

LLEP Business and Economic Intelligence Update

Issue 25 – 25 October 2021

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1. Economic Roundup

A summary of some of the key government announcements since the last update together with a round-up of recently published research and insights from a range of organisations.

Government Announcements/ Press Releases/ News Stories

[£220 million to help big-emitting industries become cleaner and greener](#) -

Investment will support green projects that help businesses clean up their industrial processes, improve their energy efficiency and reduce their carbon emissions.

[New ten-year plan to make the UK a global AI superpower](#) - National AI Strategy to boost business use of AI, attract international investment and develop next generation of tech talent

[£500 million Plan for Jobs Expansion](#) - Hundreds of thousands of people to be supported as part of the more than £500 million expansion of the government's Plan for Jobs. Workers leaving the furlough scheme and unemployed people over the age of 50 will be helped back into work. Those on the lowest wages will also be helped to progress in their careers and existing schemes targeting young people will be extended.

[Nearly £2 million to be given to tech start-ups to power up the transport revolution](#) - Government supports innovators to develop pioneering greener and safer transport.

Research

[Quarter of million left furlough in August as redundancies hit seven-year low](#) - More than a quarter of a million workers left the furlough scheme in August – an 85% reduction since its peak, according to new statistics published today.

[Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership Business Tracker Survey](#) - A Business Tracker Survey to help understand the needs of local businesses, inform policy making and ensure support is appropriately targeted.

[Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership Sector Profiles](#) - Research into 15 key sectors of interest to the local economy that help to better understand the impact of Covid-19 and EU Exit across sectors and what the future could look like in the short, medium and longer term.

[The East Midlands Chamber Quarterly Economic Survey](#) - The East Midlands economy is continuing to grow in response to lockdown restrictions being eased – but there are warning signs ahead, according to the latest research by East Midlands Chamber.

2. Claimant Count

In September 2021 the claimant rate in the Leicester and Leicestershire area was 4.1%. This translates to 27,710 claimants. In August the figure was 4.2% (28,350). At a national level the claimant rate was 5.1% (England). This is a percentage point higher than the local rate.

The picture is very different in the city and county with Leicester having a claimant rate of 6.4% and Leicestershire 2.9%. This is a difference of 3.5 percentage points. Leicester's claimant rate is 1.3 percentage points higher than the England average (5.1%).

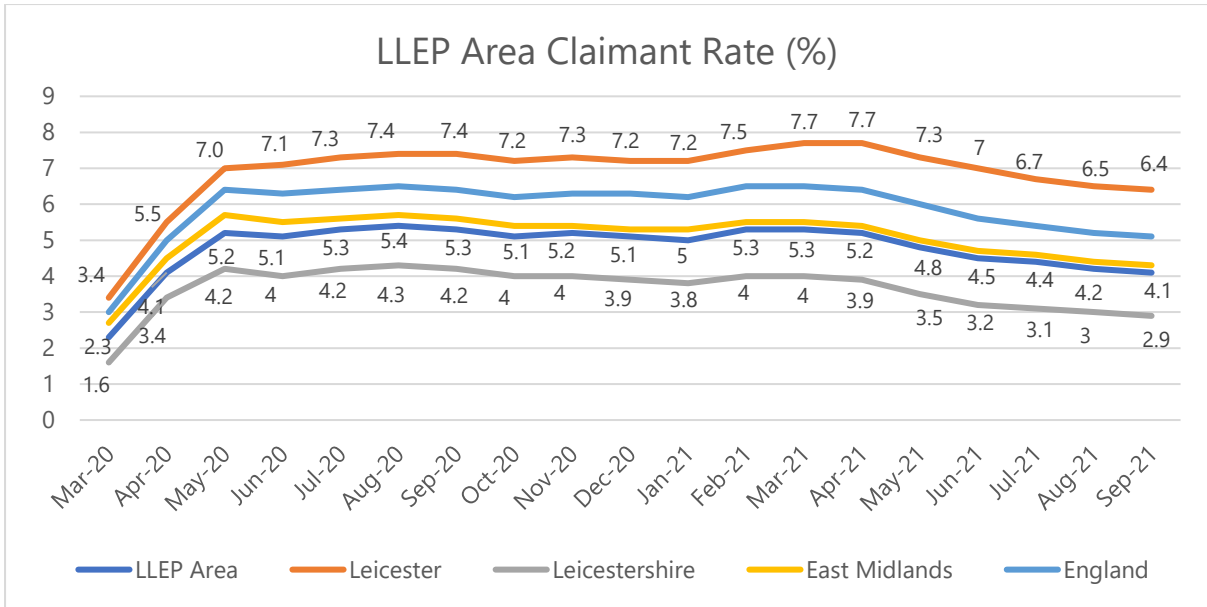


Figure 1 LLEP Area Claimant Rate (%) March 20 – September 2021
Source: ONS

Of the 27,710 claimants over half (54.3% or 15,040) were in Leicester.

In March 2020 the claimant rate was 2.3% (or 15,145). Between March 2020 and the end of September 2021 the claimant rate increased by 1.8 percentage points to 4.1% (27,710). This translates to an additional 12,565 claimants or a percentage increase of 83%.

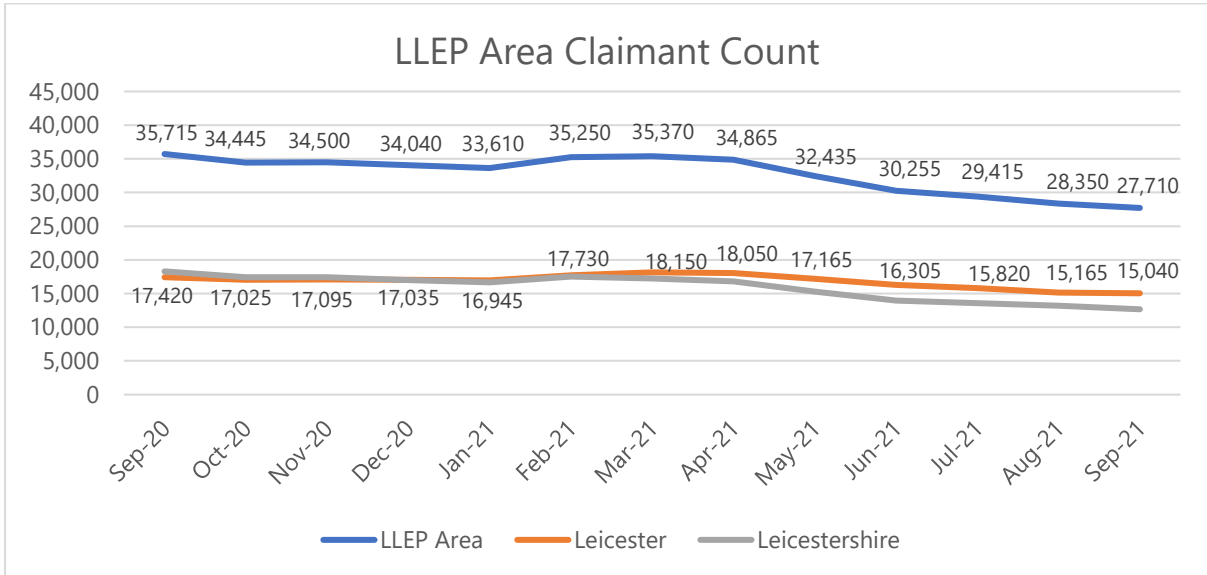


Figure 2 LLEP Area Claimant Count September 2020 - September 2021
Source: ONS

In the Leicester and Leicestershire area over the period March to August 2020 the number of claimants grew from 15,145 to 36,025 (it's peak). This is a rise of 20,880 claimants or 138%. When comparing the figures for August 2020 and September 2021 with those for March 2020, the difference has fallen from 20,880 to 12,565, this is a fall of 8,315 claimants. Since March of this year the number of claimants has fallen by 7,660.

Despite recent falls (March onwards) the initial shock and uncertainty caused by the Coronavirus remains a feature of local and national economies. It is still unknown how the closure of the Job Retention Scheme at the end of September, the continued reopening of the economy, reported skills/staff shortages and BREXIT will impact on claimant rates. The picture has been further complicated by the impact of higher energy prices and the threat of a reinstatement of government measures in the lead up to Christmas.

Figure 11 later in the report (page 12) demonstrates the claimant rate over the period January 2021 to September 2021, the number of unique job postings (for the same period) and the total number of eligible staff that have been furloughed (to the end of August 2021).

The pandemic has affected all age groups. Figures for September 2021 demonstrate that there were on average a larger share of 25-49 years olds claimants (4.7%) than 18-24 years olds (4.6%) and claimants that were 50 and over (3.3%). Nationally the claimant rates were higher for 18-24 years olds (6.7%), 25-49 years olds (5.7%) and those who are 50 and over (4%).

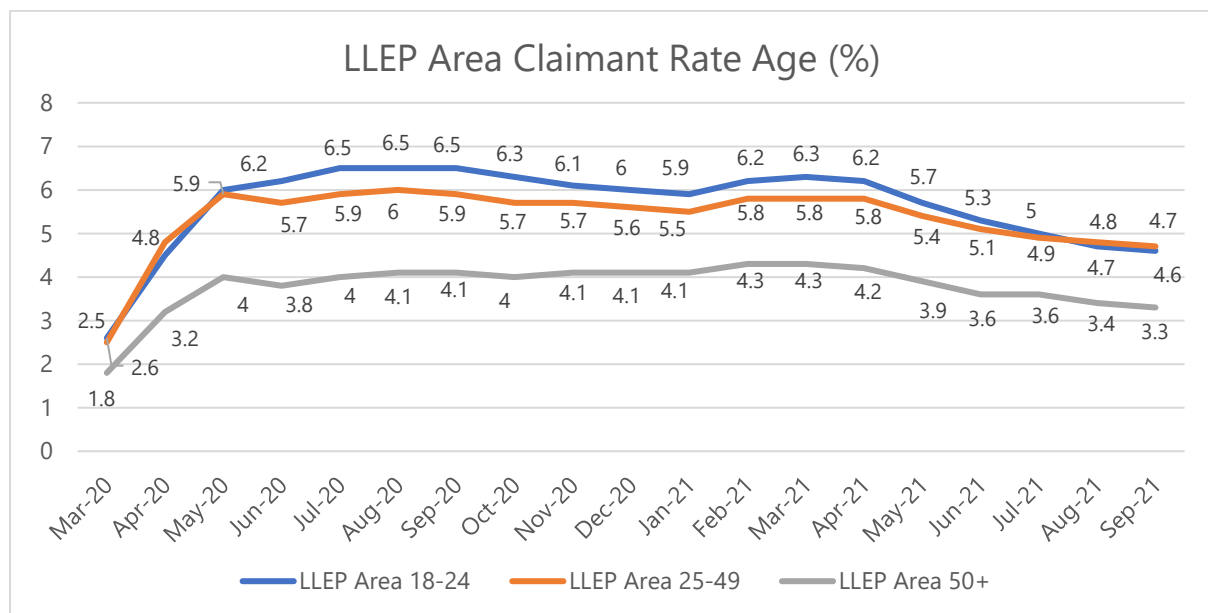


Figure 3 LLEP Area Claimant Rate by Age (%) March 2020 – September 2021
Source: ONS

Figure 4 below demonstrates the claimant rate for 18-24 years olds for the Leicester and Leicestershire area and its component parts.

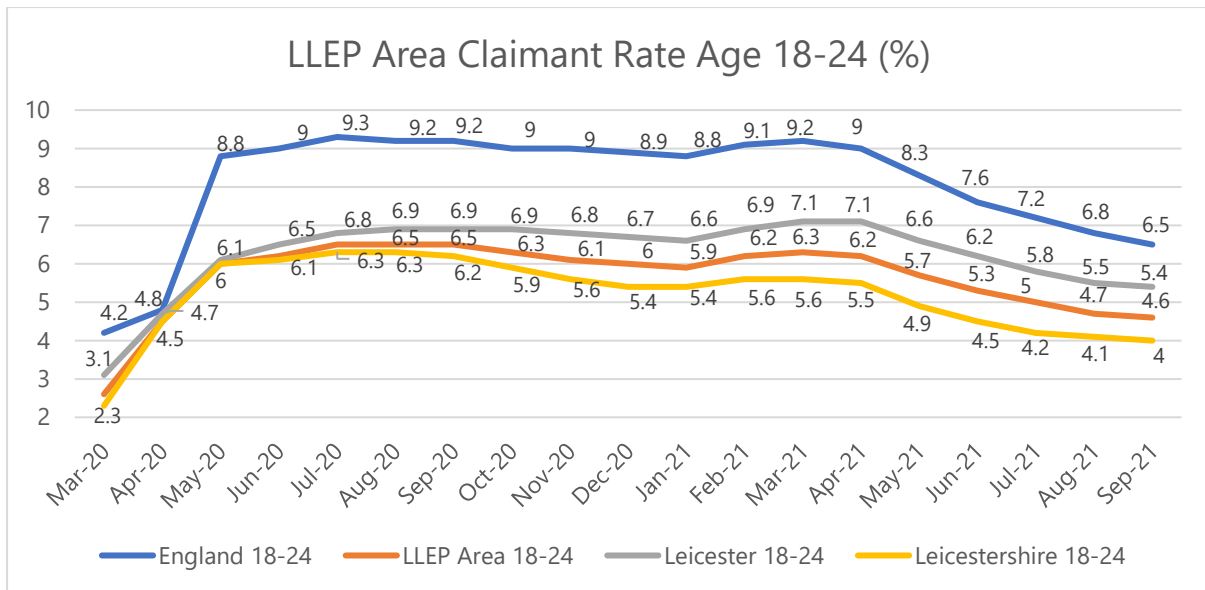


Figure 4 LLEP Area Claimant Rate by Claimants Aged 18-24 (%) March 2020 – September 2021
Source: ONS

Fifteen thousand seven hundred and eighty-five (57%) claimants were male and 11,925 (43%) were female. Figure 5 below demonstrates the male and female claimant rates for the Leicester and Leicestershire area from March 2020 onwards.

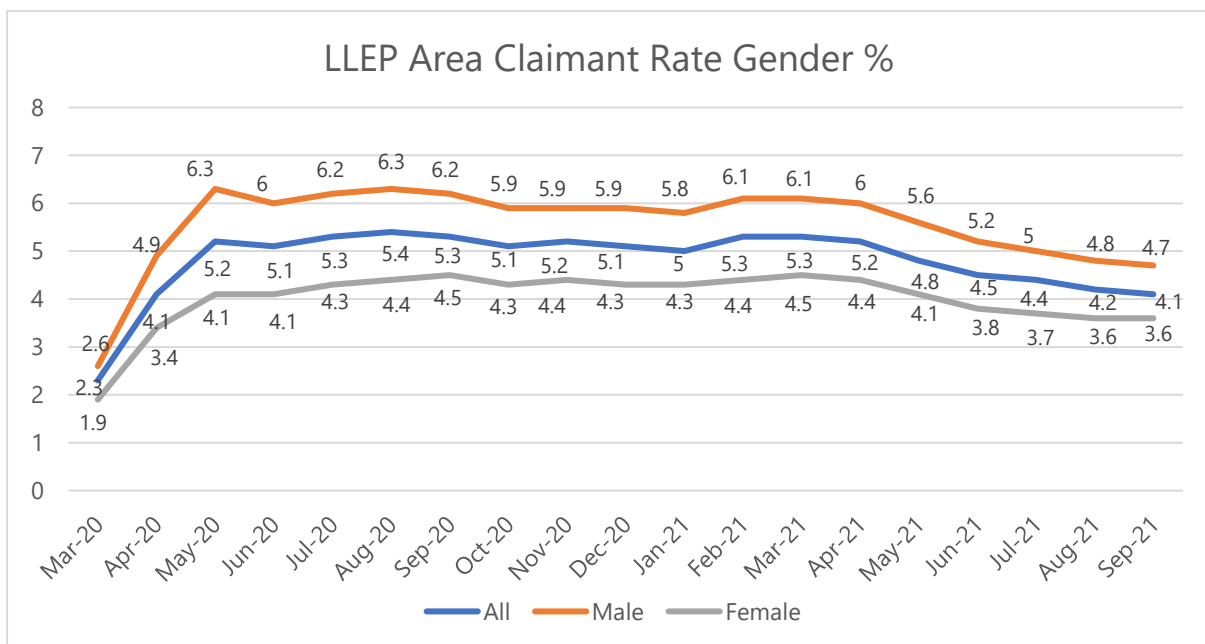


Figure 5 LLEP Area Claimant Rate by Gender (%) March 2020 - September 2021
Source: ONS

The figure below demonstrates the number of claimants in the Leicester and Leicestershire area over the period September 2013 to September 2021.

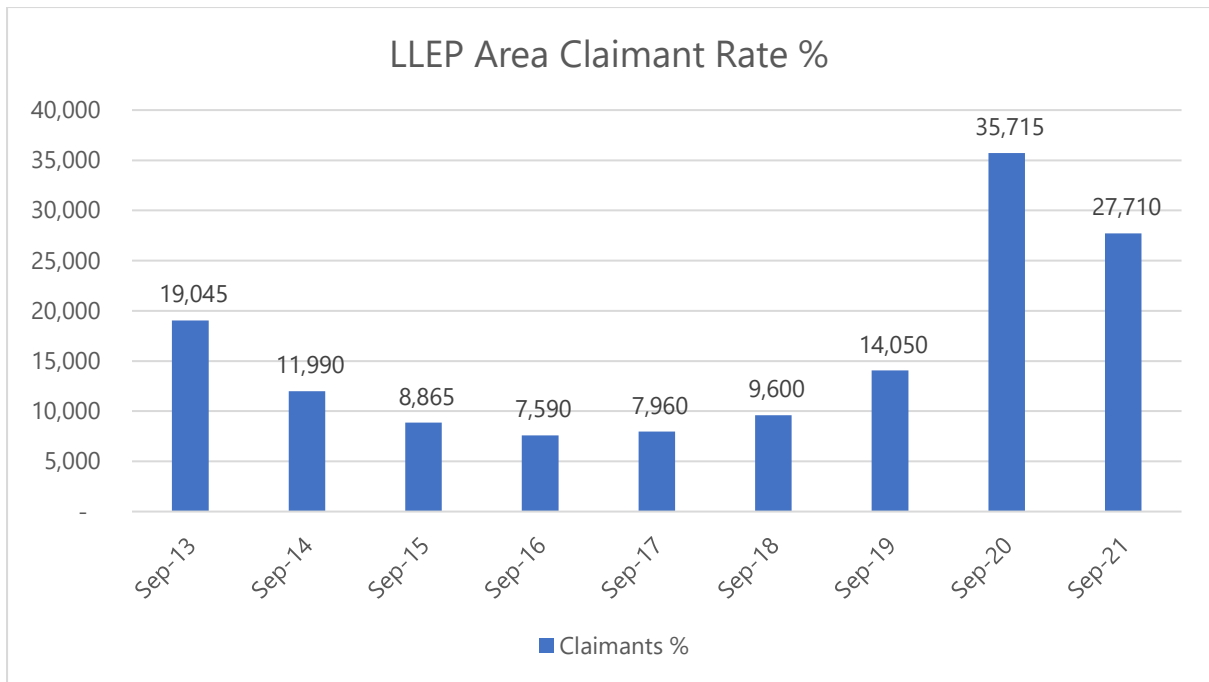


Figure 6 LLEP Area Claimant Count September 2013 – September 2021
Source: ONS

The figure below demonstrates claimant rates at a district level from March 2020 to September 2021.

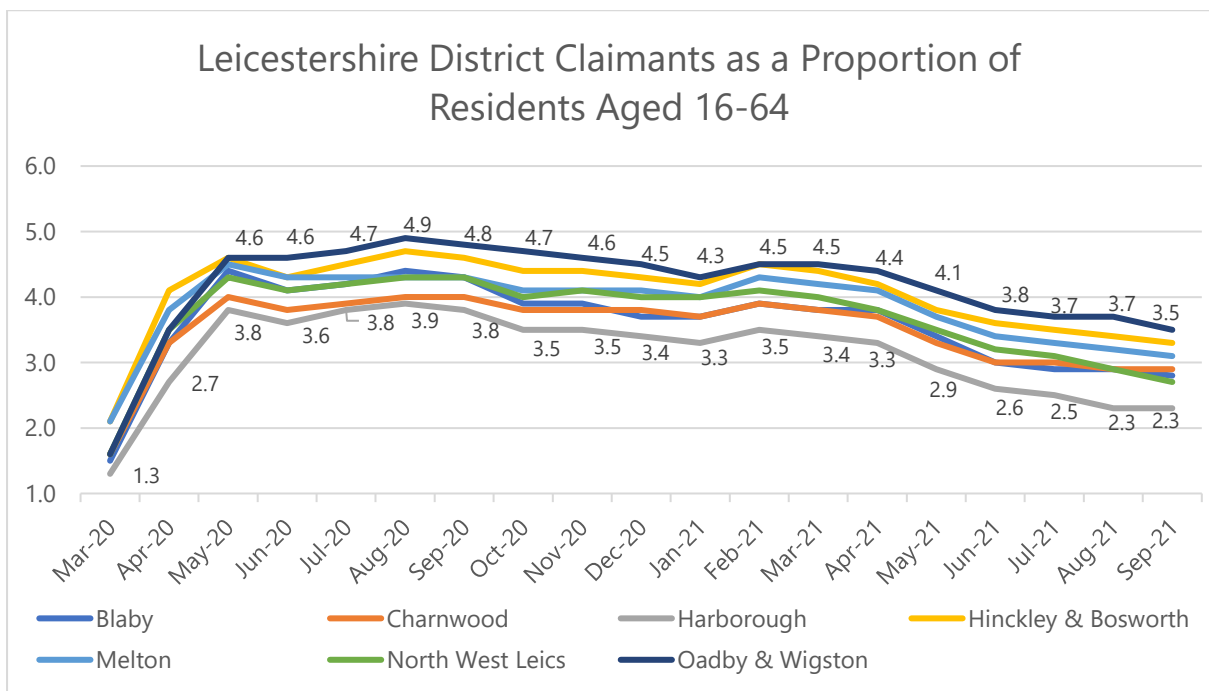


Figure 7 District Claimant Share of Working Age Residents March 2020 – September 2021
Source: ONS

Note: It must be noted that September figures will be revised by the Office for National Statistics and it is likely that numbers will be lower than those reported initially.

3. Universal Credit Claimants

Universal Credit claimants are placed in a conditionality group based on their circumstances and work capability and this determines what is expected of them during their claim.

In the Leicester and Leicestershire area most of the claimants are in either the working conditionality group or the searching/planning/preparing for work group.

When compared to March figures for 2020, all three groups have seen growth in numbers.

Over the last month (August to September) the numbers searching, planning, or preparing for work has fallen to 32,127.

From January 2021 those searching, planning, or preparing for work has fallen by 3,163. Those with no work requirements grew by 3,503.

Since March 2020 there has been a steady but significant rise in the number of people who are not seeking work/ have no work requirements with numbers nearly doubling during the period. In March 2020 the figure was 10,997 and in September 2021 it was 19,044.

	Mar-20	Sep-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21
Search/ planning/ preparing for work	17,753	36,397	35,290	37,177	37,710	37,759	35,878	34,065	33,396	32,537	32,127
Working	14,139	33,447	36,155	34,639	34,236	33,531	34,823	35,750	35,428	35,530	36,273
No work requirements	10,997	13,771	15,541	16,049	16,509	16,982	17,469	17,903	18,364	18,371	19,044

Table 1: LLEP Area Universal Credit Claimant Count by Conditionality Group March 2020 – September 2021
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

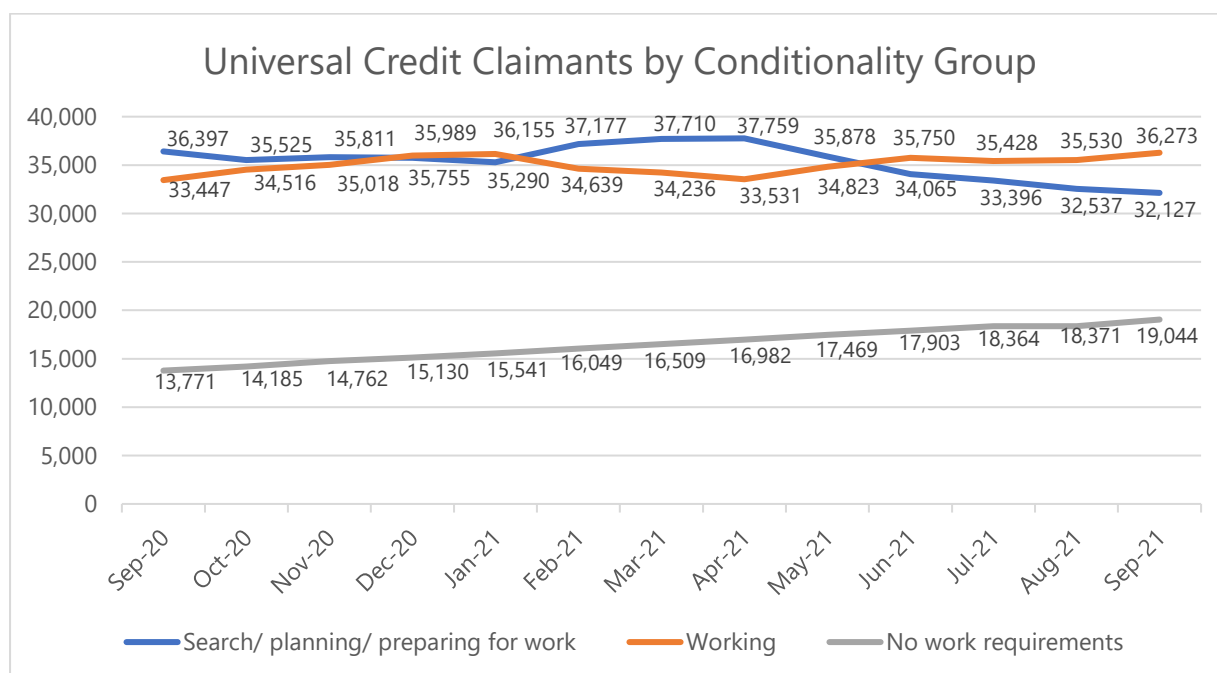


Figure 8 LLEP Area Universal Credit Claimant Count by Conditionality Group September 2020 – September 2021
Source: DWP via Stat-Xplore

For more data on Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit claimant count data by district, visit the [Unemployment Dashboard](#) on the LSR Portal.

4. Furloughed Employees

The information below is provided by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and are statistics that relate to the governments Job Retention Scheme (furlough).

Table 2 provides an understanding of the take up of the scheme by showing the percentage of eligible employments furloughed for the months July 2020 to August 2021. Data is available for areas contained within the Leicester and Leicestershire geography and can be compared with the England average.

Figures for August demonstrate that other than Leicester and Oadby and Wigston, local take-up was in-line with the average.

Area	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
Blaby	17%	13%	9%	8%	12%	12%	15%	15%	13%	11%	8%	6%	5%	5%
Charnwood	17%	12%	9%	7%	12%	12%	15%	15%	14%	11%	8%	6%	5%	5%
England	17%	12%	9%	7%	13%	13%	15%	15%	15%	11%	8%	7%	6%	5%
Harborough	17%	13%	10%	8%	13%	13%	15%	15%	14%	11%	8%	7%	6%	5%
Hinckley & Bosworth	16%	12%	9%	7%	11%	12%	14%	14%	13%	10%	8%	6%	5%	5%
Leicester	17%	12%	9%	7%	13%	14%	15%	15%	15%	12%	9%	8%	7%	6%
Melton	16%	12%	9%	7%	12%	12%	15%	15%	13%	11%	8%	6%	5%	5%
NW Leicestershire	16%	11%	8%	7%	11%	10%	13%	13%	12%	9%	7%	5%	5%	5%
Oadby & Wigston	18%	13%	10%	8%	12%	13%	15%	15%	14%	12%	9%	8%	7%	6%

Table 2. Uptake of Job Retention Scheme, % of Employments in the LLEP Area July 2020 – August 2021

Source: HMRC

The government contributed to furloughed worker's wages until the scheme ended at the end of September.

Figure 9 and Table 3 demonstrate the total employments on furlough as of the 31/08/2021.

HMRC Furlough Statistics - overall numbers

Total employments on furlough at 31 August (provisional)

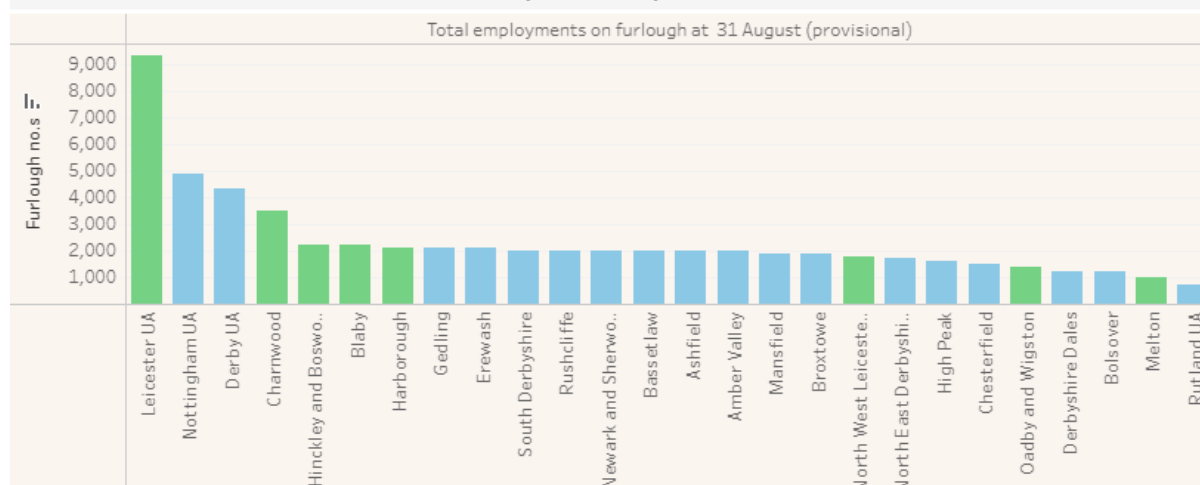


Figure 9 Total Employments Furloughed at 31 August 2021

Source: HMRC

Figures for August demonstrate that there were 23,500 employments on furlough. In July there were 26,700.

Blaby	Charnwood	Harborough	Hinckley & Bosworth	Leicester	Melton	NW Leicestershire	Oadby & Wigston
2,200	3,500	2,100	2,200	9,300	1,000	1,800	1,400

Table 3. Total Employments Furloughed at 31 August 2021

Source: HMRC

Note: It must be noted that figures have been subject to rounding. The overall figure for the Leicester and Leicestershire area is the total of those rounded figures.

Figure 10 demonstrate the monthly changes in the number of those employments accessing the furlough scheme. This demonstrate that as the furlough scheme reaches its conclusion the numbers withdrawing from the scheme has slowed.

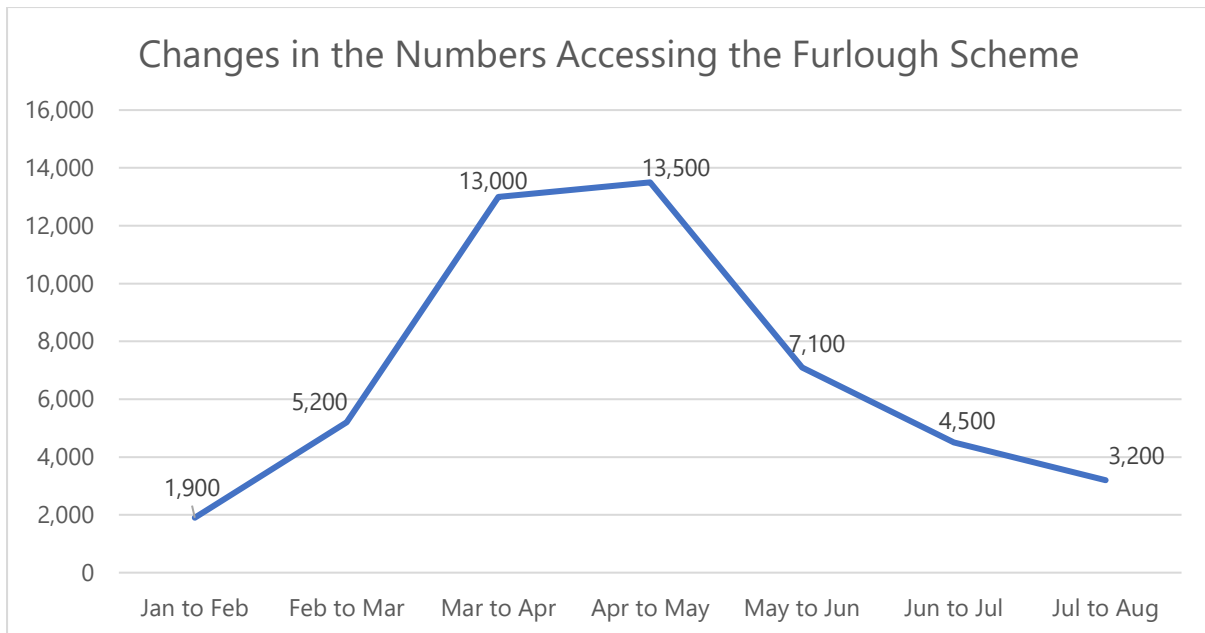


Figure 10. Monthly Changes in the Number of those Employments Accessing the Job Retention Scheme
Source: HMRC

It is estimated that large pockets of those employments accessing the scheme are based within Arts, Entertainment and Other Services, Accommodation and Food Services, Manufacturing, Wholesale and Retail, Professional Scientific and Technical and Transport and Storage.

For more detail including East Midlands comparators see the [Furloughed Staff Dashboard](#) on the LSR Portal. Through this link the user can also access data relating to the governments Self Employment Income Support Scheme.

5. Relationships

Figure 11 demonstrates the relationship between the claimant count, unique job postings, business closures and the furlough scheme. Data is for the Leicester and Leicestershire area and is for the period January 2021 onwards.

The figure also provides an understanding of the opening-up of the local economy and describes how the reduction and withdrawal of the furlough scheme has impacted claimant numbers, job postings and business closures.

Because of the force of the pandemic and the introduction of actions such as social distancing, the UK saw the launch of measures such as the furlough scheme. These resulted in fewer than expected businesses closing and the claimant count for some time remaining static. Some think that measures brought in by government were a means of putting off the inevitable (higher business closures and rises in the claimant count).

There continues to be uncertainty in relation to the impact of the closure of the furlough scheme. Up until the end of June this year, the scheme ensured that the staff of those businesses that were eligible to access the scheme received 80% of their wages. On the 01/07/2021 this was reduced to 70% and employers contributed the other 10%. On the 01/08/2021 there was a further reduction to 60% and employers were asked to contribute 20%. The government contribution of 60% ended on the 30/09/2021 when the scheme closed.

Over a three-month-period there was a 20% reduction in the contribution made by the government but when the furlough scheme ended there was an automatic reduction of 60%. The reduction and closure of the scheme for some businesses will act as a cliff edge. This may result in the closure of some businesses and a rise in benefit claimants.

The reduction in July and August and then the withdrawal of the furlough scheme, has thus far had no visible impact on the claimant count which continues to fall. The number of job postings despite a fall in August continues to rise.

High numbers of job postings, reported industry skills shortages, the return of migrant workers (away from the UK), the lead into Christmas etc. are all likely contributors to a reduction in the number of claimants but may also be a cause for concern as the economy opens.

The fall in claimants and the rise in job postings is good news but there has been some bad news. Business closures have gone from 764 in July to 1,139 in September. The rise in closures cover the period where there were reductions in government contributions to the furlough scheme. It will be interesting to see how many employments were still taking advantage of the scheme when it closed in September and how the withdrawal of the scheme impacts the claimant count and business closure figures for October and November.

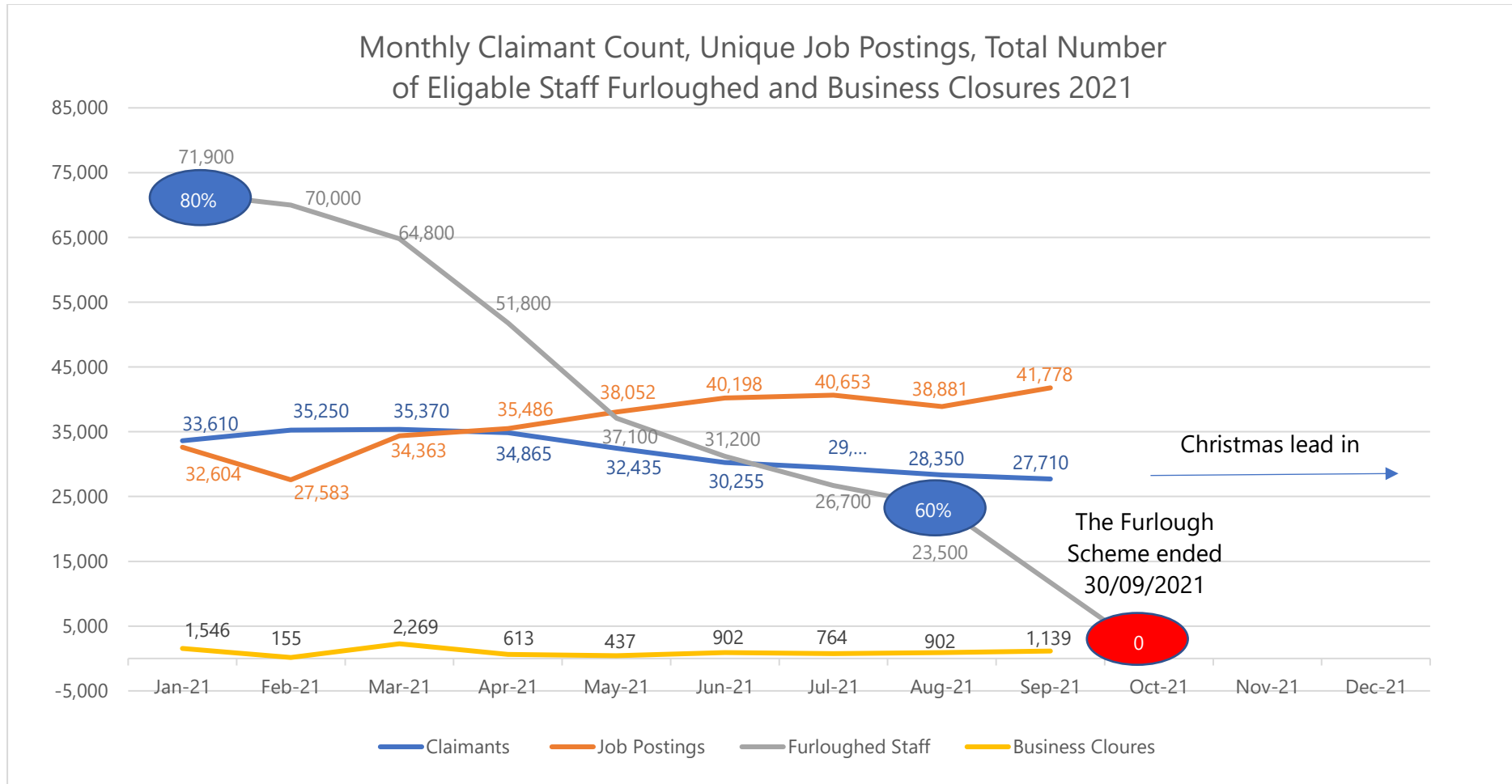


Figure 11: Monthly Claimant Count, Unique Job Postings, Business Closures and Total Number of Eligible Staff Furloughed January 2021 Onwards
 Source: ONS Claimant Count, EMSI Unique job Postings, BVD Fame Business Closures and HMRC Job Retention Scheme

Note: Latest figures for the Job Retention Scheme relate to August 2021. Later figures are calculated based on the August figure and the closure of the scheme at the end of September.

6. Job Postings

EMSI job posting data is drawn from a range of sources and provides timely data on how the trend in the number of live job adverts is changing in the Leicester and Leicestershire area by occupation and geography.

However, the number of job adverts being posted is not a direct measure of labour force demand. Job adverts may not be removed from online job vacancy boards immediately once a position is filled, so the data may not fully reflect companies who have halted active recruitment.

The data is compiled from multiple job vacancy boards and adverts may still be considered "live" if the posting is still live on any board, even when it has already been removed from an alternative source.

The scope of online job adverts does not fully capture the region's economic activity because of differing advertising methods, for example, casual work may be advertised by word-of-mouth.

Table 4 demonstrates unique job postings by occupation for September 2021. These are compared with March 2020, September 2020 and August 2021. Standard Occupation Codes are at a two-digit level.

The number of unique job postings for September 2021 is higher than September 2020 by 10,982 (41,764 compared to 30,782). This is a rise of 35.7%

Over the last month the number of job postings grew from 38,867 to 41,764. This is a rise of 2,897 postings or 7.5%.

In terms of numbers, over the last year there have been rises in job postings in all the occupation areas except for Teaching and Educational Professionals and Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives.

In the last month 3 of the 25 occupation areas saw falls in the number of unique job postings. The falls were in:

- Skilled Metal, Electrical and Electronic Trades
- Skilled Construction and Building Trades
- Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives

Over the last year the occupation areas that saw the largest growth in the number of unique job postings were:

- Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals
- Business and Public Service Associate Professionals
- Administrative Occupations

- Skilled Metal, Electrical and Electronic Trades
- Elementary Administration and Service Occupations

As a means of further understanding how the local jobs market is changing Table 5 demonstrates the year to date (YTD) figures for 2021 for each of the occupation areas and compares these with YTD figures for 2019.

Across the job market the number of postings has increased from 107,901 to 143,760. This is growth of 35,859 or 33.2%. All occupations areas have seen growth. As a result, each occupation areas share of job postings has been demonstrated for the years 2019 and 2021.

2 Digit SOC	Occupation	Mar 2020 Unique Postings	Sep 2020 Unique Postings	Aug 2021 Unique Postings	Sep 2021 Unique Postings	Annual Growth	Annual Growth %	Monthly Growth Aug to Sep 2021	Monthly % Growth Aug to Sep 2021	Dif Mar 2020 Sep 2021	% Dif Mar 2020 Sep 2021	Total Job Postings March 2020 Onwards
11	Corporate Managers and Directors	1,561	1,523	2,076	2,189	666	43.7	113	5.4	628	40.2	6,516
12	Other Managers and Proprietors	527	564	671	677	113	20.0	6	0.9	150	28.5	1,957
21	Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	2,693	2,495	3,092	3,252	757	30.3	160	5.2	559	20.8	9,298
22	Health Professionals	1,787	1,828	1,996	2,155	327	17.9	159	8.0	368	20.6	5,681
23	Teaching and Educational Professionals	1,334	1,125	972	1,011	(114)	-10.1	39	4.0	(323)	(24.2)	3,717
24	Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	1,732	1,693	2,029	2,081	388	22.9	52	2.6	349	20.2	6,378
31	Science, Engineering and Technology Associate Professionals	1,385	1,325	1,814	1,908	583	44.0	94	5.2	523	37.8	5,545
32	Health and Social Care Associate Professionals	372	448	495	545	97	21.7	50	10.1	173	46.5	1,602
33	Protective Service Occupations	29	22	40	42	20	90.9	2	5.0	13	44.8	150
34	Culture, Media and Sports Occupations	412	292	354	424	132	45.2	70	19.8	12	2.9	1,278
35	Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	4,601	3,943	5,294	5,790	1,847	46.8	496	9.4	1,189	25.8	16,172
41	Administrative Occupations	2,934	2,490	3,756	4,340	1,850	74.3	584	15.5	1,406	47.9	12,071
42	Secretarial and Related Occupations	429	339	474	577	238	70.2	103	21.7	148	34.5	1,530
51	Skilled Agricultural and Related Trades	34	34	46	46	12	35.3	0	0.0	12	35.3	184
52	Skilled Metal, Electrical and Electronic Trades	1,959	1,928	2,767	2,743	815	42.3	(24)	-0.9	784	40.0	8,422
53	Skilled Construction and Building Trades	502	625	790	715	90	14.4	(75)	-9.5	213	42.4	2,619
54	Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	638	478	777	857	379	79.3	80	10.3	219	34.3	2,036
61	Caring Personal Service Occupations	2,053	2,284	2,481	2,662	378	16.5	181	7.3	609	29.7	8,113
62	Leisure, Travel and Related Personal Service Occupations	187	168	251	264	96	57.1	13	5.2	77	41.2	727
71	Sales Occupations	665	563	810	990	427	75.8	180	22.2	325	48.9	2,498
72	Customer Service Occupations	668	596	829	904	308	51.7	75	9.0	236	35.3	2,482
81	Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	449	533	704	779	246	46.2	75	10.7	330	73.5	2,507
82	Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	1,587	2,289	2,200	2,148	(141)	-6.2	(52)	-2.4	561	35.3	7,142
91	Elementary Trades and Related Occupations	279	419	553	621	202	48.2	68	12.3	342	122.6	1,810
92	Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	1,929	2,778	3,596	4,044	1,266	45.6	448	12.5	2,115	109.6	11,055
Total		30,746	30,782	38,867	41,764	10,982	35.7	2,897	7.5	11,018	35.8	121,490

Table 4 LLEP area Job Postings by Standard Occupation Codes

Source: EMSI

SOC	Occupation	Unique Postings from Jan 2019 - Sep 2019	% Share	Unique Postings from Jan 2021 - Sep 2021	% Share	Growth 2019 - 2021	Growth 2019 - 2021 %
11	Corporate Managers and Directors	5,294	4.9	7,719	5.4	2,425	45.8
12	Other Managers and Proprietors	1,629	1.5	2,330	1.6	701	43.0
21	Science, Research, Engineering and Technology Professionals	8,461	7.8	11,167	7.8	2,706	32.0
22	Health Professionals	5,622	5.2	6,867	4.8	1,245	22.1
23	Teaching and Educational Professionals	4,350	4.0	4,785	3.3	435	10.0
24	Business, Media and Public Service Professionals	5,515	5.1	7,591	5.3	2,076	37.6
31	Science, Engineering and Technology Associate Professionals	4,752	4.4	6,614	4.6	1,862	39.2
32	Health and Social Care Associate Professionals	1,144	1.1	1,946	1.4	802	70.1
33	Protective Service Occupations	52	0.0	182	0.1	130	250.0
34	Culture, Media and Sports Occupations	1,132	1.0	1,526	1.1	394	34.8
35	Business and Public Service Associate Professionals	14,880	13.8	19,073	13.3	4,193	28.2
41	Administrative Occupations	11,924	11.1	14,138	9.8	2,214	18.6
42	Secretarial and Related Occupations	1,379	1.3	1,771	1.2	392	28.4
51	Skilled Agricultural and Related Trades	85	0.1	224	0.2	139	163.5
52	Skilled Metal, Electrical and Electronic Trades	7,331	6.8	9,929	6.9	2,598	35.4
53	Skilled Construction and Building Trades	1,513	1.4	3,074	2.1	1,561	103.2
54	Textiles, Printing and Other Skilled Trades	2,084	1.9	2,212	1.5	128	6.1
61	Caring Personal Service Occupations	7,281	6.7	9,907	6.9	2,626	36.1
62	Leisure, Travel and Related Personal Service Occupations	749	0.7	855	0.6	106	14.2
71	Sales Occupations	2,312	2.1	2,864	2.0	552	23.9
72	Customer Service Occupations	2,163	2.0	2,905	2.0	742	34.3
81	Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	2,320	2.2	2,868	2.0	548	23.6
82	Transport and Mobile Machine Drivers and Operatives	6,978	6.5	8,421	5.9	1,443	20.7
91	Elementary Trades and Related Occupations	1,750	1.6	2,068	1.4	318	18.2
92	Elementary Administration and Service Occupations	7,201	6.7	12,724	8.9	5,523	76.7
	Total Across All Occupations	107,901	100.0	143,760	100.0	35,859	33.2

Table 5 LLEP area Job Postings Comparator 2019 and 2021 by Standard Occupation Codes
Source: EMSI

Table 6 demonstrates job posting numbers by district area for this year and September 2020. Figures for all the areas identified are higher this year (September) than last year.

Area	Sep-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21
Blaby	1,462	1,720	1,343	1,740	1,707	1,719	1,763	1,782	1,742	1,971
Charnwood	4,846	5,444	4,693	5,626	5,563	6,264	6,543	6,917	6,905	7,559
Harborough	2,483	2,209	1,827	2,409	2,435	2,648	2,874	3,264	3,268	3,585
Hinckley & Bosworth	2,725	2,877	2,570	3,446	3,855	4,185	4,330	3,962	3,268	3,087
Leicester	13,536	14,358	12,059	14,389	14,940	15,773	16,180	16,433	16,211	17,688
Leicestershire	17,246	18,233	15,500	19,948	20,548	22,279	24,017	24,219	22,660	24,076
Melton	1,196	1,112	950	1,173	1,286	1,379	1,455	1,536	1,538	1,613
North West Leicestershire	3,980	4,215	3,598	4,882	5,103	5,188	5,997	5,982	5,168	5,384
Oadby & Wigston	554	656	519	672	599	896	1,055	776	771	877
Total	30,782	32,591	27,559	34,337	35,488	38,052	40,197	40,652	38,871	41,764

Table 6 Unique Job Postings by Local & District Authority
Source: EMSI

Figure 12 provides an understanding of job postings for the Leicester and Leicestershire area from March 2020.

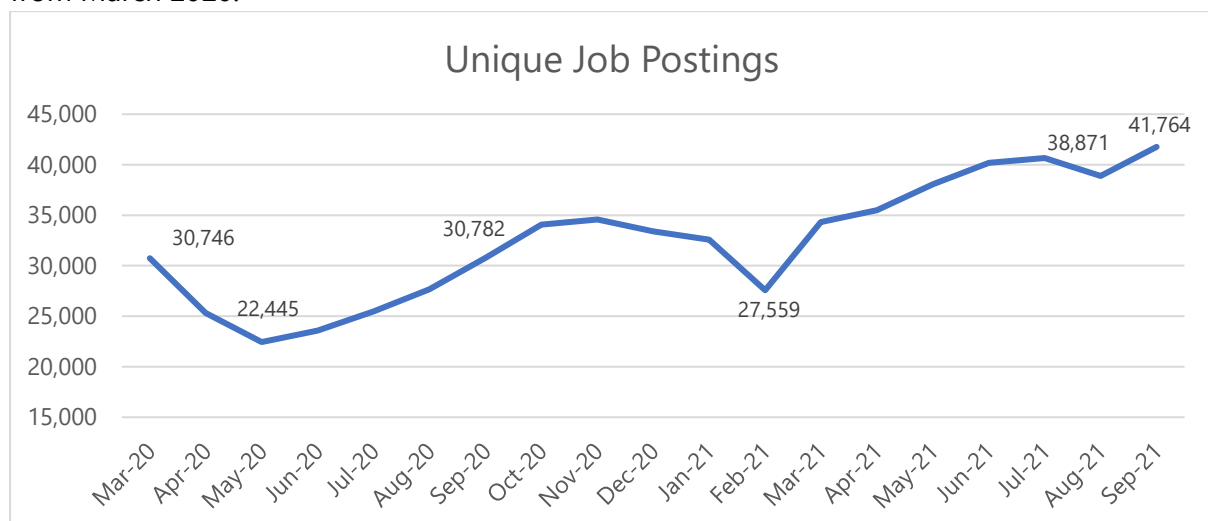


Figure 12 LLEP Area Unique Job Postings March 2020 to September 2021
Source: EMSI

Figure 13 shows that job posting data in the Leicester and Leicestershire areas presents two different pictures. In Leicestershire from August of 2020 there have been more unique job postings than the last figure supplied prior to the pandemic (March 2020). In Leicester this is not the case and figures have continually failed to exceed the figure delivered for March 2020. September 2021 shows the number of postings is Leicester has finally exceeded those for March 2020.

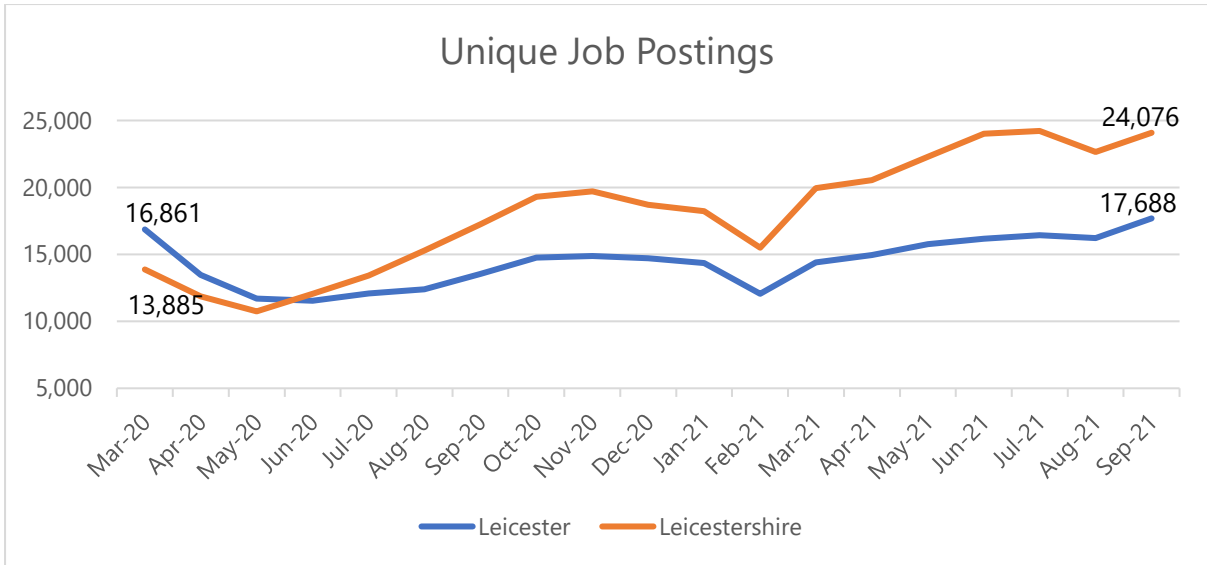


Figure 13 Leicester and Leicestershire Unique Job Postings March 2020 to September 2021
Source: EMSI

More detailed breakdowns of job postings by district are available from brendan.brockway@llep.org.uk.

7. Business Closures and Incorporations

Since the start of March 2020, 13,803 businesses have ceased trading in the Leicester and Leicestershire area. For the same period in 2019/20 the number was 9,691. This is a difference of 4,112 business closures.

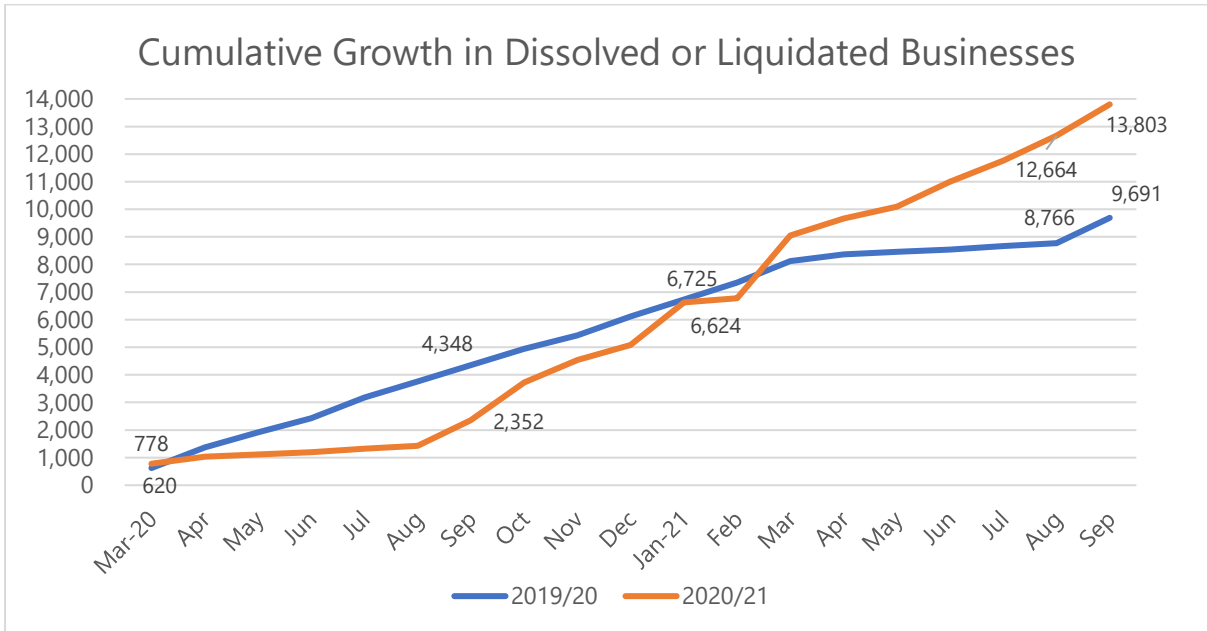


Figure 14 LLEP Area Dissolved or Liquidated Businesses Comparator March 2020 – September 2021
Source: BVD Fame

In March 2020 there were 778 closures. Due to those measures introduced by the government during lockdown the number had fallen to just 101 in August of the same year.

Figures for September and October 2020 demonstrated steep rises in business failures. The rise in business failures reflected the proposed closure of measures that were brought in by the government. However, measures were extended beyond October and as a result, failures fell from 1,372 in October to 540 in December. Again, in early 2021 with the planned closure and phasing out of government measures there were sharp increases. Once again, the job retention scheme was extended and figures for April and May demonstrated falls in closures. In June there was a further rise and July a fall. Since July there have been rises in the number of business closures. The figure for September 2021 is 1,139. In September 2020 the figure was 925 and 2019 589.

In 2021 (to the end of September 2021) there have been 8,725 solved businesses. For the same period in 2020 the figure was 3,573 and 2019 6,875. Year to date figures show that closures in 2021 are higher than in 2019 and 2020.

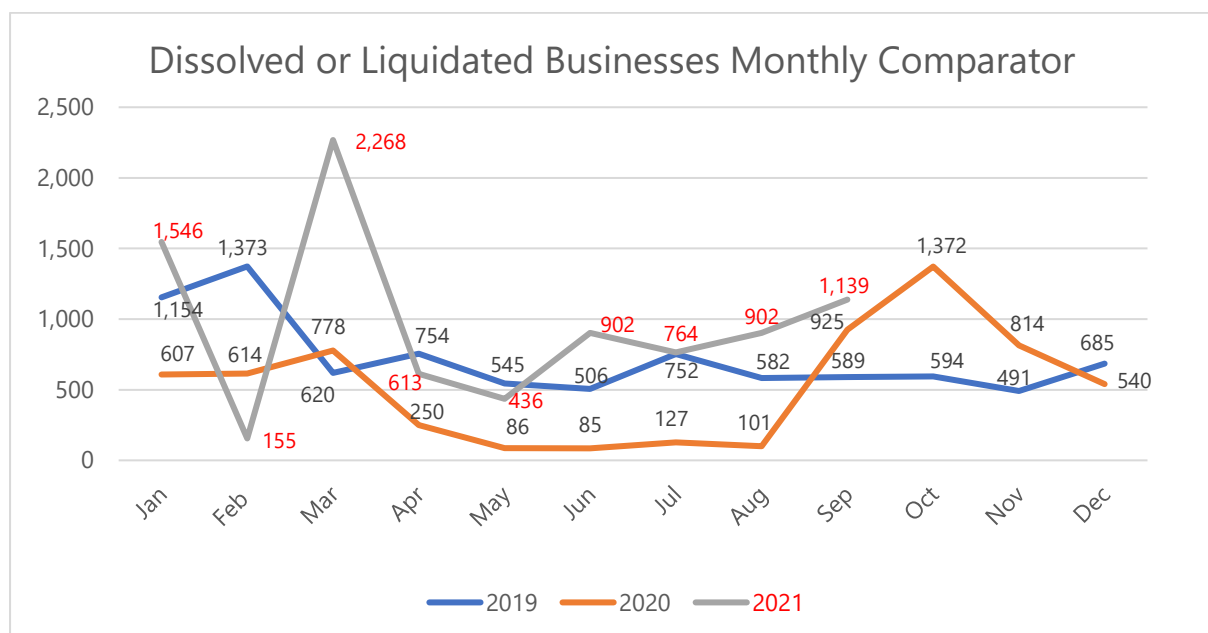


Figure 15 LLEP Area Dissolved or Liquidated Businesses Monthly Comparator
Source: BVD Fame

Since the beginning of March 2020 17,872 businesses have been incorporated within the Leicester and Leicestershire area. Over the same period in 2019/20, 18,592 businesses were incorporated. This is a difference of 720.

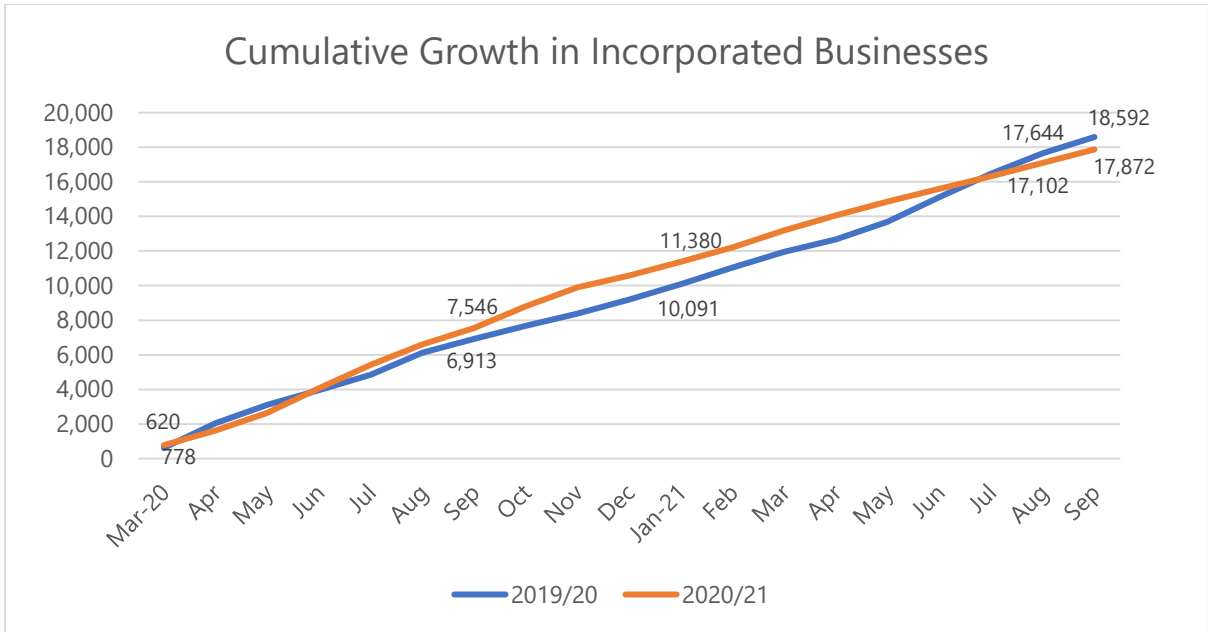


Figure 16 LLEP Area Cumulative Growth in Incorporated Businesses Comparator
Source: BVD Fame

From January 2021 to March there were small rises in incorporations. From March 2021 there was a decline followed by the number of incorporations remaining static. The latest figure (September) is 770. As with figures for May, June, July, and August this is below the figures for the same period in 2019 and 2020.

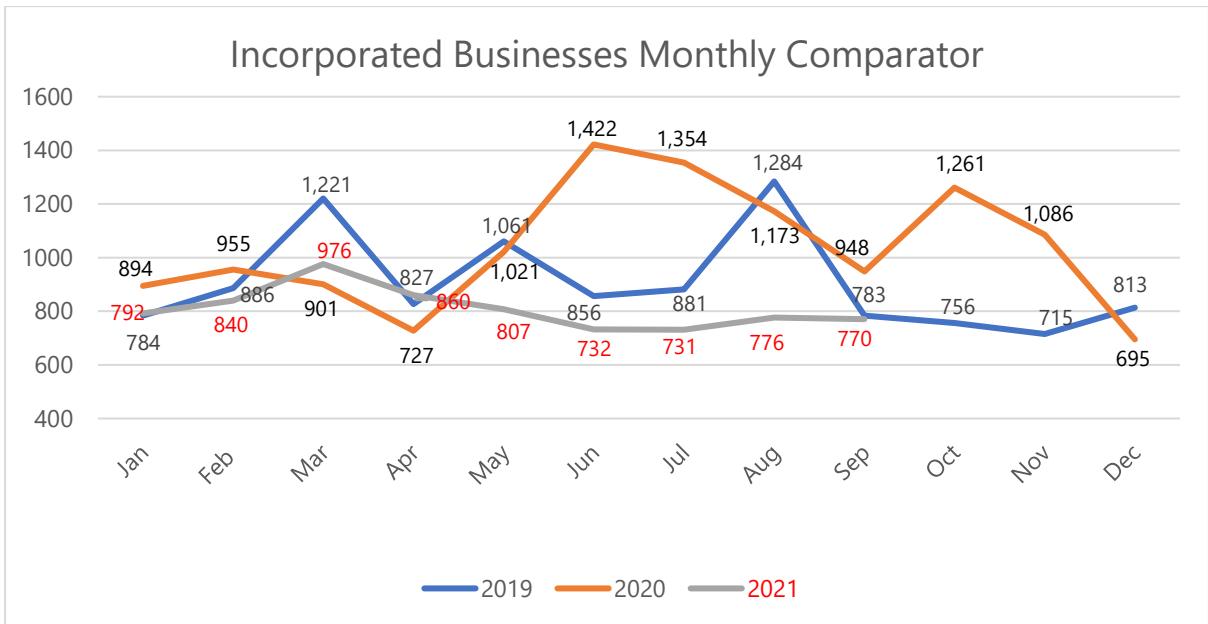


Figure 17 LLEP Area Incorporated Businesses Monthly Comparator
Source: BVD Fame

When comparing closures with incorporations in 2021 there were 8,725 closures and 7,284 incorporations. This is a difference of 1,441.

Figure 18 and 19 show how the relationship between business closures and incorporations has changed. Figure 18 concentrates on the year 2021 (January to September) and Figure 19 2019 (January to September).

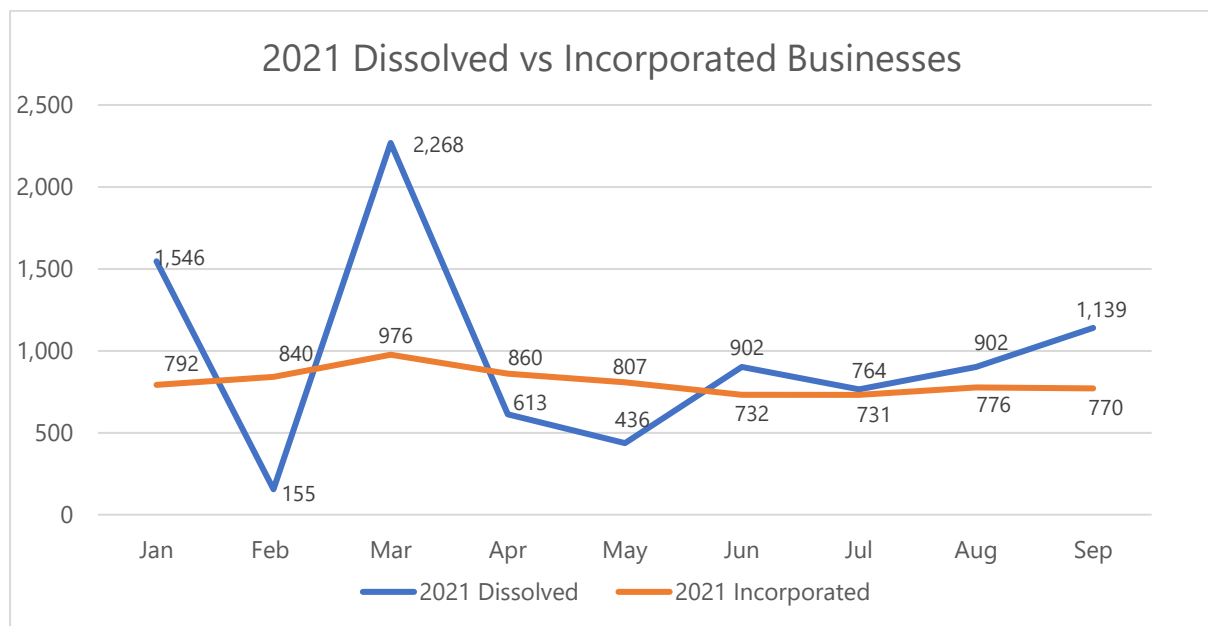


Figure 18 LLEP Areas Dissolved and Incorporated Businesses Monthly Comparator 2021
Source: BVD Fame

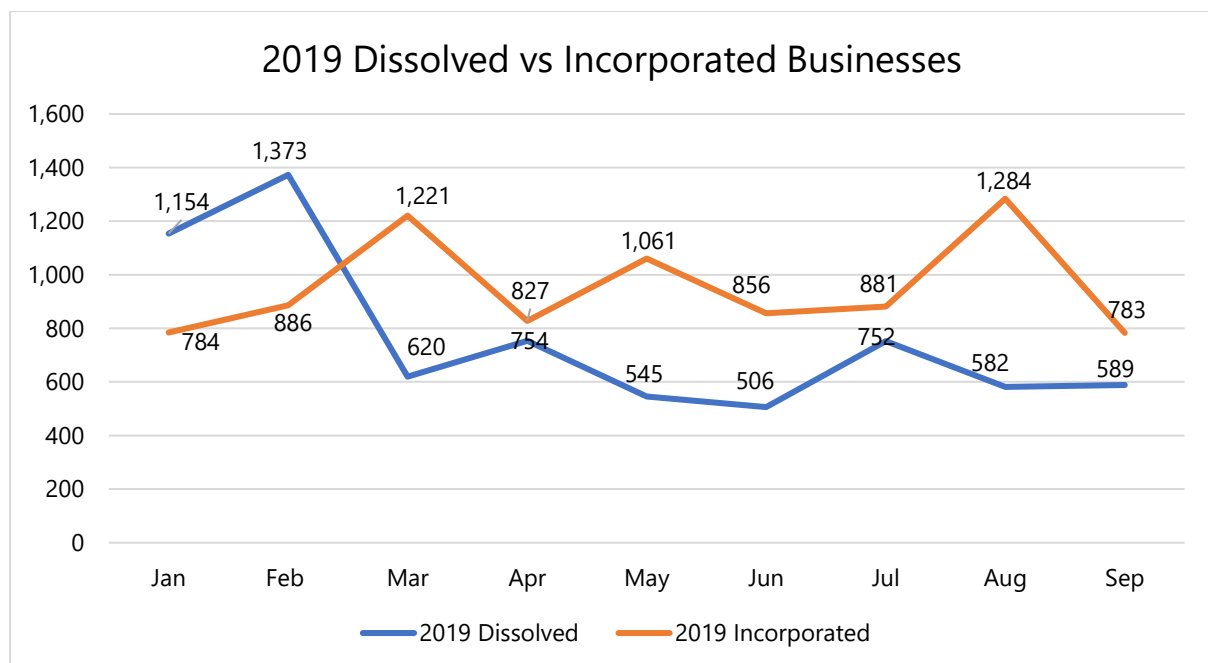


Figure 19 LLEP Areas Dissolved and Incorporated Businesses Monthly Comparator 2019
Source: BVD Fame

Table 7 demonstrates those sectors where there have been 50 or more business failures. For these same sectors the table also demonstrates the number of incorporations. Data is for 2021 (YTD).

Table 7 also helps provide an understanding of expansion and contraction and how different sectors are reacting to the effects of the pandemic (bounce back).

Those sectors highlighted in blue are those where there were considerably more incorporations than closures and those in grey where there were considerably more closures.

Activity (prim. UK SIC 2007)	Dissolved	%	Incorporated	%	dif	Incorporations as a share of dissolved business
Office administrative, office support and other business support activities	1450	16.6	198	2.7	1252	13.7
Employment activities	769	8.8	61	0.8	708	7.9
Computer programming, consultancy and related activities	565	6.5	178	2.4	387	31.5
Other personal service activities	555	6.4	246	3.4	309	44.3
Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	514	5.9	913	12.5	-399	177.6
Activities of head offices; management consultancy activities	423	4.9	195	2.7	228	46.1
Wholesale trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles	370	4.2	322	4.4	48	87.0
Land transport and transport via pipelines	326	3.7	452	6.2	-126	138.7
Food and beverage service activities	313	3.6	538	7.4	-225	171.9
Specialised construction activities	292	3.3	406	5.6	-114	139.0
Real estate activities	231	2.6	826	11.3	-595	357.6
Construction of buildings	220	2.5	290	4.0	-70	131.8
Human health activities	172	2.0	260	3.6	-88	151.2
Warehousing and support activities for transportation	168	1.9	73	1.0	95	43.5
Wholesale and retail trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	167	1.9	178	2.4	-11	106.6
Other professional, scientific and technical activities	158	1.8	153	2.1	5	96.8
Education	133	1.5	137	1.9	-4	103.0
Architectural and engineering activities; technical testing and analysis	115	1.3	84	1.2	31	73.0
Printing and reproduction of recorded media	109	1.2	24	0.3	85	22.0
Financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding	105	1.2	221	3.0	-116	210.5
Legal and accounting activities	100	1.1	73	1.0	27	73.0
Sports activities and amusement and recreation activities	85	1.0	86	1.2	-1	101.2
Services to buildings and landscape activities	78	0.9	137	1.9	-59	175.6
Manufacture of wearing apparel	76	0.9	68	0.9	8	89.5
Manufacture of textiles	55	0.6	38	0.5	17	69.1
Residential care activities	54	0.6	60	0.8	-6	111.1
Creative, arts and entertainment activities	53	0.6	55	0.8	-2	103.8
Information service activities	51	0.6	34	0.5	17	66.7
All	8721	100.0	7286	100.0	1435	83.5

Table 7 LLEP Area Dissolved or Liquidated and Incorporated Businesses by Sector Year to Date 2021

Source: BVD Fame

Note: Latest figures were gained on the 11/10/2021 and they may be subject to some adjustment. Figures may also reflect delays in notification and processing of data returns to Companies House.

8. Useful Links

LSR Online

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

Midlands Engine Economic Observatory

The [Midlands Engine Economic Observatory](#) is an analytical function of the Midlands Engine, providing comprehensive and contemporary data, analysis and intelligence on the whole Midlands economy including a monthly regional impact *monitor*, reporting on the impact of Covid-19 on the region's economy.

Office for National Statistics (ONS)

The ONS produces comprehensive data and analysis on coronavirus ([COVID-19 in the UK](#)) and its effect on the economy and society.

NOMIS

[Nomis](#) is a service provided by the Office for National Statistics, ONS, to give free access to the most detailed and up-to-date UK labour market statistics from official sources.

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Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained within this report, Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership cannot be held responsible for any errors or omission relating to the data contained within the report.