

# LLEP Business and Economic Intelligence Update

Issue 10

23 July 2020

## 1. LSR Data Portal

Leicestershire County Council is working in partnership with the LLEP to provide a single online portal for economic data across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland:

<https://www.lsr-online.org>

The LSR Portal holds data across a wide range of economic indicators (in addition to other measures including health and wellbeing), the majority of which are available at district level.

The data can be exported in PDF or excel format and provides an accessible means of exploring public domain datasets at a local level, e.g. claimant count and furloughed workers.

Going forward, where the content of the LLEP Business and Intelligence Updates and Multi Agency Information Cell (MAIC) updates link to data held within the portal, we will provide the most up to date link within this document to enable readers to access the data directly.

## 2. Claimant Count

April 2020 saw the largest monthly rise in claimants on record. From March to April the number of claimants in Leicester and Leicestershire rose from 15,145 (2.3%) to 27,730 (4.2%).

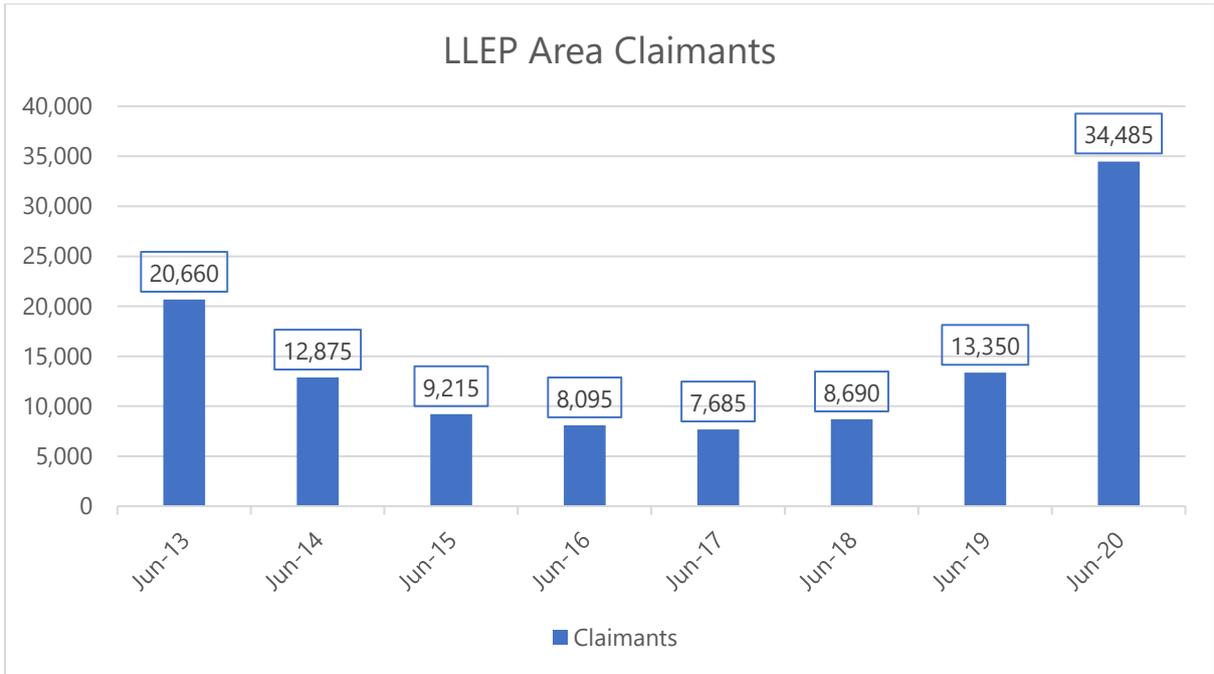


Figure 1 LLEP Area Claimant Count 2013-2020  
Source: ONS

This was followed in May by another significant rise when the number of claimants rose to 35,055 (5.3%). It was uncertain how rises in April and May would be followed in June.

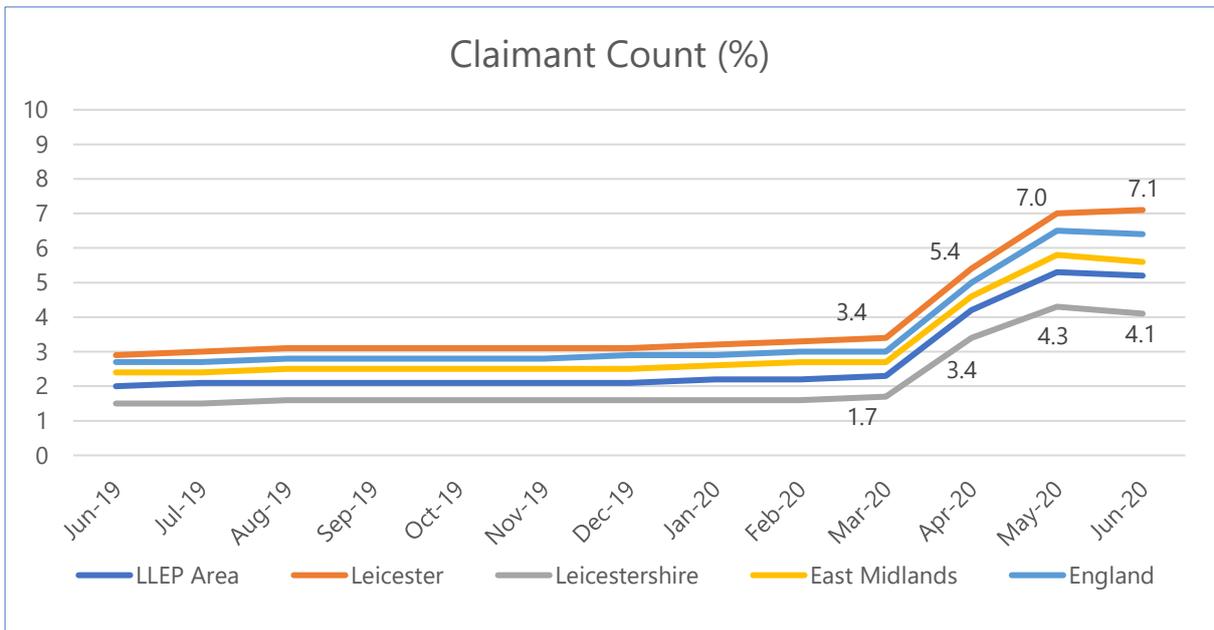


Figure 2 LLEP Area Claimant Count (%)  
Source: ONS

The labour market figures published on 16 July show that claimant unemployment actually fell in June from 35,055 to 34,485 (5.2%), a fall of 570 claimants.

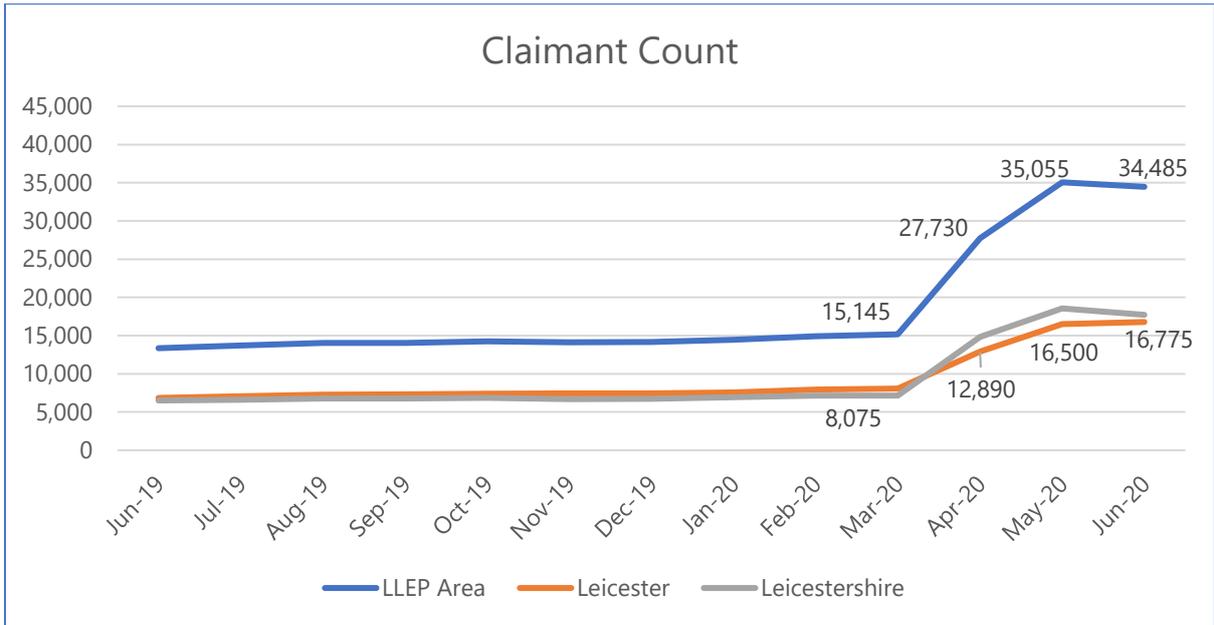


Figure 3 LLEP Area Claimant Count June 2019 - June 2020  
Source: ONS

This is surprising but should not be taken in isolation as a sign that the impact of the pandemic will be less severe than anticipated.

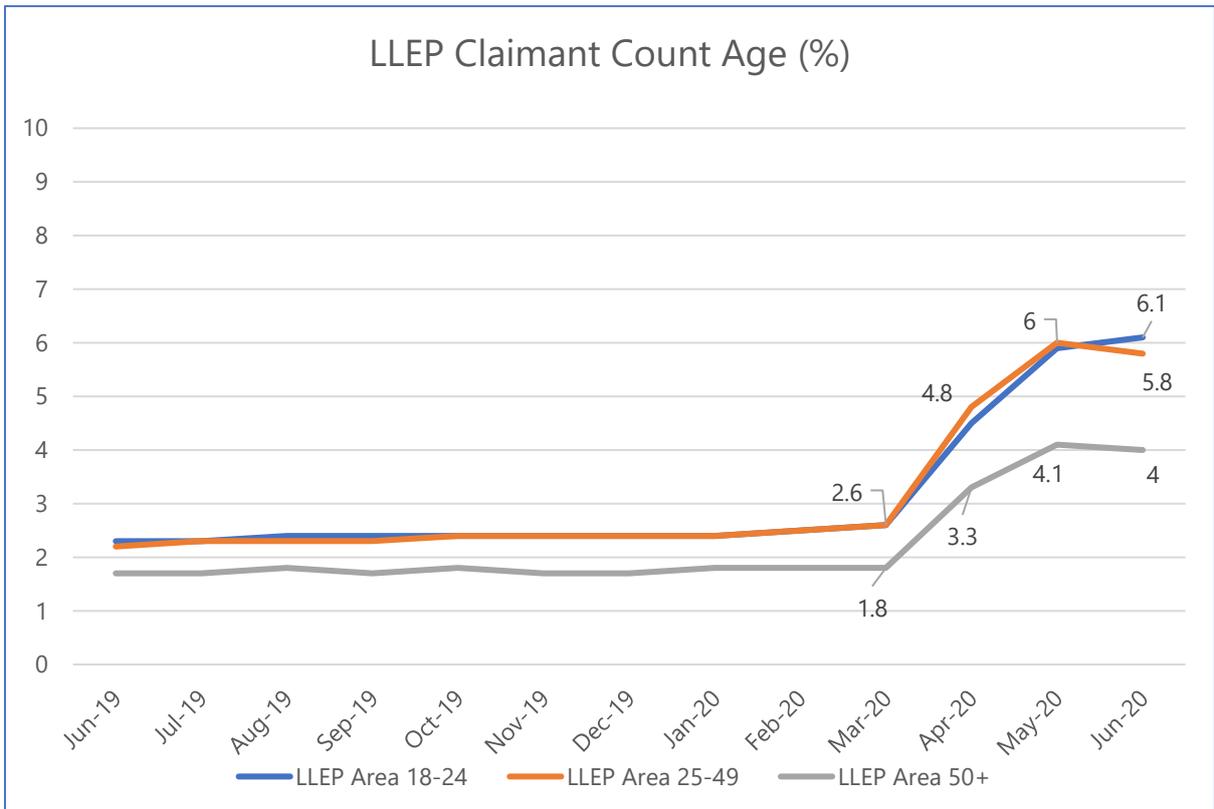


Figure 4 LLEP Area Claimant Count (%)  
Source: ONS

The overall increase in the claimant count remains high and despite a concurrent small rise in the number of job postings in June, there is still expected to be a significant negative impact on the economy.

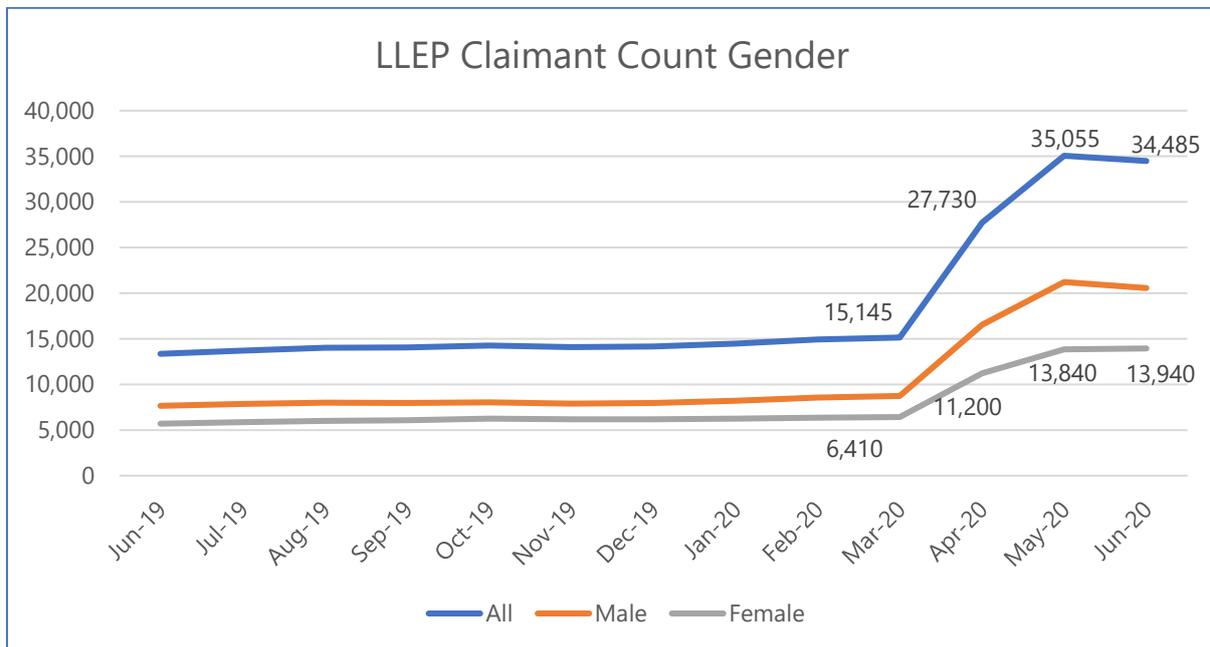


Figure 5 LLEP Area Claimant Count by Gender  
Source: ONS

From May to June there was a slight rise in the number of claimants in the City (275) and a slight fall in the number of claimants in the County (-570). Over the same period there were falls in the numbers of claimants that are 25-49 and 50+. The number of 18-24 year olds however rose slightly.

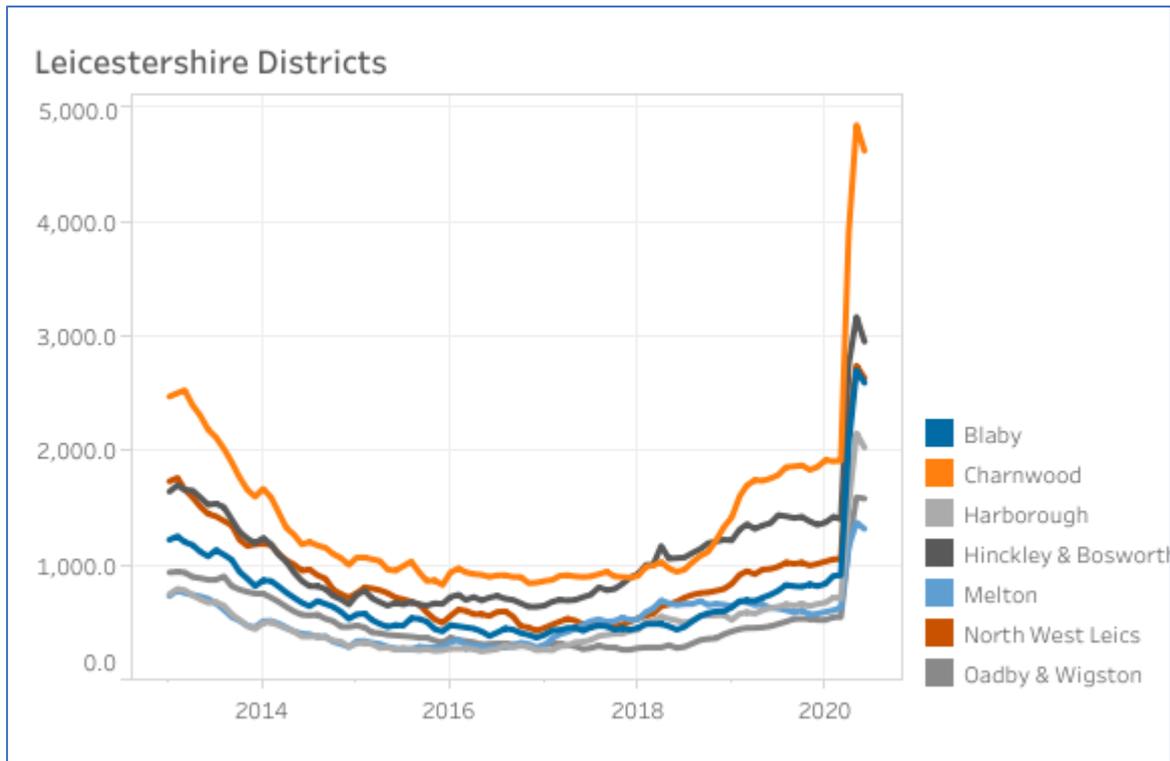


Figure 6 LLEP Area Claimant Count by District  
Source: ONS

At a district level, Charnwood has seen the greatest increase in claimant count over this period, however, all districts saw a slight decrease during June.

Figures have started to flatten as the economy has started to reopen and people start to return to work. The extended period of lockdown for Leicester City, Oadby and Wigston and parts of Blaby and Charnwood had not been enacted during this period and we might expect that the impact of this extension will be seen in the claimant count for July. Notwithstanding these local circumstances it is widely expected that the cessation of furlough measures will result in a further spike in the claimant count in the autumn.

For more detailed data on claimant count data by district, visit the [Unemployment Dashboard](#) on the LSR Portal.

### 3. Furloughed Employees

At 30 June 2020 a cumulative total of 153,000 employments had been furloughed in Leicester and Leicestershire, a cumulative increase of 23,300 on the previous month equating to 28.9% of all employments in Leicester and Leicestershire. Leicester City had the greatest increase, seeing an additional 8,500 furloughed employments since 31<sup>st</sup> May.

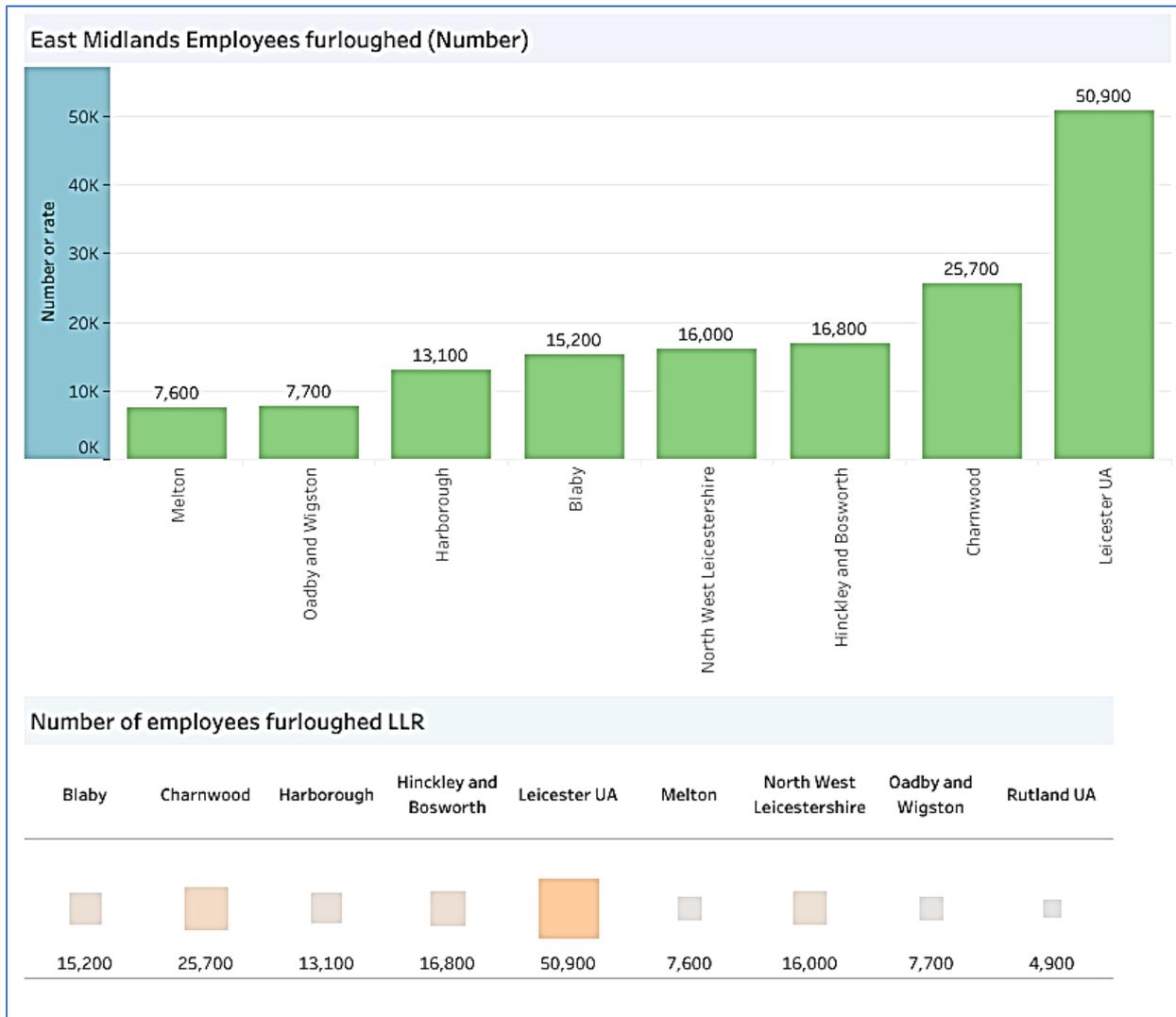


Figure 7 Furloughed Employments at 30 June 2020  
Source: HMRC

For more detail including East Midlands comparators and an estimate of the [numbers furloughed in Leicester and Leicestershire by Sector](#) see the [Furloughed Staff Dashboard](#) on the LSR Portal.

#### 4. Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS)

HMRC have published data on numbers claiming the Self Employment Income Support Scheme up to 30 June 2020. For more detail including East Midlands comparators see the [Furloughed Staff Dashboard](#) on the LSR Portal. An average 75% of all those eligible for SEISS in Leicester and Leicestershire have taken up the support.

District	Percentage take up	Value of SEISS payments
<b>Blaby</b>	78%	£12,500,000
<b>Oadby and Wigston</b>	77%	£5,100,000
<b>Leicester UA</b>	76%	£22,000,000
<b>Hinckley and Bosworth</b>	75%	£12,500,000
<b>Charnwood</b>	75%	£16,900,000
<b>North West Leicestershire</b>	74%	£10,200,000
<b>Harborough</b>	73%	£11,200,000
<b>Melton</b>	70%	£6,000,000
<b>Average % / Total Value</b>	<b>75%</b>	

Figure 8 SEISS Uptake in LLEP Area  
Source: HMRC

## 5. Google Mobility Dashboard

The Google mobility data is now available via an [interactive dashboard](#) within the LSR Portal. The data was designed to chart movement trends over time by geography, across different categories of places such as retail and recreation, groceries and pharmacies, parks, transit stations, workplaces, and residential. Each Community Mobility Report is broken down by location and displays the change in visits to places like grocery stores and parks.

## 6. Economic Intelligence Update

*As the COVID-19 crisis develops, research and insights are emerging from a range of organisations and links and summaries of relevant publications are listed below. It should be noted that we do not yet have a complete picture of the impact of COVID-19 and this is unlikely to emerge for some time, therefore much of what is emerging is predictive and should be interpreted with caution until such time as robust quantifiable data becomes available.*

### Covid-19 impact on Manufacturing

The latest Covid-19 [Manufacturing Monitor](#) from Make-UK provides insights into how the impact of the pandemic has had an effect on business performance including the level of furloughs, redundancies, production levels, and capacity to return to normal levels of trading.

Key insights (national data):

- 99% of manufacturers are openly trading
- 77% of firms have furloughed between 1% and 50% of their staff
- More than 53% plan to make redundancies in the next 6 months
- Over 45% have seen orders fall between 26% and 50%
- Almost 50% have reported an increase in logistic costs
- Over 41% expect it to take more than 12 months to return to normal trading conditions

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