

## **ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET**

# **Statistics from the Annual Population Survey: Results for year to 31 March 2018**



**Scottish Government**  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

# About this publication

The latest APS data covers the year from 01 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.

The APS combines results from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the English, Welsh and Scottish Labour Force Survey boosts and provides rolling four-quarter labour market information for UK countries, regions and local areas. It is the primary source for information on local labour markets providing headline estimates on employment, unemployment and economic inactivity. The APS is the largest annual household survey in Scotland and provides a wealth of information about individuals' personal circumstances and their work.

As well as providing updated estimates for 2017/18, this publication includes trends over time and gives some indication of the variation across the 32 local authority areas within Scotland. Comparisons are made with the year before or 10 years before.

## Access the data in this publication

Supporting data for headline employment, youth employment, female employment, male employment and headline economic inactivity levels and rates at local authority level are available in the publication [web-tables](#)

Data is also being made available on the Scottish Government Open Data Platform <http://statistics.gov.scot/home>

Results are provided for the financial years (April to March) 2004/05 to 2017/18, based on the data released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on 13 June 2018.

ONS also release rolling quarterly datasets covering the periods January-December, July-June and October-September. The data for these time periods have not been used or presented within this publication or associated tables. The data for these are available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>

Notes:

1. All statistics, charts and tables presented in this publication are sourced from the Annual Population Survey, April to March datasets produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

**Next Update:** September 2018

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# Employment (16-64) Rates

There is considerable variation in employment rates for those aged 16-64 across Scotland's local authorities.

In 2017/18, the highest employment rates were seen in **Orkney Islands** (90.3 per cent), **Na h-Eileanan Siar** (81.8 per cent) and **Shetland Islands** (81.7 per cent). The lowest employment rates were seen in **Dundee City** (63.8 per cent), **Glasgow City** (66.5 per cent), **North Ayrshire** and **Inverclyde** (both 70.4 per cent).

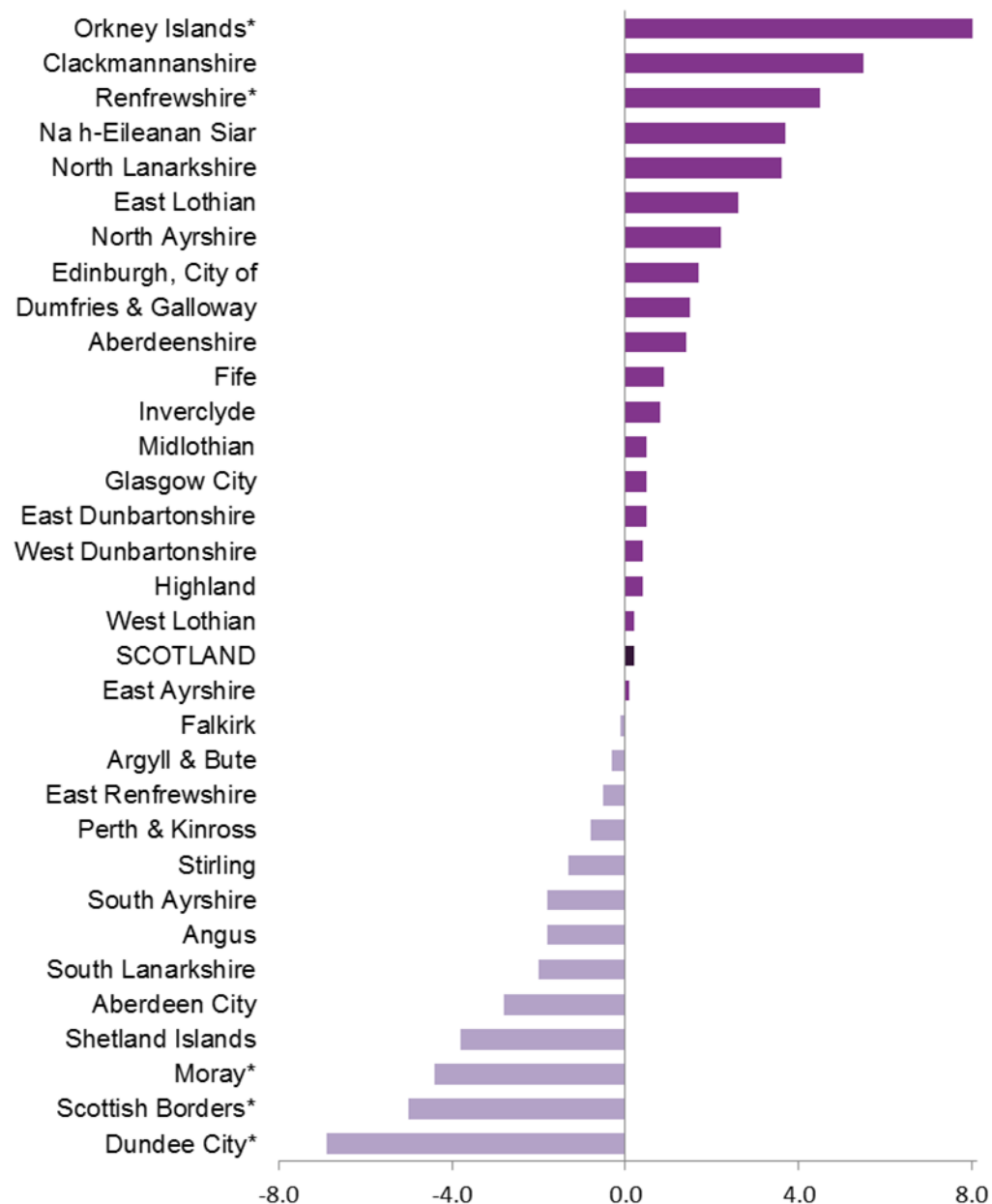
The employment rate in Scotland increased by 0.9 percentage points over the year from 73.4 per cent in 2016/17 to 74.3 per cent in 2017/18, while the UK rate increased by 0.8 percentage points over the same period from 74.0 per cent to 74.8 per cent.

Over the year, 18 local authority areas in Scotland saw an increase in their employment rate, while 13 saw a decrease and one remained unchanged. A statistically significant increase over the year was seen in **North Ayrshire** (up 5.7 percentage points from 64.7 per cent to 70.4 per cent) as well as **Scotland** overall.

The employment rate for Scotland, as reported by the APS (74.3 per cent), is 0.2 percentage points higher than in 2007/08, when it was 74.0 per cent.

19 local authorities in Scotland have higher employment rates than in 2007/08, while 13 showed a decrease. Statistically significant changes were seen over this period in **Orkney** (up 8.0 percentage points from 82.3 per cent to 90.3 per cent), **Renfrewshire** (up 4.5 percentage points from 74.0 per cent to 78.5 per cent), **Dundee City** (down 6.9 percentage points from 70.6 per cent to 63.8 per cent), **Scottish Borders** (down 5.0 percentage points from 79.1 per cent to 74.1 per cent) and **Moray** (down 4.4 percentage points from 78.2 per cent to 73.8 per cent).

Chart 1: Change in Employment Rates between 2007/08 and 2017/18 (percentage points)



\* statistically significant change

# Youth (16-24) Employment Rates

The local authority areas with the highest youth (16-24) employment rates in Scotland in the year to end March 2018 were **Midlothian** (77.3 per cent), **Na h-Eileanan Siar** (75.4 per cent) and **Clackmannanshire** (73.7 per cent). The areas with the lowest youth employment rates during this period were **Glasgow City** (47.1 per cent), **Inverclyde** (51.0 per cent) and **West Dunbartonshire** (51.1 per cent). It should be noted that youth employment rates in university cities are likely to be lower due to higher levels of economically inactive students.

The youth employment rate in Scotland increased by 1.5 percentage points over the year from 57.4 per cent in 2016/17 to 58.8 per cent in 2017/18, while the UK rate increased by 0.3 percentage points from 53.8 per cent to 54.1 per cent over the same period.

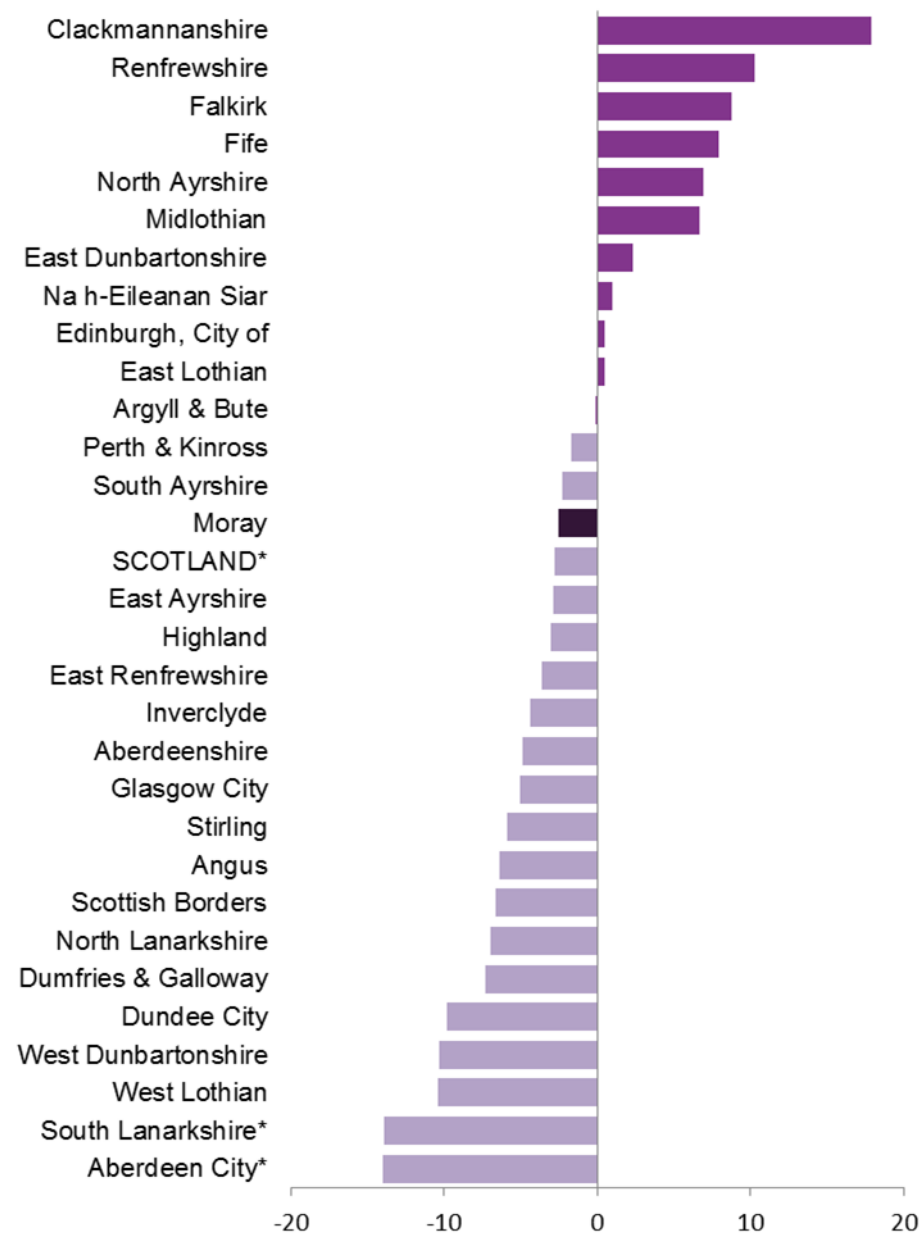
A statistically significant change over the year was seen in **Clackmannanshire** (up 32.0 percentage points from 41.7 per cent to 73.7 per cent). In total, 15 local authority areas saw increases in their youth employment rates over the year, with the remaining 15 seeing decreases.

The youth employment rate in Scotland in 2017/18 was 2.8 percentage points lower than the 61.7 per cent rate seen in 2007/08 while the youth employment rate in the UK was also lower than in 2007/08 (down 3.1 percentage points from 57.2 per cent).

Since 2007/08, youth employment rates have increased in 10 of Scotland's local authority areas, with the remaining 20 areas seeing decreases. Statistically significant decreases were seen in **Aberdeen City** (down 14.0 percentage points from 74.6 per cent to 60.6 per cent) and **South Lanarkshire** (down 13.9 percentage points from 72.1 per cent to 58.1 per cent) as well as **Scotland** overall.

Note: Data for Orkney Islands and Shetland Islands are not available

Chart 2: Change in Youth Employment Rates between 2007/08 and 2017/18 (percentage points)



\* statistically significant change

# Female Employment (16-64) Rates

The local authority areas with the highest female employment rates in Scotland in the year to end March 2018 were **Orkney Islands** (88.3 per cent), **Highland** (80.5 per cent) and **Midlothian** (79.2 per cent). The areas with the lowest female employment rates in the year to end March 2018 were **Glasgow City** (62.6 per cent), **Dundee City** (63.0 per cent), **Clackmannanshire** and **North Ayrshire** (both 66.2 per cent).

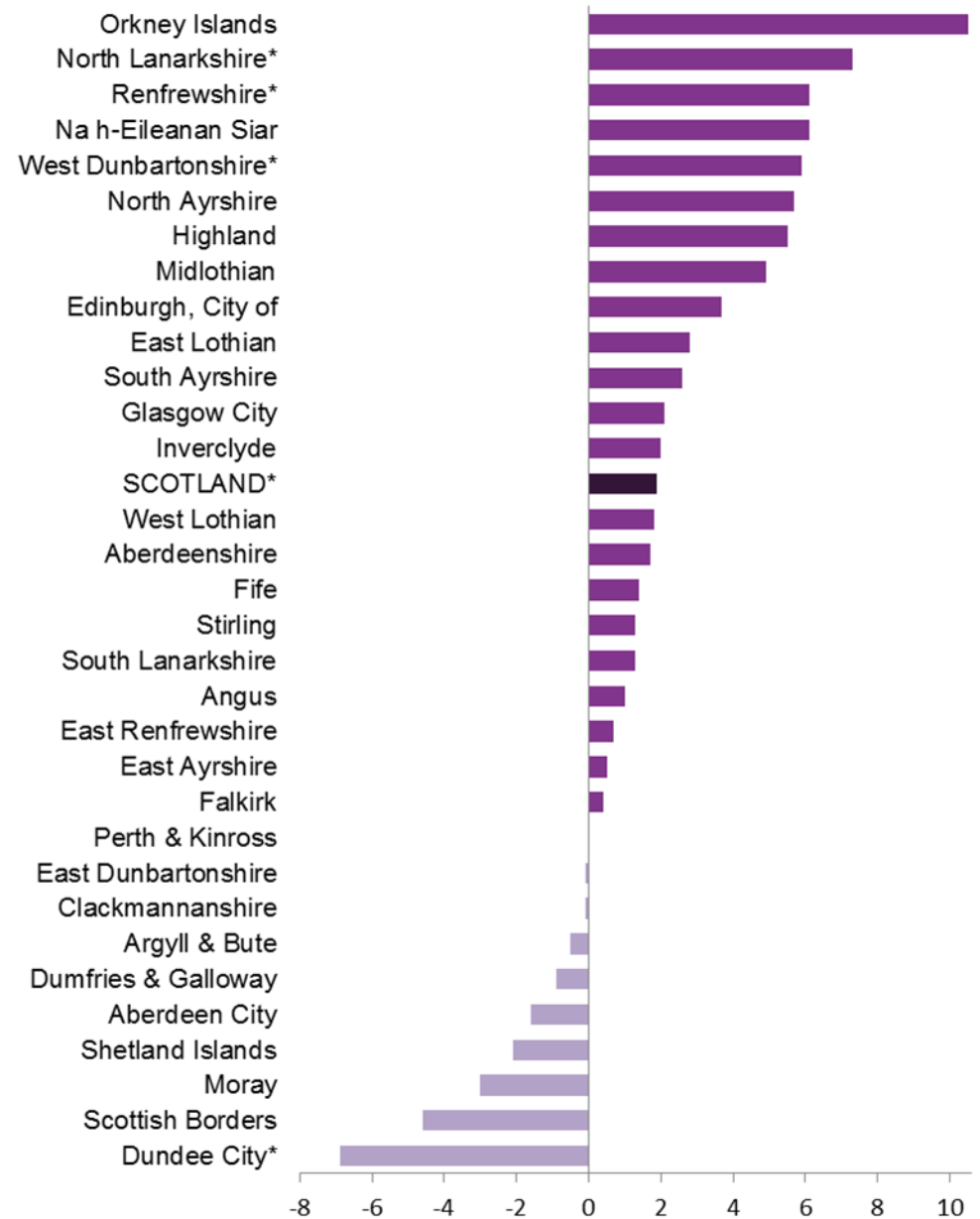
The female employment rate in Scotland increased by 0.7 percentage points over the year from 70.0 per cent in 2016/17 to 70.7 per cent in 2017/18, while the UK rate increased by 1.0 percentage point over the year from 69.3 per cent to 70.3 per cent.

In total, 22 local authority areas saw increases in their female employment rates over the year, with the remaining 10 seeing decreases (none of which were statistically significant).

The female employment rate in Scotland during 2017/18 was 1.9 percentage points higher than the 68.8 per cent rate in 2007/08 while the female employment rate in the UK was also higher than in 2007/08 (up 3.8 percentage points from 66.5 per cent).

Increases in female employment rates were seen in 22 of Scotland's local authority areas between 2007/08 and 2017/18, with 9 seeing decreases and one remaining unchanged. Statistically significant increases were seen in **North Lanarkshire** (up 7.3 percentage points from 64.4 per cent to 71.8 per cent), **Renfrewshire** (up 6.1 percentage points from 70.0 per cent to 76.1 per cent) and **West Dunbartonshire** (up 5.9 percentage points from 65.3 per cent to 71.2 per cent) as well as **Scotland** overall. A statistically significant decrease was seen in **Dundee City** (down 6.9 percentage points from 69.9 per cent to 63.0 per cent).

Chart 3: Change in Female Employment Rates between 2007/08 and 2017/18 (percentage points)



\* statistically significant change

# Concepts and Definitions

**Economic inactivity rate:** The number of economically inactive people expressed as a percentage of the relevant population.

**Economically inactive:** Economically inactive people are not in employment, but do not satisfy all the criteria for unemployment. This group is comprised of those who want a job but who have not been seeking work in the last 4 weeks, those who want a job and are seeking work but not available to start and those who do not want a job. For example, students not working or seeking work and those in retirement are classed as economically inactive. It can be useful for some purposes to consider only those who are both economically inactive and not of state pension age.

**Employment:** There are two main ways of looking at employment: the number of people with jobs or the number of jobs. These two concepts represent different things as one person can have more than one job. People aged 16 or over are classed as in employment (as an employee or self-employed) by the LFS, if they have done at least one hour of paid work in the week prior to their LFS interview or if they have a job that they are temporarily away from. People who do unpaid work in a family business and people on Government-supported training and employment programs are also included according to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) convention.

**Employment rate:** The number of people in employment expressed as a percentage of the relevant population.

**Rates:** Rates represent the proportion of the population or subgroup of the population with a certain characteristic. They allow changes in the labour market to be interpreted in a wider context, allowing for changes in the overall population or the number of people who are economically active. Rates can be calculated for different age groups. For employment, economic activity and economic inactivity, the most widely quoted rates are those for the working age population. For unemployment, headline rates are expressed as a percentage of the economically active population aged 16 and over. Those over retirement age who continue to be economically active will therefore be included in the base while those who are economically inactive will not.

**Unemployment:** The ILO definition of unemployment covers people who are: not in employment, want a job, have actively sought work in the previous 4 weeks and are available to start work within the next fortnight, or, out of work and have accepted a job which they are waiting to start in the next fortnight.

**Unemployment rate:** The number of unemployed people expressed as a percentage of the relevant economically active population.

**Working age:** Note that due to changes in the state pension age, (specifically the current female state pension age which is changing dynamically to match the male state pension age) ONS no longer publish rates using a Working age definition in its statistical bulletins, but instead report rates for all people aged 16 to 64.