

## **ECONOMY AND LABOUR MARKET**

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



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

# About this publication

The latest APS data covers the year from 01 January 2018 to 31 December 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 January-December 2018, 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 January-December 2004 to January-December 2018, based on the data released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on 20 March 2018.

ONS also release rolling quarterly datasets covering the periods April-March, 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, January to December datasets produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

**Next Update:** June 2019

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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 January-December 2018:

- the highest employment rates were seen in **Orkney Islands** (87.5 per cent), **Shetland Islands** (81.7 per cent) and **Highland** (81.2 per cent).
- the lowest employment rates were seen in **Glasgow City** (64.3 per cent), **Dundee City** (67.0 per cent) and **East Ayrshire** (68.8 per cent).

## Changes since 2017:

The employment rate in Scotland decreased over the year from 74.2 per cent to 74.1 per cent, while the UK rate increased over the same period from 74.7 per cent to 75.0 per cent.

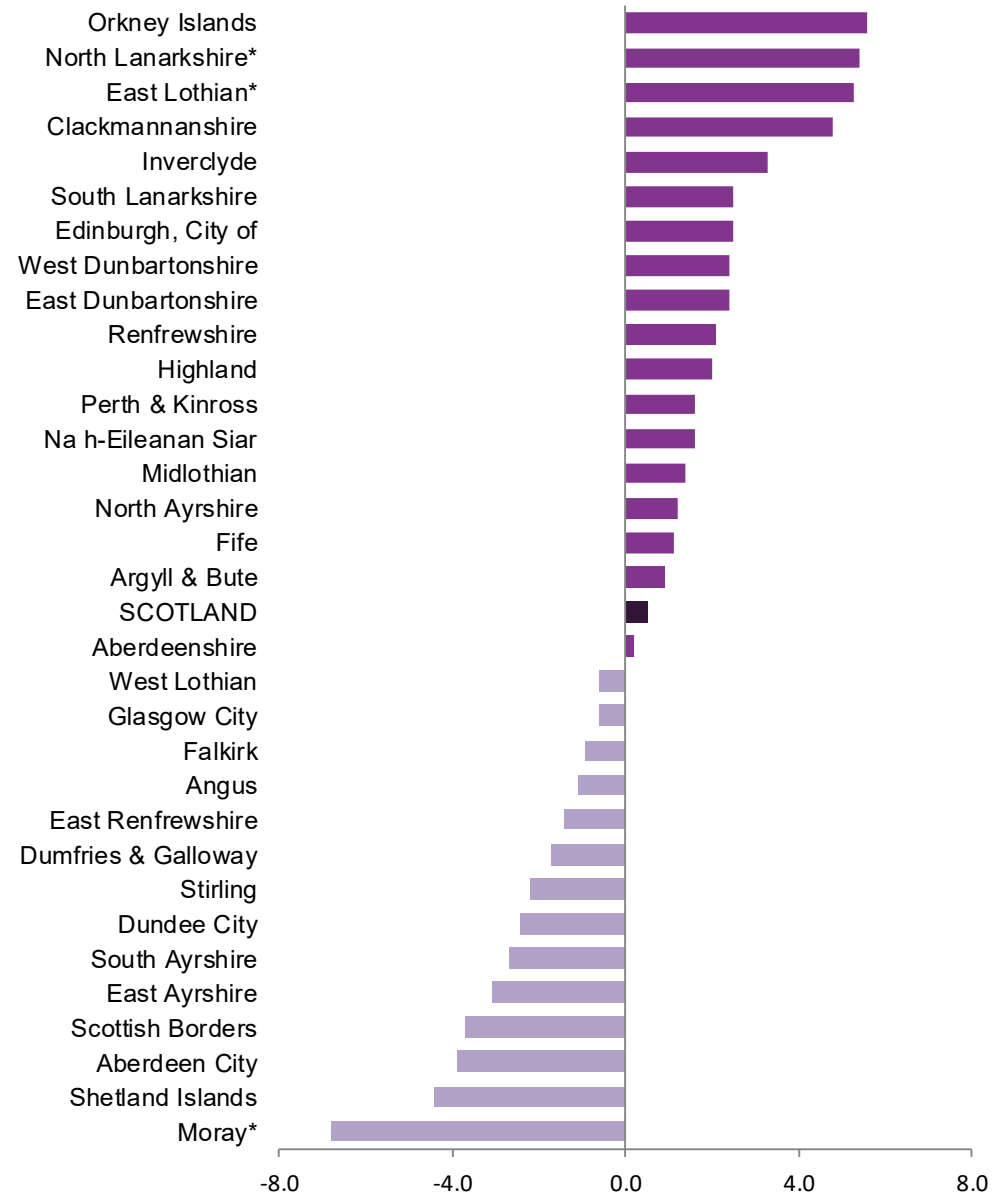
Over the year, 16 local authority areas in Scotland saw an increase in their employment rates, while 16 saw a decrease. A statistically significant decrease over the year was seen for **Dumfries and Galloway** (down from 76.9 per cent to 72.0 per cent).

## Changes since 2008:

The employment rate for Scotland, as reported by the APS (74.1 per cent), is higher than it was ten years ago (73.6 per cent).

18 local authorities in Scotland have higher employment rates than ten years ago, while 14 showed a decrease. Statistically significant changes were seen over this period in **East Lothian** (up from 75.4 per cent to 80.8 per cent), **Moray** (down from 79.6 per cent to 72.8 per cent) and **North Lanarkshire** (up from 69.2 per cent to 74.7 per cent).

Chart 1: Change in Employment Rates between 2008 and 2018 (percentage points)



# Youth (16-24) Employment Rates

## In January-December 2018:

- the highest employment rates for young people were seen in **Na h-Eileanan Siar** (72.9 per cent), **Highland** (70.4 per cent) and **West Lothian** (68.3 per cent).
- the lowest employment rates for young people were seen in **East Renfrewshire** (37.3 per cent), **Glasgow City** (40.2 per cent) and **East Ayrshire** (47.1 per cent).

## Changes since 2017:

The employment rate for young people in Scotland decreased over the year from 59.3 per cent to 57.2 per cent, while the UK rate decreased over the same period from 54.0 per cent to 53.7 per cent.

Over the year, 8 local authority areas in Scotland saw an increase in their youth employment rates, while 22 saw a decrease. Statistically significant changes were seen over the year in **East Renfrewshire** (down from 53.7 per cent to 37.3 per cent) and **Midlothian** (down from 80.3 per cent to 58.1 per cent).

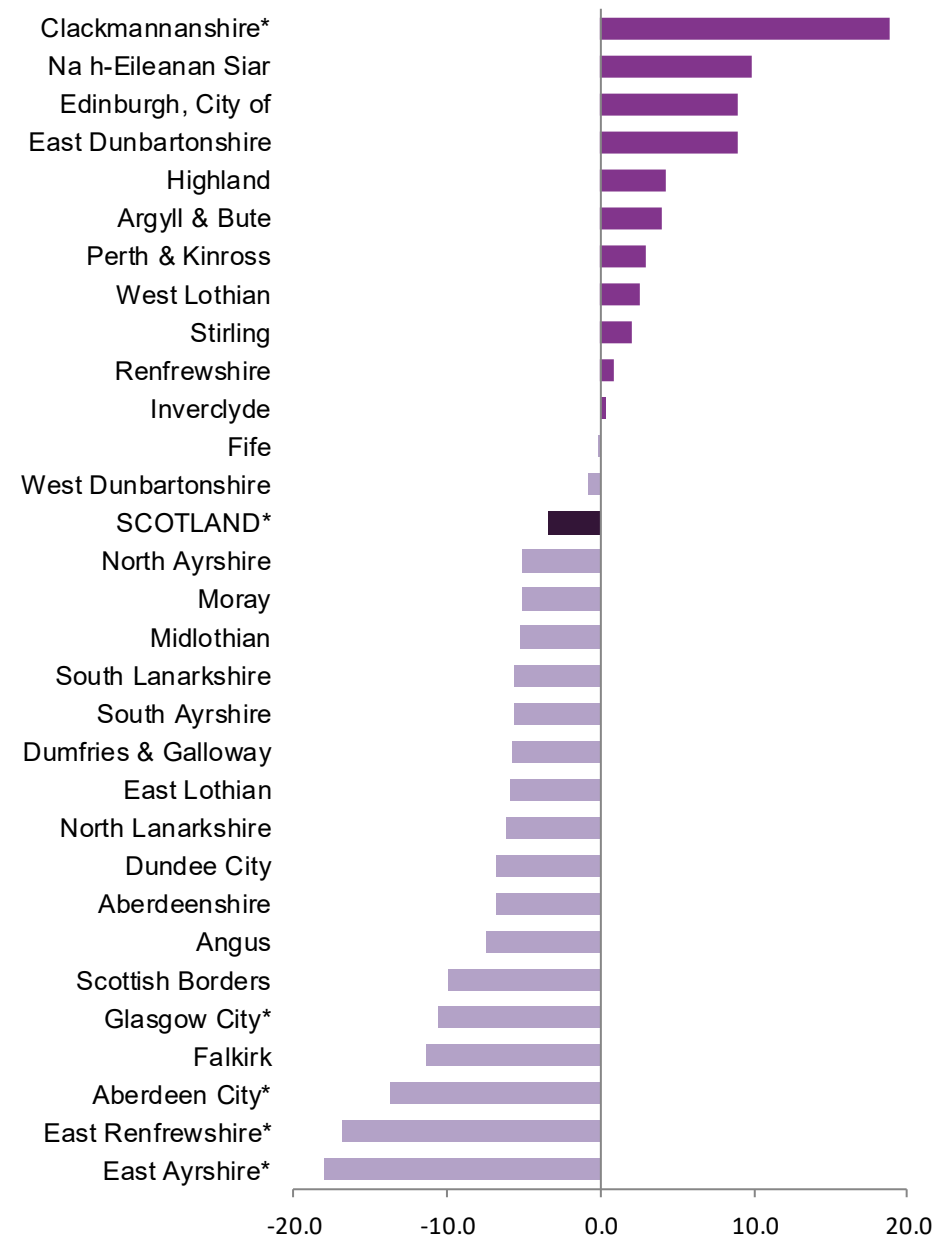
## Changes since 2008:

The employment rate for young people in Scotland, as reported by the APS (57.2 per cent), is lower than it was ten years ago (60.7 per cent).

11 local authorities in Scotland have higher youth employment rates than ten years ago, while 19 showed a decrease. Statistically significant changes were seen over this period in **Aberdeen City** (down from 70.6 per cent to 56.8 per cent), **Clackmannanshire** (up from 44.8 per cent to 63.6 per cent), **East Ayrshire** (down from 65.1 per cent to 47.1 per cent), **East Renfrewshire** (down from 54.3 per cent to 37.3 per cent) and **Glasgow City** (down from 50.8 per cent to 40.2 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 2008 and 2018 (percentage points)



\* statistically significant change

# Employment (16-64) Rates for Women

## In January-December 2018:

- the highest employment rates for women were seen in **Highland** (82.6 per cent), **Orkney Islands** (81.6 per cent) and **Na h-Eileanan Siar** (78.2 per cent).
- the lowest employment rates for women were seen in **Glasgow City** (59.3 per cent), **Moray** (64.6 per cent) and **East Ayrshire** (64.8 per cent).

## Changes since 2017:

The employment rate for women in Scotland decreased over the year from 70.9 per cent to 70.3 per cent, while the UK rate increased over the same period from 70.1 per cent to 70.5 per cent.

Over the year, 18 local authority areas in Scotland saw an increase in their employment rates for women, while 14 saw a decrease (none of which were statistically significant).

## Changes since 2008:

The employment rate for women in Scotland, as reported by the APS (70.3 per cent), is higher than it was ten years ago (68.4 per cent).

23 local authorities in Scotland have higher employment rates for women than ten years ago, while 9 showed a decrease. Statistically significant changes were seen over this period in **Highland** (up from 71.4 per cent to 82.6 per cent), **Moray** (down from 74.0 per cent to 64.6 per cent), **North Lanarkshire** (up from 62.9 per cent to 72.5 per cent) and **South Lanarkshire** (up from 68.8 per cent to 74.7 per cent) as well as **Scotland** overall.

Chart 3: Change in Employment Rates for women between 2008 and 2018 (percentage points)



\* statistically significant change

# Employment (16-64) Rates for Men

## In January-December 2018:

- the highest employment rates for men were seen in **Orkney Islands** (93.4 per cent), **Shetland Islands** (87.9 per cent) and **East Lothian** (85.2 per cent).
- the lowest employment rates for men were seen in **Dundee City** (67.8 per cent), **Glasgow City** (69.5 per cent) and **South Ayrshire** (71.3 per cent).

## Changes since 2017:

The employment rate for men in Scotland increased over the year from 77.8 per cent to 78.0 per cent, while the UK rate increased over the same period from 79.4 per cent to 79.6 per cent.

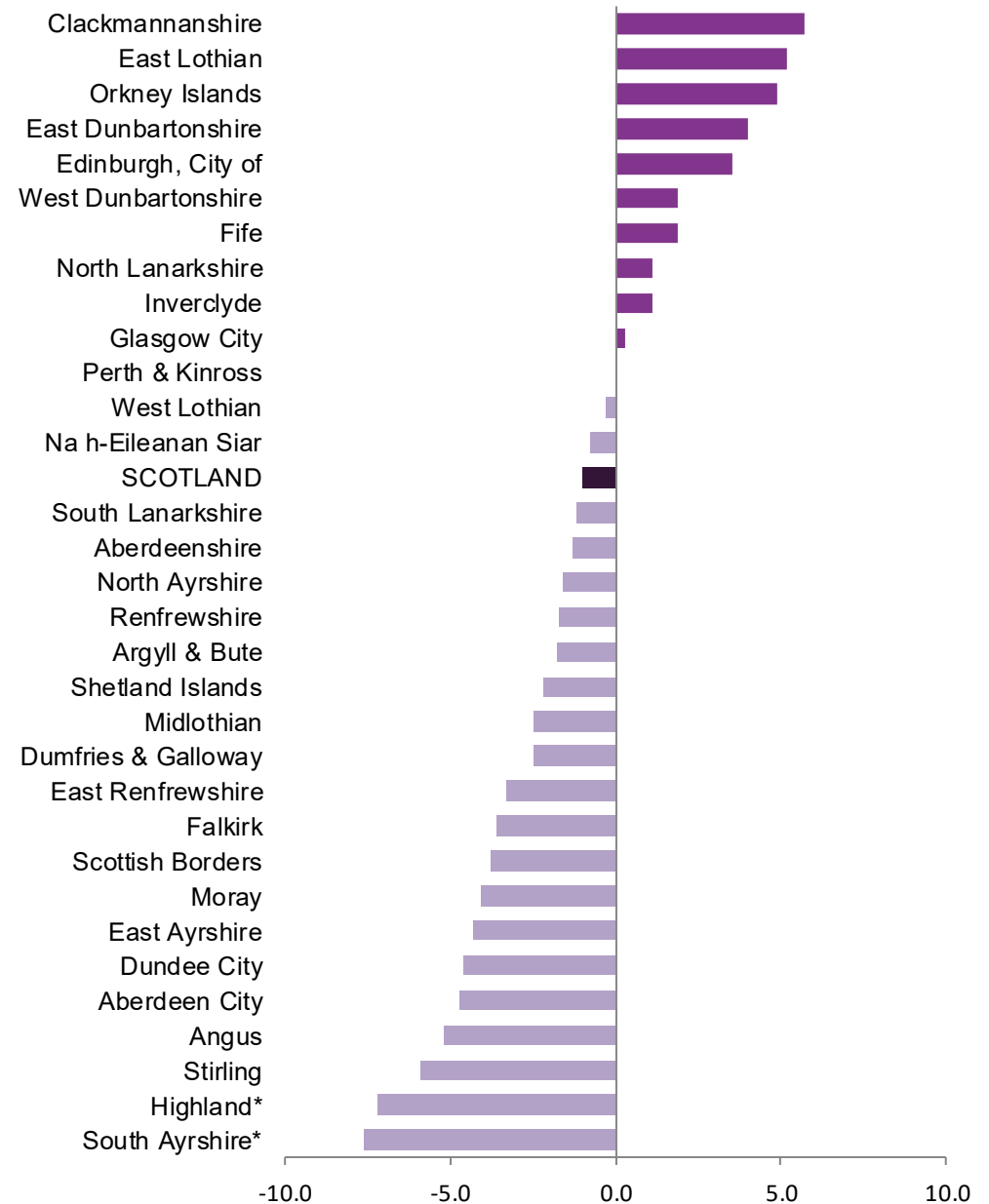
Over the year, 16 local authority areas in Scotland saw an increase in their employment rates for men, while 16 saw a decrease (none of which were statistically significant).

## Changes since 2008:

The employment rate for men in Scotland, as reported by the APS (78.0 per cent), is lower than it was ten years ago (78.9 per cent).

10 local authorities in Scotland have higher employment rates for men than ten years ago, while 21 showed a decrease and one remained unchanged. Statistically significant changes were seen over this period in **Highland** (down from 87.0 per cent to 79.8 per cent) and **South Ayrshire** (down from 78.9 per cent to 71.3 per cent).

Chart 4: Change in Employment Rates for men between 2008 and 2018 (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.