

Labour Market Statement

31st March 2022

Local

As of 31st March 2022, there were 1,983 active job vacancy postings in Greater Lincolnshire.¹

This represents a slight decrease on the recent weekly trend, which has been consistently high through March. Compared to the month of March last year, job postings in March 2022 are 17% higher. The largest single employer during the month was the NHS with 600 job postings.

The latest estimates for universal credit show that around 24,900 people in Greater Lincolnshire were seeking work and claiming universal credit during February 2022. This is around 2.7% of the working age population, and below the national rate of 3.1%. Compared to the same month in 2021, there are around 28% fewer people claiming universal credit and seeking work.

The next release regarding economic inactivity (people not in work and not seeking work) is due on 12th April, therefore will be reported in the next statement.

Job posting data shows that in Greater Lincolnshire nursing, care, maintenance engineers, elementary storage occupations and chefs are the toughest roles to fill, based on the length jobs are advertised for and how many places a single job is advertised.

For example, registered general nursing roles are advertised, on average, across 15 different platforms. The average is 5 platforms per job.

The top 20 vacancies advertised across Greater Lincolnshire between 1st March and 31st March, by occupation, are shown in the table at the end of the report.

National Surveys and reports (24th March) show:

- Of businesses not permanently stopped trading, more than one in eight (13%) reported they were experiencing worker shortages in early March 2022. This has remained broadly stable since the question was introduced in late October 2021. The percentage of businesses with 10 or more employees who reported worker shortages was higher, at 31%. However, this has fallen steadily from 37% in early November 2021.
- The accommodation and food service activities industry continued to report the highest percentage of businesses experiencing a shortage of workers in early March 2022 (30%), up 2 percentage points from late February 2022. These shortages were partially driven by the food and beverage service sub-industry.

¹ Burning Glass Labour Insight, 31st March 2022

- In March 2022, the proportion of businesses with 10 or more employees that reported their vacancies were more difficult to fill was 36%. This was the same as in February 2022, but the percentage has fallen from 41% reported in November 2021.
- Across businesses with 10 or more employees, the main reasons for the difficulties experienced were:
 - low number of applications for the roles on offer (60%)
 - lack of qualified applicants for the roles on offer (55%)
 - business cannot offer an attractive pay package to applicants (30%).
- Payroll data for February shows the number of people on payroll in Greater Lincolnshire at its highest point on record in Greater Lincolnshire (and UK) and continuing to rise.²
- In total, 474,750 people were on payroll in Greater Lincolnshire in February, 5% more than in February 2020, and 2% higher than February 2019, pre pandemic.
- However the high number on payroll does not translate into increases in overall employment, with a large proportion of increases in payroll likely to be a result of IR35 classification of self employed workers. In fact whilst the number on payroll has increased, overall employment rates are at their lowest point since September 2013, driven by reductions in self employment and a large reduction in participation in the labour market.

BGTOCC	Job Postings	% of all jobs advertised
Registered General Nurse (RGN)	301	4.0%
Office / Administrative Assistant	300	4.0%
Caregiver/ Personal Care Aide	277	3.7%
Teaching assistant	205	2.7%
Care assistant	199	2.7%
Customer Service Representative	175	2.3%
Project Manager	144	1.9%
Production Worker	144	1.9%
General Cleaner	138	1.8%
Primary School Teacher	130	1.7%
Accountant	119	1.6%
Food Service Team Member	116	1.5%
Chef	115	1.5%
Maintenance Technician	106	1.4%
Sales Assistant	100	1.3%

Source: *Burning Glass Labour Insight*, 31st March 2022

² ONS UK Earnings and Employment Real Time Indicators, PAYE, 15th March 2022