

### Careers Wales LMI Bulletin: August 2020

# Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the labour market in Wales

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Cronfa Gymdeithasol Ewrop European Social Fund



wodraeth Cymru elsh Government

### 1. Introduction



We are still uncertain of the full economic impact Covid-19 is having on Wales. During July and August, we continued to read press announcements of redundancies across the UK and Wales, these continue to be across a range of different sectors. 29% of Businesses were either making a loss or breaking even, with just under half reporting that their turnover had decreased below what is normally expected for this time of year (ONS, Aug 2020). However, some signs of recovery as the number of job adverts increased by the largest increase since the beginning 2020. Footfall in high streets, retail parks and shopping centres has risen to 75% of the level a year ago (in previous weeks this was running at 60%).

We continue to welcome feedback from staff on the relevance of the data and key messages included in this bulletin.

Please send your feedback to information@careerswales.gov.wales.

The topics featured in this issue:

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Summary stats (June 2020) and key themes emerging: a monthly summary
- 3. Welsh Government responses
- 4. Impact on job postings in Wales
- 5. Occupations most severely impacted or experiencing growth
- 6. Skills in demand in Wales
- 7. Sectors most severely impacted by the COVID-19 Crisis
- 8. Redundancies
- 9. Unemployment/Employment, Claimant count and Universal Credit; March-May 2020
- 10. Key Coronavirus update and support links

Data use caution: We need to use LMI data with caution in the current environment, please see Cautionary notes at the end of the bulletin.



### Summary stats

- The upward trend in the number of job postings in Wales continued during July 20.
   Monthly online unique job postings rose by nearly 6,000 job postings in July, an increase of 13% on the previous month, June 20.
- Job posting numbers remain down from their pre-crisis numbers of 55,756 in February 20 and are also still less than the numbers for the same time last year, July 2019, but the continuing upward trend is positive.
- The Top 10 occupations with the highest total number of active job postings in the latest 30 days in Wales remain the same:
  - Nurses
  - Care workers and home carers
  - Van drivers
  - Medical practitioners
  - Elementary storage occupations
  - Sales accounts and business development managers
  - Cleaners and domestics
  - Other administrative occupations n.e.c.
  - Primary and nursery education teaching professionals
  - Programmers and software development professionals
- Top 10 occupations with the highest increasing demand (the highest % increase) in the latest 30 days of active job postings in Wales include:
  - Bar staff
  - Beauticians and related occupations
  - Waiters and waitresses
  - Estate agents and auctioneers
  - Chefs
  - Carpenters and joiners
  - · Construction project managers and related professionals
  - Elementary construction occupations
  - Plumbers and heating and ventilating engineers
  - Receptionists



In July we continue to see large % increases in demand for Hospitality staff and Beauticians, but we also see a jump in demand for Estate Agents as the housing market enters a mini boom, as well as the Construction trades, Carpenters and Plumbers and Project Managers.

• During July 20 there was a tail off in demand for Primary and Nursing education professionals and other education roles.

The top 5 'Hard' Skills (job specific skills) in demand in Wales remain:

- Nursing
- Auditing
- Mental Health
- Personal Care
- Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)

The top 5 'Common' Skills (common to many jobs) in demand in Wales remain:

- Communications
- Management
- Customer Service
- Enthusiasm
- Sales
- The number of workers furloughed across all industries in the UK, had fallen to 14%, at August 13, 2020 (22% the month before).
- Whilst it remains the sector with the highest number of furloughed workers, at 46%, the arts, entertainment and recreation sector reported the highest proportion of the workforce returning from furlough leave in the last two weeks, at 25%, followed by the accommodation and food service activities sector and the construction sector, at 17% and 10% respectively.
- The number of redundancies per 1000 workers across all sectors in the UK, rose again to 4.8 for the latest 3 month rolling period, April to June 2020. These latest figures continue to reflect the growing number of companies reporting job losses.
- The LFS: ILO unemployment rate for Wales remained at 2.7%, Apr-Jun 2020, compared to 3.9% for the UK

## 2. Summary stats (July 2020) and key themes emerging: a monthly summary



- Employment rate in Wales increased slightly to 75.3%. Apr-Jun 20, consistently lower than for the UK as a whole (76.4%)
- In July, claimant rate rose to 8% in Wales and 7.5% in the UK, Claimant count numbers have more than doubled in Wales and the UK since 2020.

### **Emerging themes**

- Job adverts reach a new post-lockdown high in first week of Augusts (Emsi and the Recruitment & Employment Confederation : (Job Recovery Tracker, August 2020)
- Demand for workers picks up in early August (BBC, August 2020)
- UK retailers cutting jobs at fastest rate since 2009, CBI says (Guardian, August 2020)
- A Levels U-turn: Government considering lifting cap on medicine places (BBC, August 2020)
- Wales in recession for first time in 11 years (BBC August 2020)
- Coronavirus and the latest indicators for the UK economy and society (ONS, Sept 2020)

### Some good news

- Cardiff Hendre lakes development will create 6000 jobs (South Wales Argus, August 2020)
- Ceredigion welcomes two new independent businesses (Tivy Adverstiser, August, 2020)
- 78 Jobs at North Wales holiday parks (BBC, August 2020)
- UK Kickstart work scheme to support 16-24 year olds from November (BBC, September 2020)
- Amazon steps up hiring spree with push for 7,000 new staff in UK (Guardian, September 2020)

### 3. Welsh Government responses



- Business Wales can help firms minimise the effects of Covid-19 says Economy Minister
- 100 new jobs at Cardiff software company with support from the WG's Economy Future Fund
- Findings of the Wales Tourism Business COVID-19 Barometer show that an extended period of staycations through autumn is needed to boost business
- Economic resilience fund provides critical support to UK's leading supplier of bakery equipment



Online Job postings give the first indication of the scale of the impact on the job market. The absolute numbers should be used with caution as they provide only a snapshot of the total recruitment picture. By their nature, posting numbers fluctuate daily, and the method of collection is constantly being improved, but the general trends seen can give us an idea of how job opportunities in Wales are being impacted.

### **Recruitment trend in Wales 2020**

The upward trend in the number of job postings in Wales continued during July 20. Monthly online unique job postings rose by nearly 6000 job postings in July, an increase of 13% on the previous month, June 20.

Job posting numbers remain down from their pre-crisis numbers of 55,756 in February 20 and are also still less than the numbers for the same time last year, July 2019, but the continuing upward trend is positive.



### Monthly Online Job Postings In Wales Since January 2017

### Source: Emsi Job Posting Analyst

|               | Unique Job<br>postings | % Monthly change | Posting Intensity<br>(number of postings<br>per unique job vacancy) |
|---------------|------------------------|------------------|---|
| January 2020  | 49,011                 |                  | 6.1   |
| February 2020 | 55,756                 | +13.8%           | 6.1   |
| March 2020    | 53,376                 | -4.3%            | 6.1   |
| April 2020    | 43,738                 | -18%             | 7.1   |
| May 2020      | 40,214                 | -8%              | 7.1   |
| June 2020     | 44,158                 | +9.8%            | 6.1   |
| July 2020     | 50068                  | +13.4%           | 6.1   |



### Top posted occupations in the latest 30 days; July 20th-Aug 18th, 2020

The Top 10 occupations with the highest total number of active job postings in the latest 30 days for Wales remain the same:

- Nurses
- Care workers and home carers
- Van drivers
- Medical practitioners
- Elementary storage occupations
- Sales accounts and business development managers
- Cleaners and domestics
- Other administrative occupations n.e.c.
- Primary and nursery education teaching professionals
- Programmers and software development professionals

The top 3 occupations with the highest total number of active job postings in Wales in the latest 30 days recruitment were:

- Nurses
- Care workers and home carers
- Van drivers

#### Table: 1 Total Number Of Unique Job Postings (Active) In Wales In The Latest 30 Days

(July 20th - Aug 18th, 2020)

| Occupation (SOC)                                 | <b>Latest 30 days</b> <sup>1</sup><br>Unique Postings<br>(Active) | Latest 30 days<br>Unique Postings %<br>Change <sup>2</sup> (Active) | <b>Avg. Posting</b><br>Intensity <sup>3</sup><br>(May 2020 - Jun 2020) |
|--|---|---|--|
| Nurses   | 4,449   | 3.6%  | 9:1  |
| Care workers and home carers                     | 2,496   | 6.7%  | 7:1  |
| Van drivers                                      | 1,270   | 37.6%   | 5 : 1  |
| Medical practitioners                            | 1,175   | 19.2%   | 5 : 1  |
| Elementary storage occupations                   | 1,169   | 14.9%   | 6 : 1  |
| Sales accounts and business development managers | 1,159   | 15.4%   | 5 : 1  |
| Cleaners and domestics                           | 1,059   | 8.2%  | 6 : 1  |
| Other administrative occupations n.e.c.          | 990   | 10.1%   | 5 : 1  |

# 5. Occupations most severely impacted or experiencing growth



| Occupation (SOC)  | Latest 30 days <sup>1</sup><br>Unique Postings<br>(Active) | Latest 30 days<br>Unique Postings %<br>Change <sup>2</sup> (Active) | Avg. Posting<br>Intensity <sup>3</sup><br>(May 2020 - Jun<br>2020) |
|---|--|---|--|
| Primary and nursery education teaching professionals    | 920  | (17.1%)   | 9:1  |
| Programmers and software development professionals      | 906  | (2.8%)  | 9:1  |
| Metal working production and maintenance fitters        | 805  | 5.0%  | 7:1  |
| Teaching assistants                                     | 768  | (4.0%)  | 10 : 1   |
| Nursing auxiliaries and assistants                      | 762  | 14.9%   | 6:1  |
| Sales and retail assistants                             | 730  | 21.7%   | 5:1  |
| Social workers  | 701  | 14.0%   | 6:1  |
| Kitchen and catering assistants                         | 687  | 42.8%   | 5:1  |
| Business and financial project management professionals | 678  | 23.7%   | 6:1  |
| Book-keepers, payroll managers and wages clerks         | 653  | 5.8%  | 8:1  |
| Customer service occupations n.e.c.                     | 617  | 1.8%  | 5:1  |
| Finance and investment analysts and advisers            | 615  | (7.2%)  | 6:1  |
| Production managers and directors in manufacturing      | 604  | 5.6%  | 7:1  |
| Business sales executives                               | 587  | 22.8%   | 5:1  |
| Secondary education teaching professionals              | 586  | 6.0%  | 9:1  |
| Human resources and industrial relations officers       | 561  | 8.1%  | 6:1  |
| Solicitors  | 556  | 12.3%   | 6:1  |
| Managers and directors in storage and warehousing       | 531  | 23.8%   | 7:1  |
| Customer service occupations n.e.c.                     | 617  | 1.8%  | 5:1  |
| Finance and investment analysts and advisers            | 615  | (7.2%)  | 6:1  |
| Production managers and directors in manufacturing      | 604  | 5.6%  | 7:1  |
| Business sales executives                               | 587  | 22.8%   | 5:1  |
| Secondary education teaching professionals              | 586  | 6.0%  | 9:1  |
| Human resources and industrial relations officers       | 561  | 8.1%  | 6:1  |
| Solicitors  | 556  | 12.3%   | 6:1  |
| Managers and directors in storage and warehousing       | 531  | 23.8%   | 7:1  |

### Source: Emsi Job Posting Analyst

<sup>1</sup> Latest 30 days: July 20th-Aug 18th, 2020

<sup>2</sup>Latest 30 days % change: Comparing June 20th-July 19th to July 20th-Aug 18th

<sup>3</sup> Posting intensity = number of postings per unique job vacancy



### Occupations with increasing demand in the latest 30 days; July 20th-Aug 18th, 2020

Top 10 occupations with the highest increasing demand (the highest % increase) in the latest 30 days of active job postings in Wales include:

- Bar staff
- Beauticians and related occupations
- Waiters and waitresses
- Estate agents and auctioneers
- Chefs
- Carpenters and joiners
- Construction project managers and related professionals
- Elementary construction occupations
- · Plumbers and heating and ventilating engineers
- Receptionists

In July we continue to see large % increases in demand for Hospitality staff and Beauticians, but we also see a jump in demand for Estate Agents as the housing market enters a mini boom, as well as the Construction trades, Carpenters and Plumbers and Project Managers.

Data use caution: Remember a high % change does not necessarily mean the highest total number of active vacancies. Job posting figures fluctuate from day to day.



### Table: 2 Total Number Of Unique Job Postings (Active) In Wales In The Latest 30 Days

(20th-Aug 18th, 2020)

| Occupation (SOC)<br>(Occupations with >50 postings in latest 30 days) | Latest 30 Days <sup>1</sup><br><sup>1</sup> Unique Postings (Active) | Latest 30 Days Unique<br>Postings % Change <sup>2</sup><br>(Active) |
|---|--|---|
| Bar staff   | 202  | 254.4%  |
| Beauticians and related occupations                                   | 94   | 235.7%  |
| Waiters and waitresses  | 56   | 166.7%  |
| Estate agents and auctioneers   | 78   | 105.3%  |
| Chefs   | 460  | 74.2%   |
| Carpenters and joiners  | 177  | <b>59.5</b> %   |
| Construction project managers and related professionals               | 81   | 58.8%   |
| Elementary construction occupations                                   | 149  | 58.5%   |
| Plumbers and heating and ventilating engineers                        | 170  | 53.2%   |
| Receptionists   | 226  | 51.7%   |
| Catering and bar managers   | 68   | 44.7%   |
| Medical and dental technicians  | 76   | 43.4%   |
| Food, drink and tobacco process operatives                            | 96   | 43.3%   |
| Kitchen and catering assistants                                       | 687  | 42.8%   |
| Managers and proprietors in other services n.e.c.                     | 104  | 42.5%   |
| Mobile machine drivers and operatives n.e.c.                          | 230  | 41.1%   |
| Sales supervisors   | 59   | 40.5%   |
| Construction operatives n.e.c.  | 247  | 39.5%   |
| Large goods vehicle drivers   | 298  | 38.0%   |
| Van drivers   | 1,270  | 37.6%   |
| Nursery nurses and assistants   | 119  | 36.8%   |
| Transport and distribution clerks and assistants                      | 156  | 35.7%   |
| Public services associate professionals                               | 67   | 34.0%   |
| Marketing associate professionals                                     | 384  | 33.8%   |
| Painters and decorators   | 73   | 32.7%   |
| Vehicle technicians, mechanics and electricians                       | 272  | 32.0%   |
| Ophthalmic opticians  | 85   | 30.8%   |
| School midday and crossing patrol occupations                         | 77   | 30.5%   |
| Merchandisers and window dressers                                     | 82   | 30.2%   |

# 5. Occupations most severely impacted or experiencing growth



| Occupation (SOC)<br>(Occupations with >50 postings in latest 30 days) | Latest 30 Days <sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup> Unique Postings (Active) | Latest 30 Days Unique<br>Postings % Change <sup>2</sup><br>(Active) |
|---|---|---|
| Electrical and electronic trades n.e.c.                               | 325   | <b>29.0</b> %   |
| Business and related associate professionals n.e.c.                   | 460   | 28.5%   |
| Laboratory technicians  | 134   | 27.6%   |
| Cooks   | 56  | 27.3%   |
| Refuse and salvage occupations  | 116   | <b>26.1</b> %   |
| Welding trades  | 108   | 25.6%   |
| Telecommunications engineers  | 51  | 24.4%   |
| Managers and directors in storage and warehousing                     | 531   | 23.8%   |
| Business and financial project management professionals               | 678   | 23.7%   |
| Sales administrators  | 127   | 23.3%   |
| Packers, bottlers, canners and fillers                                | 113   | 22.8%   |
| Business sales executives   | 587   | 22.8%   |
| IT user support technicians   | 238   | 22.1%   |
| Psychologists   | 296   | 21.8%   |
| Sales and retail assistants   | 730   | 21.7%   |
| Records clerks and assistants   | 220   | 21.5%   |
| Electricians and electrical fitters                                   | 452   | 21.5%   |
| Postal workers, mail sorters, messengers and couriers                 | 69  | 21.1%   |
| Estimators, valuers and assessors                                     | 116   | 20.8%   |
| Construction and building trades supervisors                          | 128   | 20.8%   |
| Health services and public health managers and directors              | 258   | <b>19.4</b> %   |
| Cleaning and housekeeping managers and supervisors                    | 160   | <b>19.4</b> %   |
| Occupational therapists   | 278   | 19.3%   |
| Medical practitioners   | 1,175   | 19.2%   |

Source: Emsi Labour Posting Analytics, August 2020

<sup>1</sup> Latest 30 days: July 20th-Aug 18th, 2020

<sup>2</sup>Latest 30 days % change: Comparing June 20th-July 19th to July 20th-Aug 18th



### Occupations with falling demand in the latest 30 days; July 20th-Aug 18th, 2020

10 occupations with greatest falling demand (greatest % fall) in active job postings in Wales in the latest 30 days include:

- Pharmaceutical technicians
- Conference and exhibition managers and organisers
- Special needs education teaching professionals
- Primary and nursery education teaching professionals
- Metal machining setters and setter-operators
- Caretakers
- Graphic designers
- Education advisers and school inspectors
- · Skilled metal, electrical and electronic trades supervisors
- · Finance and investment analysts and advisers

During July 20 there was a tail off in demand for Primary and Nursing education professionals and other education roles.

### Table:3. % Change (Decreasing) In Unique Job Postings (Active) In Wales In The Latest 30 Days (July 20<sup>th</sup>-Aug 18<sup>th</sup>)

| Occupation (SOC)<br>(Occupations with >50 postings in latest 30 days) | Latest 30 Days <sup>1</sup><br>Unique Postings (Active) | Latest 30 Days<br>Unique Postings %<br>Change <sup>2</sup> (Active) |
|---|---|---|
| Pharmaceutical technicians  | 52  | (27.8%)   |
| Conference and exhibition managers and organisers                     | 100   | (21.9%)   |
| Special needs education teaching professionals                        | 53  | (20.9%)   |
| Primary and nursery education teaching professionals                  | 920   | (17.1%)   |
| Metal machining setters and setter-operators                          | 53  | (14.5%)   |
| Caretakers  | 50  | (12.3%)   |
| Graphic designers   | 74  | (9.8%)  |
| Education advisers and school inspectors                              | 51  | (8.9%)  |
| Skilled metal, electrical and electronic trades supervisors           | 52  | (8.8%)  |
| Finance and investment analysts and advisers                          | 615   | (7.2%)  |
| IT operations technicians   | 232   | (6.8%)  |
| Natural and social science professionals n.e.c.                       | 60  | (6.3%)  |
| Educational support assistants  | 274   | (6.2%)  |
| Information technology and telecommunications professionals n.e.c.    | 421   | (5.8%)  |

# 5. Occupations most severely impacted or experiencing growth



| Occupation (SOC)<br>(Occupations with >50 postings in latest 30 days) | Latest 30 Days <sup>1</sup><br>Unique Postings (Active) | Latest 30 Days<br>Unique Postings %<br>Change <sup>2</sup> (Active) |
|---|---|---|
| Quality assurance and regulatory professionals                        | 326   | (5.5%)  |
| Fitness instructors   | 158   | (5.4%)  |
| Product, clothing and related designers                               | 76  | (5.0%)  |
| Teaching assistants   | 768   | (4.0%)  |
| Managers and directors in transport and distribution                  | 96  | (4.0%)  |
| Health professionals n.e.c.   | 106   | (3.6%)  |
| Senior care workers   | 195   | (3.0%)  |
| Programmers and software development professionals                    | 906   | (2.8%)  |
| IT business analysts, architects and systems designers                | 182   | (2.7%)  |
| Restaurant and catering establishment managers and proprietors        | 84  | (2.3%)  |
| Assemblers and routine operatives n.e.c.                              | 94  | (2.1%)  |
| Legal secretaries   | 51  | (1.9%)  |
| Customer service managers and supervisors                             | 136   | (1.4%)  |
| Routine inspectors and testers  | 143   | (1.4%)  |
| Chartered and certified accountants                                   | 73  | (1.4%)  |
| Pharmacy and other dispensing assistants                              | 75  | (1.3%)  |
| Teaching and other educational professionals n.e.c.                   | 160   | (1.2%)  |
| Chief executives and senior officials                                 | 97  | (1.0%)  |

Source: Emsi Labour Posting Analytics, July 2020

<sup>1</sup> Latest 30 days: July 20th-Aug 18th 2020

<sup>2</sup> Latest 30 days % change: Comparing June 20th-July 19th to July 20th-Aug 18th



Skills are defined by Emsi as:

### **Hard Skills**

(mostly job specific):

Hard skills are abilities that have been taught to or learnt by a person.

### **Common Skills**

(largely common to many jobs):

Common skills are self-developed or personal attributes.

Source: Emsi, 2020

### Top 'Hard' Skills (job specific skills) in demand in Wales remain :

- Nursing
- Auditing
- Mental Health
- Personal Care
- Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)
- Accounting
- Agile Software Development
- Warehousing
- Business Development
- Selling Techniques

### The top 10 'Common' Skills (common to many jobs) in demand in Wales remain :

- Communications
- Management
- Customer Service
- Enthusiasm
- Sales

- Leadership
- Teaching
- Detail Oriented
- Innovation
- Operations



We reported in the last Bulletin that at the beginning of August 20 the UK had officially entered recession. The latest ONS data (released 13th August) showed that GDP had fallen by 20.4% in Quarter 2 to the end of June 20. This is the second consecutive quarterly fall in GDP. The recession brought on by the coronavirus pandemic has led to the biggest fall in quarterly GDP on record. (ONS, August 20)

### Highlights from the latest ONS fortnightly survey of businesses

(relating to period 13 July 2020 to 26 July 2020)

The number of workers furloughed across all industries in the UK, had fallen to 14%, at August 13, 2020. Across the sectors, the percentage of % of workers still on furlough included:



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• Whilst it remains the sector with the highest number of furloughed workers, at 46%, the arts, entertainment and recreation sector reported the highest proportion of the workforce returning from furlough leave in the last two weeks, at 25%, followed by the accommodation and food service activities sector and the construction sector, at 17% and 10% respectively.

Read the latest ONS, Coronavirus and the economic impacts on the UK



Research has found that one in three businesses across the UK expect to make job cuts by October as the governments furlough scheme is withdrawn (Retail gazette, August 2020)

Some of the latest and previous press announcements on redundancies and jobs at risk across Wales, the UK and globally:

| Company              | Planned job cuts or jobs at risk |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| ВА                   | 12,000                           |
| Virgin Atlantic      | 3,000                            |
| Easyjet              | 4,500                            |
| Ryan air             | 3,000                            |
| M&S                  | 7000                             |
| Swissport            | 4,175                            |
| Centrica             | 5,000                            |
| Ovo Energy           | 2600                             |
| BP                   | 110,000 global                   |
| Bombardier           | 600                              |
| Rolls Royce          | 9000                             |
| Bentley              | 1000                             |
| Jaguar Land Rover    | 1100                             |
| Airbus               | 1,700                            |
| Aston Martin         | 500                              |
| HSBC                 | 35,000 global                    |
| TSB                  | 929                              |
| G4S                  | 1,150                            |
| Accenture            | 900                              |
| Johnson Matthey      | 2,500                            |
| The Restaurant group | 1,500                            |
| Monsoon              | 545                              |
| Clarks               | 900                              |
| Oasis and Warehouse  | 1800                             |
| Mulberry             | 470                              |
| John Lewis           | 1300                             |
| TM Lewin             | 600                              |
| Boots                | 4000                             |

### 8. Redundancies



| Company           | Planned job cuts or jobs at risk |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Burger King       | 1600                             |
| Travis Perkins    | 2500                             |
| DW Sports         | 1700                             |
| Pizza Express     | 1100                             |
| Dixons Carphone   | 800                              |
| Debenhams         | 6500                             |
| BBC               | 970                              |
| Guardian Media    | 180                              |
| Arup              | 350                              |
| Pret A Manger     | 1000                             |
| Nat West          | 500                              |
| Tyson Foods       | 71                               |
| Travelex          | 1300                             |
| Costa             | 1600                             |
| DHL               | 2000                             |
| Celtic Manor      | 450                              |
| Millennium Centre | 250                              |
| GE                | 369                              |
| WH Smith          | 1500                             |



Redundancy rate monitoring (UK) ; latest 3 month rolling period. April-June 2020

The number of redundancies per 1000 workers across all sectors in the UK, rose again to 4.8 for the latest 3 month rolling period, April to June 2020. These latest figures continue to reflect the growing number of companies reporting job losses.

During the last recession, the redundancy rate was 12.2 per 1000 employees at its peak (Feb-Apr 2009)



### LFS: ILO Redundancy rate UK since 2008 (per 1,000 workers)

(Source: ONS, Labour Force Survey, Apr-Jun 2020 Next release: 15 Sept 2020)

• The LFS: ILO unemployment rate for Wales remained at 2.7%, Apr-Jun 2020, compared to 3.9% for the UK

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### Unemployment Rate Wales since 2008

(Source: NOMIS Labour Force Survey, Apr-Jun 2020)

• Employment rate in Wales increased slightly to 75.3%. Apr-Jun 20, consistently lower than for the UK as a whole (76.4%)



### Unemployment Rate (%) Wales:UK

Source: NOMIS: Labour Force Survey, Apr-Jun 2020

### 9. Unemployment/Employment, Claimant count and Universal Credit; March-May 2020

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### Claimant Count: Wales & UK since 2008



Source: NOMIS: ONS Claimant Count: Seasonally Adjusted, July 2020

### Claimant Count % = number of claimants as % of total workforce jobs

|            | Wales     |                 | U         | К               |
|------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------|
|            | Claimants | Claimant rate % | Claimants | Claimant rate % |
| March 2020 | 58,576    | 3.9             | 1,240,122 | 3.5             |
| April 2020 | 108,610   | 7.2             | 2,272,812 | 6.3             |
| May 2020   | 121,858   | 8.0             | 2,801,729 | 7.8             |
| June 2020  | 117,085   | 7.7             | 2,631,384 | 7.3             |
| July 2020  | 120,870   | 8.0             | 2,688,694 | 7.5             |



- UK gov coronavirus Guidance and Support
- Welsh Government Coronavirus (Covid-19)
- Business Wales COVID-19 Support for Businesses
- Self-employment income support
- ONS Coronavirus and the economic impacts on the UK
- ONS Coronavirus (COVID-19) roundup
- Welsh dashboard for Universal Credit
- Welsh Government COVID-19 and the production of statistics and social research
- Public Health Wales Rapid COVID-19 surveillance COVID-19 cases, deaths and testing in Wales
- The Money Advice Service: Money Navigator Tool

#### Useful resources on Careers Wales and Working Wales

- Job Bulletin
- Employers who offer Apprenticeships
- Getting a job
- Redundancy Support
- Furlough Support
- Employers recruiting now
- Start learning today : New online learning platform

### Support resources DWP

- 'Find A Job' Job vacancies
- Employer Help'
- 'Job Help'



### Cautionary notes on the use of LMI data sources in the current environment

 The latest official labour market statistics (e.g. Labour Force Survey; latest release 16 June, for period February – April 2020.) that give estimates of unemployment and employment do not yet reflect the impact of Coronavirus on the labour market in Wales but provide us with an initial benchmark. Equally, the full impact is unlikely to be clear until Government support schemes such as Furlough (currently extended to October 2020)

The hard-national data sets (based on surveys) which will give us a more robust indication of the full impact have a time lag before publishing. The earliest release of the major national economic data sets covering Q.2 (Workforce Jobs and the Annual Population Survey) will not be available before September or October.

- Job posting figures are one of the first data sets to give an immediate indication of the impact on the labour market but are only an indication given:
  - They only reflect a proportion of all job vacancies, excluding informal recruitment..
  - In these exceptional times usual recruitment methods have changed drastically, particularly for Health and Care workers who have been recalled directly, head hunted etc.
  - Real impact will only start to be seen when lock down lifts, furlough support begins to ease etc.
  - The absolute numbers should be used with caution as they provide only a snapshot
    of the total recruitment picture, and the method of collection is constantly being
    improved but the general trends seen can give us an idea of how job opportunities in
    Wales are being impacted.
- Projections of employment which we usually use from our data suppliers such as EMSI are 'estimates of future trends based on past and current trends' so where projections are used they may be based on pre-crisis trend data, until Economic forecasting is available that models forecast scenarios of the impact of current events.

This bulletin is intended to be a shared product and developed as the impact of the COVID-19 becomes clearer and data improves. Please give your feedback and suggestions for LMI contributions or other topics to measure the impact on our economy and labour market by emailing: information@careerswales.gov.wales