

Portrait of East Kent: 21st February 2022

Business news to keep you ahead of the curve

1. Unemployment

	January 2022		Change since January 2021
	Unemployed	% of workforce	% of workforce
Canterbury District	3,550	3.4%	-29.6%
Dover District	3,120	4.5%	-30.0%
Folkestone & Hythe District	3,360	5.1%	-29.0%
Thanet District	5,915	7.3%	-25.3%
Kent	38,300	4.0%	-30.6%
Great Britain	1,772,720	4.4%	-29.2%

Based on the claimant count of jobseekers aged 16 – 64 years. Office for National Statistics (ONS) 15th Feb 2022. 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	£520.30	£607.90	£561.20	£535.10	£574.90	c
Median FT Gross Wk Pay By Residence	£578.50	£645.00	£607.80	£560.30	£631.90	c
Unemployed aged 18 – 24	2.8%	6.8%	7.9%	10.3%	5.5%	d
GVA Per Head	£20,726	£19,939	£22,128	£15,706	£24,877	e
Number of VAT/PAYE Enterprises	5,455	3,680	3,785	4,185	64,700	f
Enterprises with 0 – 9 Employees	4,865	3,300	3,415	3,760	58,440	g
Five-Year Business Survival Rate	41.4%	38.0%	40.0%	39.4%	42.6%	h
Total Tourism Value £millions	194.3	112.2	110.4	124.3	1,616.1	i
Tourism percentage of all jobs	10%	11%	9%	12%	7%	i
Coronavirus cases per 100,000 people	509.1	546.8	509.2	497.7	501.2	j

a) ONS MYE 2020 pub. KCC, July 2021 b) ONS & DCLG 2005 c) Earnings In Kent, KCC, Nov 2021 d) ONS 15th Feb 2022 e) KCC Oct 2021 ref 2019. f) UK Business Counts by Employment Size ONS Oct 2021 g) UK Business Counts by Employment Size ONS Oct 2021 h) Business Demography, Dec 2021, ONS i) Destination Research, 2020 Results, Visit Kent, Jan 2022 j) Case data for 11th Feb 2022 to 18th Feb 2022, KCC 21st Feb 2022.

3. Port of Dover

Period	Passengers	Cars	Coaches	Road Haulage Vehicles	Ferry Entries
2020	4,348,478	608,767	11,777	2,268,525	13,625
2021	3,102,599	336,296	4,476	2,149,595	15,538
Difference	-28.7%	--44.8%	-62.0%	-5.2%	+14.0%

Source: www.doverport.co.uk/about/performance, latest published quarterly and annual figures as at 20th February 2022

4. Issues for local business

Ramsgate Regeneration was the title of the Chamber Business Networking Breakfast of 18th February 2022. Before a full house at the Baypoint Club Sandwich, Chris Taylor and Tim Hare of TaylorHare Architects outlined their plans for regenerating Ramsgate with a new college at the harbour and upto 2,000 seaside accommodation units, see Press Release attached.

Year-on-year unemployment in every district in East Kent continues to fall at pace, ranging from a dramatic annual decrease of 37.6% in Tonbridge & Malling to a still remarkable 25.3% in Thanet. In an effort to recruit new employees and retain key staff, some local companies are offering private health care benefits and sponsored training courses. Contact the Chamber for more details.

Our East Kent football clubs in Margate, Ramsgate and Dover collectively provide training and sports courses to nearly 2,000 youngsters. Run largely by volunteers, these programmes engage boys and girls in activities that promote teamwork, foster healthy living and encourage self-discipline. By supporting your local club and attending the occasional home fixture, you are contributing to the success of your local community. At the time of writing, Margate FC is lying 8th in the Isthmian League Premier Division, Ramsgate is currently in 4th place in the Isthmian League South East Division with a game in hand and very much in contention for promotion. After a brutal points deduction at the beginning of the season, Dover Athletic is in 23rd place in the Vanarama National League but fighting hard to avoid relegation.

News has reached us from a local gardener who allegedly suffered last Friday afternoon from the gale-force winds. We have our doubts about the report, but Chamber members will have their own views. He told us: "I was in the garden rearranging my power tools, Everything was fine and then suddenly ... Bosch"