



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

SPICe

The Information Centre  
An t-Ionad Fiosrachaidh

SPICe Briefing  
Pàipear-ullachaidh SPICe

# Labour market update: September 2023

Fraser Murray

This infographic looks at the latest labour market data for Scotland from the Office for National Statistics.



12 September 2023  
SB 23-35i

# Contents

<b>(Untitled)</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>(Untitled)</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Data</b>	<b>5</b>



# Labour market update: September 2023

This update provides an overview of the Scottish labour market from the latest regional labour market statistics and UK labour market statistics published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Data covers  
May-Jul 2023

## Unemployment (16+)

Number of unemployed individuals as a proportion of the total number of economically active people (unemployed + employed).

Across the UK seasonally adjusted

North West	5.3%
North East	5.2%
West Midlands	5.0%
London	4.8%
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>4.3%</b>
England	4.3%
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>4.3%</b>
East	4.3%
East Midlands	4.1%
South East	3.9%
Wales	3.8%
South West	3.6%
Yorks. & Humb.	2.9%
N. Ireland	2.7%

## Employment (16-64)

Number of people in employment expressed as a percentage of all people aged 16-64.

South East	79.6%
South West	77.5%
East	77.2%
East Midlands	76.0%
England	75.8%
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>75.5%</b>
West Midlands	75.1%
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>75.1%</b>
Yorks. & Humb.	74.3%
North East	74.1%
Wales	74.0%
North West	73.6%
London	73.5%
N. Ireland	71.1%

## Inactivity (16-64)

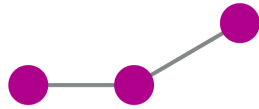
Number of people economically inactive expressed as a percentage of all people aged 16-64.

N. Ireland	26.9%
Yorks. & Humb.	23.5%
Wales	23.2%
London	22.7%
North West	22.2%
North East	21.9%
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>21.4%</b>
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>21.1%</b>
West Midlands	20.8%
England	20.7%
East Midlands	20.6%
South West	19.5%
East	19.2%
South East	17.1%

## Headline figures seasonally adjusted

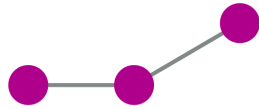
All people

May-Jul 2022	Feb-Apr 2023	May-Jul 2023
3.1%	3.1%	4.3%



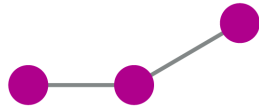
Women

May-Jul 2022	Feb-Apr 2023	May-Jul 2023
2.0%	2.9%	3.8%



Men

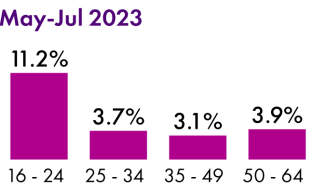
May-Jul 2022	Feb-Apr 2023	May-Jul 2023
4.1%	3.2%	4.8%



## Age

Not seasonally adjusted  
(Not designated as National Statistics)

May-Jul 2023			
16 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 49	50 - 64
11.2%	3.7%	3.1%	3.9%



May-Jul 2022	Feb-Apr 2023	May-Jul 2023
75.2%	74.6%	75.1%



Women

May-Jul 2022	Feb-Apr 2023	May-Jul 2023
74.1%	72.0%	73.0%

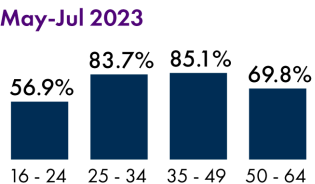


Men

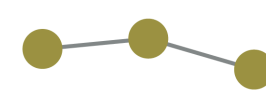
May-Jul 2022	Feb-Apr 2023	May-Jul 2023
76.4%	77.4%	77.3%



May-Jul 2023			
16 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 49	50 - 64
56.9%	83.7%	85.1%	69.8%

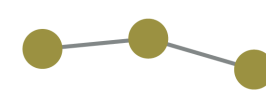


May-Jul 2022	Feb-Apr 2023	May-Jul 2023
22.4%	22.9%	21.4%



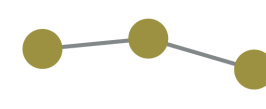
Women

May-Jul 2022	Feb-Apr 2023	May-Jul 2023
24.3%	25.8%	24.1%

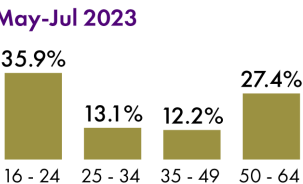


Men

May-Jul 2022	Feb-Apr 2023	May-Jul 2023
20.3%	19.9%	18.7%



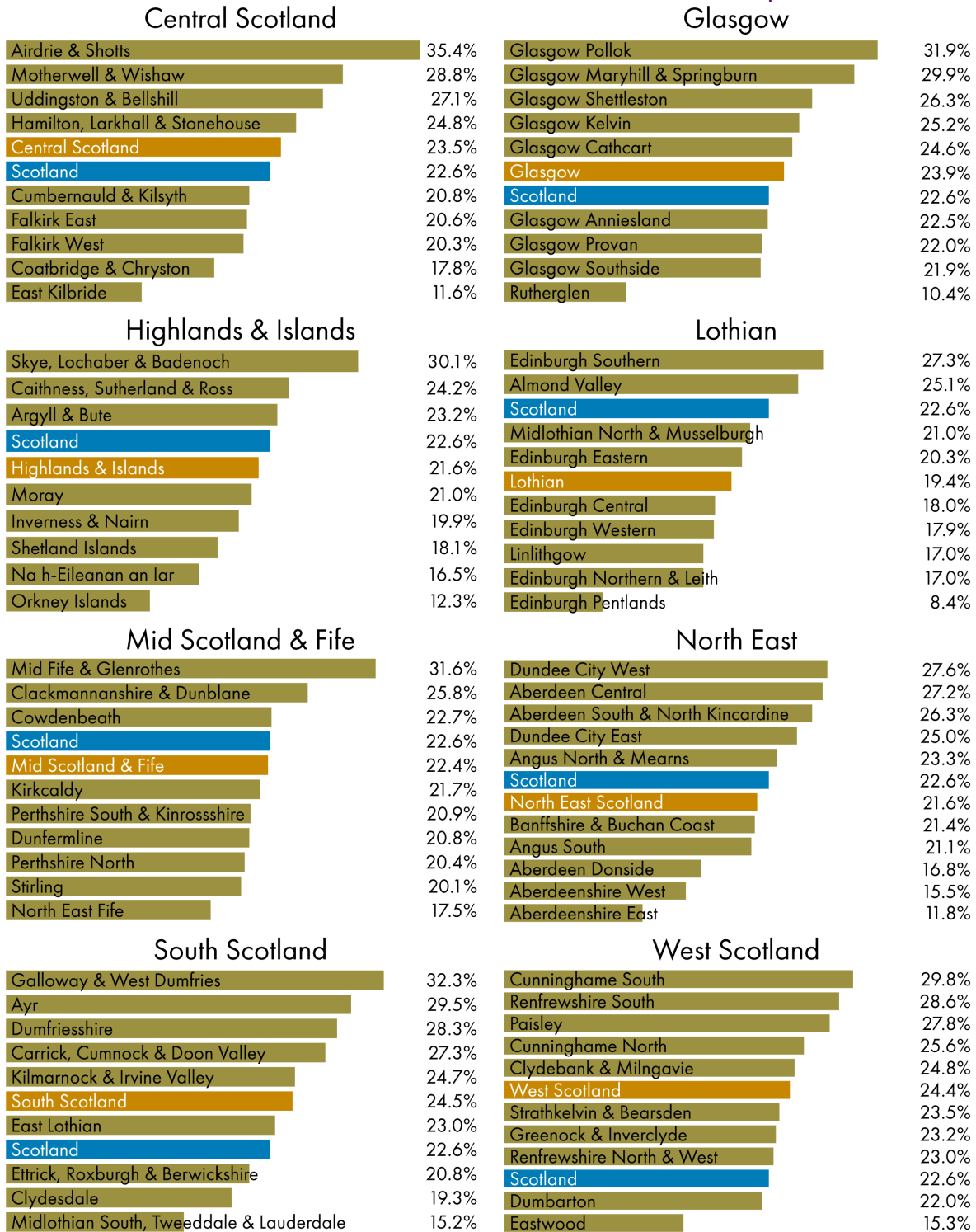
May-Jul 2023			
16 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 49	50 - 64
35.9%	13.1%	12.2%	27.4%



Source: UK labour market: September 2023 and Labour market in the regions of the UK: September 2023

# Economic inactivity rates by Scottish Parliament constituency and region

All data is for - Apr 2022 to Mar 2023



\*This data is from the resident analysis of the APS, meaning the rate is for those who live in the constituency.

\*The Scotland rate used for this data is different from the earlier quoted figure as it covers a different time period.

\*The data for constituencies should be used with caution due to uncertainty of the data at smaller geographies

Source: [nomis](#)

# Data

**Table 1: labour market indicators rates by nation and region of the UK (%)**

Area	Employment	Unemployment	Economically inactive
United Kingdom	75.5	4.3	21.1
England	75.8	4.3	20.7
North East	74.1	5.2	21.9
North West	73.6	5.3	22.2
Yorkshire and The Humber	74.3	2.9	23.5
East Midlands	76.0	4.1	20.6
West Midlands	75.1	5.0	20.8
East	77.2	4.3	19.2
London	73.5	4.8	22.7
South East	79.6	3.9	17.1
South West	77.5	3.6	19.5
Wales	74.0	3.8	23.2
Scotland	75.1	4.3	21.4
Northern Ireland	71.1	2.7	26.9

Source: [UK labour market: September 2023](#)

**Table 2: labour market indicators rates for all people in Scotland (%)**

	Same quarter previous year	Previous quarter	Latest quarter
Unemployment	3.1	3.1	4.3
Employment	75.2	74.6	75.1
Inactivity	22.4	22.9	21.4

Source: [Labour market in the regions of the UK: September 2023](#)

**Table 3: labour market indicators rates for women in Scotland (%)**

	Same quarter previous year	Previous quarter	Latest quarter
Unemployment	2.0	2.9	3.8
Employment	74.1	72.0	73.0
Inactivity	24.3	25.8	24.1

Source: [Labour market in the regions of the UK: September 2023](#)

**Table 4: labour market indicators rates for men in Scotland (%)**

	Same quarter previous year	Previous quarter	Latest quarter
Unemployment	4.1	3.2	4.8
Employment	76.4	77.4	77.3
Inactivity	20.3	19.9	18.7

Source: [Labour market in the regions of the UK: September 2023](#)

**Table 5: labour market indicators rates by age in Scotland (%)**

	16 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 49	50 - 64
Employment	56.9	83.7	85.1	69.8
Unemployment	11.2	3.7	3.1	3.9
Inactivity	35.9	13.1	12.2	27.4

Source: [Labour market in the regions of the UK: September 2023](#)

Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) Briefings are compiled for the benefit of the Members of the Parliament and their personal staff. Authors are available to discuss the contents of these papers with MSPs and their staff who should contact Andrew Aiton on telephone number 85188 or [andrew.aiton@parliament.scot](mailto:andrew.aiton@parliament.scot).

Members of the public or external organisations may comment on this briefing by emailing us at [SPICe@parliament.scot](mailto:SPICe@parliament.scot). However, researchers are unable to enter into personal discussion in relation to SPICe Briefing Papers. If you have any general questions about the work of the Parliament you can email the Parliament's Public Information Service at [sp.info@parliament.scot](mailto:sp.info@parliament.scot). Every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in SPICe briefings is correct at the time of publication. Readers should be aware however that briefings are not necessarily updated or otherwise amended to reflect subsequent changes.

