AN INTRODUCTION TO

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION (LMI)







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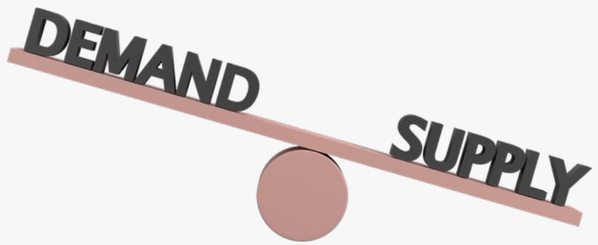
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WHAT IS THE LABOUR MARKET?

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It's where people offer their skills, qualifications, and experience to employers in exchange for paid work (labour).

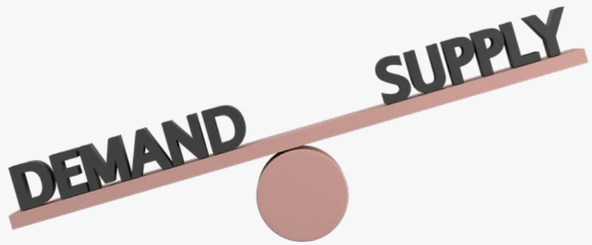


Demand can change

The skills and qualifications employers are looking for and the number of workers they are looking for can change.

Supply can change

Sometimes more people are looking for work. Sometimes less. Increased supply of workers mean employers can pay less.





WHAT IS LMI?

Labour market information (LMI) is data that reflects what is going on in the labour market.
It can help us make informed decisions by providing information about what is going on in the world of work.



Quantitative Data

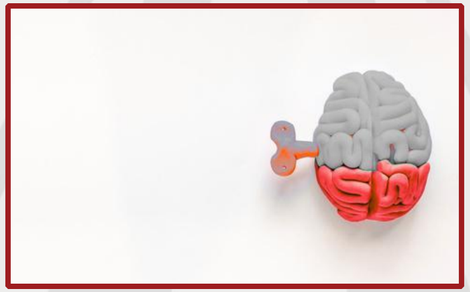
Facts and figures about jobs and employment e.g. how many people are looking for work; how many jobs; salary; hours; trends



Qualitative Data

Insights into what the world of work and specific jobs or industries or types of work are like.

WHAT ABOUT LABOUR MARKET INTELLIGENCE?



Labour market intelligence

Where labour market information is applied to your situation and needs.



LMI CAN HELP US TO UNDERSTAND THE WORLD OF WORK:

- The kind and number of jobs available (by area/sector)
- The skills and jobs that are (or will be) in demand
- Entry routes, pathways, and progression routes
- The skills and qualifications you might need
- Salaries, earning potential, and prospect of promotion
- Working patterns, hours, employer cultures, equality of opportunity, and more



WHAT MIGHT YOU WANT TO KNOW?



Getting in

- Pathways to get in
- What skills are required
- What qualifications are required
- Where are jobs advertised

Once you are there

- Salary
- Working hours Workplace
- culture Diversity
- Working conditions
- Progression opportunities

Where is the work

- What kind of jobs are available?
- Are they local/regional/national/global? How
- many vacancies are there?

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WHAT ELSE MIGHT YOU WANT TO KNOW?

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- Skills in demand
- Number of live vacancies
- Salary statistics
- In demand jobs
- Emerging jobs
- Types of contracts available
- Number of people employed
- Which sectors are recruiting
- Which sectors are growing
- Which companies employ the most people
- Number of employers
- Future forecasts

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THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN USING LMI:

- When was the LMI created?
- Who by and why?
- Is it comprehensive / complete?
- Does it meet your information needs?
- Is it biased or does it contain myths/stereotypes?



















Useful resource: Luminate's Labour Market Information A User's Guide

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LMI ABOUT JOB ROLES

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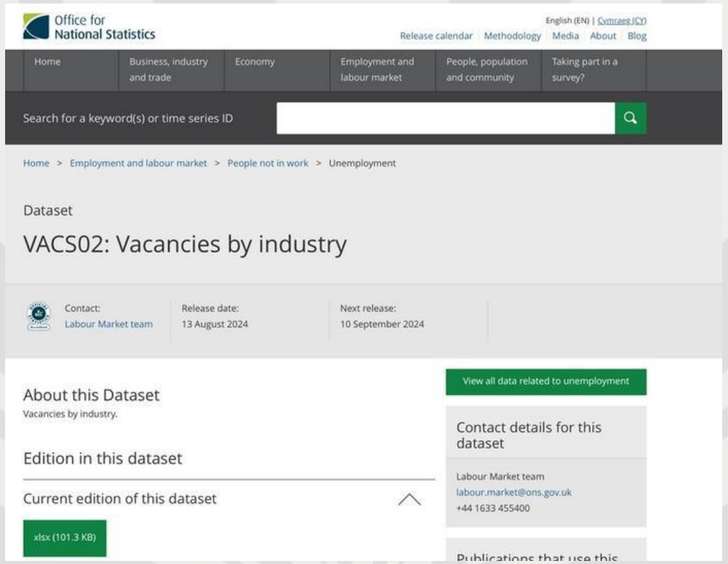
WHERE CAN YOU FIND LMI ABOUT JOB ROLES?

Prospects	National Careers Service	icould
My World of Work	Careers Wales	Northern Ireland Careers Service
Glassdoor	LinkedIn	Adzuna
MYPATH	Xello	Job Adverts
Morrisby	Unifro	eCLIPS

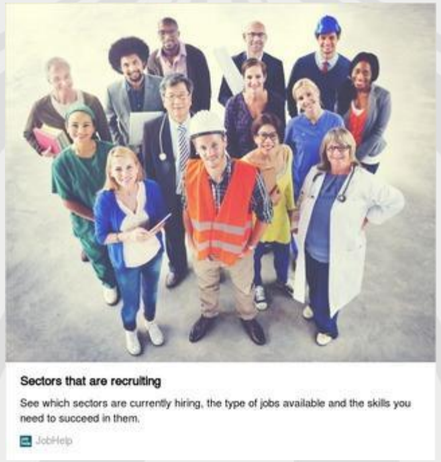
You could also use sector-specific websites, informational meetings, and How many people do my job? (Census 2021)

WHERE ARE THE UK JOBS RIGHT NOW?





ONS Vacancies by Industry



Adult Social Care	→
Agriculture	→
Childcare and Early Years Education	→
Digital and Tech	→
Construction	→
Food and Drink Manufacturing	→
Green jobs	→
Hospitality	→
Manufacturing	→
Public sector	→
Retail	→
Transport and logistics	→
Warehousing and distribution	→

Skilled Worker visa: Immigration Salary List

https://jobhelp.campaign.gov.uk/sectors-recruiting/

WHERE ARE THE UK JOBS RIGHT NOW?



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Home > Find statistics and data > Occupations in demand

Calendar year 2025

Occupations in demand

This is the latest release

Published	11 December 2025
Next update	December 2026
Last updated	7 January 2026 ▶ See all updates (1)
Release type	Official statistics in development
Receive updates	Sign up for email alerts
Produced by	Skills England

Introduction:

This release uses five labour market indicators to measure the employment demand for occupations across the UK labour market. Occupations are defined using the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) and categorised into one of three demand levels: 'critical' (substantially higher demand than usual), 'elevated' (above average), and 'not in high demand'. Each labour market indicator uses the latest data available at the time of analysis.

This assessment of demand is quantitative and will differ to other assessments which use different methods. It assesses the current level of demand for an occupation and not where there is a shortage of workers for an

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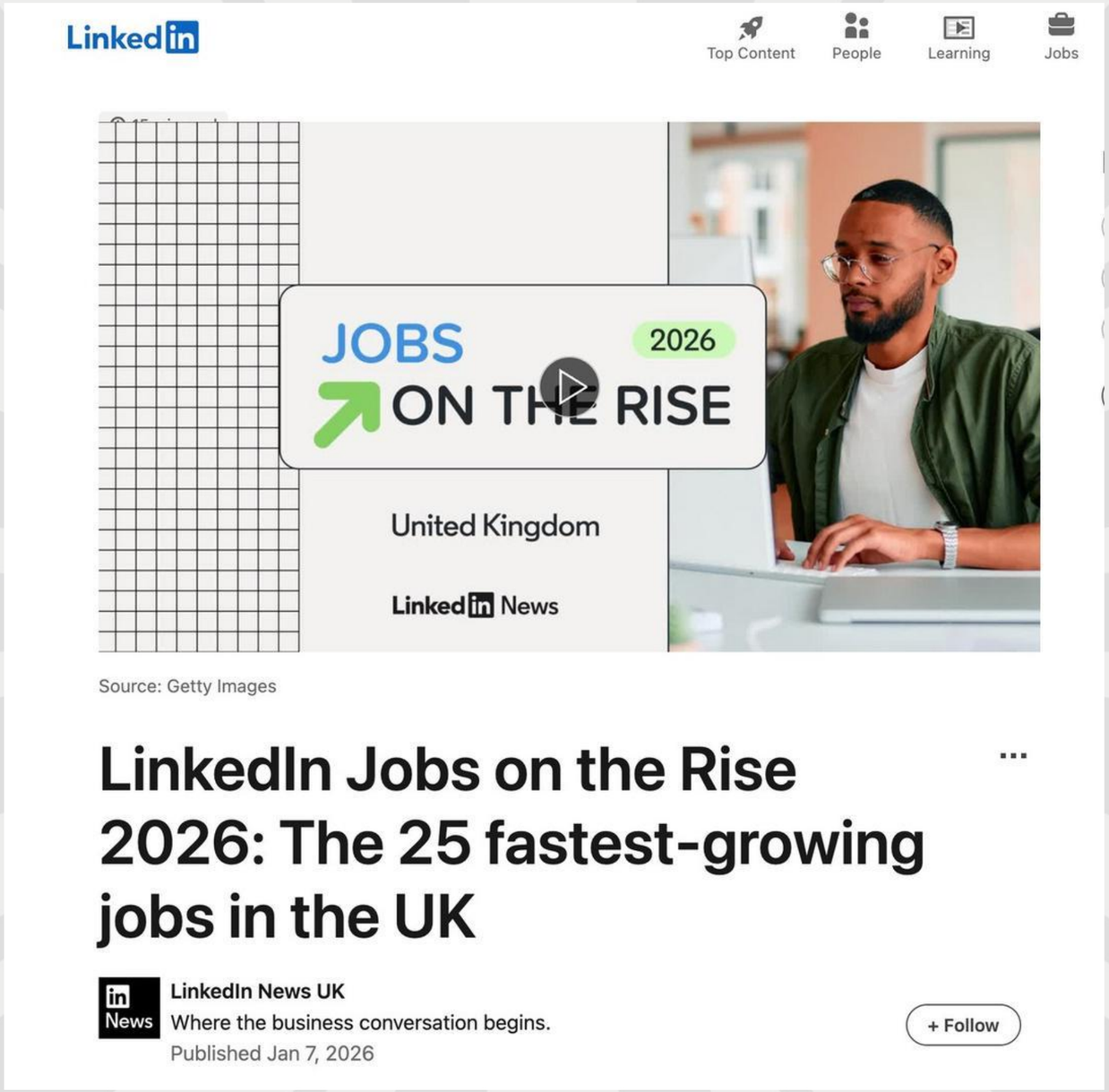
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Methodologies

Occupations in demand 2025 methodology
Occupations in demand 2024 methodology (opens in new tab)

https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/occupations-in-demand/2025





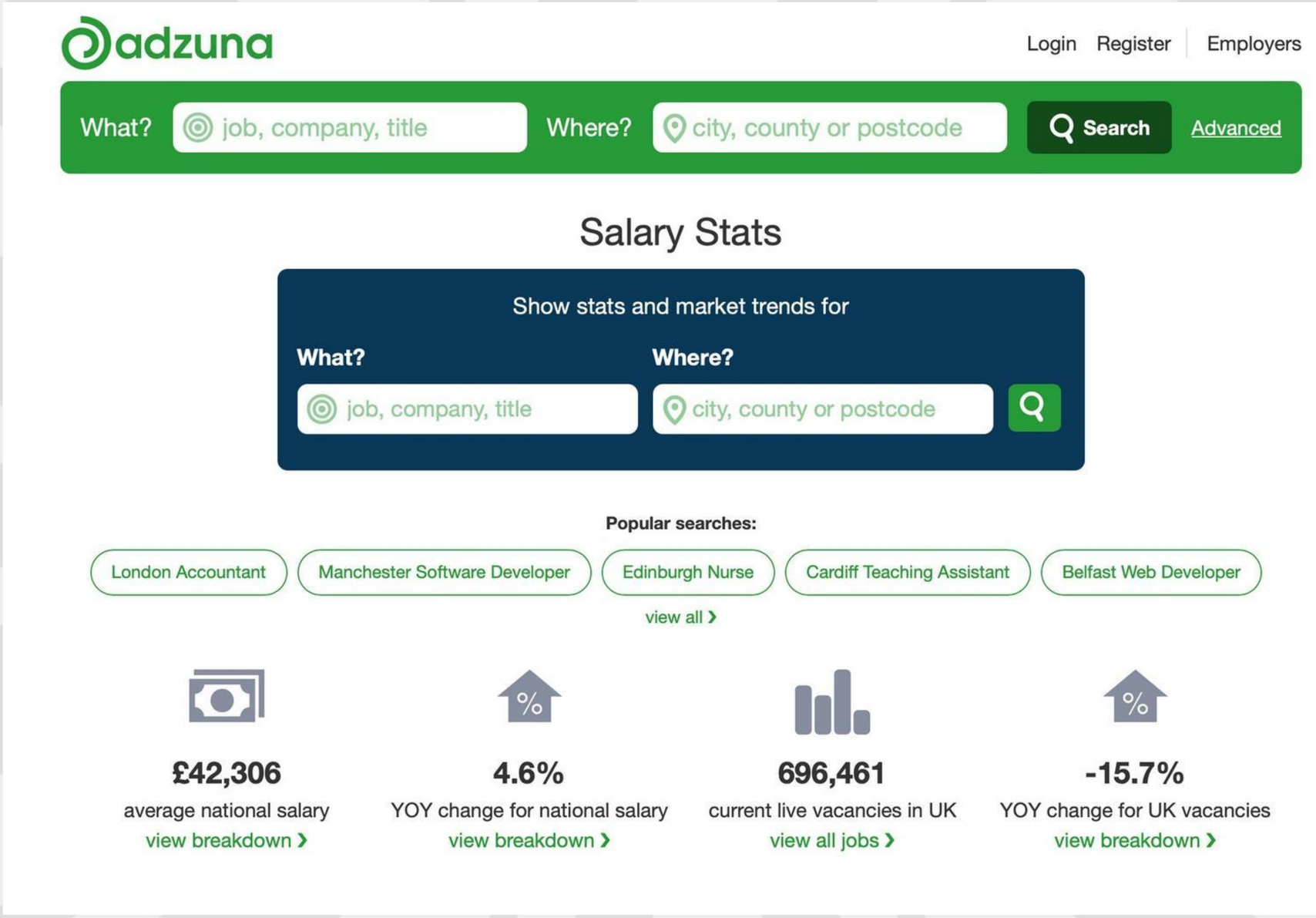
Source: Getty Images

LinkedIn Jobs on the Rise 2026: The 25 fastest-growing jobs in the UK

LinkedIn News UK
Where the business conversation begins.
Published Jan 7, 2026

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https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/linkedin-jobs-rise-2026-25-fastest-growing-uk-linkedin-news-uk-ie3uf/



https://www.adzuna.co.uk/jobs/salaries/jobs/salaries (Accessed 11 January 2026))

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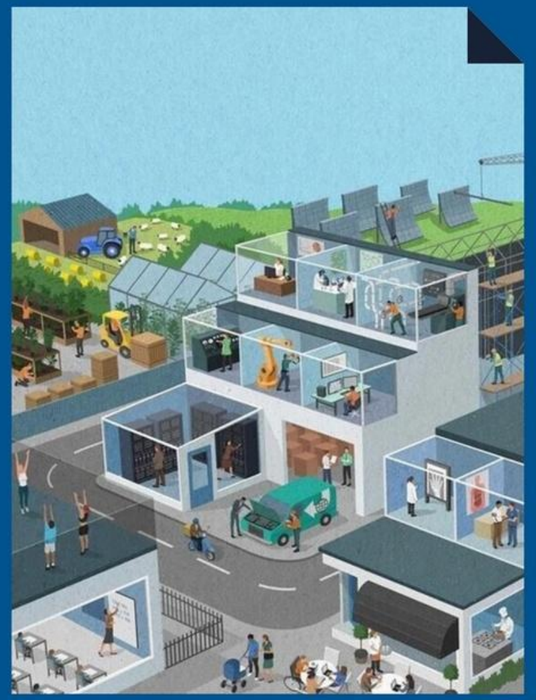
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Published: 7 January 2025

The Future of Jobs Report 2025

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Technological change, geoeconomic fragmentation, economic uncertainty, demographic shifts and the green transition – individually and in combination are among the major drivers expected to shape and transform the global labour market by 2030. The *Future of Jobs Report 2025* brings together the perspective of over 1,000 leading global employers—collectively representing more than 14 million workers across 22 industry clusters and 55 economies from around the world—to examine how these macrotrends impact jobs and skills, and the workforce transformation strategies employers plan to embark on in response, across the 2025 to 2030 timeframe.



LMI ABOUT INDUSTRIES & SECTORS

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WHERE CAN YOU FIND LMI ABOUT INDUSTRIES/SECTORS?

- Job Help Campaign
- Prospects
- Day of Wrk
- ONS Employment by Industry
- Scotland's Growing Industries (SDS)
- UCAS Industry Guides
- ONS Vacancies by Industry
- Lloyds Bank UK Sector Tracker
- Resourceful Careers
- Business.gov.uk Invest in UK

You could also use the CDI Career Matters magazine and industry magazines and sector-specific sites and bodies

GOV.UK Menu

Home > Business and industry > Industrial strategy > Industrial Strategy Sector Plans

Department for Business & Trade

Policy paper

Sector Plans

Updated 8 September 2025

Contents

Advanced Manufacturing
Clean Energy Industries
Creative Industries
Defence
Digital and Technologies
Financial Services
Life Sciences
Professional and Business Services

Print this page

In the Industrial Strategy, we identified the 8 sectors that have the greatest growth potential over the next decade and a critical role to play in supporting economic security and resilience, net zero and regional growth.

Each has a bespoke Sector Plan, developed with industry, setting out a vision of the sector's transformation by 2035.

We have published all 8 of the Industrial Strategy Sector Plans.

Advanced Manufacturing



https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/industrial-strategy-sector-plans/sector-plans

NATIONAL LMI

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WHERE CAN YOU FIND NATIONAL LMI?

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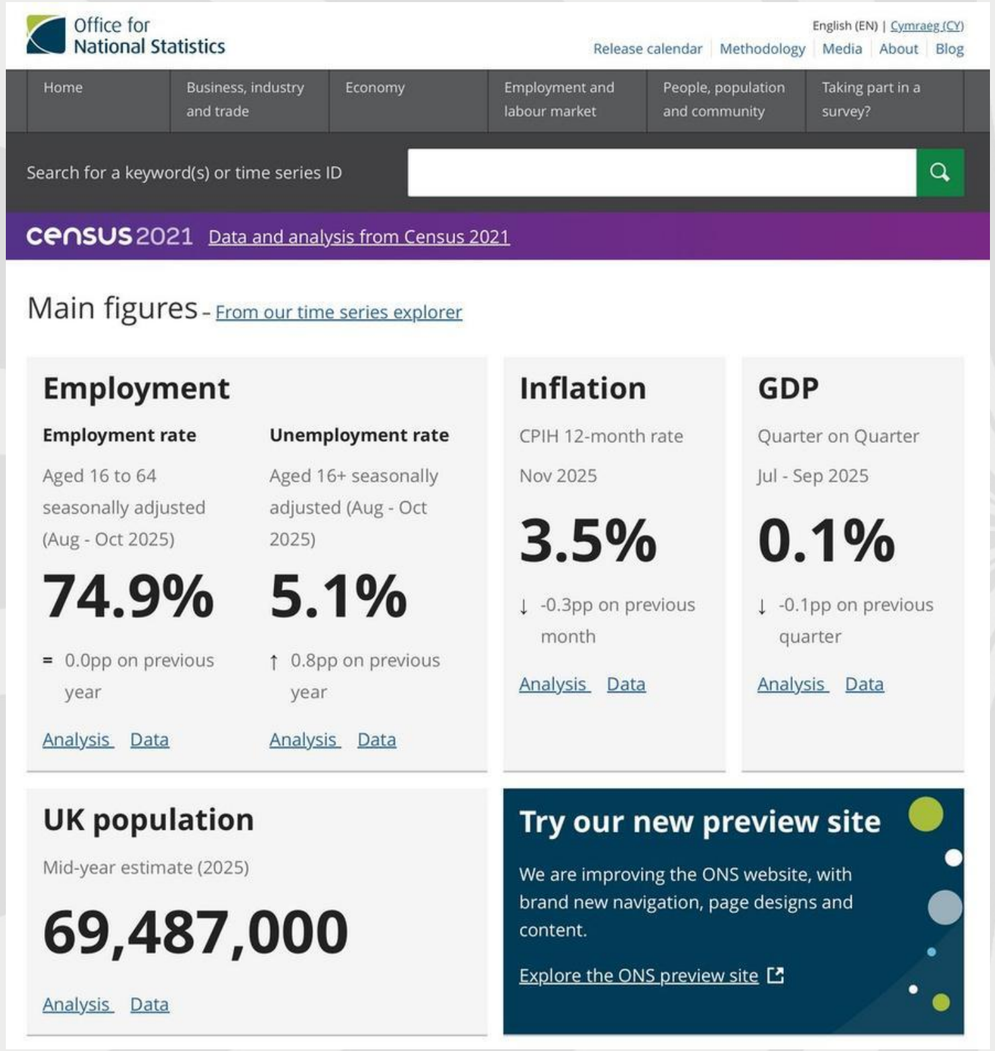
- Office for National Statistics
- CIPD Labour Market Outlook
- L&W Institute Labour Market Analysis
- Adzuna
- National Careers Service

Trusted News Sites

- ONS Labour Market Overview
- NI Direct
- Scotland's Growing Industries (SDS)
- Future Jobs Wales
- Skills Development Scotland

Insider Media

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE UK LABOUR MARKET?



ONS accessed 11/1/2026

4. Summary

Table 1: April to June 2025 headline measures and changes

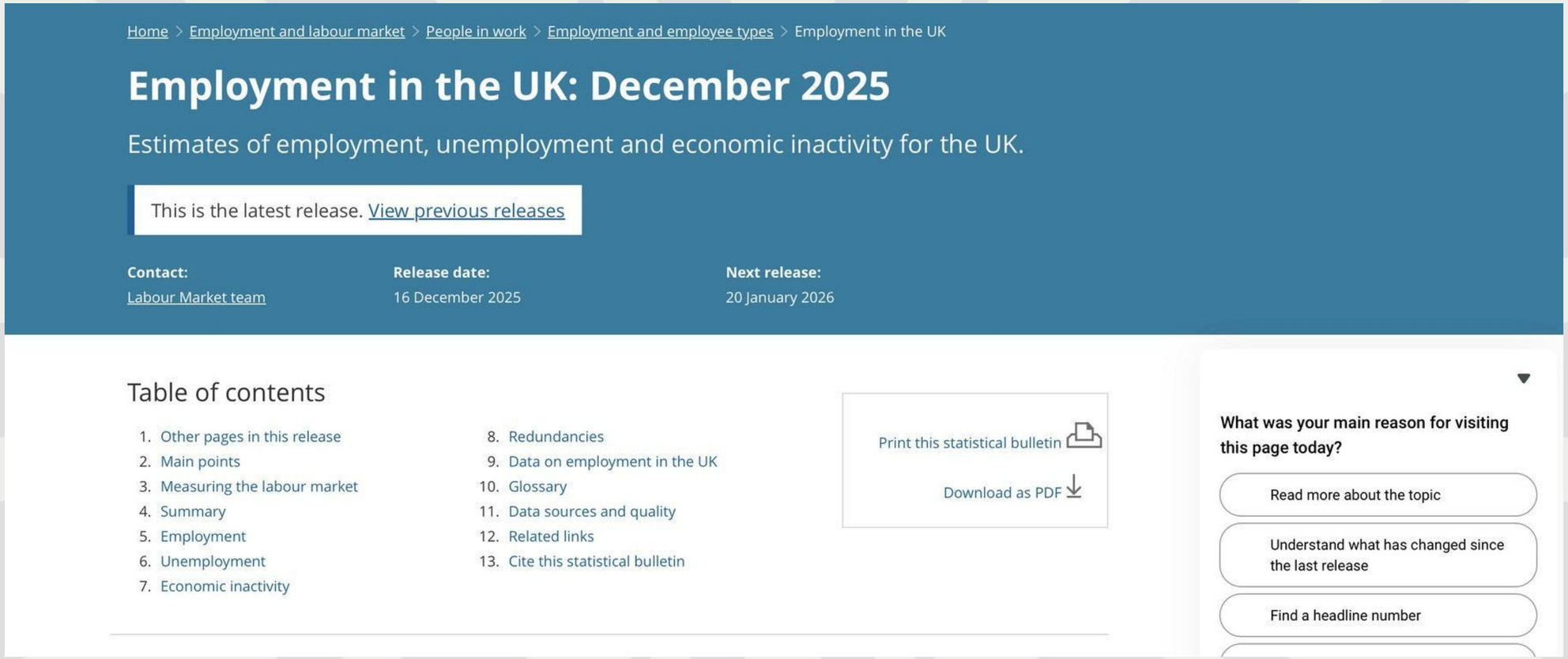
UK headline economic status levels and rates, total weekly hours, and redundancy levels and rates, seasonally adjusted, April to June 2025

	Level/Rate	Sampling variability of level/rate	Change on quarter	Sampling variability of change on quarter	Change on year	Sampling variability of change on year
Employment (000s, aged 16+)	34,214	± 216	238	± 188	725	± 319
Employment rate (aged 16 to 64)	75.3	± 0.5	0.3	± 0.4	0.7	± 0.7
Unemployment (000s, aged 16+)	1,672	± 94	59	± 104	206	± 139
Unemployment rate (aged 16+)	4.7	± 0.3	0.1	± 0.3	0.5	± 0.4
Economically inactive (000s, aged 16 to 64)	9,073	± 189	-156	± 168	-404	± 284
Economic inactivity rate (aged 16 to 64)	21.0	± 0.4	-0.4	± 0.4	-1.1	± 0.7
Total weekly hours (millions)	1,092.6	N/A	10.5	N/A	20.9	N/A
Redundancies (000s, aged 16 years and over)	107	± 21	-3	± 33	-4	± 35
Redundancy rate (per thousand, aged 16+)	3.6	N/A	-0.1	N/A	-0.2	N/A

Source: Labour Force Survey (LFS) from the Office for National Statistics

ONS accessed 11/1/2026

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Home > Employment and labour market > People in work > Employment and employee types > Employment in the UK

Employment in the UK: December 2025

Estimates of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity for the UK.

This is the latest release. View previous releases

Contact:
Labour Market team

Release date:
16 December 2025

Next release:
20 January 2026

Table of contents

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11. Data sources and quality
12. Related links
13. Cite this statistical bulletin

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What was your main reason for visiting this page today?

- Read more about the topic
- Understand what has changed since the last release
- Find a headline number

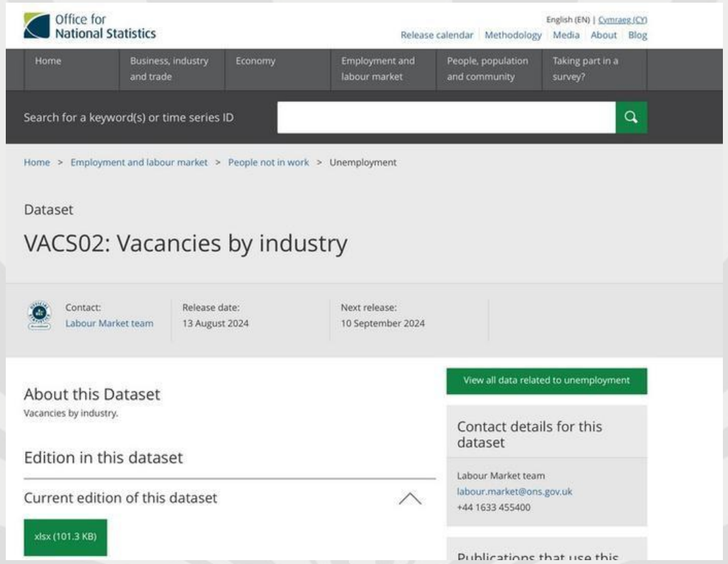
https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins /employmentintheuk/latest

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- Green jobs →
- Hospitality →
- Manufacturing →
- Public sector →
- Retail →
- Transport and logistics →
- Warehousing and distribution →

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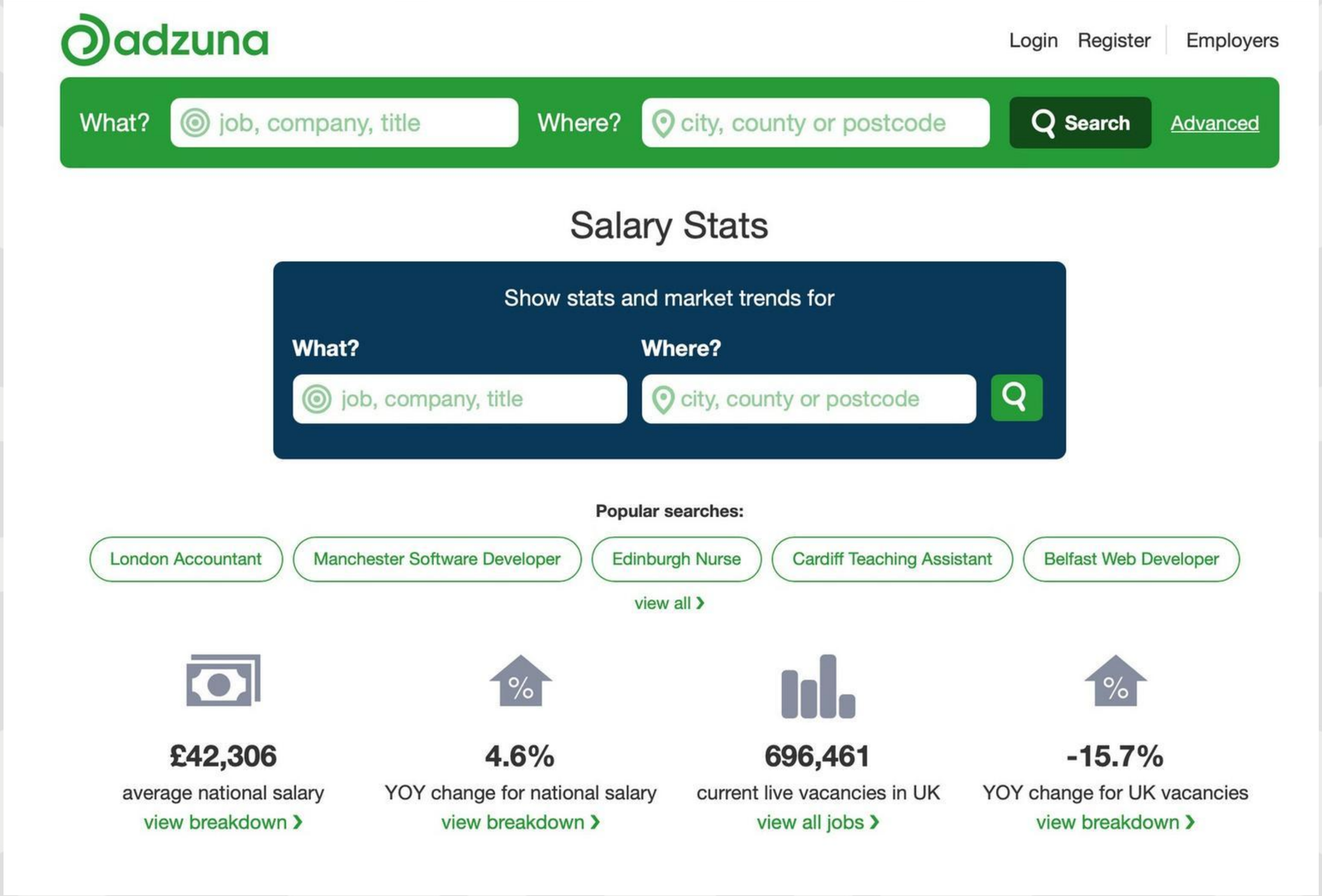
Occupations in demand 2025 methodology
Occupations in demand 2024 methodology (opens in new tab)

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https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/occupations-in-demand/2025

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https://www.adzuna.co.uk/jobs/salaries/jobs/salaries (Accessed 11 January 2026))

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Department for Business & Trade

Accredited official statistics

Business population estimates for the UK and regions 2023: statistical release

Published 5 October 2023

Contents

Headline statistics
What you need to know about these statistics
Introduction
Trends in the business population
Composition of the 2023 business population
Legal form
Registration for VAT and PAYE
UK countries and the regions
Industries
Uncertainty in the business population estimates
Technical information
Definitions and terminology
Further information

Headline statistics

The number of private sector businesses in the UK at the start of 2023 was

5.6 million

5.51 million businesses were small (0 to 49 employees)

36,900 businesses were medium-sized (50 to 249 employees)

8,000 businesses were large (250 or more employees)

https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/business-population-estimates-2024/business-population-estimates-for-the-uk-and-regions- 2024-statistical-release

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WHERE CAN YOU FIND LOCAL & REGIONAL LMI?

Resourceful Careers

CEC Career Hubs

Local Skills Dashboards

Archway Careers

nomis web

Choosing Your Path Kent & Medway

Adzuna

Trusted News Sites

ONS Local Indicators

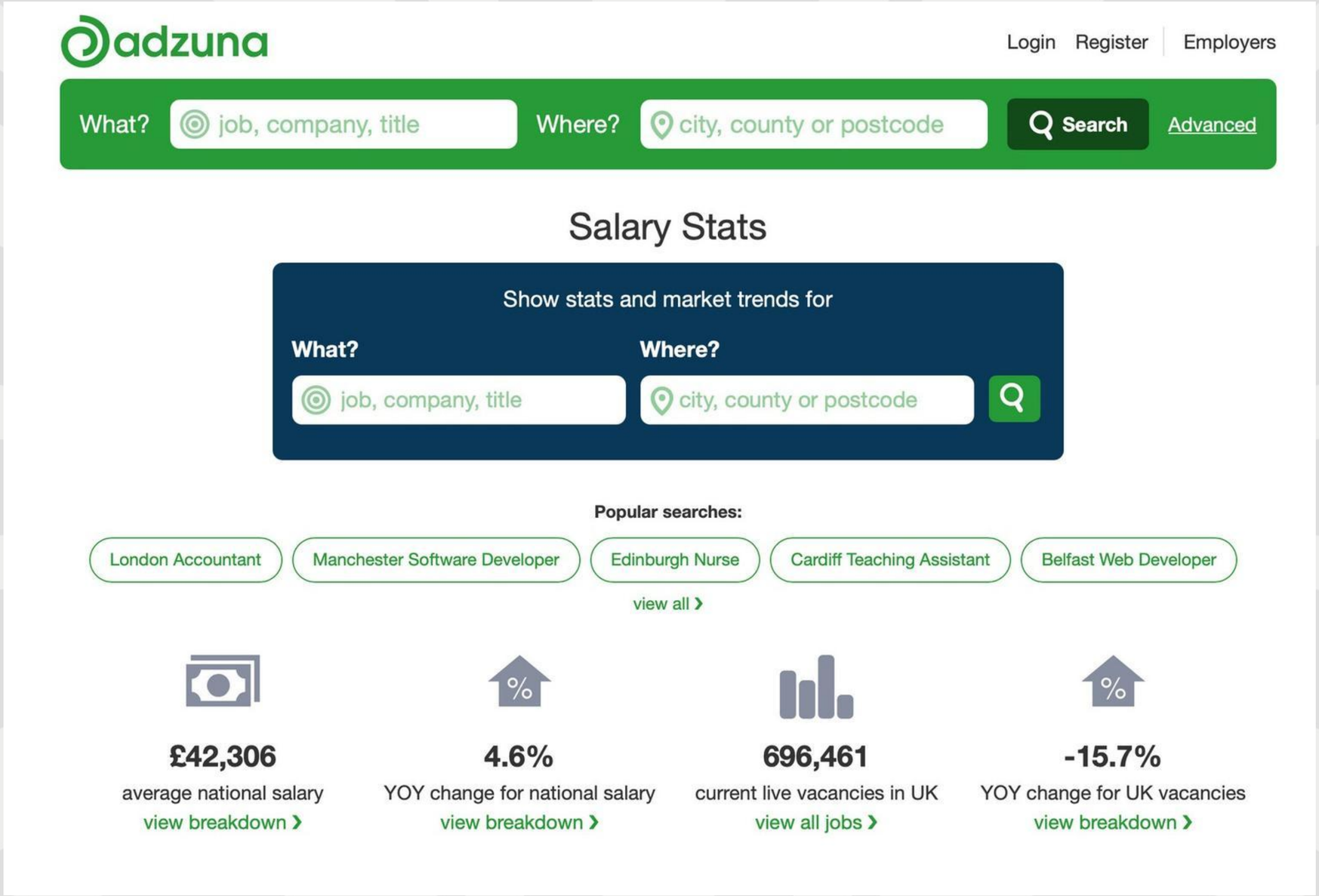
KMEP

Job Adverts

Kent & Medway LMI Kent Prospectus

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- World Economic Forum
- Lightcast
- OECD
- International Labour Organization
- Trusted News Sites
- LinkedIn
- PWC Global Workforce Hopes and Fears Survey 2025
- Eurostat
- EURES Job Portal
- O*Net Online
- cedefop sources by country

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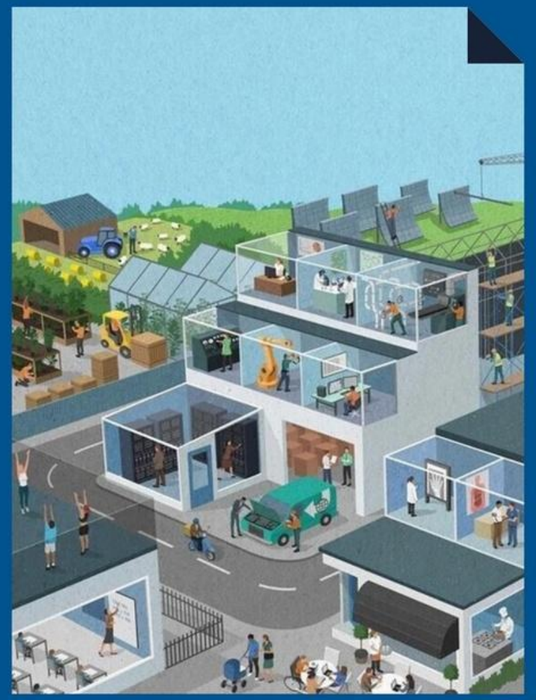
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- National Career Service Find a Course
- Prospects
- Careerpilot
- Morrisby
- Unifro g
- Where Can I Study (London)
- UCAS
- University League Tables
- England School & College Performance
- Discover Uni

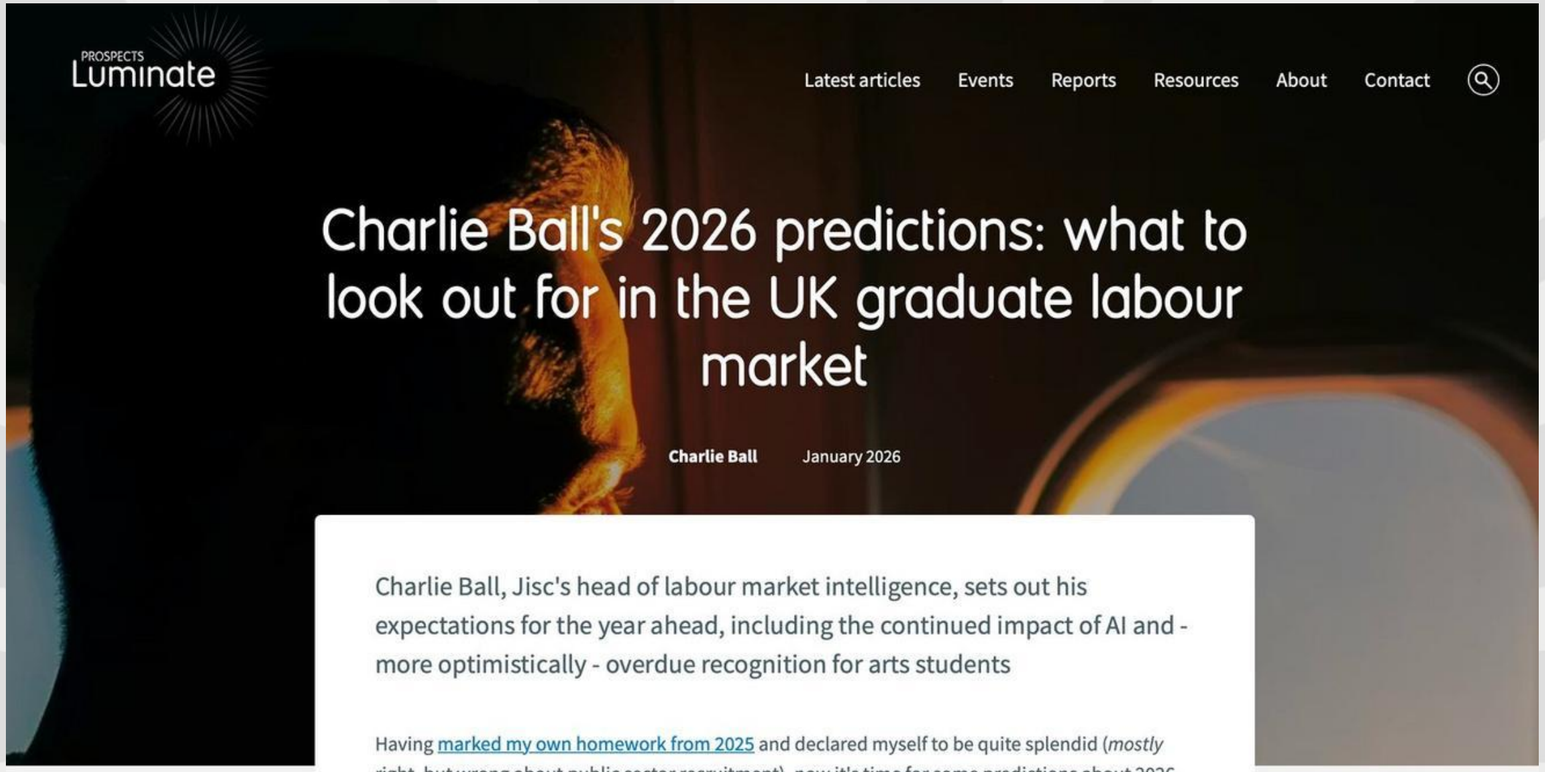
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- Luminate
- Explore Education Statistics
- What do graduates do?
- Graduate Outcomes Survey
- Global Employability University Ranking 2026
- QS World University Rankings 2026
- High Fliers Research
- WONKHE
- Ofqual Analytics
- FE News

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Charlie Ball, Jisc's head of labour market intelligence, sets out his expectations for the year ahead, including the continued impact of AI and - more optimistically - overdue recognition for arts students

Having marked my own homework from 2025 and declared myself to be quite splendid (*mostly* right, but wrong about public sector recruitment), now it's time for some predictions about 2026. Things are very uncertain in the national and global economy, so I'm sure some of this will come unstuck, but here's what I see happening based on current trends, long experience and a bit of a sniff of the prevailing winds.

The graduate labour market isn't likely to get a lot better in 2026

2025 was not a great year for the graduate labour market, although it doesn't seem to have been the disaster some of the reports we've seen this year might have suggested. It was certainly the most difficult since COVID, but much of that was due to the labour market outperforming the economy since the pandemic. It looks like it started to track the economy more closely at the end of 2024 and continued that trend in 2025, falling in the early part of the year and seeming to stabilise in the autumn. I'd like to say it 'bottomed out', but I think if we get difficult economic news in early 2026 it'll start falling again, so let's stick with 'stabilised'.

https://luminate.prospects.ac.uk/charlie-ball-s-2026-predictions-what- to-look-out-for-in-the-uk-graduate-labour-market

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LMI ON SKILLS

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Local Skills Dashboard

UK Standard Skills Classification

Local Skills Dashboards

Skills Shortages Bulletin

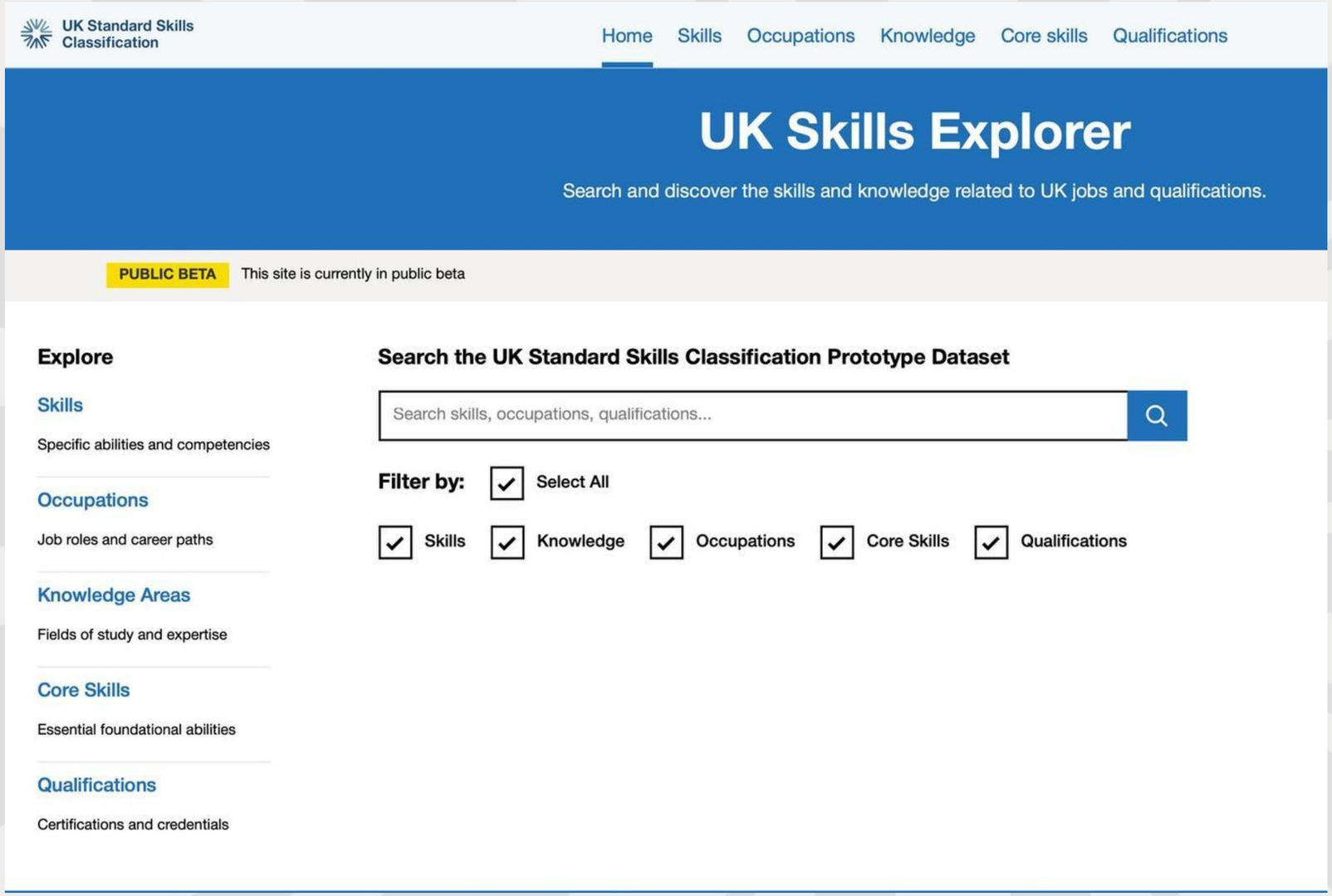
LinkedIn Skills on the Rise 2025

cedefop Skills Intelligence

Skills England: Assessment of Priority Skills to 2030

NFER The Skills Imperative 2035

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How you can use the UK Skills Explorer

UK Standard Skills Classification: https://skillsclassification.org