

Monthly Business Dashboard

Themes	Indicator	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022	Trend	Relative to Peer Group ¹	Commentary
	Regional Business Activity Index ² (monthly update)	51.9	58.4	59.1	54.5	49.7	51.1	50.3	49.3	47.8	49.6	60 50 40 30 20 10 0	WM: 2 nd Highest Region UK: 48.2 London: 49.7 (1 st) South West: 42.3 (12 th)	The West Midlands Business Activity Index rose from a 20-month low of 47.8 in September 2022 to 49.6 in October 2022 – although, remained below the 50-growth mark as West Midlands firms struggled to secure new business. West Midlands firms reported clients reducing spending linked to recession fears and financial difficulties.
Business	Regional Future Business Activity Index ³ (monthly update)	80.3	76.7	75.2	71.8	66.1	70.3	68.3	67.8	64.4	60.7	90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0	WM: 3 rd Highest Region Yorkshire & The Humber: 63.4 (1 st) Northern Ireland: 43.2 (12 th)	The West Midlands Future Business Activity Index decreased from 64.4 in September 2022 to 60.7 in October 2022, falling to the lowest point since the first Covid-19 lockdown. West Midlands firms remain confident of a rise in output over the next 12 months. However, optimism was restricted by concerns over the economic outlook and customer spending.
	National Business Investment ⁴ (monthly – update due Dec 2022 revised)			£50.6bn Q1 2022			£52.4bn Q2 2022			£52.2bn Q3 2022		£60,000 £50,000 £30,000 £10,00	N/A	Provisional figures show that UK business investment decreased on the quarter by 0.5% in Quarter 3 (Jul to Sep) 2022. Business investment was 8.4% below the pre-coronavirus (Oct to Dec 2019) level in the latest quarter.

The dashboard has been RAG rated based on; Red indicating a decline in performance, Amber where they have been an improvement in performance and Green indicators an improvement above UK-wide (excluding the UK-wide indicator where they are either green or red depending on change each quarter and business activity and future business activity where amber shows a decline in performance but above the 50-growth mark and green indicators continually increases).

¹ Comparisons vary depending on geography; Birmingham has been compared to Bristol, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester and Newcastle. Due to data availability, the WM 7 Met. has been either compared to other combined authorities (following what is available Greater London Authority is not always included), (combined authorities are Greater Manchester CA (GMCA), Sheffield City Region, West Yorkshire CA, Liverpool City Region CA, Tees Valley CA, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CA, West of England CA, North East CA and North of Tyne CA) or NUTS 2 geography, the WMCA (3 LEP) has been compared to other combined authorities. The West Midlands region has been compared to other regions in the UK. No comparators have been included for UK-wide.

NatWest, UK regional PMI – released November 2022
 NatWest, UK regional PMI – released November 2022

⁴ Office for National Statistics (ONS), Business investment in the UK: July to September 2022 provisional results – released November 2022



Relative to Peer Indicator March 2022 April 2022 May 2022 June 2022 July 2022 August 2022 October 2022 Trend Themes Commentary 2022 2022 Group¹ 10,000 9,000 Quarterly data shows that when 8,000 comparing Q3 2022 to Q2 2022, there WMCA (3 LEP) 7,000 was a decrease of enterprise deaths in Enterprise 6,000 the WMCA (3 LEP) area by 1,380 Deaths⁵ (-19.4%, UK -16.2%) to a total of 5,735. Business 5,000 WMCA (3 LEP): (experimental 4,000 Highest CA 5,735 When comparing Q3 2022 to Q3 2021, 8,675 7,115 ONS analysis by GMCA: 4,435 (2nd) 3,000 (Q1) (Q2) (Q3) there was a decrease in enterprise Tees Valley: 730 quarter) deaths by 610 (-9.6%, UK -5.5%). 2,000 (10th) 1,000 (quarterly – When compared to Q1 2020, update due Jan enterprise deaths increased in the 2023) Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 WMCA (3 LEP) area by 85 (+1.5%, UK -6.8%). 4,135 4,945 4,140 6,345 5,735 9,000 8,000 Quarterly data shows that when comparing Q3 2022 to Q2 2022, there 7,000 WMCA was a decrease of enterprise births in (3 LEP) 6,000 the WMCA (3 LEP) area by 1,395 (-Enterprise 5,000 23.7%, UK -16.8%) to a total of 4,490. Births⁶ WMCA (3 LEP): 4,000 Highest CA When comparing Q3 2022 to Q3 2021, (experimental 8,230 5,765 4,490 3,000 GMCA: 3,275 (2nd) there was a decrease in enterprise (Q1) (Q2) ONS analysis by (Q3) Tees Valley: 530 births by 1,275 2,000 quarter) (10th) (-22.1%, UK -24.9%). 1,000 (quarterly – When compared to Q1 2020, update due Jan enterprise births decreased in the Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 2023) WMCA (3 LEP) area by 1,825 (-28.9%, UK -39.6%). 4,945 4,780 4,805 5,885 4,490

⁵ ONS, Business demography, quarterly experimental statistics, low-level geographic breakdown, UK – released October 2022 (RAG rating based on change from same quarter in the previous year)

⁶ ONS, Business demography, quarterly experimental statistics, low-level geographic breakdown, UK – released October 2022 (RAG rating based on change from same quarter in the previous year)

Annual Business Dashboard



 $^{^{\}rm 7}$ ONS, Business Demography, UK 2021 – released November 2022

⁸ ONS, Business Demography, UK 2021 – released November 2022

⁹ ONS, Business Demography, UK 2021 – released November 2022

¹⁰ ONS, Business Demography, UK 2021 – released November 2022

¹¹ Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy, UK Innovation Survey 2021 – released May 2022

Monthly Place Dashboard

Themes	Indicator	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	Trend Relative to Group	Peer Commentary
	Birmingham City Centre Rent ¹² (Quarterly – potential update due Nov 2022)			£39.00 Per Sq ft (Q1)			£39.00 Per Sq ft (Q2)				## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ##	Also, in Birmingham City 4.08 Centre for Q2 2022, there 0 (1st) was 24 months on ten-year ardiff: term rent free (average 20).
Place	Birmingham Out of Town Rent ¹³ (Quarterly – potential update due Nov 2022)			£26.00 Per Sq ft (Q1)			£26.00 Per Sq ft (Q2)				### ### ##############################	Birmingham's out of town 1.41 rent since 2020 – remaining 19.00 at £26.00. This has only increased by £1 since Q3
	Birmingham – City Core Industrial Market Rent ¹⁴ (update tbc)			£7.05 Per Sq ft (Q1)			£7.22 Per Sq ft (Q2)			£7.32 Per Sq ft (Q3)	## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ## ##	Industrial rent per sq. ft in Birmingham City Centre continues to steadily increase each quarter and was at its highest value (£7.32) since records started in Q2 2009.

Avison Young, The Big Nine – created July/August 2022
 Avison Young, The Big Nine – created July/August 2022
 CoStar – accessed October 2022

Themes	Indicator	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022		Trend			Relative to Peer Group	Commentary
Place	Regional Retail and Recreation Footfall ¹⁵ (Index: 100= 3 rd Jan to 6 th Feb 2020) (weekly update available)	81.6% (average daily index)	88.9% (average daily index)	88.5% (average daily index)	88.6% (average daily index)	92.8% (average daily index)	92.7% (average daily index)	92.7% (average daily index)	94.8% (average daily index)	120 100 80 60 40 - 20 010	% % %				WM Region: 3 rd Lowest UK: 90.7% Wales: 110.8% London: 76.7% (12 th) (Avg. full month of August 2022)	Visits to retail and recreation locations have yet to be above prepandemic levels in the West Midlands region. In August 2022, it was at 94.8.% which was above the UK average of 90.7%.
	(WMCA 3 LEP) Gigabit broadband Connectivity ¹⁶ (tri-annual – update due December 2023)	78.8% (1,462,063 premises) As of Jan 2022				80.7% (1,500,681 premises) As of May 2022				90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10%	Sep-20	May-21 Sep-21	Jan-22	May-22	WMCA (3 LEP):2 nd Highest CA UK: 64.0% Tees Valley: 89.2% (1 st) North of Tyne: 58.3% (10 th)	In May 2021, the WMCA (3 LEP) was significantly above the UK-wide figure for gigabit connectivity (70.4% vs 38.7%). Meaning that the increase has since been steady for the WMCA (3 LEP) area to 80.7%, as the UK-wide area has had to significantly increase (to 66.6% in May 2022).

 $^{^{15}}$ Google Mobility – released October 2022 (excluding September 2022 as full month is not yet available) 16 Ofcom, connected nations – released October 2022

Monthly Economy Dashboard

Themes	Indicator	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Trend	Relative to Peer Group	Commentary
	Regional GDP ¹⁷ (Quarterly – TBC potentially update due Nov 2022)		96.9 (Q1) (2019=100)					100 95 90 001 85 80 75 65 60 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 Q1 2020 2020 2020 2020 2021 2021 2021 2021	WM – 2 nd Lowest Region England: 99.8 North West: 104.9 (1 st) South East: 94.1 (10 th) (Indexed to 2019 = 100)	When the base year is 2019 (= 100), in Q1 2022, the quarterly GDP indices for the West Midlands was 96.9, an increase from 96.7 in the previous quarter. Quarter on Quarter analysis shows for the West Midlands region, GDP growth increased by 0.2% in Quarter 1 2022, below the UK-wide growth of 0.7%.	
Economy	Regional Exports in Goods ¹⁸ (Q – update due Jan 2023)			£25.8bn Year to Q1 2022			£26.5bn Year to Q2 2022		£35,000 £25,000 £15,000 £10,000 £5,000 £ 4 Year to Year to Year to Year to Year to Year to Q2 2016 Q2 2017 Q2 2018 Q2 2019 Q2 2020 Q2 2021 Q2 2022	WM – 6 th Highest Region South East: 12.3% (1 st) Northern Ireland: 2.5% (12 th)	In the year ending Q2 2022, the West Midlands region's export in goods value was worth £26.5bn, an increase of £321m (+1.2%) since the year ending Q2 2021. The UK increased by 12.3% to £338.4bn worth of exports in the year ending Q2 2022. The West Midlands had a trade deficit of £12.8bn in the year ending Q2 2022.

 $^{^{\}rm 17}$ ONS, quarterly country and regional GDP – released November 2022 $^{\rm 18}$ HMRC, UK regional trade in goods statistics – released October 2022

Annual Economy Dashboard



¹⁹ ONS, Business enterprise research and development – released November 2021

²⁰ ONS, Gross domestic expenditure on research and development – released August 2021

²¹ Department for International Trade, inward investment - released July 2022

²² Department for International Trade, inward investment – released July 2022



Themes	Indicator	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Trend	Relative to Peer Group	Commentary
Economy	WM 7 Met. GVA per Hour ²³ (Annual – TBC update due late summer 2023)	£31.28	£32.31	£33.11	£33.70		£35 £30 £25 £20 £15 £10 £5 £0 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020	WM 7 Met.: 5 th Highest CA / 11 Greater London Authority: £50.70 (1 st) Sheffield City Region: £28.84 (11 th)	Smoothed GVA per hour worked for the WM 7 Met. area increased by 1.8% (+£0.59) since 2019 to reach £33.70 in 2020, the UK increased by 2.1% (+£0.78 to £37.73). The WM 7 Met. area had a shortfall of £4.03 to the UK-wide rate in 2020, reflecting regional disparities in productivity.

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 $^{^{\}rm 23}$ ONS, subregional productivity in the UK – released July 2022

Monthly People Dashboard

Themes	Indicator	January 2022	February 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022	Trend	Relative to Peer Group	Commentary
	WMCA (3 LEP) Claimants (16+) ²⁴ (monthly update)	157,740 (6.0% of Pop. aged 16-64)	158,790 (6.0% of Pop. aged 16-64)	156,265 (5.9% of Pop. aged 16-64)	151,605 (5.8% of Pop. aged 16-64)	147,765 (5.6% of Pop. aged 16-64)	145,765 (5.5% of Pop. aged 16-64)	143,870 (5.5% of Pop. aged 16-64)	143,420 (5.5% of Pop. aged 16-64)	142,455 (5.4% of Pop. aged 16-64)	143,050 (5.4% of Pop. aged 16-64)	250,000 200,000 150,000 100,000 50,000 0	WMCA (3 LEP): Highest CA UK: 3.6% GMCA: 4.9% (2 nd) West of England: 2.5% (10 th)	There were 143,050 claimants in the WMCA (3 LEP) area in October 2022. Since September 2022, there has been an increase of 0.4% (+595) claimants, while the UK decreased by 0.1%. When compared to March 2020 (pre-pandemic figures), claimants have increased by 21.7% (+25,460) in the WMCA (3 LEP) area, with the UK increasing by 18.9% over the same period.
People	WMCA (3 LEP) Youth Claimants (18- 24) ²⁵ (monthly update)	26,135 (6.6% of Pop. aged 18-24)	26,525 (6.7% of Pop. aged 18-24)	26,205 (6.6% of Pop. aged 18-24)	25,385 (6.4% of Pop. aged 18-24)	24,590 (6.2% of Pop. aged 18-24)	24,280 (6.1% of Pop. aged 18-24)	24,520 (6.2% of Pop. aged 18-24)	24,920 (6.3% of Pop. aged 18-24)	24,910 (6.3% of Pop. aged 18-24)	25,470 (6.4% of Pop. aged 18-24)	45,000 40,000 35,000 20,000 15,000 10,000 5,000 0 Ct 2018 Oct 2019 Oct 2020 Oct 2021 Oct 2022 17,045 21,420 42,460 30,470 25,470	WMCA (3 LEP): 2 nd Highest CA UK: 4.6% Tees Valley: 7.7% (1 st) West of England: 2.2% (10 th)	There were 25,470 youth claimants in the WMCA (3 LEP) area in October 2022. Since September 2022, there was an increase of 2.2% (+560) youth claimants, matching the UK growth rate. When compared to March 2020 (pre pandemic figures), youth claimants have increased by 12.8% (+2,890) in the WMCA (3 LEP) area, with the UK increasing by 7.6% over the same period.
	WM 7 Met. Payrolled Employees ²⁶ (monthly update)	1,188,160	1,190,661	1,192,651	1,195,731	1,201,028	1,206,396	1,210,217	1,207,006	1,213,325	1,220,940	1,240,000 1,220,000 1,200,000 1,180,000 1,160,000 1,140,000 1,120,000 1,100,000 1,100,000 1,080,000 Cot 2018 Cot 2019 Cot 2019 Cot 2020 Cot 2021 Cot 2032 Cot 2032	WM 7 Met.: 3 rd Highest NUTS 2 / 41 Surrey, East and West Sussex: 1,291,532 (1 st) Highlands and Islands: 206,231 (41 st)	Reflecting national trends in the last month, the number of payrolled employees has increased (+0.6% vs +0.2% UK), meaning there were over 1.22m payrolled employees in the WM 7 Met. area in October 2022. When compared to March 2020 payrolled employees were 4.5% higher (+52,527) in the WM 7 Met. area – above the UK growth of 3.5%.
	WMCA (3 LEP) Employment Rate ²⁷ (Q- update due Jan 2023)			72.2% Year Ending Mar 2022			71.7% Year Ending Jun 2022					80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% Jul 2015- Jul 2016- Jul 2017- Jul 2018- Jul 2019- Jul 2020- Jul 2021- Jun 2016 Jun 2017 Jun 2018 Jun 2019 Jun 2020 Jun 2021 Jun 2022	WMCA (3 LEP): 4 th Lowest CA UK: 75.4% West of England: 81.4% (1 st) Tees Valley: 68.8% (10 th)	In the year ending June 2022, the employment rate in the WMCA (3 LEP) area was 71.7%, compared to 75.4% for UK-wide. This was a 0.9pp decrease in the employment rate for the WMCA (3 LEP) area when compared to the year ending June 2021. The UK employment rate increased by 1.1pp over the same time period. For the WMCA (3 LEP) area to reach the UK rate of 75.1%, an additional 97,403 people are required.

²⁴ ONS/DWP, claimant count – released November 2022

²⁵ ONS/DWP, claimant count – released November 2022

²⁶ ONS, labour market in the regions of the UK – released November 2022

²⁷ ONS, Annual Population Survey – released October 2022

March October **February** Indicator April 2022 May 2022 June 2022 Themes July 2022 Trend Relative to Peer Group Commentary 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 2022 30% The economic inactivity rate for the WMCA (3 LEP) area was 24.0% compared 25% to 21.6% UK-wide for the year ending June 2022. This has increased by 1.4pp 20% WMCA (3 LEP): 5th Highest WMCA (3 LEP) for the WMCA (3 LEP) while the UK increased by 0.1pp since the year ending Economic 23.5% 24.0% CA 15% UK: 21.6% Inactivity Rate²⁸ June 2021. Year Year nding Ma Tees Valley: 26.5% (1st) **Ending Jun** 10% West of England: 16.9% (Q- update due In the year ending June 2022, the WMCA 2022 2022 Jan 2023) 5% (10th) (3 LEP) had a higher percentage of people that were inactive when 0% compared to the UK in two categories; Jul 2015- Jul 2016- Jul 2017- Jul 2018- Jul 2019- Jul 2020- Jul 2021students (31.4% vs 27.2%), and looking Jun 2016 Jun 2017 Jun 2018 Jun 2019 Jun 2020 Jun 2021 Jun 2022 after the family/home (24.4% vs 19.6%). 7% 6% The modelled figures show for the 5% WMCA (3 LEP) WMCA (3 LEP) area that unemployment WMCA (3 LEP): 2nd Highest 4% Modelled 5.5% 5.6% rate was 5.6% compared to 3.9% for Unemployment Year Year England for year ending June 2022. This 3% England: 3.9% **Ending Mar Ending Jun** equated to a decrease of 0.6pp for the Tess Valley: 6.2% (1st) 2% 2022 WMCA (3 LEP), England-wide there was a 2022 West of England: 2.1% (10th) (Q – update 1% decrease of 1.2pp when compared to the due Jan 2023) year ending June 2021. 0% Jul 2015- Jul 2016- Jul 2017- Jul 2018- Jul 2019- Jul 2020- Jul 2021-People Jun 2016 Jun 2017 Jun 2018 Jun 2019 Jun 2020 Jun 2021 Jun 2022 80% 70% In the year ending June 2022, the economic activity rate in the WMCA (3 60% LEP) area was 76.0%, compared to 78.4% WMCA (3 LEP) 50% for UK-wide. This was a 1.4pp decrease in WMCA (3 LEP): 5th Lowest 76.5% 76.0% Economic 40% CA the economic activity rate for the WMCA Activity Rate³⁰ Year Year UK: 78.4% (3 LEP) area when compared to year 30% nding Ma inding Jun West of England: 83.1% (1st) ending June 2021, UK-wide increased by (Q-update due 2022 2022 20% Tees Valley: 73.5% (10th) 0.1pp. For the WMCA (3 LEP) area to Jan 2023) 10% reach the UK rate of 78.4%, an additional 61,127 economically active people are 0% required. Jul 2015- Jul 2016- Jul 2017- Jul 2018- Jul 2019- Jul 2020- Jul 2021-Jun 2016 Jun 2017 Jun 2018 Jun 2019 Jun 2020 Jun 2021 Jun 2022 180,000 160,000 140,000 120,000 100.000 **Unique Job** There were 132,693 unique active jobs 80,000 WMCA (3 LEP): Highest CA postings in October 2022. This has Postings³¹ 60.000 126,741 136,333 147,763 131,235 131,234 132,362 159,936 132,377 129,569 132,693 GMCA: 117,227 (2nd) increased by 3,124 since September 40,000 (monthly Tees Valley: 8,913 (10th) 2022. When compared to October 2021. 20,000 unique job postings decreased by 475. update) Apr-19

144.844

96,442

78,274

133,168

132,693

²⁸ ONS, Annual Population Survey – released October 2022

²⁹ ONS, modelled based estimates of unemployment – released October 2022

³⁰ ONS, Annual Population Survey – released October 2022

³¹ Lightcast - November 2022 - please note, as of March 2022, Lightcast, previously known as Emsi Burning Glass implemented new data collection and processing procedures within the Analyst Tool. It is estimated that this will result in an approximate 22% reduction in overall job posting counts, which will vary depending on the filters used within the research. Lightcast believe that these new procedures will mean fewer duplicates are collected upfront alongside an enhanced deduplication process