

Statistical bulletin

Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, UK: July 2020

Experimental monthly estimates of paid employees and their pay from HM Revenue and Customs' (HMRC's) Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) data. This is a joint release between HMRC and the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

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1 . Main points

- The number of paid employees in the UK in May 2020 fell by 1.6%, compared with the same period of the previous year.
- Early estimates for June 2020 indicate that the number of paid employees fell by 1.9% compared with June 2019.
- In June 2020, 74,000 fewer people were in paid employment when compared with May 2020 and 649,000 fewer people were in paid employment when compared with March 2020.
- Median monthly pay fell by 0.9% in May 2020, compared with the same period of the previous year.
- Early estimates for June 2020 indicate that median monthly pay increased by 1.0%, compared with the same period of the previous year.
- Growth in median pay for employees in the three months to May 2020 was highest in Northern Ireland (positive 1.2%) and lowest in Scotland (negative 0.1%).
- Pay growth in the UK for employees was highest at the 90th percentile (positive 1.0%) and lowest at the 10th percentile (negative 0.6%) in the three months to May 2020, for the percentiles we have analysed.

About the data in this release

Early estimates for June 2020 are provided to give an indication of the likely level of employees as well as median pay in the latest period. The figures for June 2020 are based on around 85% of information being available and are considered of lower quality and may be subject to revision in next month's release when between 98% to 99% of data will be available. This work has been brought forward in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and methods will continue to be developed.

This release covers people paid through the Pay As You Earn (PAYE) system where their pay is reported through the Real Time Information (RTI) system. As employees who are "furloughed" as part of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) programme should still have their payments reported through this system, they should feature in these data and contribute toward the employment and pay statistics for the relevant periods.

Statistics in this release are based on people who are employed in at least one job paid through PAYE, and monthly estimates reflect the average of such people for each day of the calendar month. This follows the introduction of a [new methodology](#) in December 2019, designed to better align with international guidelines for labour market statistics. This differs from the methodology used prior to December 2019, which produced statistics based on the total number of people paid in a particular time period.

2 . Individuals receiving pay

In May 2020, 28.4 million people were paid employees (Figure 1). This represents a 1.6% fall in paid employees when compared with the same period of the previous year. When comparing the number of paid employees in May 2020 with the previous month, the number fell by 0.4% – a slight revision from the 0.6% fall estimated by the previous bulletin's early estimate for May 2020.

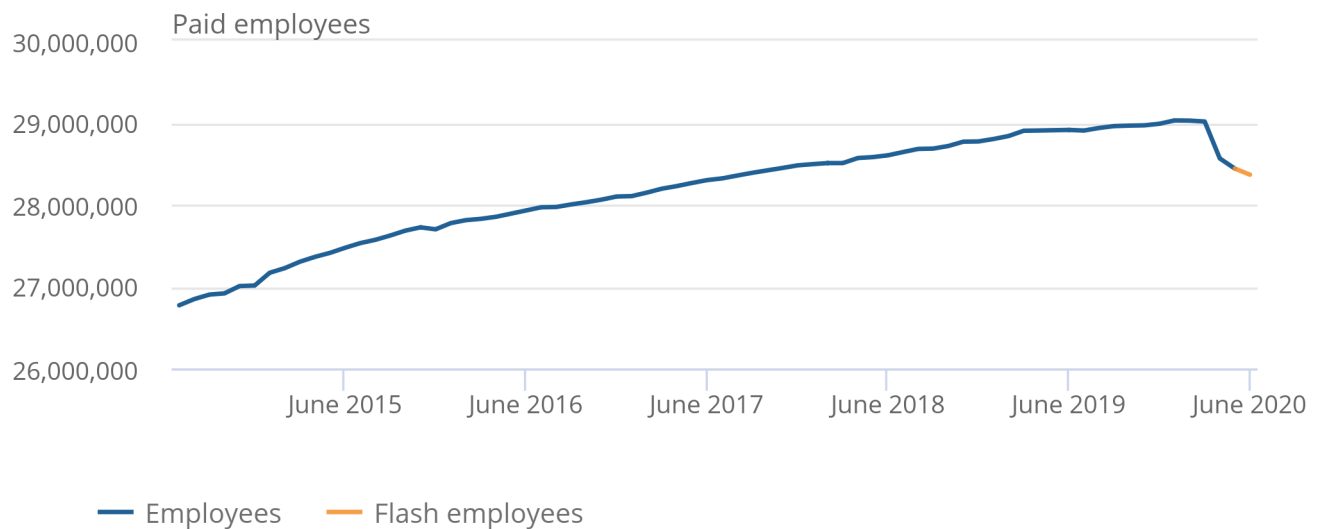
Early estimates for June 2020 indicate that there were 28.4 million paid employees, a fall of 1.9% on the same time in the previous year and a decline of 546,000 people. Compared with the previous month, the number of paid employees fell by 0.3% in June 2020.

Figure 1: After rising for several years, the number of employees has fallen in recent months

Paid employees, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2014 to June 2020

Figure 1: After rising for several years, the number of employees has fallen in recent months

Paid employees, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2014 to June 2020



Source: HM Revenue and Customs – Pay As You Earn Real Time Information

Notes:

1. The latest period, highlighted in orange, is based on early data and therefore could be subject to revisions.
2. Data for May 2020 are not a flash estimate of paid employees; these are included purely for graphing purposes.

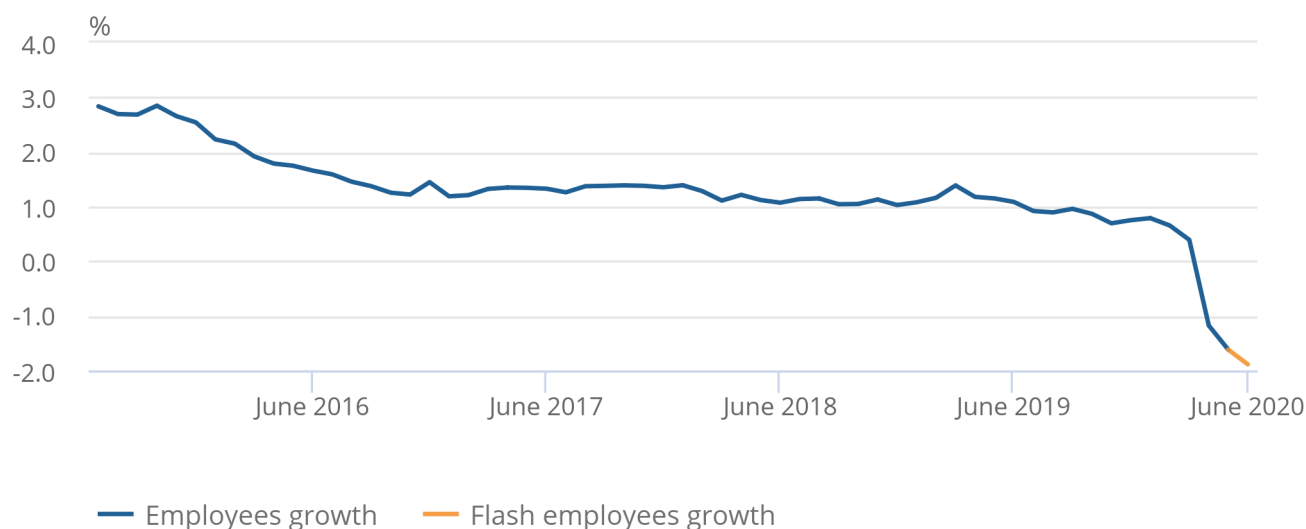
Annual growth in the number of employees remained broadly within a range of 1.0% to 1.5% until 2019, following higher rates of growth prior to mid-2016 (Figure 2). Starting around early 2019, employee growth began a slight downward trend. However, employee growth slowed more substantially recently (becoming negative in April 2020) coinciding with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic as well as related economic and policy responses.

Figure 2: Growth in the number of paid employees fell recently, becoming negative in April 2020

Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2015 to June 2020

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Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2015 to June 2020



Source: HM Revenue and Customs – Pay As You Earn Real Time Information

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Declines in the number of paid employees in recent months can be explained by examining inflows and outflows from payroll employment. For any time period, net changes in the number of paid employees can be decomposed into inflows (people who were not in paid employment in a previous period but are in the current period) and outflows (people who were in paid employment in a previous period but are not in the current period).

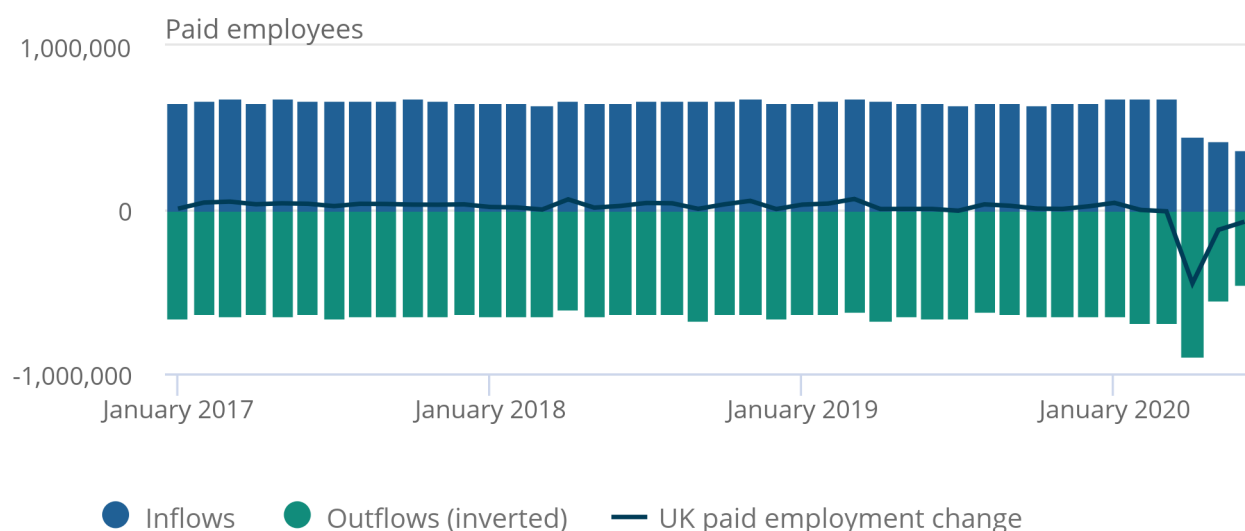
For most of the years prior to February 2020, outflows and inflows were broadly equal – with inflows being slightly higher, resulting in a net increase in paid employment (Figure 3). Between January 2017 and December 2019 in the UK, inflows averaged 666,000 and outflows averaged 641,000 per month, with a resulting average increase in paid employment of 25,000 per month.

Figure 3: Inflows into paid employment continue to fall, while outflows have fallen below their long-term average

Month-on-month change in paid employment and contributions to this change from inflows (positive) and outflows (negative), seasonally adjusted, UK, January 2017 to June 2020

Figure 3: Inflows into paid employment continue to fall, while outflows have fallen below their long-term average

Month-on-month change in paid employment and contributions to this change from inflows (positive) and outflows (negative), seasonally adjusted, UK, January 2017 to June 2020



Source: HM Revenue and Customs – Pay As You Earn Real Time Information

Notes:

1. The latest period is based on early data and therefore could be subject to revisions.
2. Testing of these experimental data indicates a tendency for both inflows and outflows to be revised downwards. For this reason, additional caution should be used when interpreting these statistics. The scale of these revisions should not affect the broad analysis presented in the bulletin text.

While paid employment has fallen in the past four months, the changes in inflows and outflows driving this fall have differed. The fall in paid employment in April was (broadly) equally because of an increase in outflows and a fall in inflows compared with their pre-coronavirus trends. However, in May and June outflows fell below their pre-coronavirus level while inflows continued to decrease. As a result, the fall in paid employment in the latest two months can be explained primarily through lower than usual inflows rather than higher than usual outflows.

In interpreting these trends, it is important to note that outflows consist of people both voluntarily and involuntarily leaving paid employment, and inflows similarly consist of employers replacing people who have left and creating new employments. It is not possible to distinguish these different circumstances using the Real Time Information (RTI) data. Therefore, care needs to be taken not to interpret the outflows in terms of either voluntary or involuntary changes individually. In addition, recent data periods are subject to increased levels of imputation and so should be treated as [experimental](#) and with caution. Testing to date indicates there may be a slight bias toward both inflows and outflows being revised down slightly over time, by roughly equal amounts – but the scale of these revisions should not impact the broad analysis presented here.

3 . Median monthly pay

Median monthly pay for employees in May 2020 was £1,795 (Figure 4). This represents a 0.9% fall when compared with the same period of the previous year. This is smaller than the early estimate of a 1.8% fall in May reported in the [previous bulletin](#).

This revision is relatively large compared with previously published revisions as well as unpublished testing prior to the introduction of our early median earnings estimate in our [May 2020 bulletin](#). Initial investigations indicate the revision is a result of revisions in pay growth for those in continuous employment. In particular, changes in pay between April and May 2020 in the previous bulletin partially reflected an elevated number of people experiencing month-on-month falls in pay between 1% and 5%. This has now been revised so that the number of people experiencing pay falls of this amount are similar to previous years.

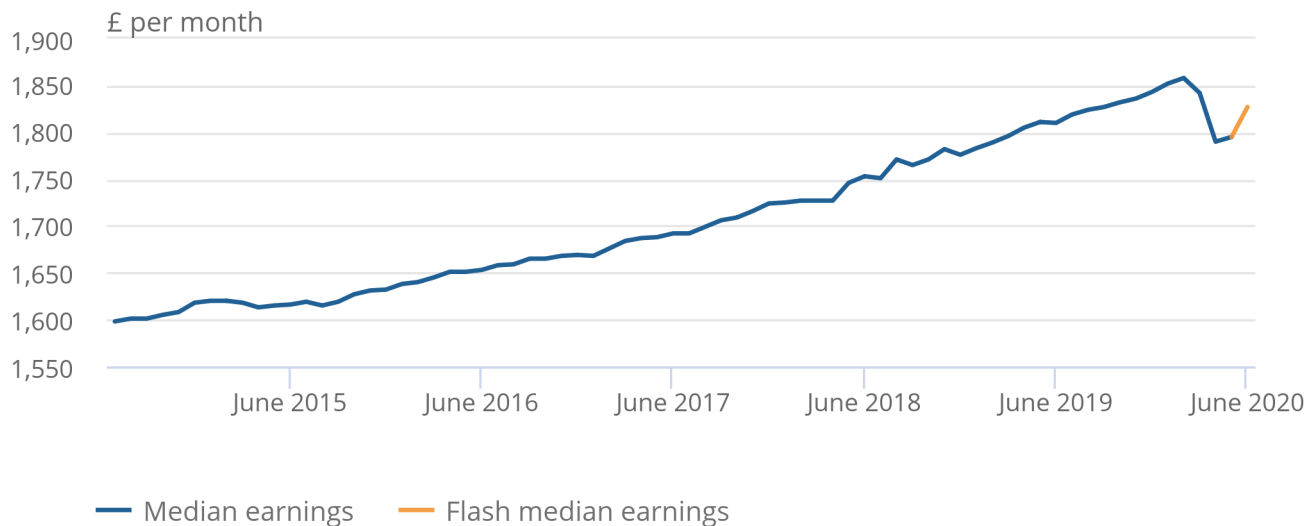
Early estimates for June indicate that median monthly pay increased to £1,827, an increase of 1.0% when compared with the same period of the previous year.

Figure 4: Median pay decreased sharply in recent months, but it recovered in June according to early estimates

Median pay per month, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2014 to June 2020

Figure 4: Median pay decreased sharply in recent months, but it recovered in June according to early estimates

Median pay per month, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2014 to June 2020



Source: HM Revenue and Customs – Pay As You Earn Real Time Information

Notes:

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2. Data for May 2020 are not a flash estimate of paid employees; these are included purely for graphing purposes.

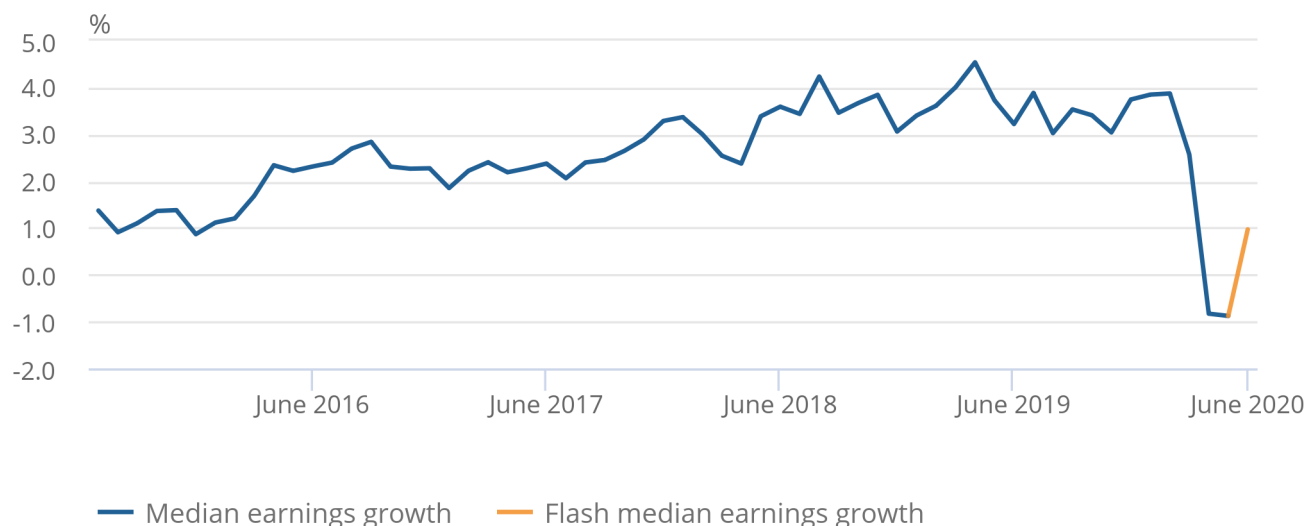
Following a general trend of increasing pay growth between mid-2015 and mid-2018, pay growth tended to fluctuate around 3.6% (Figure 5). Estimates for April 2020 onward indicate that pay growth has slowed more substantially recently (becoming negative in April and May) coinciding with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic as well as related economic and policy responses.

Figure 5: The rate of growth in median pay fell recently, but it turned positive again in June according to early estimates

Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2015 to June 2020

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Percentage change on same month in previous year, seasonally adjusted, UK, July 2015 to June 2020



Source: HM Revenue and Customs – Pay As You Earn Real Time Information

Notes:

1. Percentage change has been calculated using unrounded figures.
2. The latest period, highlighted in orange, is based on early data and therefore could be subject to revisions.
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Positive pay growth in the most recent period is partially explained by the decrease in inflows to paid employment, explored in an earlier section of this bulletin. The mean pay of inflows tends to be around 40% lower than mean pay for those continually employed – meaning inflows into paid employment tend to bring down average pay and average pay growth. As inflows have fallen in recent months, this downward pressure on pay growth is reduced, and pay growth is higher as a result.

The regional figures in this bulletin are based on where employees live and not the location of their place of work. They are also based on three-month moving averages. Median pay across regions and nations of the UK in the three months to May 2020 ranged from £1,688 in Northern Ireland to £2,186 in London (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Median pay varies across the UK

Median pay, seasonally adjusted, UK, three months to May 2020

Figure 6: Median pay varies across the UK

Median pay, seasonally adjusted, UK, three months to May 2020



Source: HM Revenue and Customs – Pay As You Earn Real Time Information

Notes:

1. Data for the UK in this chart are based on an average of the three months to May. For this reason, they are not directly comparable with Figures 4 or 5 (which use data for a single month).

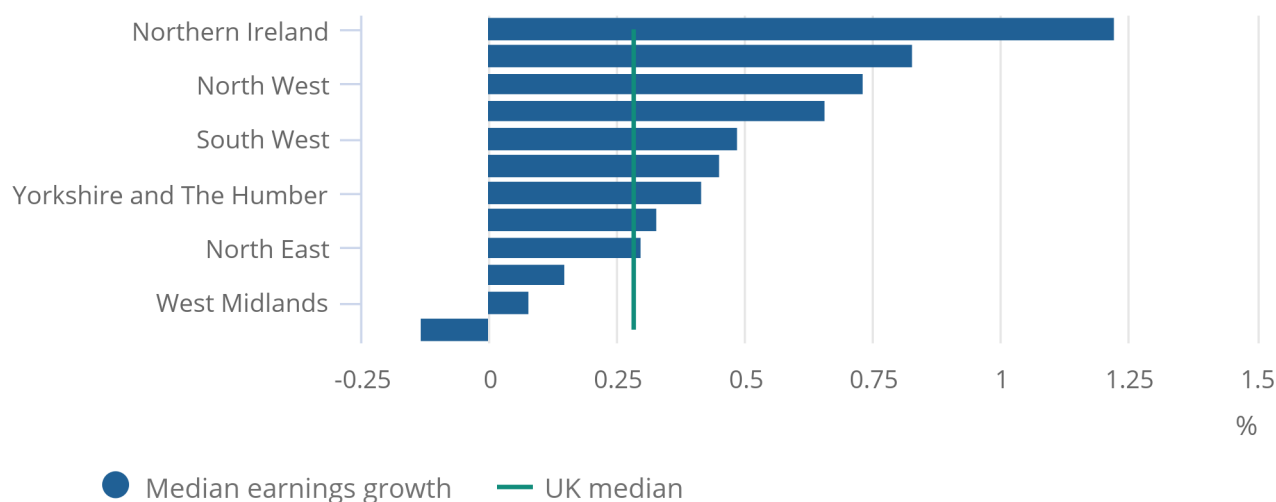
Compared with the same time last year, pay grew fastest in Northern Ireland (positive 1.2%) and slowest in Scotland (negative 0.1%) (Figure 7). Over the longer term, on average over the past five years, pay growth was highest in the East of England (at an annualised rate of positive 2.5%) and slowest in the North East (positive 2.1%).

Figure 7: Median pay increased most in Northern Ireland and least in Scotland

Percentage change on same three months last year, seasonally adjusted, UK, three months to May 2020

Figure 7: Median pay increased most in Northern Ireland and least in Scotland

Percentage change on same three months last year, seasonally adjusted, UK, three months to May 2020



Source: HM Revenue and Customs – Pay As You Earn Real Time Information

Notes:

1. Percentage change has been calculated using unrounded figures.
2. Data for the UK in this chart are based on an average of the three months to May. For this reason, they are not directly comparable with Figures 4 or 5 (which use data for a single month).
3. The UK median is show here for comparative purposes, but it does not represent an “average” of median pay growth across the regions. It is statistically possible, for example, for median pay growth for the UK as a whole to be higher or lower than pay growth in all consistent parts of the UK.
4. Changes in growth rates are affected by changes in the base period (a year ago) as well as changes in the latest period.

4 . Pay distribution

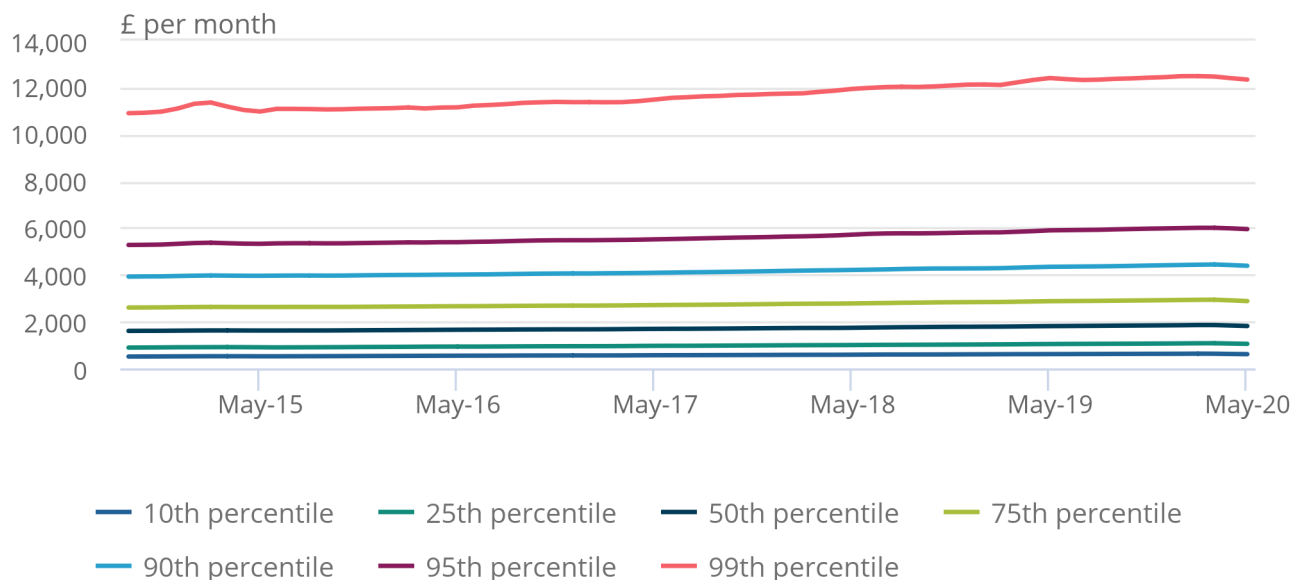
In the three months to May 2020, the 10th percentile of the monthly pay distribution was £606, the 90th percentile was £4,382 and the 99th percentile was £12,338 (Figure 8). This means that 10% of paid employees earned equal to or less than £606 per month, 90% earned equal to or less than £4,382, and 99% earned equal to or less than £12,338.

Figure 8: In the three months to May 2020, 10% of employees earned less than £606 per month and 90% earned less than £4,382 per month

Pay per month, seasonally adjusted, UK, three months to September 2014 to three months to May 2020

Figure 8: In the three months to May 2020, 10% of employees earned less than £606 per month and 90% earned less than £4,382 per month

Pay per month, seasonally adjusted, UK, three months to September 2014 to three months to May 2020



Source: HM Revenue and Customs – Pay As You Earn Real Time Information

Notes:

1. Data for the 50th percentile (that is, the median) in this chart are based on three-month moving averages. For this reason, they are not directly comparable with Figures 4 or 5 (which use data for a single month).

Compared with the same time a year ago, of the percentiles we have analysed, pay growth was highest at the 90th percentile (positive 1.0%) and lowest at the 10th percentile (negative 0.6%).

When interpreting changes in the distribution over time, it can be useful to compare the level of percentiles relative to the median (that is, the amount of earnings in the middle of the distribution so that half of employees earn more and half earn less).

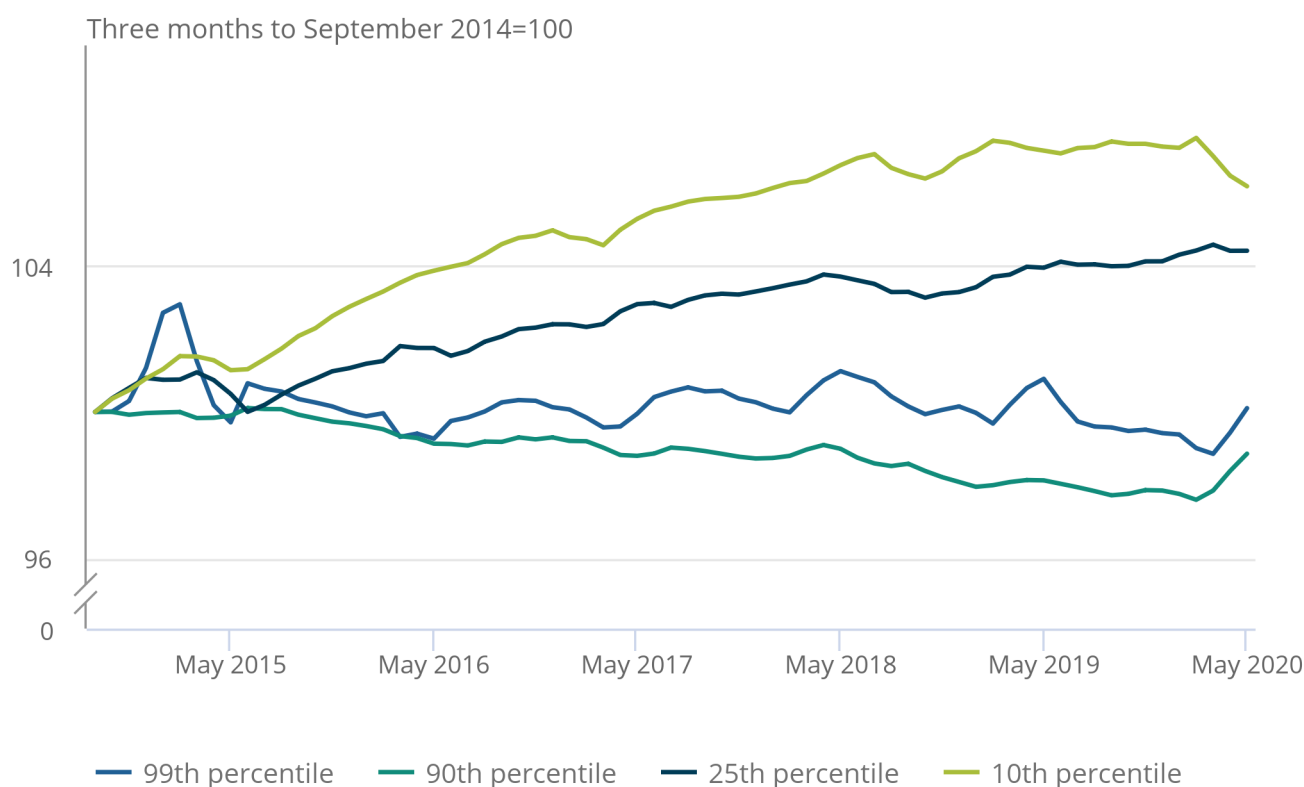
Figure 9 divides each percentile by the median and then indexes these to 100 at the start of the series to better focus on their movements over time. Growth in these series reflects a percentile growing faster than median pay, while a fall in these series reflects a percentile growing slower than median pay.

Figure 9: Since 2014, employees' pay has generally grown fastest toward the low end of the pay distribution

Ratio of selected percentiles relative to the median, rolling three-month average, seasonally adjusted, UK, three months to September 2014 to three months to May 2020

Figure 9: Since 2014, employees' pay has generally grown fastest toward the low end of the pay distribution

Ratio of selected percentiles relative to the median, rolling three-month average, seasonally adjusted, UK, three months to September 2014 to three months to May 2020



Source: HM Revenue and Customs – Pay As You Earn Real Time Information

The 10th and 25th percentiles of employees' pay have generally grown faster than median pay over the past five years, coinciding with the introduction of, and increases to, the [National Living Wage \(NLW\)](#). However, since mid-2018, the 10th percentile and the median have grown at broadly the same pace, so their ratio has remained broadly constant. In the most recent months, pay growth has been weaker at the low end of the distribution than at the median. In line with the rest of this bulletin, Figure 8 includes only employees' pay and not other income such as from self-employment.

The ratio of the 90th percentile to the median has generally fallen, reflecting pay towards this high end of the distribution growing slightly slower than median pay. When focusing even further towards the high end of the distribution, pay at the 99th percentile has grown at a broadly similar pace to median pay. However, in recent months pay growth at the high end of the distribution has been stronger than the median, at both the 90th and 99th percentiles.

5 . Earnings and employment data

[Real Time Information statistics reference table, seasonally adjusted](#)

Dataset | Released 16 July 2020

Employee counts and earnings data, including geographic and distributional breakdowns, from Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI), seasonally adjusted.

[Real Time Information statistics reference table, not seasonally adjusted](#)

Dataset | Released 16 July 2020

Employee counts and earnings data, including geographic and distributional breakdowns, from PAYE RTI, not seasonally adjusted.

6 . Glossary

Median monthly pay

Median monthly pay shows what a person in the middle of all employees would earn each month. The median pay is generally considered to be a more accurate reflection of the “average wage” because it discounts the extremes at either end of the scale.

National Minimum Wage and National Living Wage

The National Minimum Wage (NMW) is a minimum amount per hour that most workers in the UK are entitled to be paid. There are different rates of minimum wage depending on a worker's age and whether they are an apprentice. The NMW applies to employees aged between 16 and 24 years. The government's National Living Wage (NLW) was introduced on 1 April 2016 and applies to employees aged 25 years and over.

On the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE) reference date in April 2020, the NMW and NLW rates were:

- £8.72 for employees aged 25 years and over
- £8.20 for employees aged 21 to 24 years
- £6.45 for employees aged 18 to 20 years
- £4.55 for employees aged 16 to 17 years
- £4.15 for apprentices aged 16 to 18 years and those aged 19 years or over who are in the first year of their apprenticeship

Pay As You Earn

Pay As You Earn (PAYE) is the system employers and pension providers use to take Income Tax and National Insurance contributions before they pay wages or pensions to employees and pensioners. This publication relates to employees only and not pensioners. It was introduced in 1944 and is now the way most employees pay Income Tax in the UK.

7 . Measuring the data

Data source and collection

The data for this release come from HM Revenue and Customs' (HMRC's) Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) system. They cover the whole population rather than a sample of people or companies, and they will allow for more detailed estimates of the population. The release is classed as [Experimental Statistics](#) as the methodologies used to produce the statistics are still in their development phase. As a result, the series are subject to revisions.

Coverage

This publication covers employees paid by employers only. It does not cover self-employment income or income from other sources such as pensions, property rental and investments. Where individuals have multiple sources of income, only income from employers is included.

The figures in this release are for the period July 2014 to June 2020 and are seasonally adjusted.

Upcoming changes

Future bulletins are planned to include additional statistics, such as more detailed geographic breakdowns. The focus and timing of these will be informed by user feedback. Please email rtistatistics.enquiries@hmrc.gov.uk if you would like to offer feedback on how the contents can be improved in the future.

Methodology

An accompanying article contains more information on the [calendarisation and imputation methodologies](#) used in this bulletin, alongside comparisons with other earnings and employment statistics and possible quality improvements in the future.

8 . Strengths and limitations

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) grants pre-release access to [official statistics](#) publications. As this is a joint release, and in accordance with the HMRC policy, pre-release access has been granted to a number of people to enable the preparation of a ministerial briefing. Further details, including a [list of those granted access](#), can be found on [HMRC's website](#).

Experimental Statistics status

This is a joint experimental release between HMRC and the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The existing monthly publications produced by the ONS remain the primary [National Statistics](#) for the labour market. The intention is that these new statistics will also be updated on a monthly basis.

The release is classed as [Experimental Statistics](#) as the methodologies used to produce the statistics are still in their development phase. This does not mean that the statistics are of low quality, but it does signify that the statistics are new and still being developed. As the methodologies are refined and improved, there may be revisions to these statistics.

Rather than waiting until the development work has been completed, the statistics are being published now to involve potential users in developing the statistics. We hope that this encourages users to provide us with their thoughts and suggestions on how useful the statistics are and what can be done to improve them. Comments can be sent by email to rtistatistics.enquiries@hmrc.gov.uk.

More information about [Experimental Statistics](#), including when they should be used and the differences between them and [National Statistics](#), is available.

Strengths of the data

As Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI) data cover the whole population, rather than a sample of people or companies, we will be able to use these to produce estimates for geographic areas and other more detailed breakdowns of the population. At the moment, the methods for producing such breakdowns are under development and we expect to include further statistics in a future release. These statistics can help inform decision-making across the country. They also have the potential to provide more timely estimates than existing measures.

These statistics also have the potential to replace some of those based on surveys, which could reduce the burden on businesses needing to fill in statistical surveys.

Imputation and revisions

A limitation of the calendarisation used is that the figures for pay and numbers of employees in month t depend on payments made in month $t + 1$. This means only around 80% of the data used in the calculation on month t statistics are available at the end of each month.

Rather than wait until all those remaining payment returns have been received, we have decided to produce a more timely measure of numbers of employees and median pay by imputing the values for missing returns. The data on which the statistics are based were extracted at the beginning of June, which means around 1% to 2% of the data for May 2020 are imputed, while around 15% of the data for the "flash" June 2020 data are imputed. As a result, the figures in future releases will be updated as new payment returns are received, and the imputation payments can be replaced with actual data.

Differences compared with the Labour Force Survey and Average Weekly Earnings statistics

Further information about the [methodology used and comparisons](#) with the ONS's [Labour Force Survey \(LFS\)](#) and [Average Weekly Earnings](#) can be found in an [accompanying article](#).

9 . Related links

[Labour market overview: July 2020](#)

Bulletin | Released 16 July 2020

Estimates of employment, unemployment, economic inactivity and other employment-related statistics for the UK.

[Employment in the UK: July 2020](#)

Bulletin | Released 16 July 2020

Estimates of employment, unemployment and economic inactivity for the UK.

[Labour market in the regions of the UK: July 2020](#)

Bulletin | Released 16 July 2020

Regional breakdowns of changes in UK employment, unemployment and economic inactivity.

[Earnings and employment statistics from Pay As You Earn \(PAYE\) Real Time Information \(Experimental Statistics\)](#)

Bulletin | Updated 16 June 2020

Previously published employee and earnings statistics from Pay As You Earn (PAYE) Real Time Information (RTI), based on a different methodology.

[Average weekly earnings in Great Britain: July 2020](#)

Bulletin | Released 16 July 2020

Estimates of growth in earnings for employees before tax and other deductions from pay.

PAID EMPLOYEES

1 Paid Employee counts from PAYE RTI

UK, All industries, Seasonally adjusted	
Period	Paid employees
May 2015	27,409,699
May 2016	27,888,395
May 2017	28,262,749
May 2018	28,578,809
May 2019	28,906,913
June 2019	28,910,334
July 2019	28,903,031
August 2019	28,934,388
September 2019	28,957,112
October 2019	28,962,864
November 2019	28,966,373
December 2019	28,985,614
January 2020	29,026,333
February 2020	29,023,909
March 2020	29,012,876
April 2020	28,562,457
May 2020	28,438,379
Change on year	-468,534
Change %	-1.6
Flash estimate for June 2020	28,363,962

Source: PAYE RTI

1. The number of paid employees here is defined as the number of people receiving paid remuneration included in PAYE RTI for work done in the reference period. It also includes people receiving remuneration for the reference period who have not done work but are an employee - such as those on paid leave. Values for the month are an average of employee counts in each day of the month. It is a measure of people who are paid employees, as opposed to a measure of employee jobs.

2. These statistics include only individuals paid through PAYE and do not cover other sources of income such as from pensions, self-employment or investments.

3. PAYE covers occupational pension income as well as employment. In these tables pension income is excluded.

4. Incomes are allocated to regions and countries according to the residence of the recipient.

5. These data include imputation for payments not yet received by HMRC which would relate to the respective work periods

6. Figures have been rounded to the nearest unit. Change and growth calculations have been made on unrounded data, and then rounded.

7. These are experimental Statistics

MEDIAN PAY

2 Median monthly Pay from PAYE RTI

Period	£ per month
	UK, All industries, Seasonally adjusted
Period	Median Pay
May 2015	1,615
May 2016	1,651
May 2017	1,688
May 2018	1,746
May 2019	1,811
June 2019	1,810
July 2019	1,819
August 2019	1,824
September 2019	1,827
October 2019	1,832
November 2019	1,836
December 2019	1,843
January 2020	1,852
February 2020	1,858
March 2020	1,842
April 2020	1,790
May 2020	1,795
Change on year	-16
Change %	-0.9
Flash estimate for June 2020	1,827

Source: PAYE RTI

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4. Incomes are allocated to regions and countries according to the residence of the recipient.
5. These data include imputation for payments not yet received by HMRC which would relate to the respective work periods
6. Figures have been rounded to the nearest £. Change and growth calculations have been made on unrounded data, and then rounded.
7. These are experimental Statistics

REGIONAL PAY

3 Regional median monthly Pay from PAYE RTI

£ per month, 3 month moving average UK, All industries, Seasonally adjusted			
Area name	Three months to May 2020	Change on Year	Change %
North East	1,700	5	0.3
North West	1,719	13	0.7
Yorkshire and the Humber	1,689	7	0.4
East Midlands	1,710	8	0.5
West Midlands	1,711	1	0.1
East of England	1,873	15	0.8
London	2,186	3	0.1
South East	1,941	6	0.3
South West	1,711	8	0.5
Wales	1,702	11	0.7
Scotland	1,835	-2	-0.1
Northern Ireland	1,688	20	1.2

Source: PAYE RTI

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3. PAYE covers occupational pension income as well as employment. In these tables pension income is excluded.
4. Incomes are allocated to regions and countries according to the residence of the recipient.
5. These data include imputation for payments not yet received by HMRC which would relate to the respective work periods
6. Figures have been rounded to the nearest £. Change and growth calculations have been made on unrounded data, and then rounded.
7. These are experimental Statistics

PAY DISTRIBUTION

4 Monthly Pay by Percentile from PAYE RTI

							month, 3 month moving average industries, Seasonally adjusted
Three months to:	10th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile	95th Percentile	99th Percentile
May 2015	515	900	1,615	2,621	3,954	5,321	10,973
May 2016	540	930	1,649	2,654	4,005	5,390	11,151
May 2017	560	962	1,686	2,703	4,083	5,512	11,485
May 2018	583	996	1,733	2,773	4,204	5,713	11,940
May 2019	609	1,039	1,804	2,869	4,338	5,896	12,402
June 2019	610	1,043	1,808	2,874	4,344	5,905	12,355
July 2019	613	1,045	1,813	2,879	4,351	5,913	12,320
August 2019	614	1,048	1,817	2,884	4,357	5,921	12,334
September 2019	617	1,051	1,823	2,891	4,366	5,938	12,370
October 2019	618	1,053	1,828	2,898	4,378	5,953	12,388
November 2019	620	1,057	1,832	2,905	4,392	5,968	12,419
December 2019	621	1,060	1,837	2,912	4,404	5,978	12,442
January 2020	623	1,065	1,843	2,921	4,416	5,991	12,483
February 2020	627	1,071	1,851	2,928	4,427	6,004	12,486
March 2020	624	1,073	1,851	2,932	4,438	6,004	12,466
April 2020	614	1,059	1,830	2,905	4,412	5,981	12,399
May 2020	606	1,047	1,809	2,874	4,382	5,949	12,338
Change on year	-4	8	5	5	44	53	-64
Change %	-0.6	0.7	0.3	0.2	1	0.9	-0.5

Source: PAYE RTI

1. The number of paid employees here is defined as the number of people receiving paid remuneration included in PAYE RTI for work done in the reference period. It also includes people receiving remuneration for the reference period who have not done work but are an employee - such as those on paid leave. Values for the month are an average of employee counts in each day of the month. It is a measure of people who are paid employees, as opposed to a measure of employee jobs.

2. These statistics include only individuals paid through PAYE and do not cover other sources of income such as from pensions, self-employment or investments.

3. PAYE covers occupational pension income as well as employment. In these tables pension income is excluded.

4. Incomes are allocated to regions and countries according to the residence of the recipient.

5. These data include imputation for payments not yet received by HMRC which would relate to the respective work periods

6. Figures have been rounded to the nearest £. Change and growth calculations have been made on unrounded data, and then rounded.

7. These are experimental Statistics