

Labour Force Profile

Annual Population Survey data for January to December 2023 used in this bulletin was released in April 2024.

January – December 2024 data will be released in April 2025.

NOTE: Kent refers to the Kent County Council area and excludes Medway

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[Kent facts and figures](#)

Using estimates from the Annual Population Survey this bulletin looks at the structure of the Kent labour market.

Key points

- The number of economically active people aged 16-64 in Kent (those who are working or are available to work) decreased from 755,300 (79.4%) in 2022, to 752,300 (78.9%) in 2023.
- The employment rate for males in Kent (79.1%) was lower than the national average of 79.7%. The employment rate for females in Kent (72.8%) was higher than the national average of 72.2%.
- 13.4% of people in Kent aged 16-64 were self-employed.
- The proportion of workers from Kent who were working full-time increased to 76.8%, +0.1% since last year, while the proportion of those working part-time had fallen to 22.9% (-0.1% since last year).
- 33.0% of all those in employment who live in Kent were employed in the public administration, education and health industry.
- The unemployment rate in Kent (3.8%) increased slightly since last year (+0.1%) and was the same as the national rate.

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Introduction

The Annual Population Survey

This bulletin uses estimates from the Annual Population Survey (APS), produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The data is published quarterly but each quarter covers an annual period. This bulletin uses the January to December period each year from 2011.

The APS is a residence-based labour market survey encompassing population, economic activity (employment and unemployment), economic inactivity and qualifications. These are broken down where possible by sex, age, ethnicity, industry, and occupation. Available at Local Authority level and above.

APS datasets are produced quarterly with each dataset containing 12 months of data. There are approximately 170,000 households and 320,000 persons per dataset.

The APS is a sample survey, so the responses reflect only a small proportion of the total population. Each respondent is given a weight relating to the proportion of the total population that he or she represents. The sum of all the weights equals the total household population for the survey. Reweighting means assigning different weights, derived from more up-to-date population estimates.

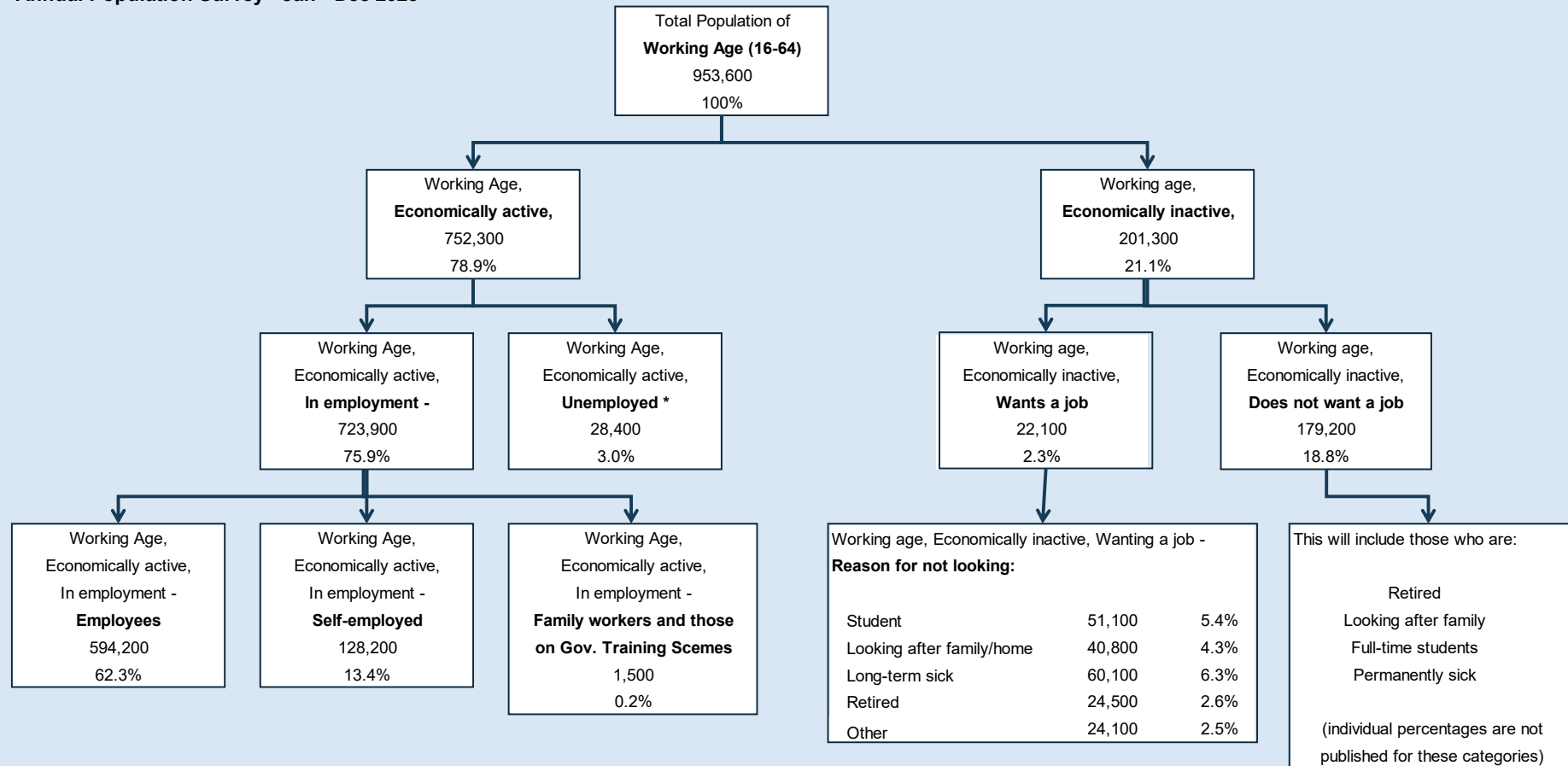
The sample sizes at county level are reasonably robust, though are still subject to some sampling variation. For this reason, a more reliable interpretation of the data can be gained by looking at a short period of several quarters, to determine the general direction of travel, rather than the change between individual quarter results.

This bulletin looks at the overall structure of Kent's labour market. It then goes on to look at different sections of the labour market with comparisons to England.

Tables to accompany each indicator can be found in the appendix at the end of this bulletin.

The Structure of the Kent Labour Market

Annual Population Survey - Jan - Dec 2023



* This is the equivalent of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition, which is different from the monthly claimant count of the unemployed.
All numbers have been rounded individually.
Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Table 1 and chart 1 show the labour force profile of Kent in 2023 in comparison to England.

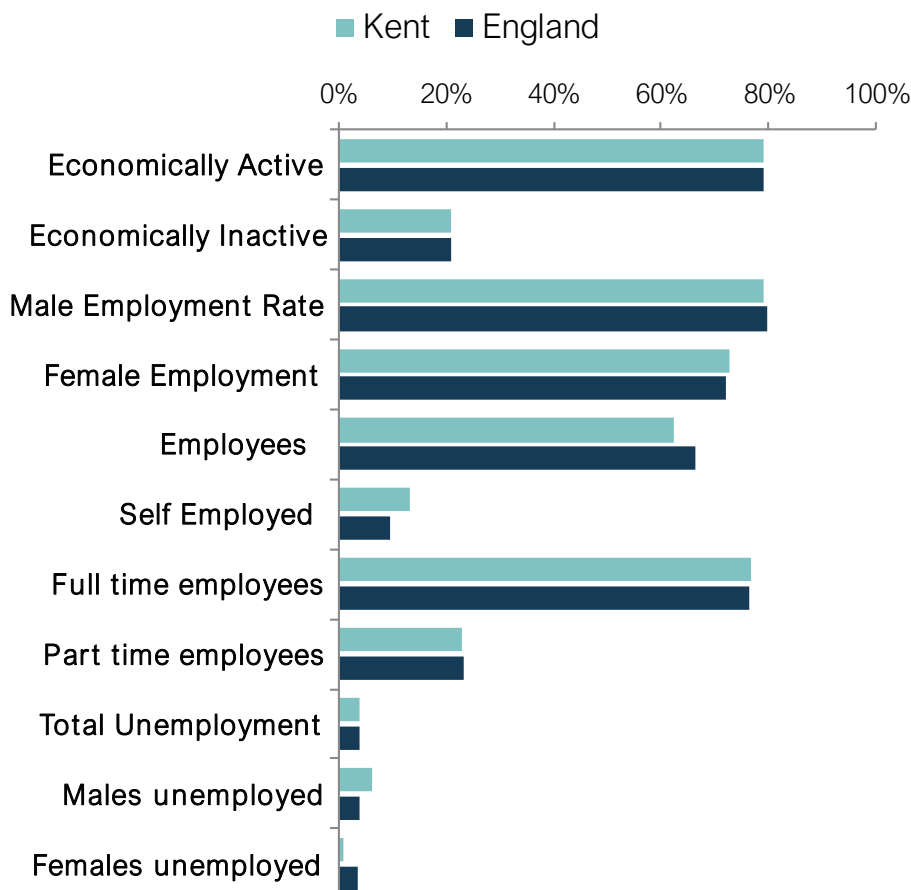
Table 1: Labour force profile in 2023

Jan - Dec 2023	Kent	England
Economically Active	78.9%	79.0%
Economically Inactive	21.1%	21.0%
Male Employment Rate	79.1%	79.7%
Female Employment Rate	72.8%	72.2%
Employees	62.3%	66.3%
Self Employed	13.4%	9.5%
Full time employees	76.8%	76.5%
Part time employees	22.9%	23.4%
RVQF4+	42.7%	46.7%
No Qualifications	7.0%	6.2%
Total Unemployment	3.8%	3.8%

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 1: Labour force profile in 2023



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Presented by Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Analysis

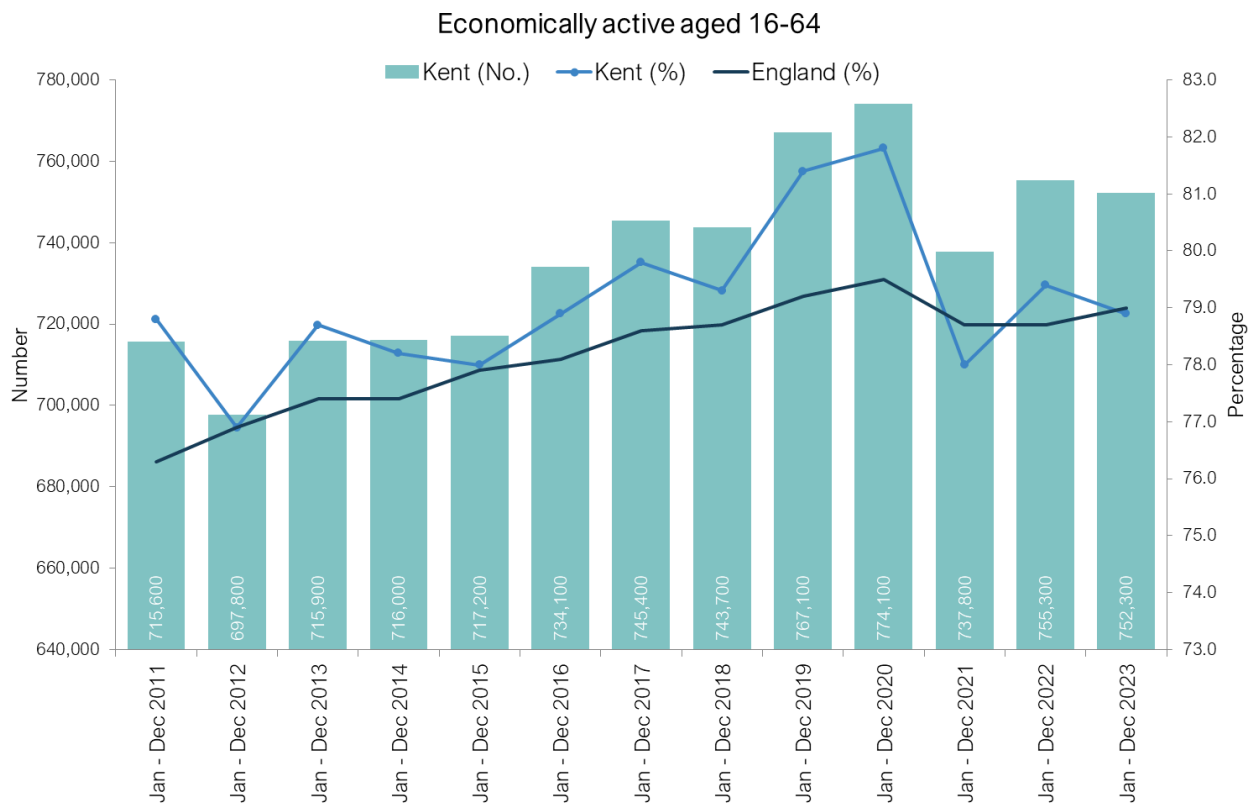
Economic Activity

Economically active people are defined as those people who are in employment and those people who are unemployed and are available to work.

Chart 2 shows a timeseries of the number of people aged 16-64 in Kent who are economically active and compares the percentage who are economically active in Kent and England.

The number and proportion of economically active people increased in both Kent and England between 2012 and 2020, however it fell in 2021. This has subsequently increased, with the number returning to above pre-2019 numbers. The Kent proportion has dipped slightly (0.1%) beneath the proportion for England as a whole in 2023.

Chart 2: Economically active population (aged 16-64)



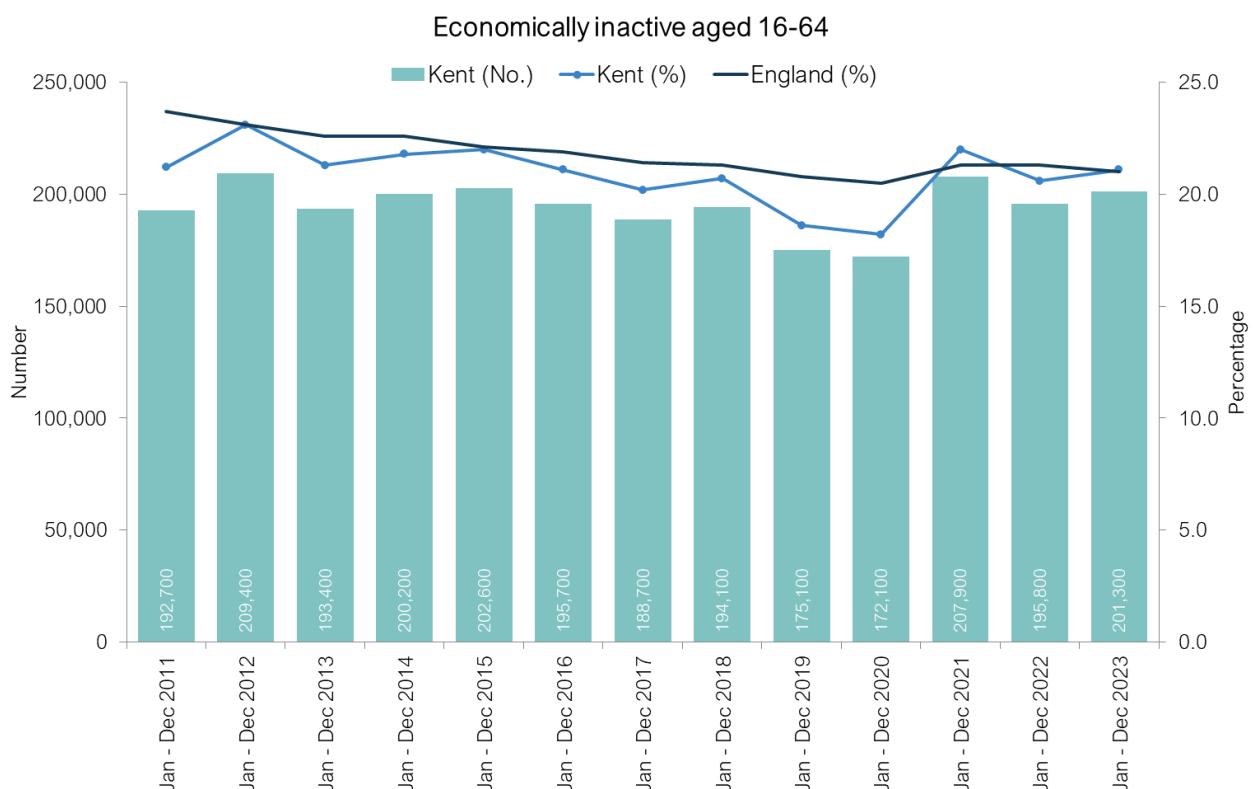
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Economically inactive people are defined as those people who are not in employment or those people who are not available to work. This includes people who are retired, those looking after family, those who are long term sick and some students.

Chart 3 shows a timeseries of the number of people aged 16-64 in Kent who are economically inactive and compares the percentage who are economically inactive in Kent and England.

Overall, the proportion of those aged 16-64 who are economically inactive has slowly fallen in Kent and in England since 2012, however there was an increase in 2021. In 2022 the number and proportion has decreased but in 2023 this has slightly risen again. As a result, the Kent proportion has risen above (0.1%) the proportion for England as a whole.

Chart 3: Economically inactive population (aged 16-64)



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Employment Rate

The Annual Population Survey shows the number of people aged 16-64 who are in employment.

The employment rate of males aged 16-64 in Kent is usually above that for England. In England, the employment rate for males has increased since 2022, whilst the rate for Kent has fallen since 2020. In 2023, the rate for Kent was 0.6% lower than that of England.

Chart 4: Employment rate - Males

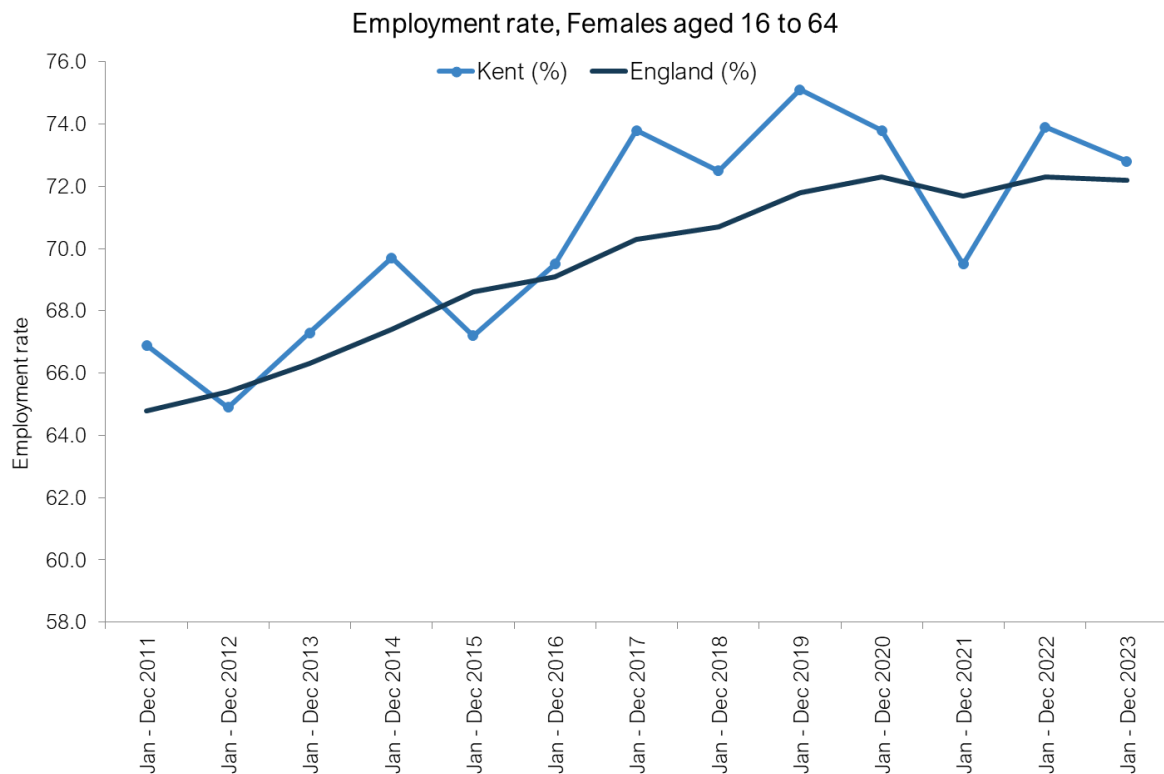


Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

The employment rate for females in Kent is usually above, or very close to the national rate. The rates for Kent and England both decreased in 2021, however both improved in 2022 and returned to 2020 levels. In 2023, the Kent rate dropped but it is still above the national rate by 0.6%.

Chart 5 shows the female employment rate in Kent compared to England since 2011.

Chart 5: Employment rate - Females



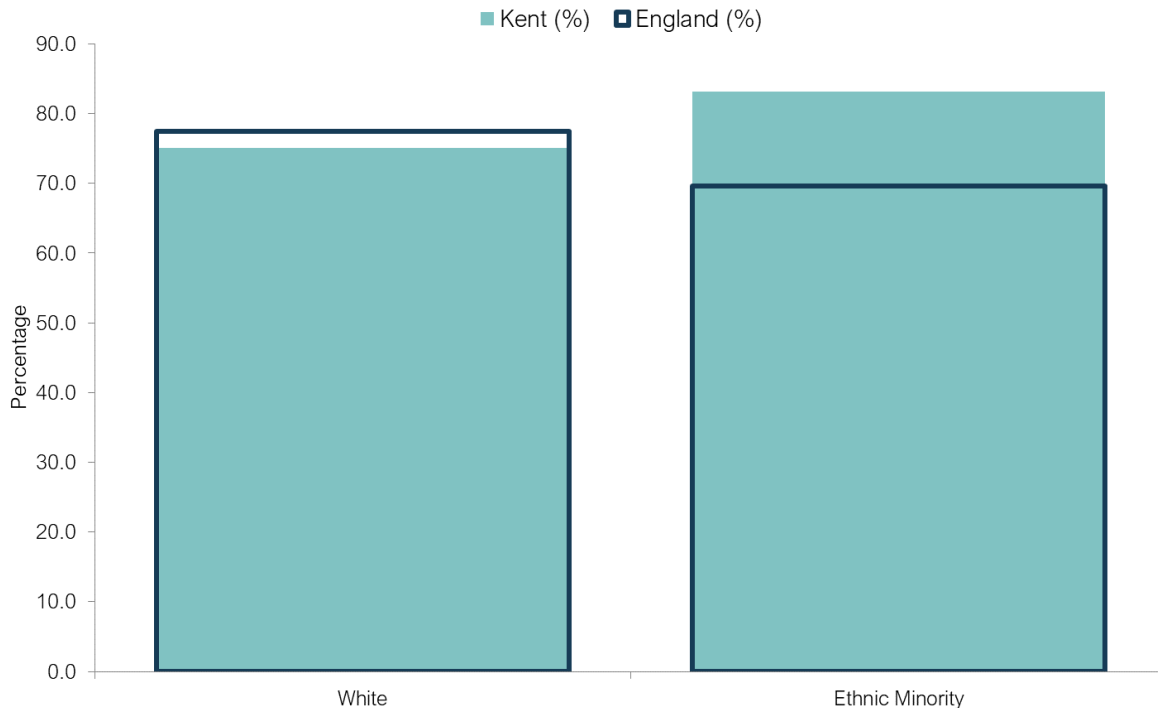
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

The employment rate in Kent for people from ethnic minorities (83.1%) is higher than the national rate (69.6%), while the employment rate for white people is very similar in Kent (75.1%) to in England (77.5%).

This is shown in Chart 6 overleaf.

Chart 6: Employment rate by Ethnicity

Employment rate by Ethnicity, Jan to Dec 2023



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

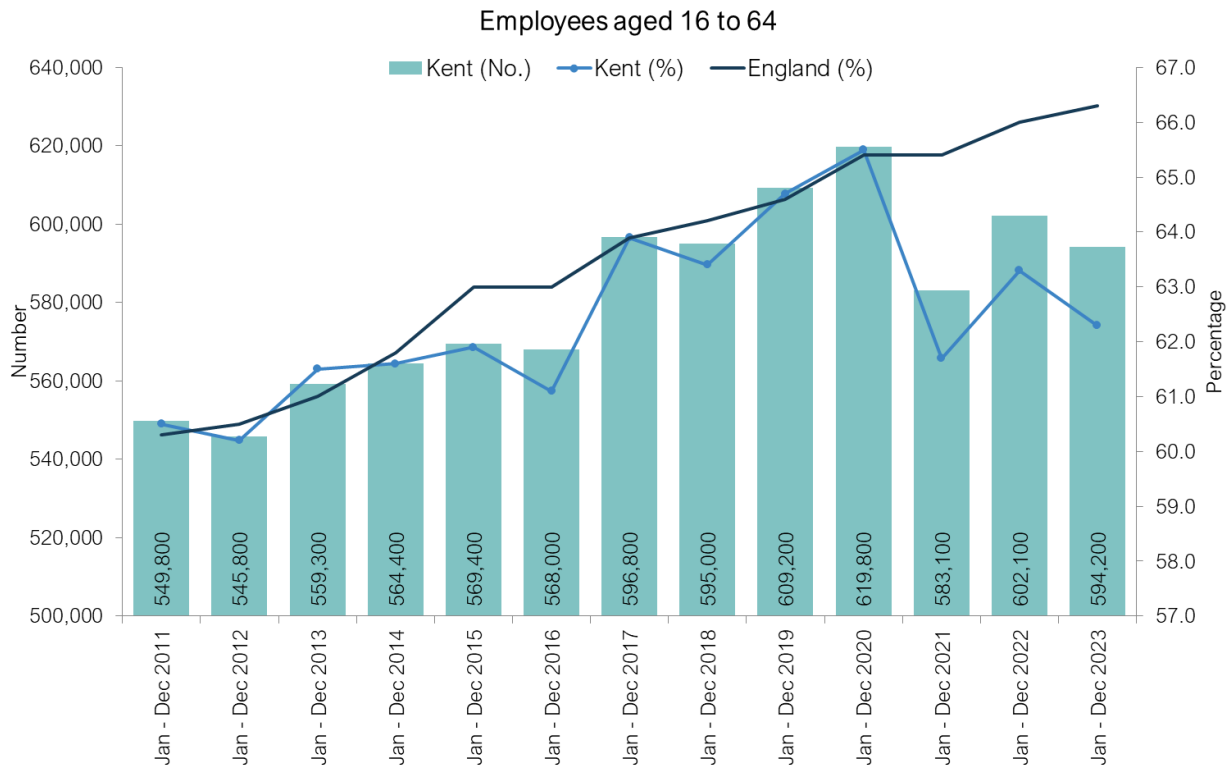
Employees

The Annual Population Survey can show whether those people who are working are self-employed or are employed by someone else.

Chart 7 shows how the number of employees in Kent has changed since the year beginning January 2011. The chart also shows the percentage of employees in Kent and England for comparison.

The number and proportion of employees in Kent increased in 2022, with the proportion for England also increasing. However, in 2023 England continued to increase but Kent reduced. As a result, the proportion for Kent was 4.0% lower than that of England in 2023.

Chart 7: Employees aged 16-64



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

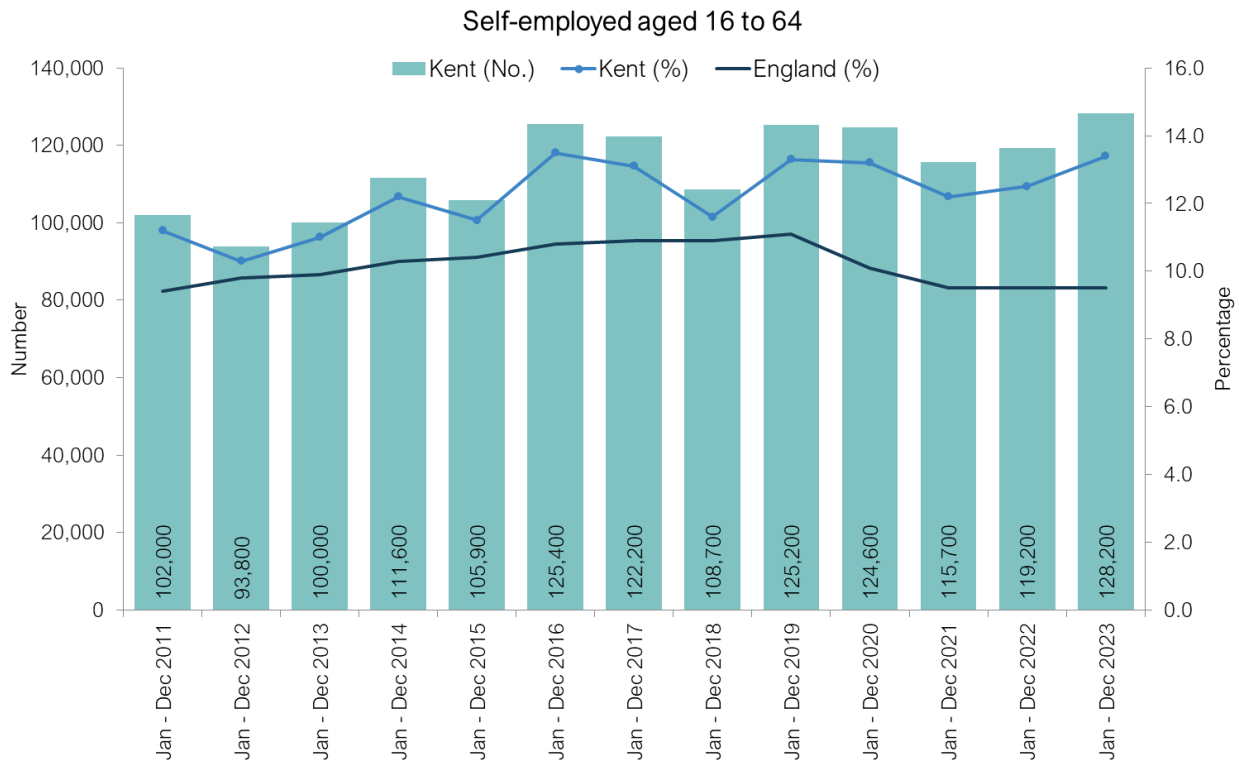
Self-employed

Since 2011, there have been a higher proportion of self-employed workers in Kent than seen nationally. In 2023, the proportion for Kent was 3.9% higher than that of England.

The number and proportion of self-employed workers slightly increased in 2023, whilst the proportion for England remained unchanged from 2022.

This is shown in Chart 8.

Chart 8: Self-employed aged 16-64



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

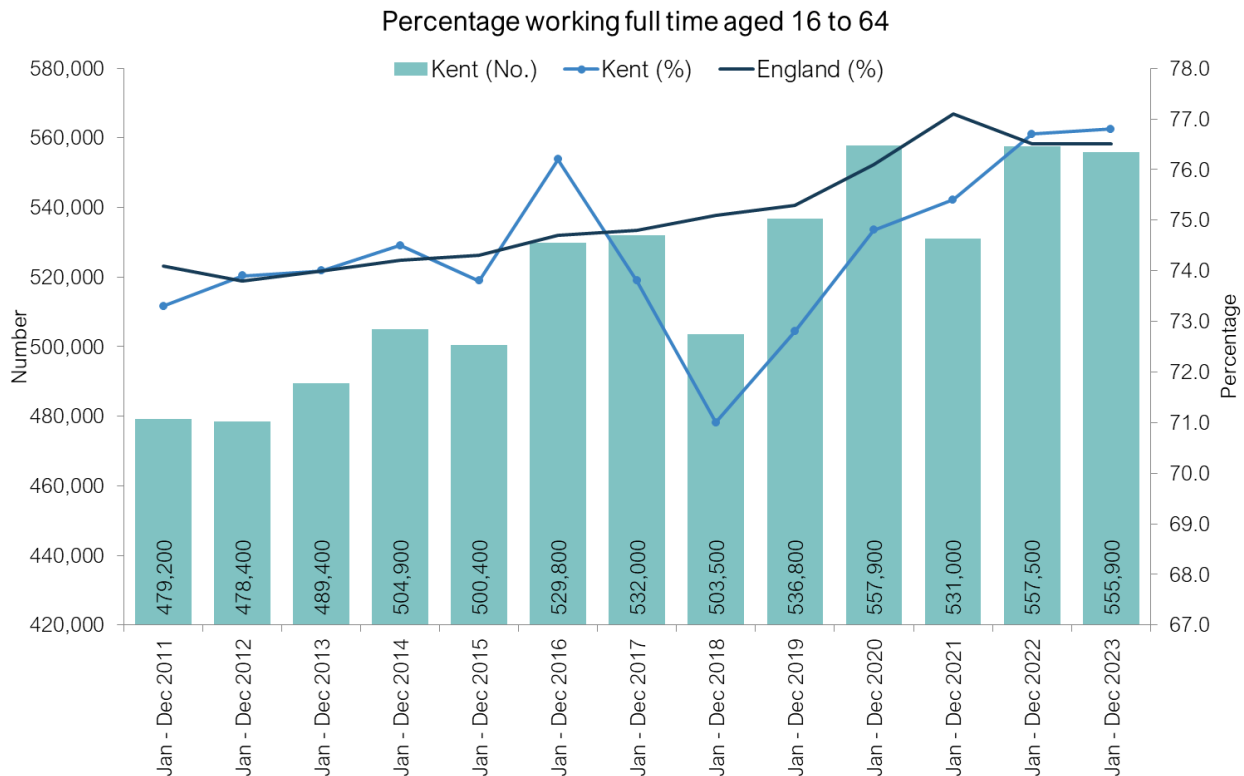
Employment type

The survey shows us whether those people who are in employment are working full-time or part-time. Full-time employment is defined as work which lasts for 30 hours per week or more.

The number and proportion of people in full-time employment in Kent rose in 2023, whilst the proportion for England stayed the same as 2022. This resulted in the proportion for Kent remaining slightly above that of England (0.3%).

Chart 9 shows the number and proportion of full-time workers in Kent since 2011, alongside the proportion for England.

Chart 9: Full-time workers aged 16-64



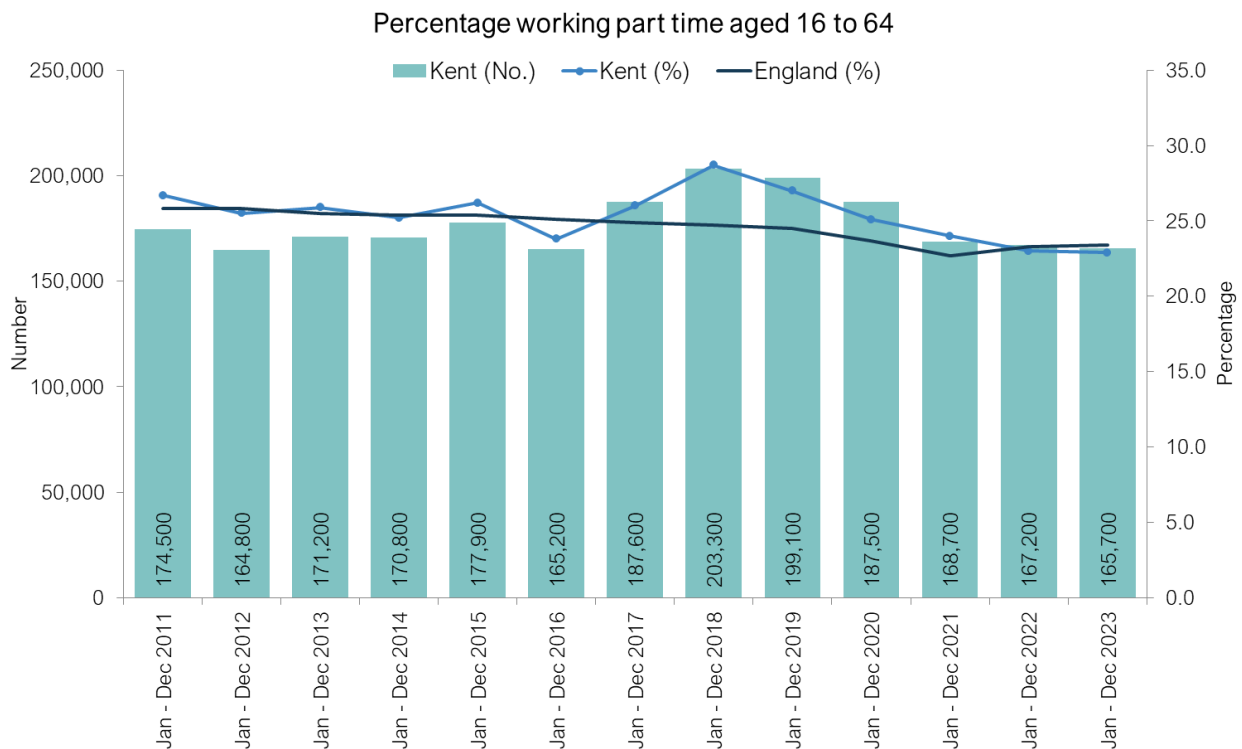
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Part-time employees are defined as those who work less than 30 hours per week.

Since 2018, the number and proportion of part-time workers has been declining. In 2022, the proportion of part-time workers in Kent was lower than that of England for the first time since 2016.

Chart 10 shows the number and proportion of part-time workers in Kent since 2011, alongside the proportion for England.

Chart 10: Part-time workers aged 16-64



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

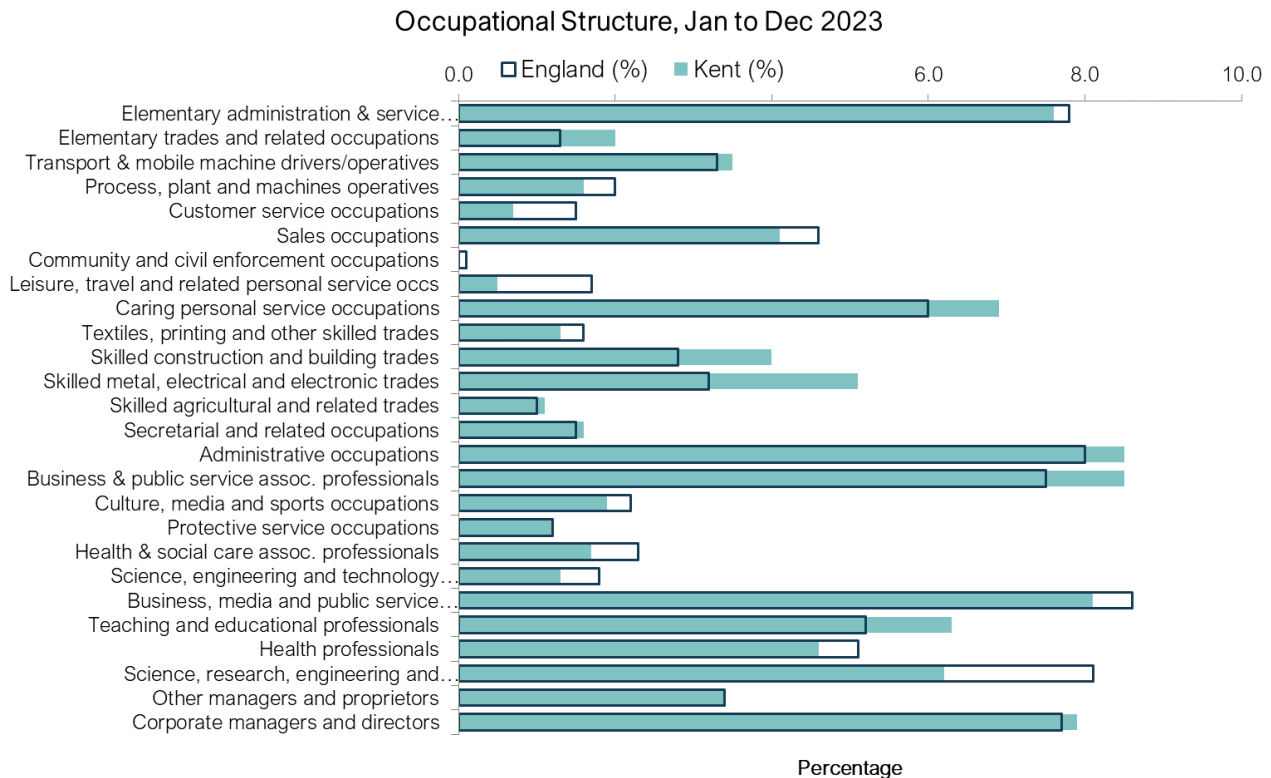
Occupational Structure

The survey shows the type of occupations of those people in employment.

Chart 11 shows the occupations of people who were in employment and who lived in Kent. It is not an indicator of the types of occupations that are available in Kent. The England average is shown for comparison.

Kent had a higher proportion of people in eleven of the twenty-six occupation types than England, but particularly in skilled construction and building trades, skilled metal, electrical and electronic trades, business & public service assoc. professionals, and teaching and educational professional occupations. Kent had a much lower proportion of customer service occupations, leisure, travel and related personal service occupations, and science research engineering and technology professionals.

Chart 11: Occupational Structure, January - December 2023



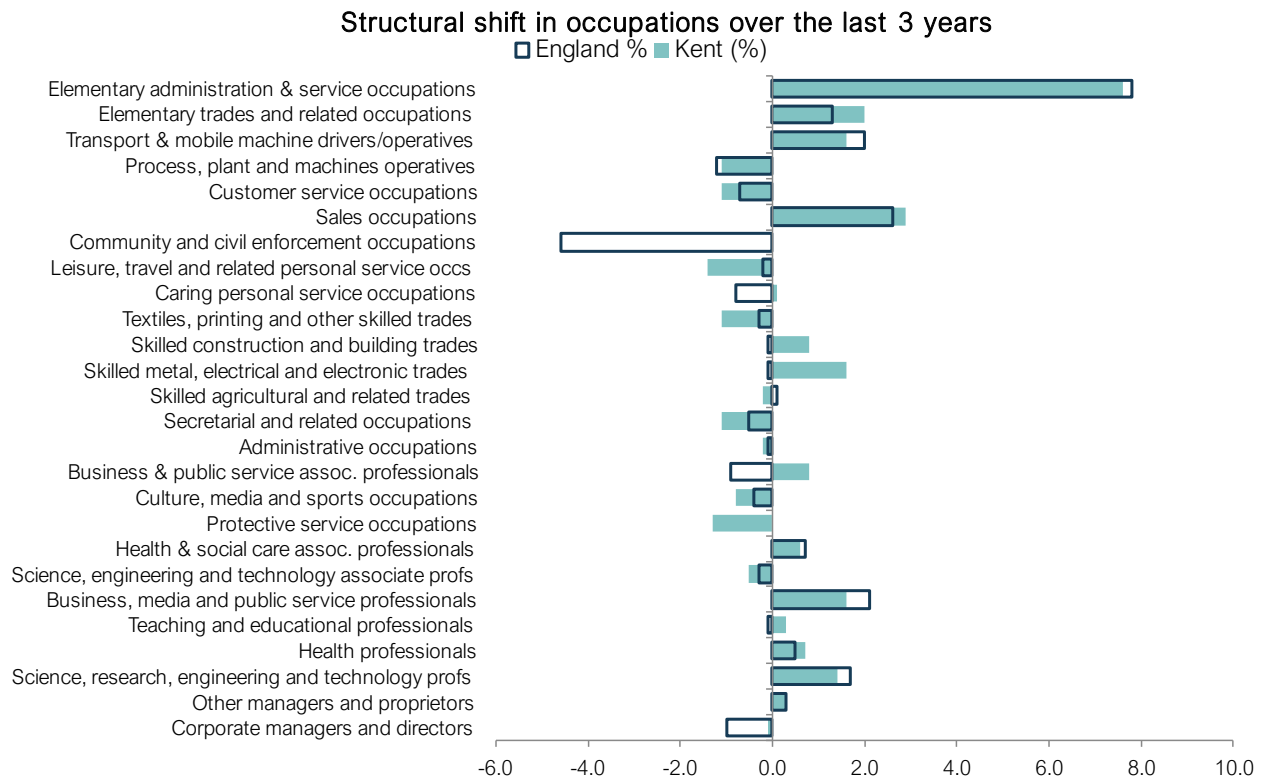
Source: ONS Annual Population Survey Presented by: Kent Analytics Kent County Council

Chart 12 shows how the occupational structure of employed people living in Kent has changed over the last three years compared to England as a whole.

In Kent the greatest growth was in elementary administration & service occupations (7.6% increase), this was also the occupation type with the most growth in England (7.8% increase).

Kent saw growth in five occupation groups that had declined nationally. These were skilled construction and building trades, skilled metal, electrical and electronic trades, business & public service assoc. professionals, teaching and educational professionals and caring personal service occupations.

Chart 12: 3-year change in occupations



Industrial Structure

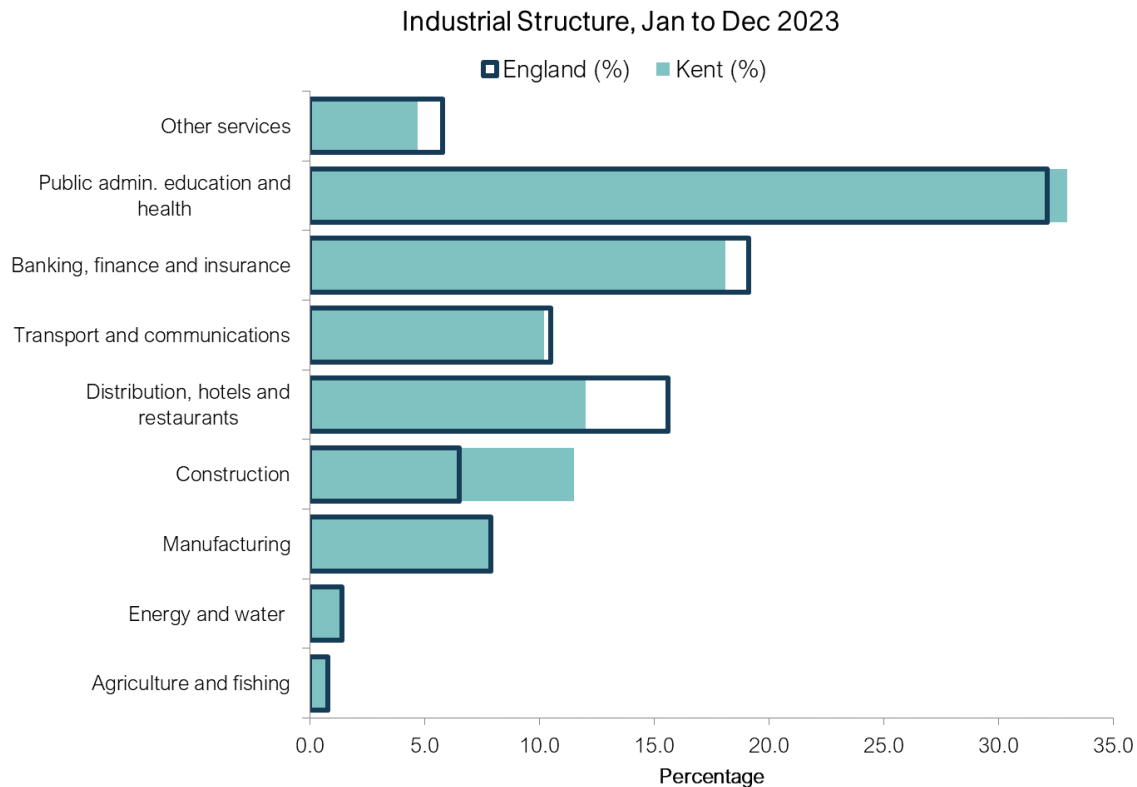
The survey shows the type of industry that those people in employment work in.

Chart 13 shows the industry that people were in employment and who lived in Kent worked in. It is not an indicator of the industrial structure of businesses in Kent. The England average is shown for comparison.

Kent had a similar industrial structure to that seen nationally in 2023. The largest proportion of people are working in public administration, education and health. Kent had a much larger proportion of residents working in construction than seen nationally.

Kent had a slightly higher proportions working in public administration, education and health, agriculture and fishing, and energy and water whilst having lower proportions in other services, banking, finance and insurance, transport and communications, distribution, hotels and restaurants, and manufacturing.

Chart 13: Industrial Structure, January - December 2023

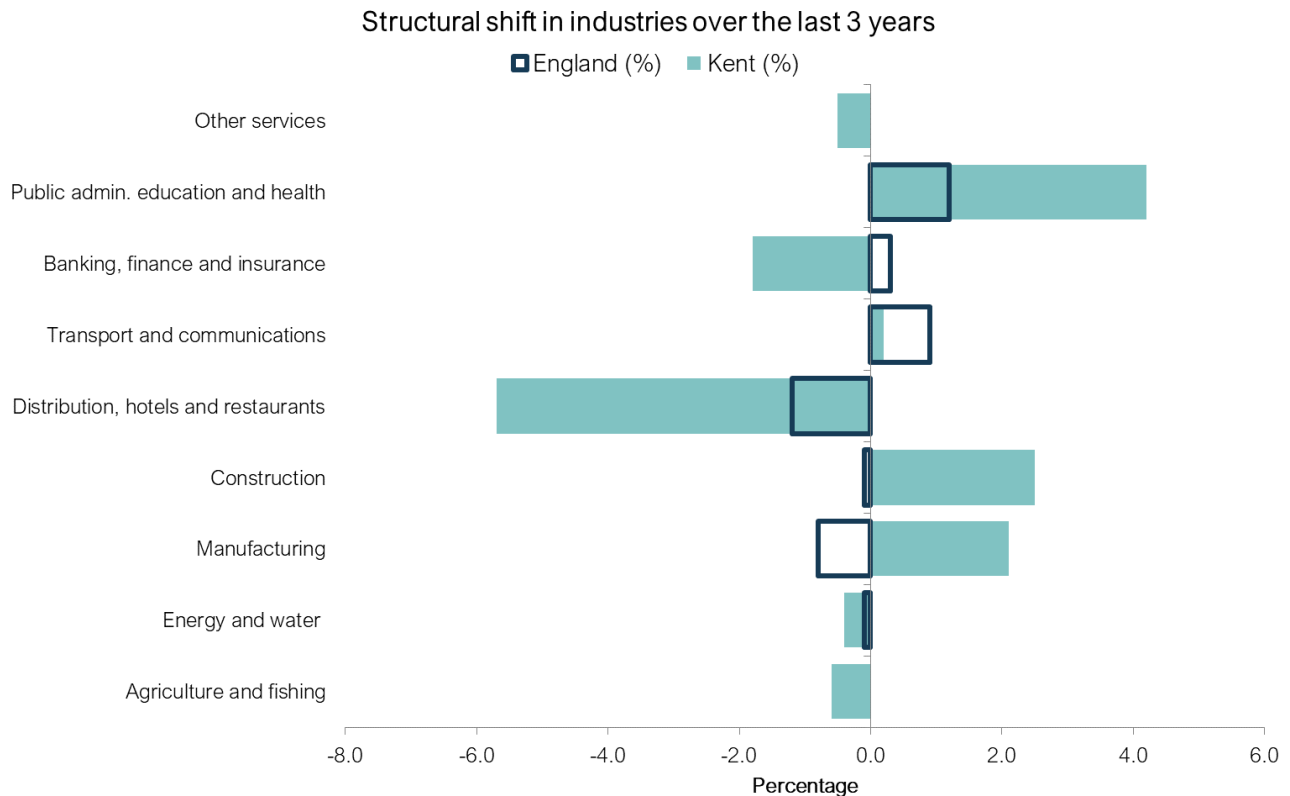


Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 14 shows how the industrial structure of employed people living in Kent changed over the last 3 years compared to England as a whole.

Kent saw growth in 4 sectors. The strongest growth was in people working in public administration, education and finance, whilst Kents greatest reduction was seen in distribution, hotels and restaurants.

Chart 14: 3-year change in industrial structure



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Unemployment

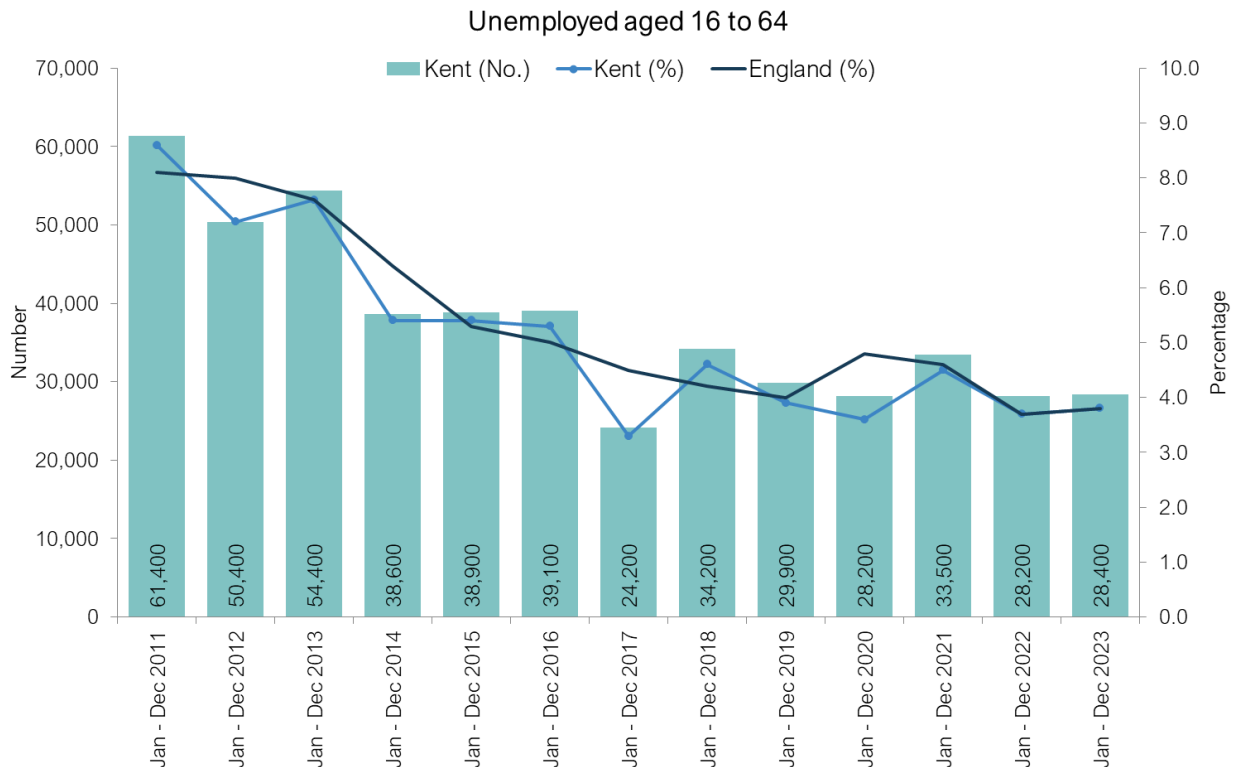
The survey shows the estimated number of people aged 16-64 who are unemployed. These estimates are based on the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition of unemployment.

The ILO definition of unemployment was created as a standard definition of unemployment that could be used for comparisons of the level of unemployment in different countries. The ILO definition of unemployment is “people without a job who were able to start work in the 2 weeks following their Annual Population Survey (APS) interview and who had either looked for work in the 4 weeks prior to interview or were waiting to start a job they had already obtained.”

Chart 15 shows the number of people aged 16-64 who live in Kent and are unemployed. The England average is shown for comparison.

In 2023, the number of unemployed people aged 16-64 in Kent was slightly higher than that of 2022 (+200). This made it the third lowest number since 2011. The proportion was at its fourth lowest since 2011 and the same as the proportion for England.

Chart 15: Unemployed aged 16 to 64



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Chart 16 shows how the unemployment rate of males and females aged 16-64 have changed in Kent since 2011.

Since 2011 unemployment rate for both sexes has generally fallen. 2021 saw a slight increase, whilst there was a decrease in 2022, with the female rate returning to the 2020 figure and the male rate just 0.1 above the 2020 figure. However, in 2023, the male rate took a sharp rise to be the fourth highest since 2011. This is in contrast to the female rate which plummeted to a record low.

Chart 16: Unemployment rate by Gender in Kent



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Qualifications

The Annual Population Survey shows the academic and work-based qualifications of people aged 16-64.

The Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) is a framework which allows for consistent comparison between the different types of qualifications and awards available. RQF1 is equal to attaining GCSE grades 1-3 (G-D). RQF2 is equal to GCSE grades 4-9 (C-A*). RQF3 is equal to A level, whilst RQF4+ is equivalent to a certificate of higher education, level 4 diploma or level 4 NVQ and above.

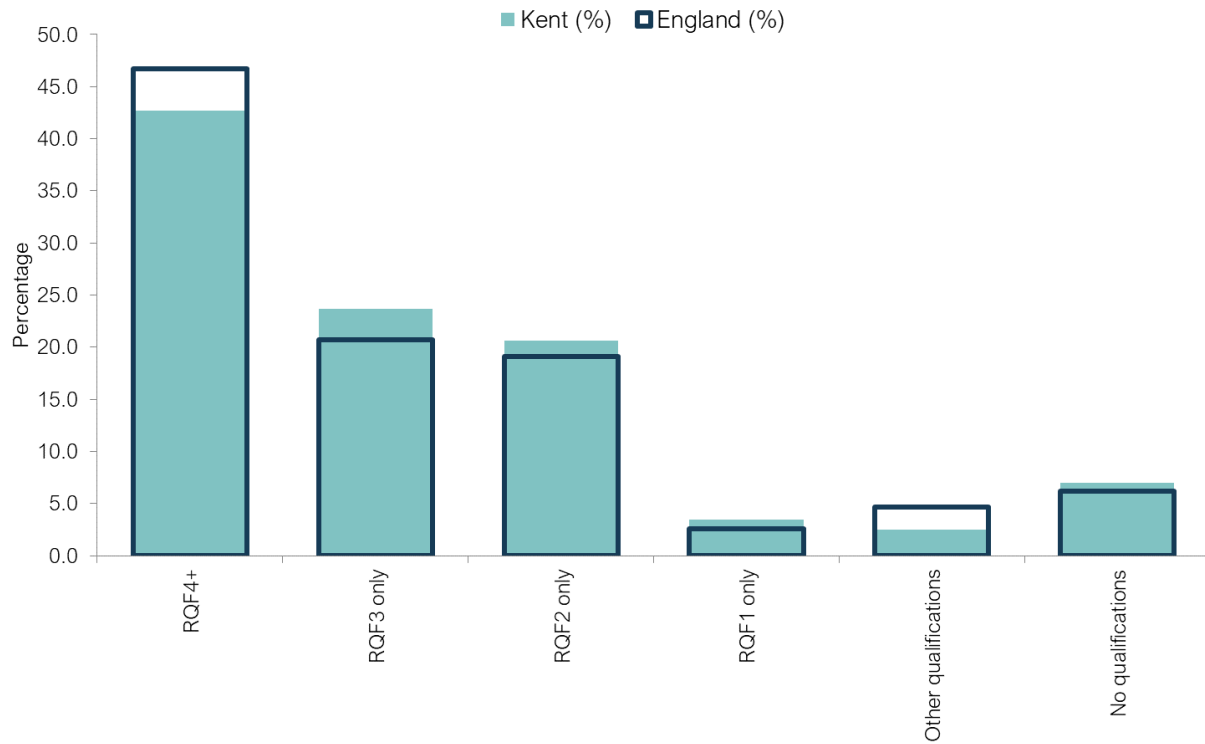
Chart 17 shows the RQFs attained by people aged 16-64 in Kent compared to those in England.

In 2023 Kent had a lower proportion of people with RQF4 and above qualifications than the national average, 42.7% in Kent compared to 46.7% for England.

Kent had higher proportions with RQF3 only, RQF2 only, RQF1 only and a slightly higher proportion with no qualifications.

Chart 17: Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF)

Qualification by RQF, Jan to Dec 2023



Source: ONS Annual Population Survey. Presented by: Kent Analytics, Kent County Council

Appendix

Appendix Table 1: Structure of the Kent Labour Market

Variable	Number 16-64	Percentage
Working age (all those aged 16-64)	953,600	100.0%
Economically active	752,300	78.9%
Economically inactive	201,300	21.1%
Economically active - In employment	723,900	75.9%
Economically active - Unemployed	28,400	3.0%
Economically inactive who want a job	22,100	2.3%
Economically inactive who do not want a job	179,200	18.8%
Those who are employees	594,200	62.3%
Those who are self employed	128,200	13.4%
Family workers/those on Government training schemes	1,500	0.2%
% of economically inactive student	51,100	5.4%
% of economically inactive looking after family/home	40,800	4.3%
% of economically inactive temporary sick	n/a	n/a
% of economically inactive long-term sick	60,100	6.3%
% of economically inactive discouraged	n/a	n/a
% of economically inactive retired	24,500	2.6%
% of economically inactive other	24,100	2.5%

Appendix Table 2: Economically active population (aged 16-64)

Economically active aged 16-64	Kent (No.)	Kent (%)	England (%)
Jan - Dec 2011	715,600	78.8%	76.3%
Jan - Dec 2012	697,800	76.9%	76.9%
Jan - Dec 2013	715,900	78.7%	77.4%
Jan - Dec 2014	716,000	78.2%	77.4%
Jan - Dec 2015	717,200	78.0%	77.9%
Jan - Dec 2016	734,100	78.9%	78.1%
Jan - Dec 2017	745,400	79.8%	78.6%
Jan - Dec 2018	743,700	79.3%	78.7%
Jan - Dec 2019	767,100	81.4%	79.2%
Jan - Dec 2020	774,100	81.8%	79.5%
Jan - Dec 2021	737,800	78.0%	78.7%
Jan - Dec 2022	755,300	79.4%	78.7%
Jan - Dec 2023	752,300	78.9%	79.0%

Appendix Table 3: Economically inactive population (aged 16-64)

Economically inactive aged 16-64	Kent (No.)	Kent (%)	England (%)
Jan - Dec 2011	192,700	21.2%	23.7%
Jan - Dec 2012	209,400	23.1%	23.1%
Jan - Dec 2013	193,400	21.3%	22.6%
Jan - Dec 2014	200,200	21.8%	22.6%
Jan - Dec 2015	202,600	22.0%	22.1%
Jan - Dec 2016	195,700	21.1%	21.9%
Jan - Dec 2017	188,700	20.2%	21.4%
Jan - Dec 2018	194,100	20.7%	21.3%
Jan - Dec 2019	175,100	18.6%	20.8%
Jan - Dec 2020	172,100	18.2%	20.5%
Jan - Dec 2021	207,900	22.0%	21.3%
Jan - Dec 2022	195,800	20.6%	21.3%
Jan - Dec 2023	201,300	21.1%	21.0%

Appendix Table 4: Employment rate, Males aged 16-64

Employment rate, Males aged 16-64	Kent (%)	England (%)
Jan - Dec 2011	77.3%	75.4%
Jan - Dec 2012	78.0%	76.1%
Jan - Dec 2013	78.4%	76.8%
Jan - Dec 2014	78.3%	77.7%
Jan - Dec 2015	80.5%	79.1%
Jan - Dec 2016	80.1%	79.4%
Jan - Dec 2017	80.7%	80.0%
Jan - Dec 2018	78.9%	80.1%
Jan - Dec 2019	81.5%	80.2%
Jan - Dec 2020	83.9%	79.1%
Jan - Dec 2021	79.5%	78.5%
Jan - Dec 2022	79.1%	79.3%
Jan - Dec 2023	79.1%	79.7%

Appendix Table 5: Employment rate, Females aged 16-64

Employment rate, Females aged 16-64	Kent (%)	England (%)
Jan - Dec 2011	66.9%	64.8%
Jan - Dec 2012	64.9%	65.4%
Jan - Dec 2013	67.3%	66.3%
Jan - Dec 2014	69.7%	67.4%
Jan - Dec 2015	67.2%	68.6%
Jan - Dec 2016	69.5%	69.1%
Jan - Dec 2017	73.8%	70.3%
Jan - Dec 2018	72.5%	70.7%
Jan - Dec 2019	75.1%	71.8%
Jan - Dec 2020	73.8%	72.3%
Jan - Dec 2021	69.5%	71.7%
Jan - Dec 2022	73.9%	72.3%
Jan - Dec 2023	72.8%	72.2%

Appendix Table 6: Employment rate by ethnicity, Jan - Dec 2023

Employment rate by ethnicity	Kent (%)	England (%)
White	75.1%	77.5%
Ethnic Minority	83.1%	69.6%

Appendix Table 7: Employees aged 16-64

Employees aged 16-64	Kent (No.)	Kent (%)	England (%)
Jan - Dec 2011	549,800	60.5%	60.3%
Jan - Dec 2012	545,800	60.2%	60.5%
Jan - Dec 2013	559,300	61.5%	61.0%
Jan - Dec 2014	564,400	61.6%	61.8%
Jan - Dec 2015	569,400	61.9%	63.0%
Jan - Dec 2016	568,000	61.1%	63.0%
Jan - Dec 2017	596,800	63.9%	63.9%
Jan - Dec 2018	595,000	63.4%	64.2%
Jan - Dec 2019	609,200	64.7%	64.6%
Jan - Dec 2020	619,800	65.5%	65.4%
Jan - Dec 2021	583,100	61.7%	65.4%
Jan - Dec 2022	602,100	63.3%	66.0%
Jan - Dec 2023	594,200	62.3%	66.3%

Appendix Table 8: Self-employed aged 16-64

Self-employed aged 16-64	Kent (No.)	Kent (%)	England (%)
Jan - Dec 2011	102,000	11.2%	9.4%
Jan - Dec 2012	93,800	10.3%	9.8%
Jan - Dec 2013	100,000	11.0%	9.9%
Jan - Dec 2014	111,600	12.2%	10.3%
Jan - Dec 2015	105,900	11.5%	10.4%
Jan - Dec 2016	125,400	13.5%	10.8%
Jan - Dec 2017	122,200	13.1%	10.9%
Jan - Dec 2018	108,700	11.6%	10.9%
Jan - Dec 2019	125,200	13.3%	11.1%
Jan - Dec 2020	124,600	13.2%	10.1%
Jan - Dec 2021	115,700	12.2%	9.5%
Jan - Dec 2022	119,200	12.5%	9.5%
Jan - Dec 2023	128,200	13.4%	9.5%

Appendix Table 9: Percentage working full-time aged 16-64

Percentage working full-time aged 16-64	Kent (No.)	Kent (%)	England (%)
Jan - Dec 2011	479,200	73.3%	74.1%
Jan - Dec 2012	478,400	73.9%	73.8%
Jan - Dec 2013	489,400	74.0%	74.0%
Jan - Dec 2014	504,900	74.5%	74.2%
Jan - Dec 2015	500,400	73.8%	74.3%
Jan - Dec 2016	529,800	76.2%	74.7%
Jan - Dec 2017	532,000	73.8%	74.8%
Jan - Dec 2018	503,500	71.0%	75.1%
Jan - Dec 2019	536,800	72.8%	75.3%
Jan - Dec 2020	557,900	74.8%	76.1%
Jan - Dec 2021	531,000	75.4%	77.1%
Jan - Dec 2022	557,500	76.7%	76.5%
Jan - Dec 2023	555,900	76.8%	76.5%

Appendix Table 10: Percentage working part-time aged 16-64

Percentage working part-time aged 16-64	Kent (No.)	Kent (%)	England (%)
Jan - Dec 2011	174,500	26.7%	25.8%
Jan - Dec 2012	164,800	25.5%	25.8%
Jan - Dec 2013	171,200	25.9%	25.5%
Jan - Dec 2014	170,800	25.2%	25.4%
Jan - Dec 2015	177,900	26.2%	25.4%
Jan - Dec 2016	165,200	23.8%	25.1%
Jan - Dec 2017	187,600	26.0%	24.9%
Jan - Dec 2018	203,300	28.7%	24.7%
Jan - Dec 2019	199,100	27.0%	24.5%
Jan - Dec 2020	187,500	25.1%	23.7%
Jan - Dec 2021	168,700	24.0%	22.7%
Jan - Dec 2022	167,200	23.0%	23.3%
Jan - Dec 2023	165,700	22.9%	23.4%

Appendix Table 11: Occupational structure, Jan - Dec 2023

Occupational structure, Jan - Dec 2023	Kent (%)	England (%)
Corporate managers and directors	7.9%	7.7%
Other managers and proprietors	3.4%	3.4%
Science, research, engineering and technology profs	6.2%	8.1%
Health professionals	4.6%	5.1%
Teaching and educational professionals	6.3%	5.2%
Business, media and public service professionals	8.1%	8.6%
Science, engineering and technology associate profs	1.3%	1.8%
Health & social care assoc. professionals	1.7%	2.3%
Protective service occupations	1.2%	1.2%
Culture, media and sports occupations	1.9%	2.2%
Business & public service assoc. professionals	8.5%	7.5%
Administrative occupations	8.5%	8.0%
Secretarial and related occupations	1.6%	1.5%
Skilled agricultural and related trades	1.1%	1.0%
Skilled metal, electrical and electronic trades	5.1%	3.2%
Skilled construction and building trades	4.0%	2.8%
Textiles, printing and other skilled trades	1.3%	1.6%
Caring personal service occupations	6.9%	6.0%
Leisure, travel and related personal service occupations	0.5%	1.7%
Community and civil enforcement occupations	-	0.1%
Sales occupations	4.1%	4.6%
Customer service occupations	0.7%	1.5%
Process, plant and machines operatives	1.6%	2.0%
Transport & mobile machine drivers/operatives	3.5%	3.3%
Elementary trades and related occupations	2.0%	1.3%
Elementary administration & service occupations	7.6%	7.8%

Appendix Table 12: Structural shift in occupations over the last 3 years

Structural shift in occupations over the last 3 years	Kent (%)	England (%)
Corporate managers and directors	-0.1%	-1.0%
Other managers and proprietors	0.3%	0.3%
Science, research, engineering and technology profs	1.4%	1.7%
Health professionals	0.7%	0.5%
Teaching and educational professionals	0.3%	-0.1%
Business, media and public service professionals	1.6%	2.1%
Science, engineering and technology associate profs	-0.5%	-0.3%
Health & social care assoc. professionals	0.6%	0.7%
Protective service occupations	-1.3%	0.0%
Culture, media and sports occupations	-0.8%	-0.4%
Business & public service assoc. professionals	0.8%	-0.9%
Administrative occupations	-0.2%	-0.1%
Secretarial and related occupations	-1.1%	-0.5%
Skilled agricultural and related trades	-0.2%	0.1%

Structural shift in occupations over the last 3 years	Kent (%)	England (%)
Skilled metal, electrical and electronic trades	1.6%	-0.1%
Skilled construction and building trades	0.8%	-0.1%
Textiles, printing and other skilled trades	-1.1%	-0.3%
Caring personal service occupations	0.1%	-0.8%
Leisure, travel and related personal service occs	-1.4%	-0.2%
Community and civil enforcement occupations	-	-4.6%
Sales occupations	2.9%	2.6%
Customer service occupations	-1.1%	-0.7%
Process, plant and machines operatives	-1.1%	-1.2%
Transport & mobile machine drivers/operatives	1.6%	2.0%
Elementary trades and related occupations	2.0%	1.3%
Elementary administration & service occupations	7.6%	7.8%

Appendix Table 13: Percentage working part-time aged 16-64

Industrial structure, Jan - Dec 2023	Kent (%)	England (%)
Agriculture and fishing	0.9%	0.8%
Energy and water	1.5%	1.4%
Manufacturing	7.8%	7.9%
Construction	11.5%	6.5%
Distribution, hotels and restaurants	12.0%	15.6%
Transport and communications	10.2%	10.5%
Banking, finance and insurance	18.1%	19.1%
Public admin. education and health	33.0%	32.1%
Other services	4.7%	5.8%

Appendix Table 14: Structural shift in industries over the last 3 years

Structural shift in industries over the last 3 years	Kent (%)	England (%)
Agriculture and fishing	-0.6%	0.0%
Energy and water	-0.4%	-0.1%
Manufacturing	2.1%	-0.8%
Construction	2.5%	-0.1%
Distribution, hotels and restaurants	-5.7%	-1.2%
Transport and communications	0.2%	0.9%
Banking, finance and insurance	-1.8%	0.3%
Public admin. education and health	4.2%	1.2%
Other services	-0.5%	0.0%

Appendix Table 15: Unemployed aged 16-64

Unemployed aged 16-64	Kent (No.)	Kent (%)	England (%)
Jan - Dec 2011	61,400	8.6%	8.1%
Jan - Dec 2012	50,400	7.2%	8.0%
Jan - Dec 2013	54,400	7.6%	7.6%
Jan - Dec 2014	38,600	5.4%	6.4%
Jan - Dec 2015	38,900	5.4%	5.3%
Jan - Dec 2016	39,100	5.3%	5.0%
Jan - Dec 2017	24,200	3.3%	4.5%
Jan - Dec 2018	34,200	4.6%	4.2%
Jan - Dec 2019	29,900	3.9%	4.0%
Jan - Dec 2020	28,200	3.6%	4.8%
Jan - Dec 2021	33,500	4.5%	4.6%
Jan - Dec 2022	28,200	3.7%	3.7%
Jan - Dec 2023	28,400	3.8%	3.8%

Appendix Table 16: Unemployment rate by Gender in Kent

Unemployment rate	Kent Males	Kent Females	England Males	England Females
Jan - Dec 2011	8.9%	8.2%	8.7%	7.5%
Jan - Dec 2012	7.0%	7.5%	8.4%	7.6%
Jan - Dec 2013	8.2%	6.9%	8.0%	7.2%
Jan - Dec 2014	5.8%	5.0%	6.6%	6.1%
Jan - Dec 2015	3.8%	7.2%	5.3%	5.2%
Jan - Dec 2016	5.6%	5.0%	5.0%	4.9%
Jan - Dec 2017	2.9%	3.6%	4.6%	4.4%
Jan - Dec 2018	5.2%	3.9%	4.2%	4.3%
Jan - Dec 2019	4.4%	3.4%	4.2%	3.8%
Jan - Dec 2020	3.8%	3.5%	5.1%	4.3%
Jan - Dec 2021	4.2%	4.9%	4.7%	4.4%
Jan - Dec 2022	3.9%	3.5%	3.8%	3.6%
Jan - Dec 2023	6.2%	1.0%	4.0%	3.6%

Appendix Table 17: Qualification by RQF, Jan - Dec 2023

Qualification by RQF, Jan - Dec 2022	Kent (%)	England (%)
RQF4+	42.7%	46.7%
RQF3 only	23.7%	20.7%
RQF2 only	20.6%	19.1%
RQF1 only	3.5%	2.6%
Other qualifications	2.5%	4.7%
No qualifications	7.0%	6.2%

Related documents

A range of publications can be found on our [Economy and Employment](#) web pages on the Kent economy.