

Portrait of East Kent: 20th August 2021

Edition prepared for Chamber Members

1. Unemployment

	July 2021		Change since July 2020
	Unemployed	% of workforce	% of workforce
Canterbury District	4,270	4.0%	-20.9%
Dover District	3,715	5.3%	-21.1%
Folkestone & Hythe District	3,950	6.0%	-17.7%
Thanet District	6,940	8.6%	-18.4%
Kent	47,580	5.0%	-17.9%
United Kingdom	2,268,660	5.4%	-14.2%

Based on the claimant count of jobseekers aged 16 – 64 years. Office for National Statistics (ONS) 16th August 2021. See www.nomisweb.co.uk

2. Key Data

	Canterbury	Dover	Folk & H	Thanet	Kent	
Population	166,800	118,500	113,300	141,500	1,589,100	a
Area of land in hectares	32,079	32,040	36,050	11,071	362,236	b
Median FT Gross Wk Pay By Workplace	£532.70	£625.40	£493.80	£478.30	£545.70	c
Median FT Gross Wk Pay By Residence	£594.60	£612.20	£564.10	£533.30	£607.10	c
Unemployed aged 18 – 24	3.6%	9.1%	9.4%	13.3%	7.5%	d
GVA Per Head	£19,622	£19,499	£21,772	£16,648	£23,149	e
Active companies	5,400	3,570	3,750	4,050	64,005	f
Active Companies with 10+ employees	575	355	370	410	6,055	g
4 Year New Company Survival Rate	48.6%	45.6%	45.0%	47.7%	49.4%	h
Tourism economic impact	£491 million	£282 million	£252 million	£320 million	£3.9 billion	i
Jobs FTE direct from tourism	7,357	4,212	3,531	5,665	55,583	i
Coronavirus cases per 100,000 people	205.6	161.7	231.0	88.1	229.9	j

a) ONS MYE 2020 pub. KCC, July 2021 b) ONS & DCLG 2005 c) Earnings In Kent, KCC, December 2020 d) ONS 16th Aug 2021 e) KCC May 2019 f) UK Business Counts 2020, ONS KCC Oct 2020 g) Business Demography 2019, Table 7.3c, ONS h) Business Demography 2019, Table 5.1b, ONS i) Destination Research, Visit Kent, November 2018 j) Case data for 4th July to 11th July 2021, published by KCC 16th July 2021.

In Sep 2015, Thanet youth unemployment was 4.8%: now at 13.3%, it is the highest in the south east.

3. Port of Dover

Period	Passengers	Cars	Coaches	Road Haulage Vehicles
2020 Q1 & Q2	2,212,761	66,860	545	489,268
2021 Q1 & Q2	1,255,169	40,545	544	550,333
Difference	-43.3%	-39.4%	-0.2%	+12.5%

Source: www.doverport.co.uk/about/performance, latest published quarterly and annual figures as at 20th August 2021

4. Issues for local business

Unemployment has fallen sharply in the last three months. The five districts of East Kent, Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Folkestone & Hythe and Thanet, have gained 2,070 jobs in the period May to July 2021. We expect the employment gains to continue in 2021 Q3 as an increasing number of companies report unfilled vacancies. We see significant opportunities for organisations offering training courses to match the identified needs of local companies where expansion plans are current; constrained through the lack of skilled staff.

Chamber Question Time is confirmed as our business networking breakfast on Friday, 10th September 2021. Based on the BBC format, these sessions offer expert advice and guidance from successful experts, as well as stimulating discussions and a good breakfast to set you up for the day, Details are in the attached email. Early booking is recommended.

Media Watch Exam results, the good old-fashioned virtue of turning up for work on time, recruitment, staycations, a Cornish accent, The Open at Royal St. George's and baked beans all feature in the attached monthly business report recording from our good friends at Academy FM.

Cases of Covid-19 are falling across Europe. The attached Chamber Coronavirus Report no. 21 shows Poland and Hungary as reporting the fewest number of cases per 100,000 inhabitants. Cyprus and France are currently showing the highest number in the European Union and European Economic Area.