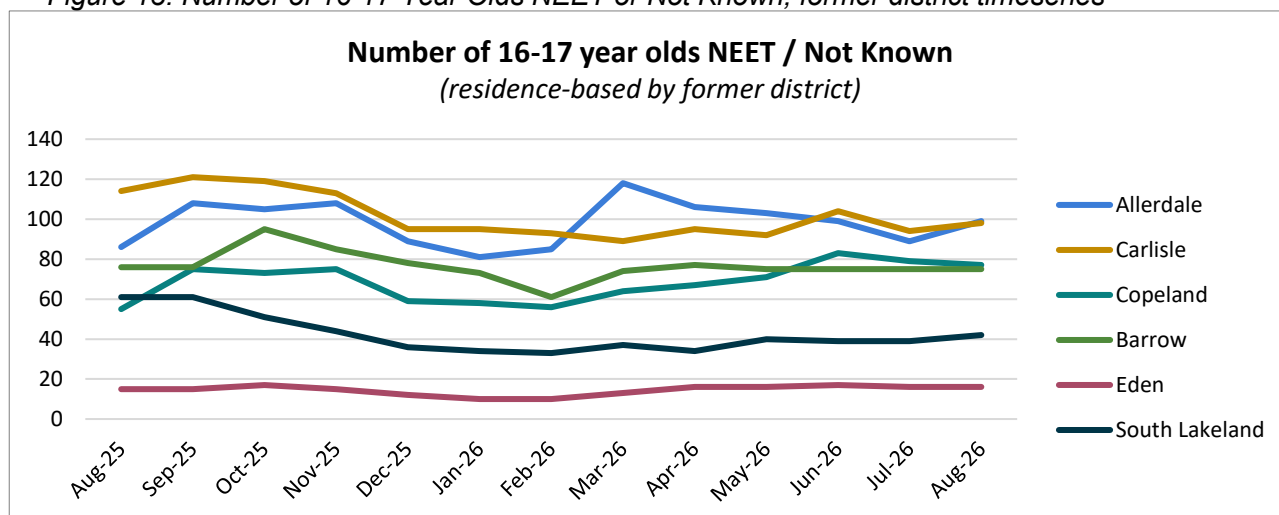
The monthly data are more volatile and caution should be exercised when interpreting changes. In Aug 2026 there were 428 16-17 year olds classed as NEET/NK in Cumbria (309 NEET and 119 whose status was Not Known). There were 286 NEET/NKs resident in Cumberland and 142 in Westmorland & Furness. The number was up 11 from last month but down by 12 on the same month last year.

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



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

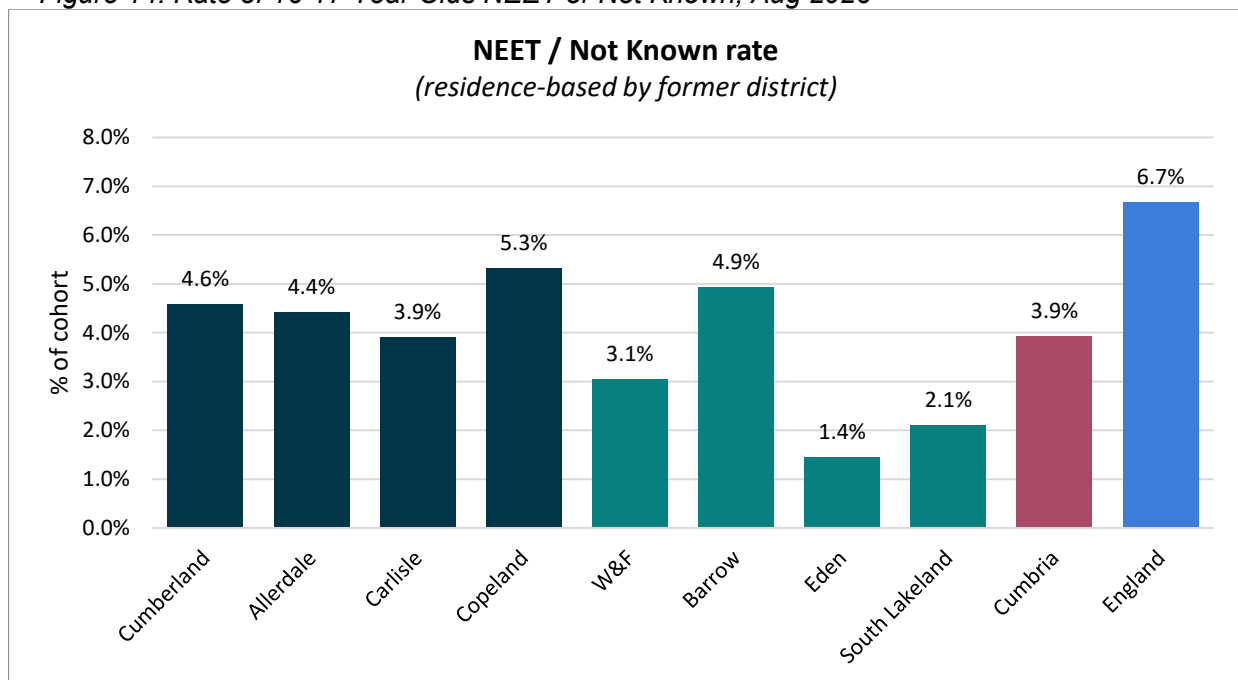
Figure 13: Number of 16-17 Year Olds NEET or Not Known, former district timeseries



Source: Inspira / Cumberland Council

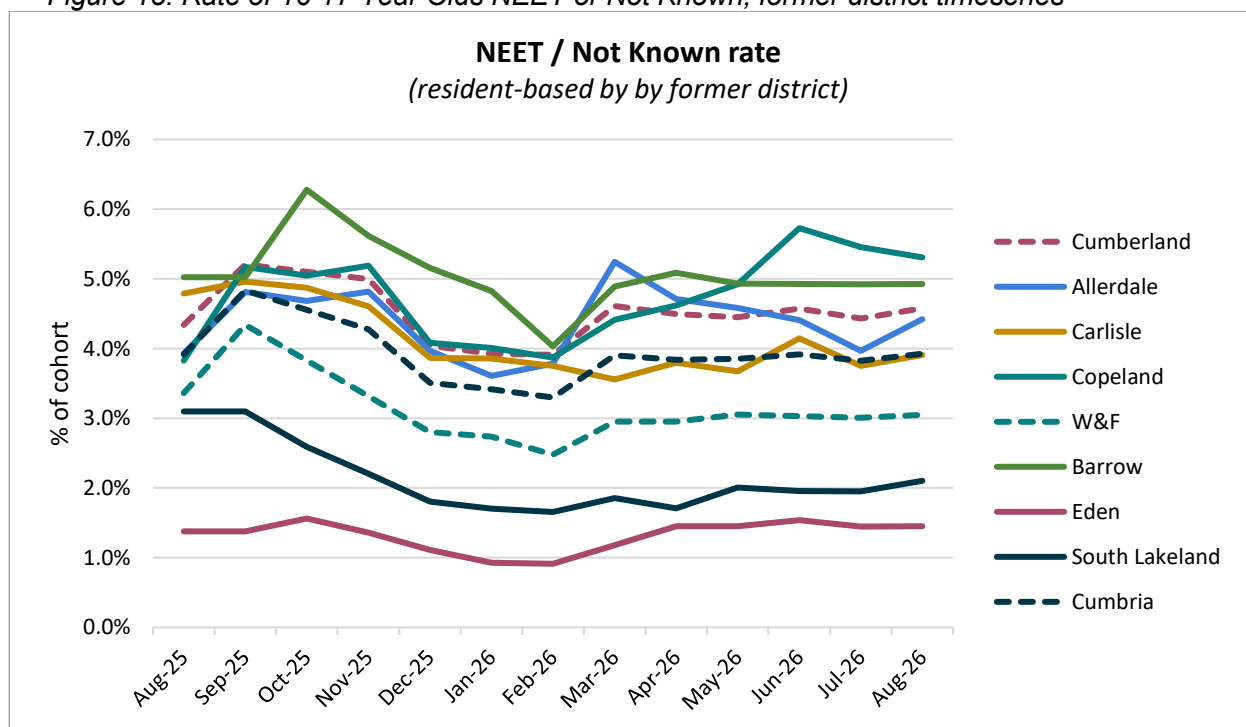
The county NEET/NK rate (% of cohort) was 3.9% in Aug 2026. The rate was 4.6% in Cumberland and 3.1% in Westmorland & Furness which compares to a national rate of 6.7%.

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



Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumberland Council

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



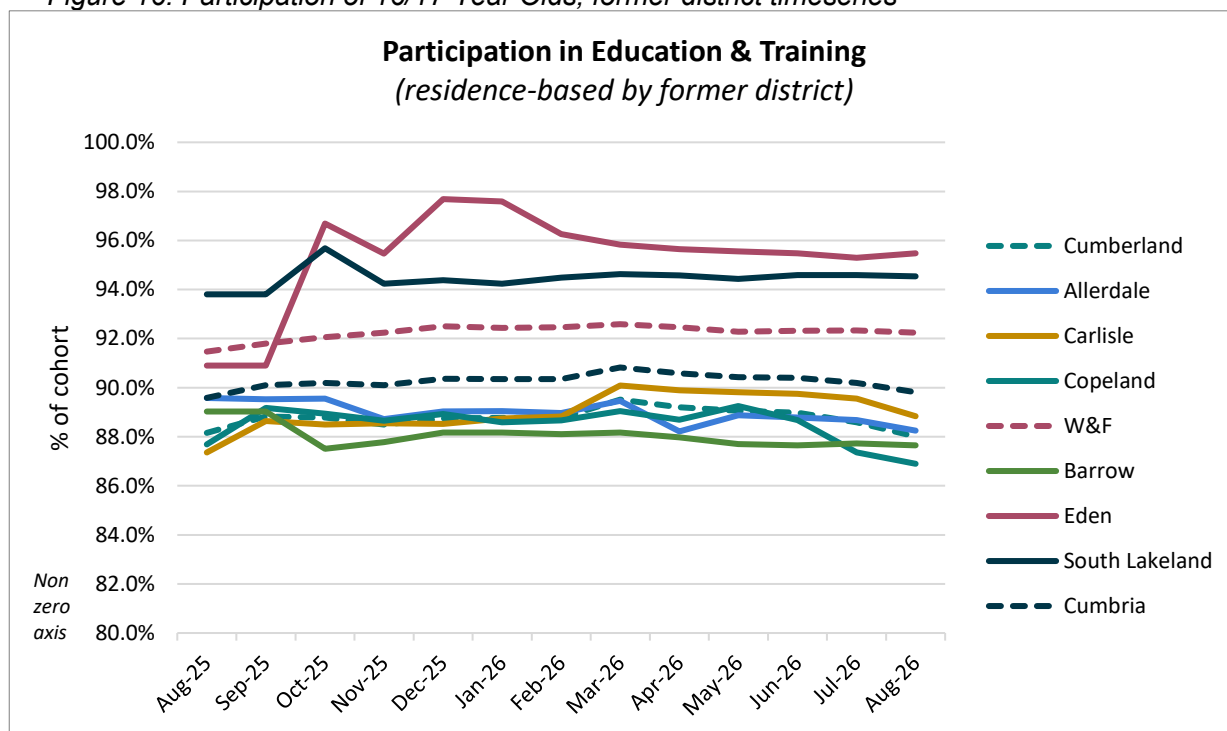
Source: Inspira / NCCIS / Cumberland Council

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.

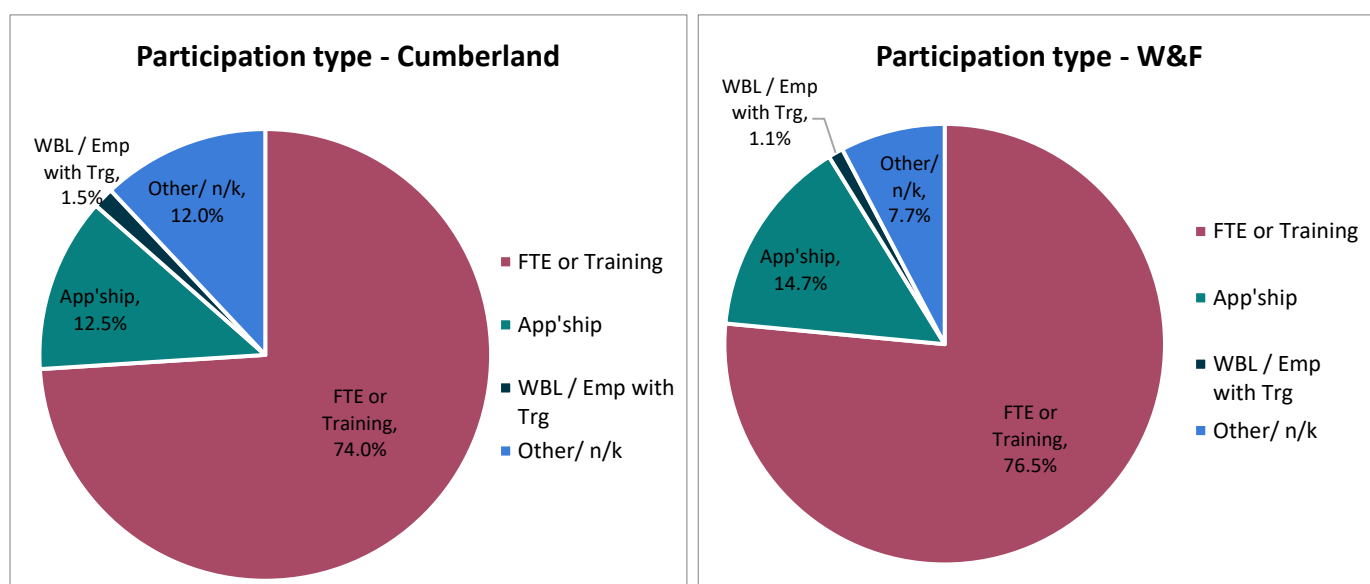
In Jul 2026, 89.8% of young people in Cumbria were classed as meeting the participation requirement. The rates were 88.0% in Cumberland and 92.2% in Westmorland & Furness compared to an England average of 90.9%. Young people in both Cumberland and Westmorland & Furness are significantly more likely to be undertaking an Apprenticeship than nationally, 12.5% and 14.7% respectively compared to 3.9% 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 – Aug 2026



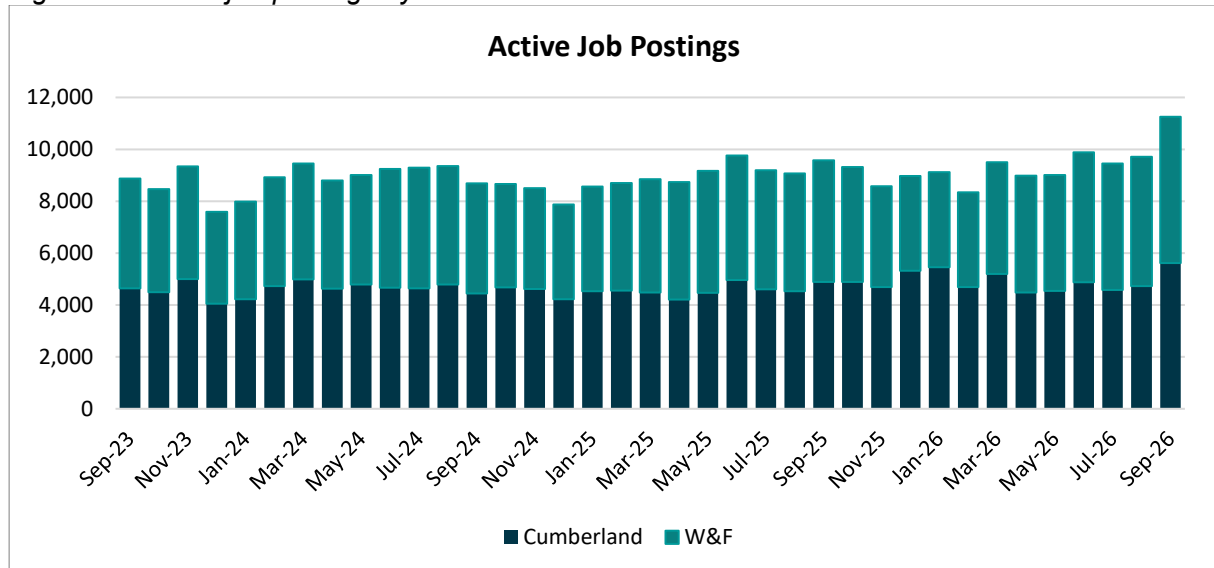
Source: NCCIS / Cumberland Council

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 Sep 2026 there were 11,253 active job postings in Cumbria, 4,889 of which were new postings during the month. The number of active postings was 1,535 higher than in Aug(+15.8%) and the number of new postings was 876 higher than last month. Postings also rose nationally.

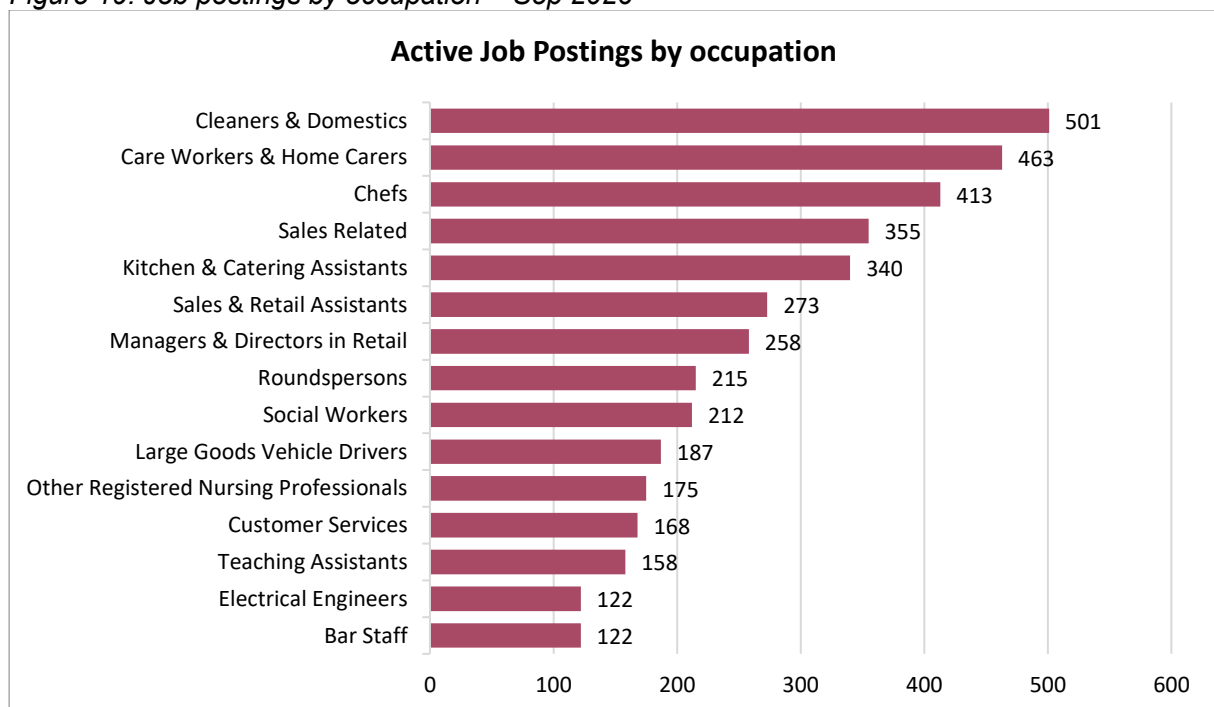
Figure 18: Active job postings by month



Source: © Lightcast 2026

The most commonly advertised jobs were for cleaners & domestics, care workers, chefs and sales related occupations.

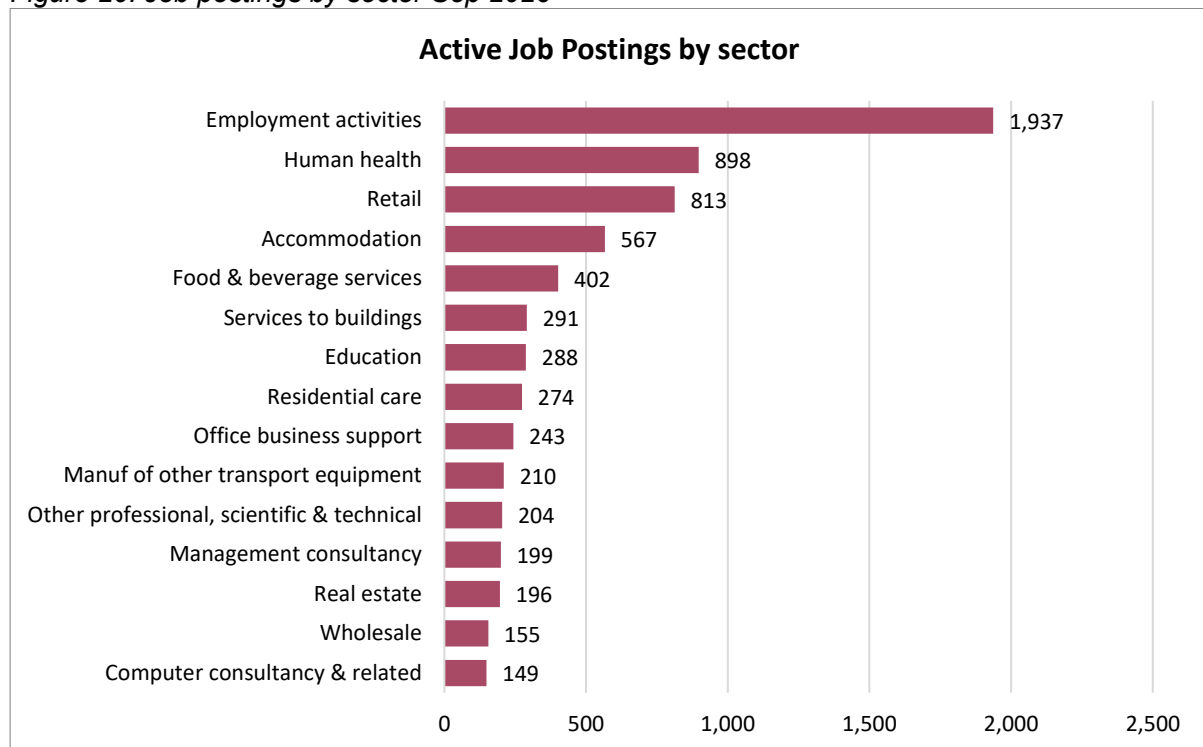
Figure 19: Job postings by occupation – Sep 2026



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, accommodation and food & beverage services.

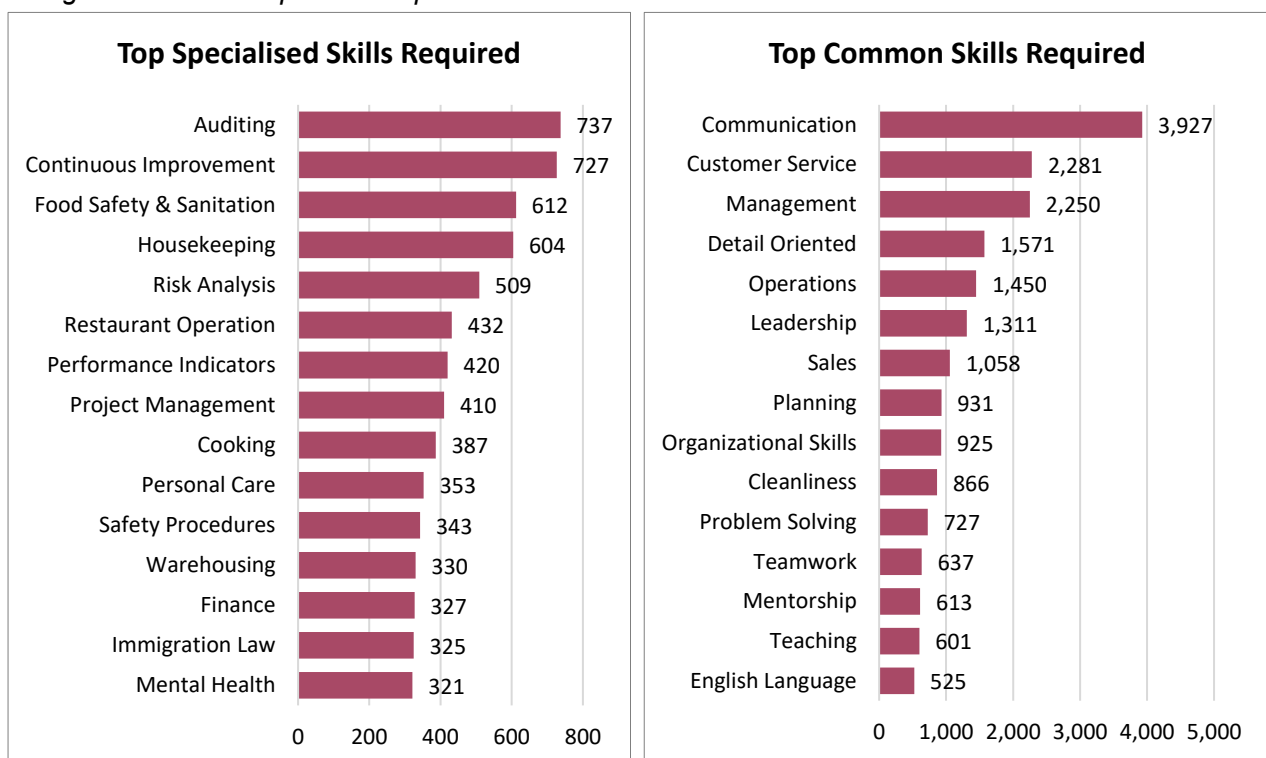
Figure 20: Job postings by sector Sep 2026



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.

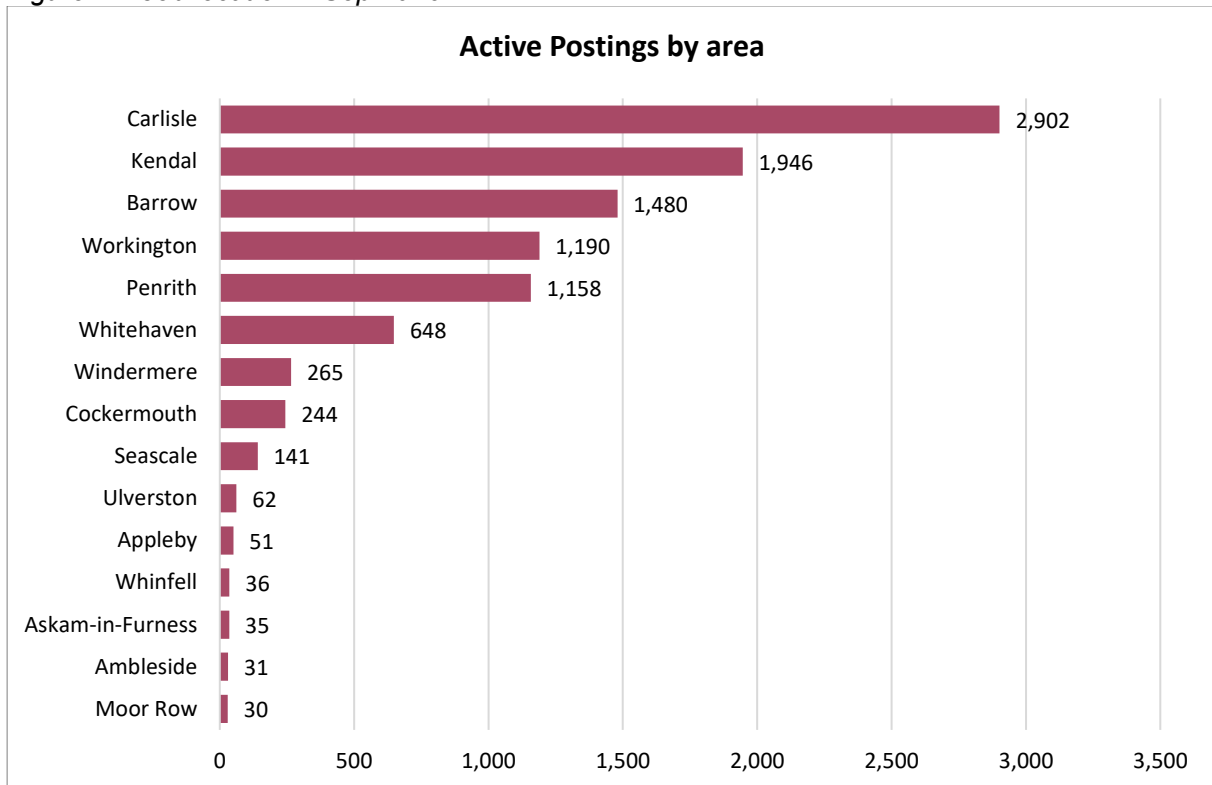
Figure 21: Skills required – Sep 2026



Source: © Lightcast 2026

Active postings rose in both unitaries and in all former district areas.

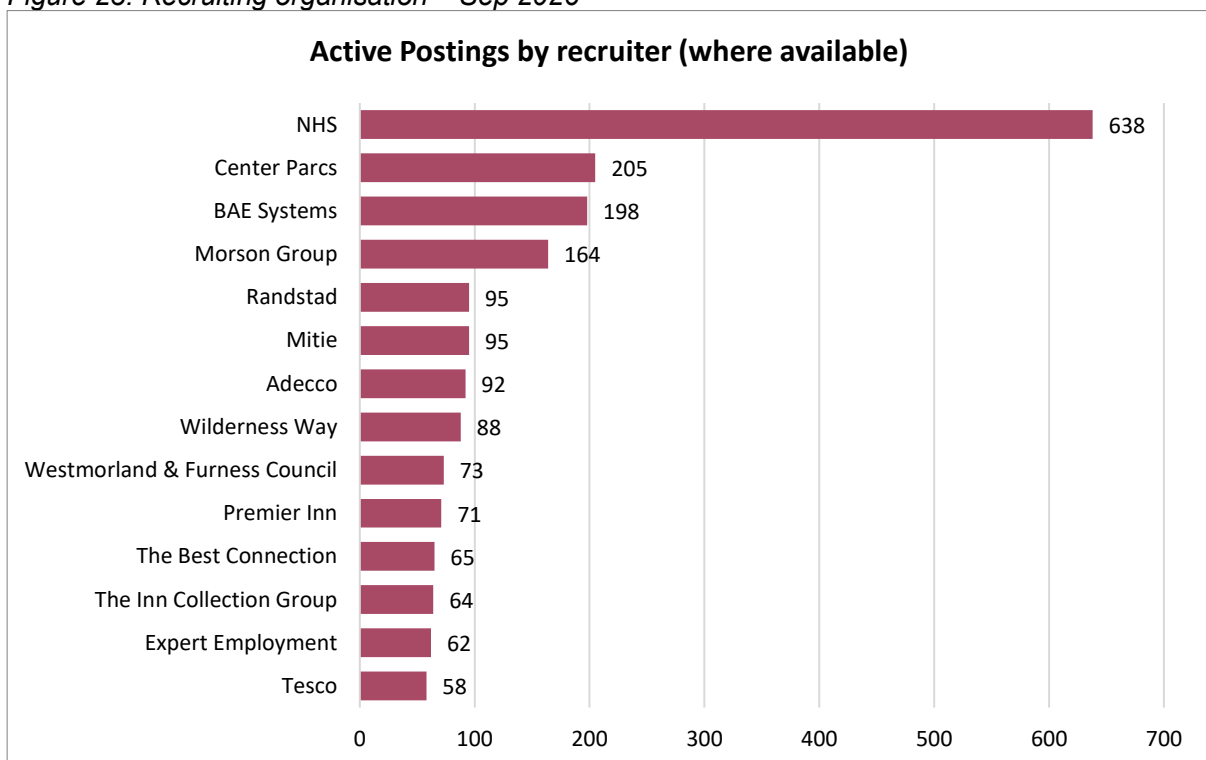
Figure 22: Job location – Sep 2026



Source: © Lightcast 2026

The NHS continues to dominate, accounting for around a fifth of postings (where a recruiting organisation could be identified) but there were fewer BAE Systems postings in Sep alongside an increase in postings by Centre Parcs. Recruitment agencies also feature highly.

Figure 23: Recruiting organisation – Sep 2026



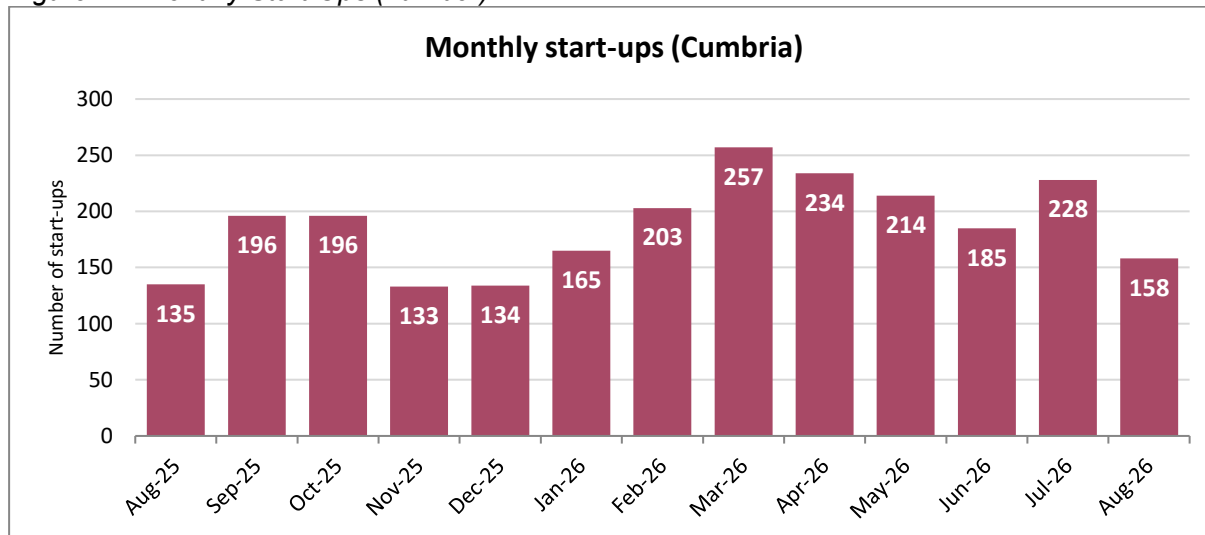
Source: © Lightcast 2026

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 158 business start-ups in Cumbria in Aug 2026, 70 fewer than the previous month. Over the quarter (Jun-Aug) there were 571 start-ups which is 134 fewer than last quarter but 106 more than the same quarter last year.

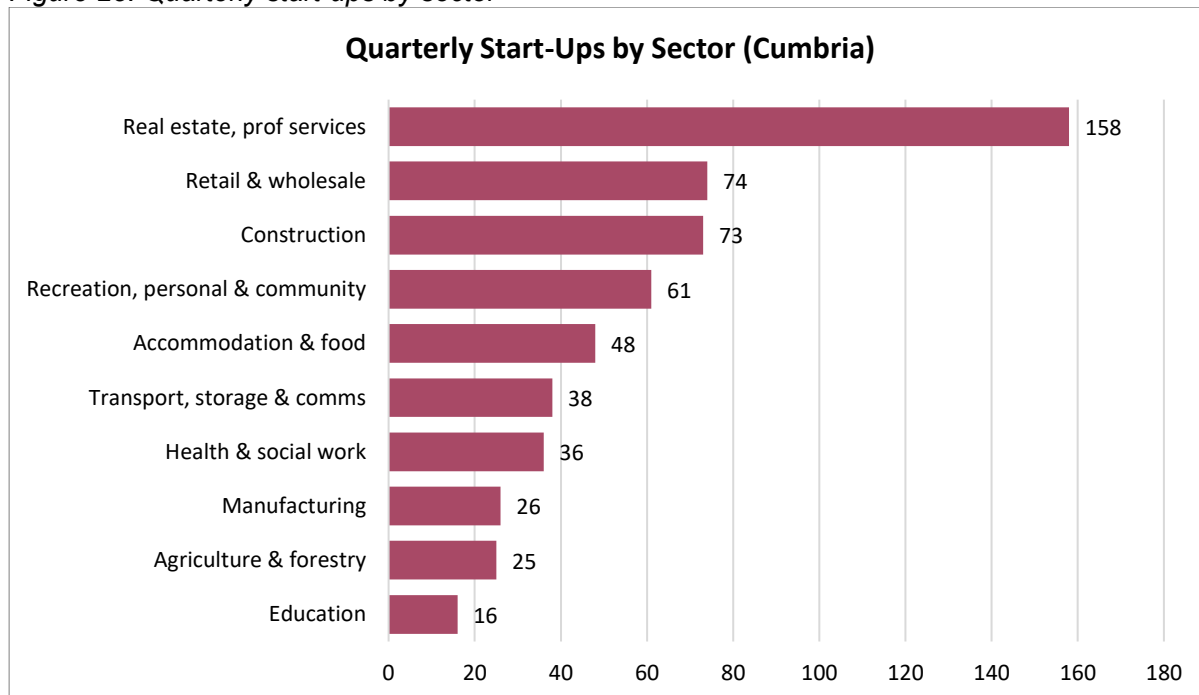
Figure 24: Monthly Start-Ups (number)



Source: BankSearch

The highest volume of start-ups in the quarter (Jun-Aug) was in real estate, prof services & support activities followed by retail & wholesale, construction and recreation, personal & community services.

Figure 25: Quarterly start-ups by sector



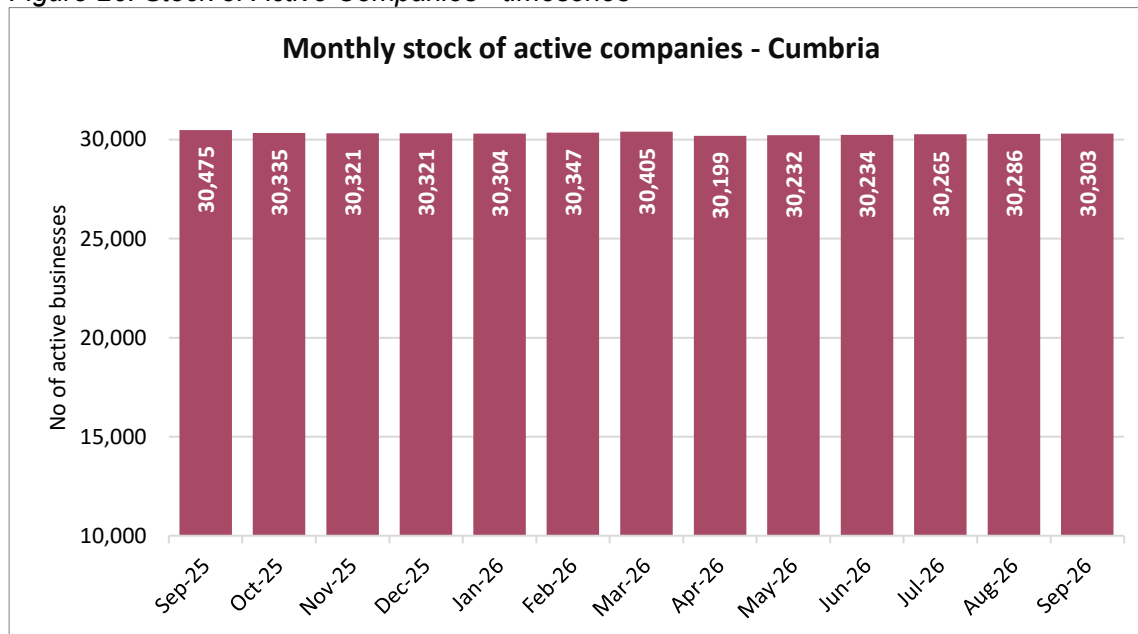
Source: BankSearch

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.

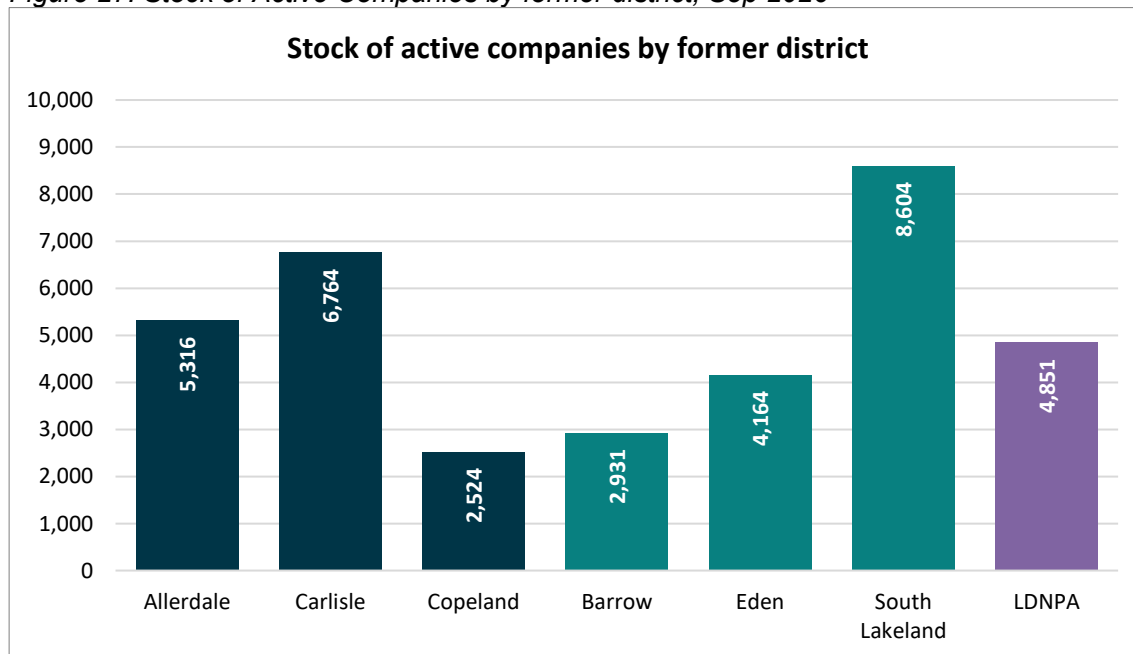
At the end of Sep 2026 there were 30,303 entries on the FAME database for Cumbria, 17 more than last month.

Figure 26: Stock of Active Companies - timeseries



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

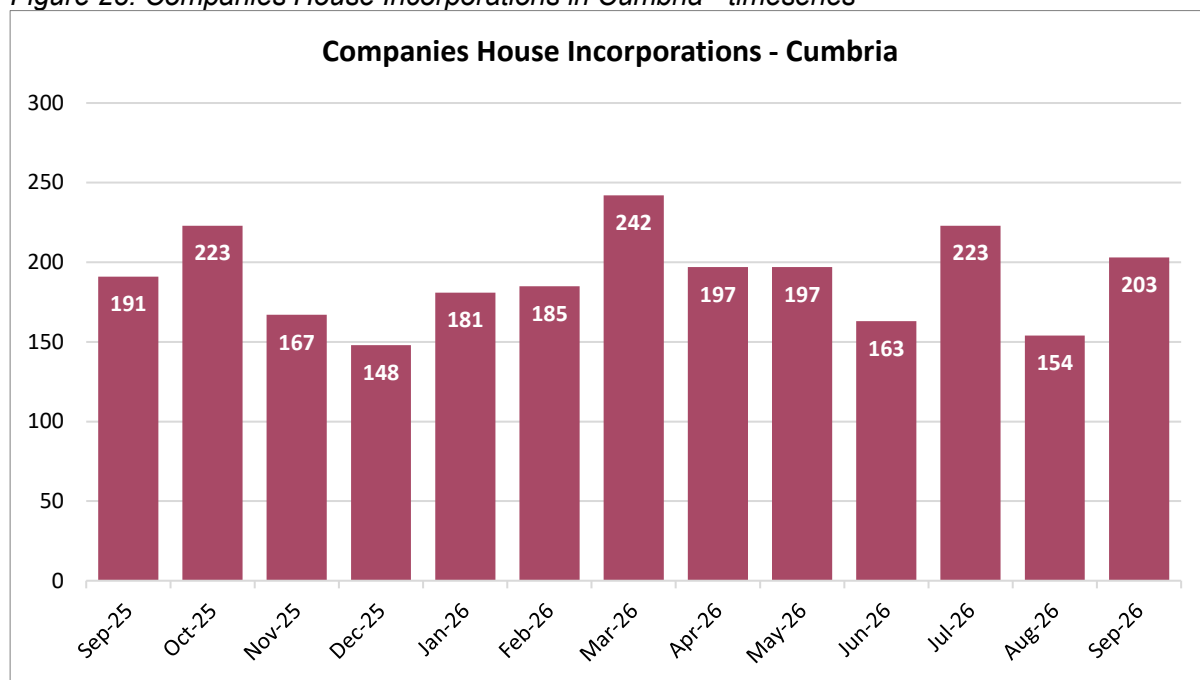
Figure 27: Stock of Active Companies by former district, Sep 2026



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

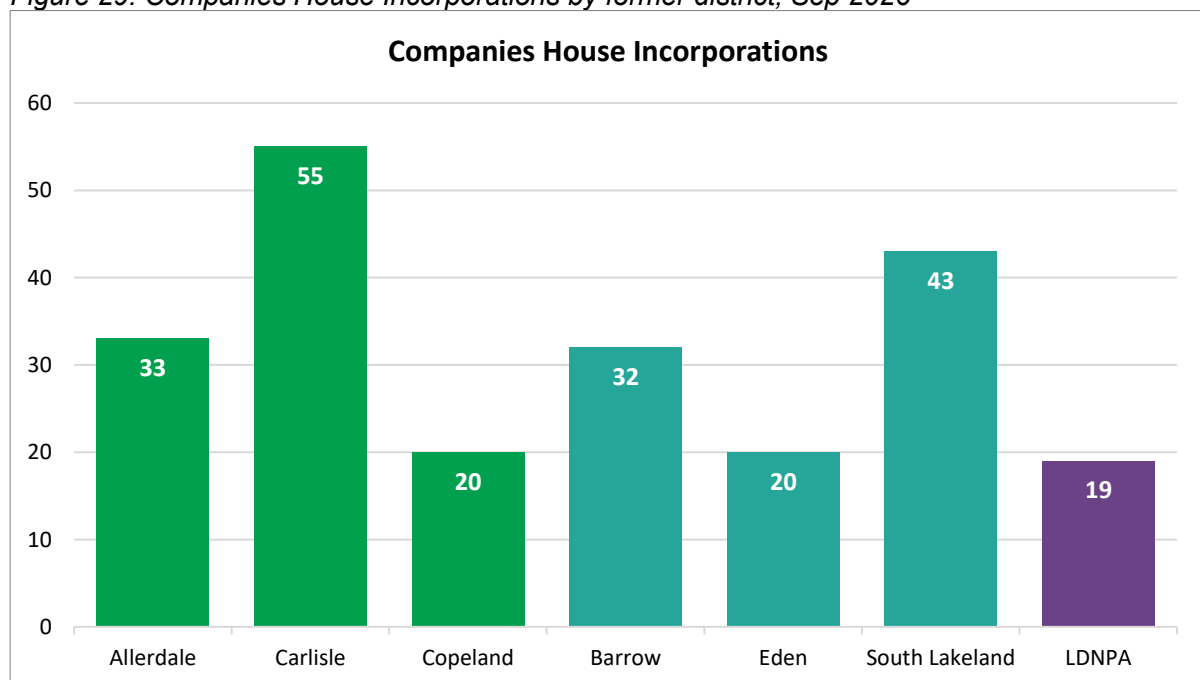
There were 203 new Companies House incorporations in Sep 2026, 49 more than last month and 12 more than the same month last year. NB: a change of name, address, merger or other changes can result in a new record and therefore these figures do not necessarily all represent newly formed businesses.

Figure 28: Companies House Incorporations in Cumbria - timeseries



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk).

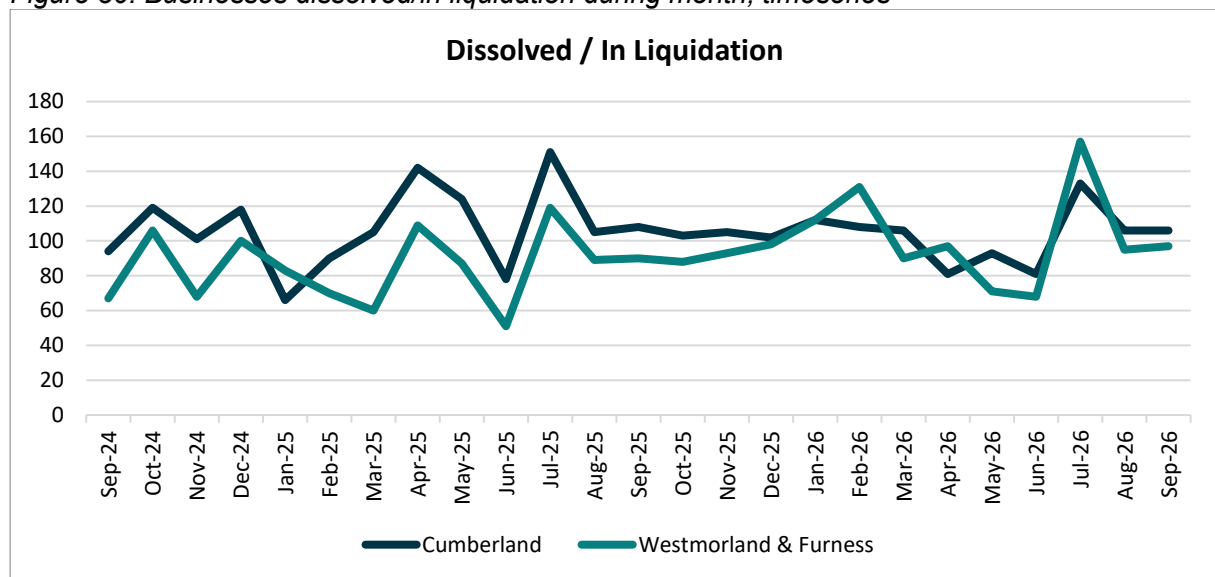
Figure 29: Companies House Incorporations by former district, Sep 2026



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

There were 203 dissolutions/liquidations during the month (202 dissolutions, 1 liquidation) which is 2 more than last month.

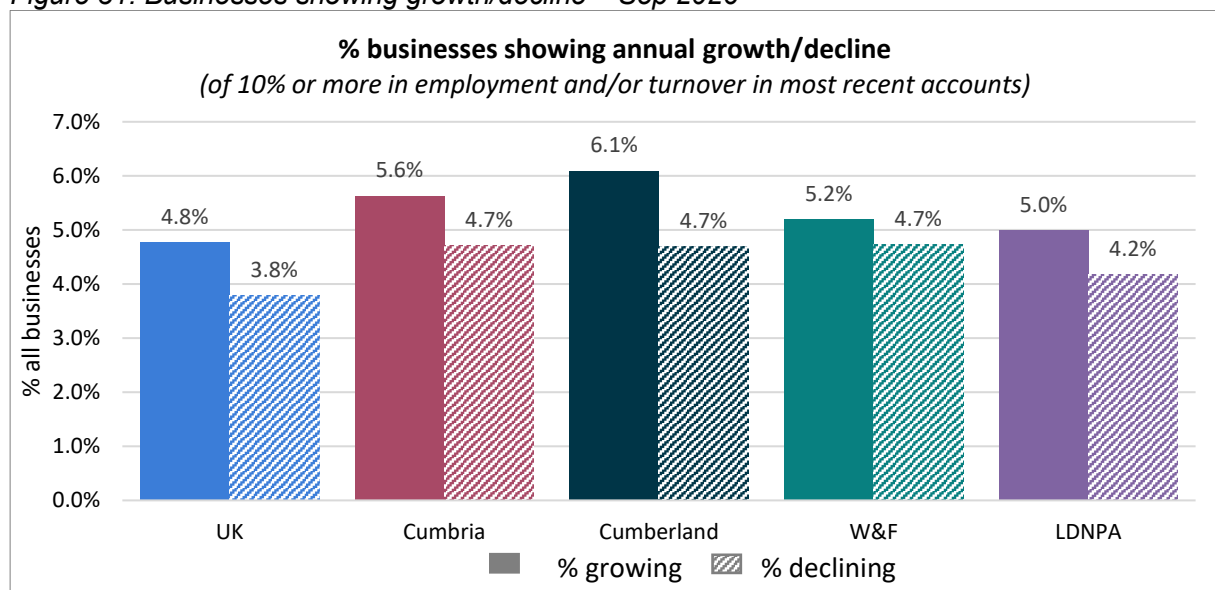
Figure 30: Businesses dissolved/in liquidation during month, timeseries



Source: FAME (Bureau Van Dijk)

Of the businesses which were active in Cumbria in Sep 2026, 1,706 had shown an increase of 10% in either employment or turnover in their most recent accounts whilst 1,429 had shown a decrease. This represents 5.6% of businesses growing on one or both measures and 4.7% 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.)

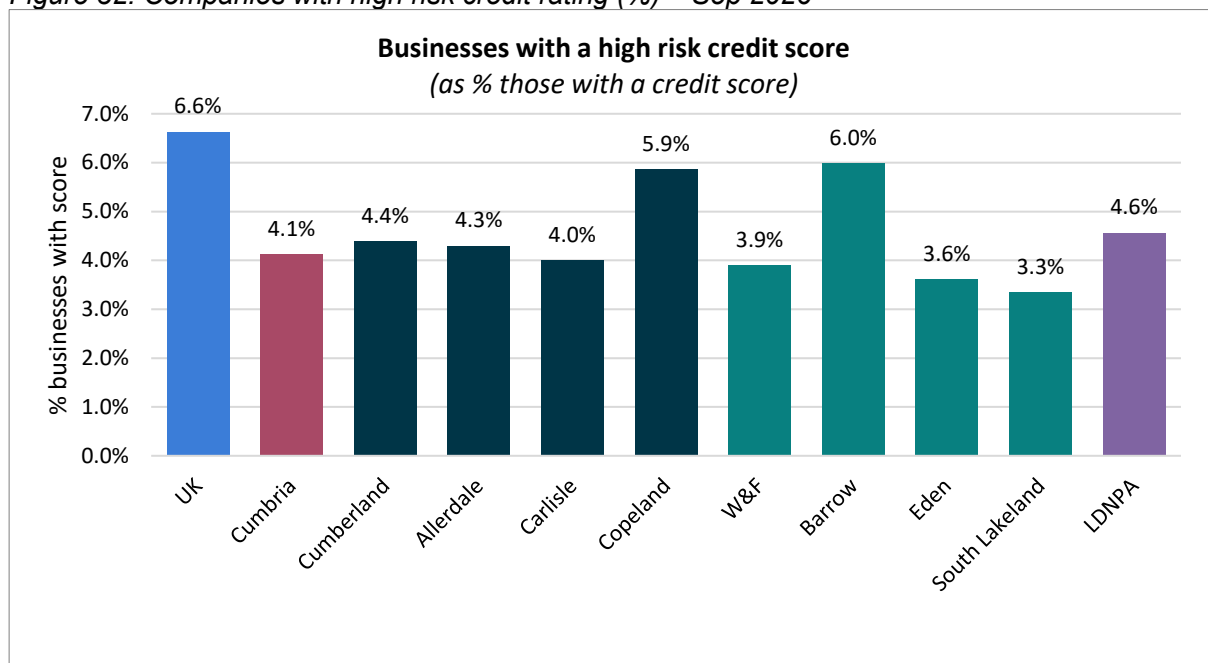
Figure 31: Businesses showing growth/decline – Sep 2026



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

At the end of Sep 2026, 670 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 6.6% nationally. The rate was highest in the former district areas of Copeland (5.9%) and Barrow (6.0%)

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



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

Figure 33: Ward claimant data

CUMBERLAND	Jobseeker Claimant Count (JSA / UC seeking work)				
	Sep 2026		Change from Aug 2026		
	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
GB	1,668,680	3.9	35,100	2.1	0.1
Cumbria	6,600	2.2	165	2.6	0.1
Cumberland	4,175	2.5	90	2.3	0.1
1. Carlisle West	625	3.1	30	5	0.1
2. Petteril	715	3.4	45	7	0.2
3. Border, Fellside & North Carlisle	335	1.4	15	5	0.1
4. Fells & Solway	320	1.8	10	3	0.1
5. Lakes to Sea	515	2.1	10	2	0.0
6. Workington Together	660	3.4	-10	-2	-0.1
7. Whitehaven & Coastal	515	2.5	-10	-2	-0.1
8. South Cumberland	490	2.5	0	0	0.0
Aspatia	80	2.6	-5	-6	-0.2
Belah	55	1.2	5	6	0.1
Belle Vue	135	3.2	20	17	0.5
Botcherby	160	3.7	0	1	0.0
Bothel & Wharrels	35	1.3	5	20	0.2
Brampton	65	2.1	5	5	0.1
Bransty	90	2.7	-10	-9	-0.3
Castle	185	4.2	0	0	0.0
Cleator Moor East & Frizington	90	2.8	0	0	0.0
Cleator Moor West	100	2.7	5	3	0.1
Cockermouth North	80	2.0	5	8	0.1
Cockermouth South	45	1.3	0	2	0.0
Corby & Hayton	30	1.1	0	-3	0.0
Currock	195	4.2	10	6	0.2
Dalston & Burgh	45	0.9	0	2	0.0
Dearham & Broughton	50	1.4	5	6	0.1
Denton Holme	140	3.0	5	4	0.1
Egremont	120	3.5	-5	-6	-0.2
Egremont North & St. Bees	90	2.7	0	-1	0.0
Gosforth	50	1.4	0	4	0.1
Harraby North	145	3.3	15	12	0.4
Harraby South	95	2.5	10	9	0.2
Harrington	105	2.6	0	1	0.0
Hillcrest & Hensingham	35	1.0	0	-3	0.0
Houghton & Irthington	20	0.6	0	12	0.1
Howgate	70	2.0	5	6	0.1
Kells & Sandwith	160	3.7	5	3	0.1
Keswick	45	1.6	0	-2	0.0
Longtown	70	2.4	5	9	0.2
Maryport North	110	3.1	0	2	0.1
Maryport South	145	3.7	-10	-6	-0.2
Millom	100	3.0	5	3	0.1
Millom Without	35	1.3	0	3	0.0
Mirehouse	75	2.3	-10	-11	-0.3
Morton	110	3.0	10	9	0.2
Moss Bay & Moorclose	205	4.9	-20	-8	-0.4
Seaton	100	2.6	5	4	0.1
Solway Coast	70	2.4	5	9	0.2
St. John's & Great Clifton	65	1.7	-5	-10	-0.2
St. Michael's	185	5.1	10	6	0.3
Stanwix Urban	45	1.4	0	5	0.1
Thursby	30	0.9	0	-3	0.0
Upperby	115	3.0	10	10	0.3
Wetheral	50	1.2	0	4	0.0
Wigton	100	2.5	10	10	0.2
Yewdale	55	1.7	-5	-5	-0.1

WESTMORLAND & FURNESS	Jobseeker Claimant Count (JSA / UC seeking work)				
	Sep 2026		Change from Aug 2026		
	No	Rate	No	%	Rate
GB	1,668,680	3.9	35,100	2.1	0.1
Cumbria	6,600	2.2	165	2.6	0.1
Westmorland & Furness	2,425	1.8	75	3.1	0.0
Barrow	1,105	2.7	45	4.4	0.1
Eden	485	1.5	5	1.0	0.0
South Lakeland	835	1.4	20	2.6	0.0
Alston & Fellside	50	1.4	5	11	0.1
Appleby & Brough	50	1.5	5	14	0.2
Bowness & Lyth	25	1.2	5	24	0.2
Burton & Holme	30	1.4	5	12	0.1
Coniston & Hawkshead	25	1.5	-5	-10	-0.2
Dalton North	50	1.4	-5	-7	-0.1
Dalton South	50	1.4	0	-2	0.0
Eamont & Shap	35	1.5	0	-3	0.0
Eden & Lyvennet Vale	35	1.0	0	-3	0.0
Grange & Cartmel	60	1.2	5	13	0.1
Greystoke & Ulswater	15	0.6	0	0	0.0
Hawcoat & Newbarns	70	1.1	0	-3	0.0
Hesket & Lazonby	35	1.0	-5	-14	-0.2
High Furness	25	1.2	0	-7	-0.1
Kendal Castle	25	0.7	0	-8	-0.1
Kendal Highgate	85	2.1	0	-2	-0.1
Kendal Nether	65	1.7	-5	-4	-0.1
Kendal South	35	0.9	-10	-19	-0.2
Kendal Strickland & Fell	95	2.3	10	10	0.2
Kent Estuary	40	1.2	0	6	0.1
Kirkby Stephen & Tebay	40	1.5	0	5	0.1
Levens & Crooklands	5	0.3	0	-13	0.0
Low Furness	30	1.2	5	16	0.2
Old Barrow	475	5.8	35	8	0.4
Ormsgill & Parkside	210	3.0	5	3	0.1
Penrith North	85	1.9	-5	-5	-0.1
Penrith South	135	2.1	5	3	0.1
Risedale & Roosecote	150	2.3	5	4	0.1
Sedbergh & Kirkby Lonsdale	55	1.3	0	-3	0.0
Ulverston	120	1.6	5	5	0.1
Upper Kent	30	1.2	5	12	0.1
Walney Island	95	1.5	5	8	0.1
Windermere & Ambleside	85	1.4	5	6	0.1

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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