

The Pulse - Employment Insight

Brought to you by Working Links

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What is The Pulse?

It's an insight into job trends in the UK by employment and skills experts Working Links, combining Office for National Statistics (ONS) figures with evidence from the front line in today's welfare to work industry – giving an overall view of today's and tomorrow's employment market.

Who we are

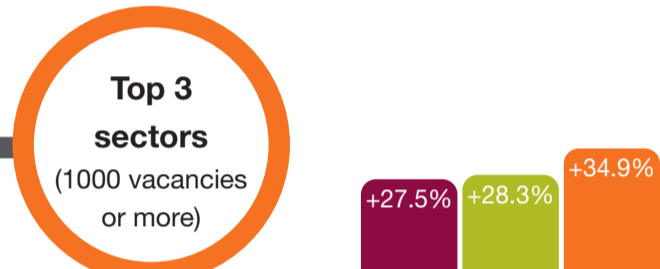
We run more than 100 government contracts helping people on their journey to a brighter future – whether that's through finding them work or updating their skills. We operate in more than 180 locations across the UK and have helped more than 160,000 people since our inception in 2000. To find out more, visit www.workinglinks.co.uk

Latest stats say transport and finance jobs are on the rise but experts say retail, hospitality and care jobs are key to driving unemployment down.

As the UK unemployment level continues to fluctuate – the figure now stands at 2.5m – transport and logistics is officially the sector that has seen the greatest jobs growth. But employment and skills provider Working Links is finding an increasing number of vacancies the successful retail, hospitality and care industries. Overall, vacancies across Great Britain have increased by 24.8% since the same period last year.

On the up (% increase in vacancies year on year - Aug-Oct 2010)

Down we go (% increase / decrease in vacancies year on year - Aug-Oct 2010)



Transport and Logistics

Finance

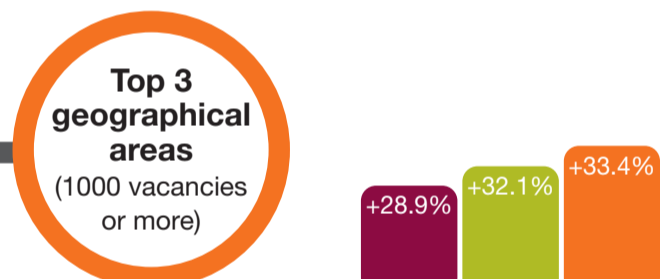
Community work



Public Sector

Energy

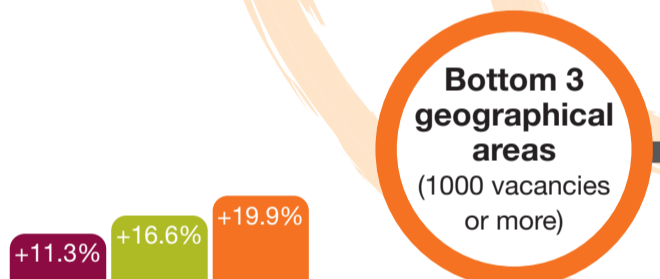
Education



North West

Scotland

South West



West Midlands

Yorkshire and Humber

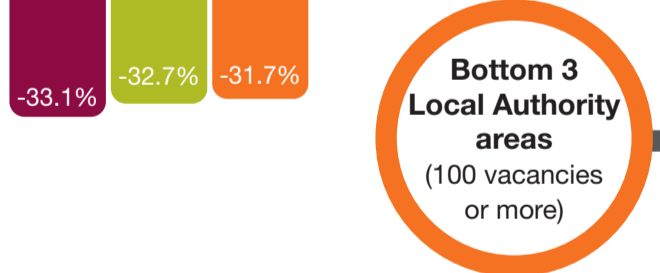
East Midlands



Croydon

Scottish Borders

East Riding of Yorkshire



Pembrokeshire

Inverclyde

East Ayrshire

Trends in Employer Demand and Jobseeker Profile

Commenting on the current trends, Working Links Director Karen Masterson said: "Each region across Britain is different but we are constantly seeing the hospitality, care and retail sector hiring more frequently than any other.

"More often than not, employers are looking at hiring candidates who have soft skills – those who are reliable, flexible and who have a good work ethic – rather than reams of qualifications.

"However, certain industries still require specific skills and qualifications which is where we're delivering tailored solutions for hundreds of businesses across Britain every month. We work closely with employers to find out exactly what skills are needed in new starters and work with candidates to ensure they can offer these skills, so they are ready to hit the ground running.

"On the flip side, there is not much activity in the public sector or construction. However, we are expecting a lot more construction vacancies to filter through in 2011."