

Coast to Capital Employment Snapshot - July 2016

Main Points:

- Coast to Capital regional Employment Rate is a record 77.7% - the highest rate recorded since 2004
- 957,400 residents in the Coast to Capital region are now in employment – an 11,500 increase since last quarter
- Coast to Capital regional Unemployment Rate rose a slight 0.1%, to 3.6%
- The number of unemployed residents in the Coast to Capital region is 37,600 – a rise of 1,700 since last quarter, largely due to an increased economically active population

EMPLOYMENT

Since the previous quarter the employment rate has jumped to a record 77.7% in the Coast to Capital region, the highest it has been since December 2004. The number of people in employment has increased by 11,500 over the last quarter, there are now 957,400 people employed in the Coast to Capital region. By comparison the UK employment rate is 73.6% and the South East region's employment rate is 77.2%. Over the last quarter employment has risen by 0.1% in the UK, 0.4% in the South East, and 0.9% in Coast to Capital.

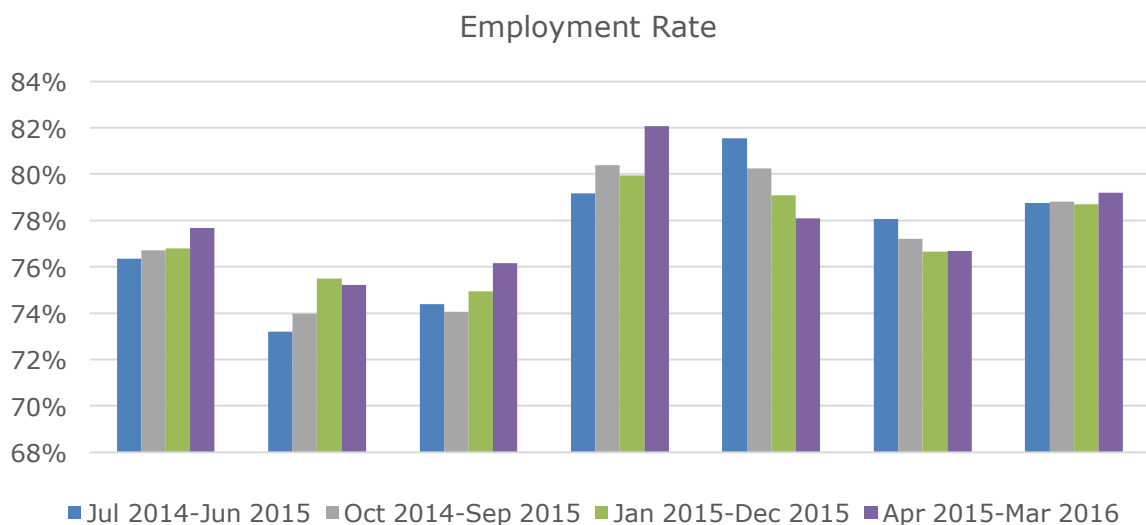


Figure 1 – Employment Rate in the Coast to Capital region - Source: Annual population survey July 2016

Across the Area Partnerships¹ employment performance is more mixed. In Croydon there has been a slight 0.3% decline in employment over the quarter, but remains in a stronger position than four quarters ago, whereas in Rural West Sussex there was a 1% drop in employment last quarter, continuing a four quarter

¹ More information about the make-up of the Area Partnerships is at the end of the document

decline in employment down from 81.5% to 78.1%. There has been a strong rise in employment in both the Greater Brighton City region (up 1.2%) and the Gatwick Diamond (up 2.1%), with each performing better than four quarters ago. The Gatwick Diamond area has the highest employment rate at 82.1%. in Coastal West Sussex there was no change quarter on quarter, which is an encouraging development as there was a downward trend in the previous three quarters.

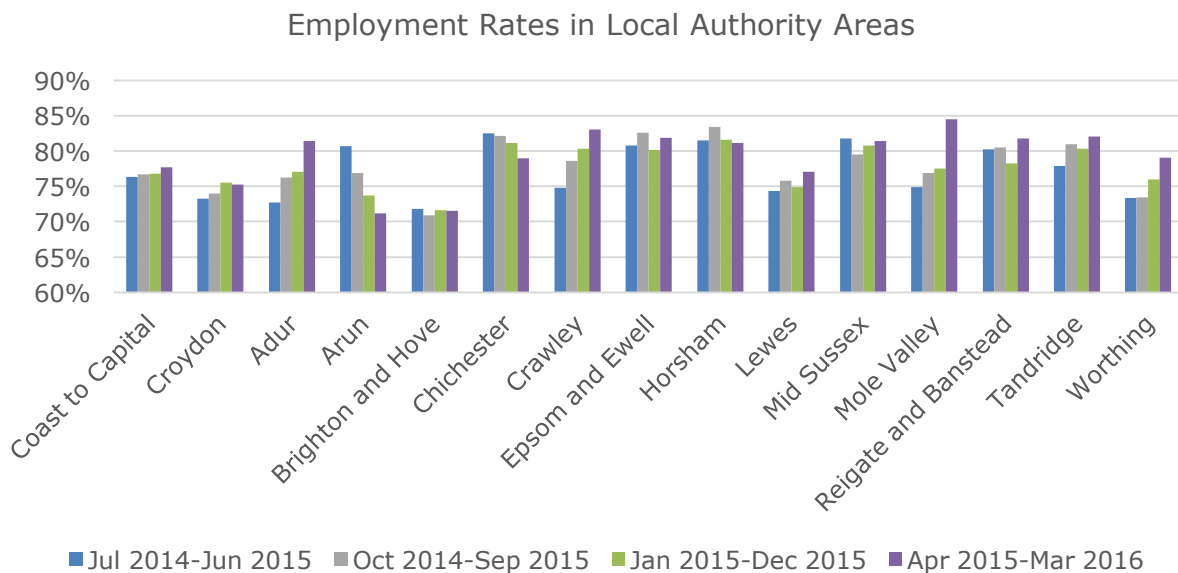


Figure 2 – Employment Rates in Local Authorities – Source: Annual population survey July 2016

Figure 2 shows the employment rate at the Local Authority level and highlights the local variations. In Arun and Chichester there have been four quarters of falling employment rates, in Arun the rate has fallen by 2.5% in the last quarter and in Chichester it has fallen by 2.2%. There have been strong increases in the employment rates in Adur (4.4%), Crawley (2.7%), Reigate and Banstead (3.5%), and Worthing (3.1%). Crawley and Adur should be highlighted for continuously increasing employment rates over the last four quarters.

One off rises or falls in the employment rate should be treated with caution as the margin for error increases at lower geographic levels, such as Local Authority areas, most notably the 7% rise in Mole Valley over the last quarter. Focusing more on the trends of the last four quarters highlights good performance in Croydon, Adur, Tandridge, Worthing, and Crawley. As previously noted downward trends are found in Arun and Chichester.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The Coast to Capital unemployment rate is now 3.6%, a slight 0.1% increase since last quarter. The rate has been steadily falling over the last four quarters. The number of people in unemployment is now 37,600, up by 1,700 since last quarter. The South East unemployment rate is 4.1%, down by 0.1% on the last quarter. The Coast to Capital region is also performing much better than the United Kingdom where the unemployment rate is 5.2%. The slight rise in unemployment is due to an increase of 13,200 economically active people in the Coast to Capital labour market, despite the large rise in employment not all these new entrants have found a job.

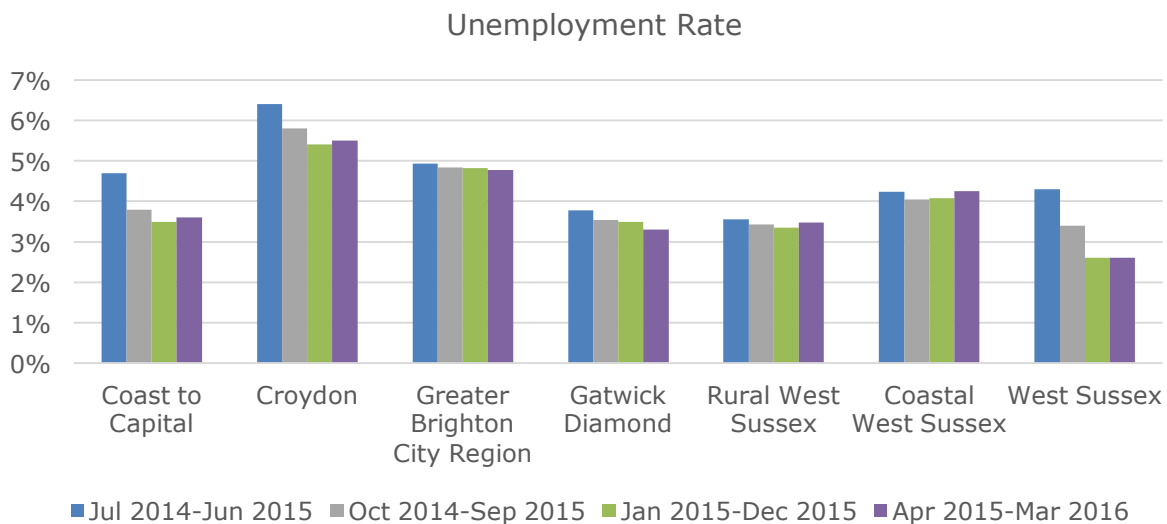


Figure 3 – Unemployment Rate in the Coast to Capital region – Source: Annual population survey July 2016

In the Area Partnerships there have generally been decreases across the four quarters, in particular in the Gatwick Diamond and Croydon areas. There have been slight increases in the Rural and Coastal West Sussex areas over the last quarter and in Coastal West Sussex the employment rate is now the same as four quarters ago (4.2%).

At Local Authority level most areas have had consistent downward trends in the unemployment rate although there are some variations. Adur, Crawley, Tandridge, and Lewes have all fallen over the last four quarters and Croydon has seen a 0.9% fall over the last four quarters, the third highest across the Local Authority areas. In Brighton and Hove the unemployment rate had been 5.8% over the last three quarters but has now risen by 0.3% to 6.1% which is the highest rate across the Local Authority areas. Arun, Chichester, and Worthing have

also had rises in unemployment rates, up by 0.7%, 0.3%, and 0.1% respectively, with Worthing increasing in the last two quarters.

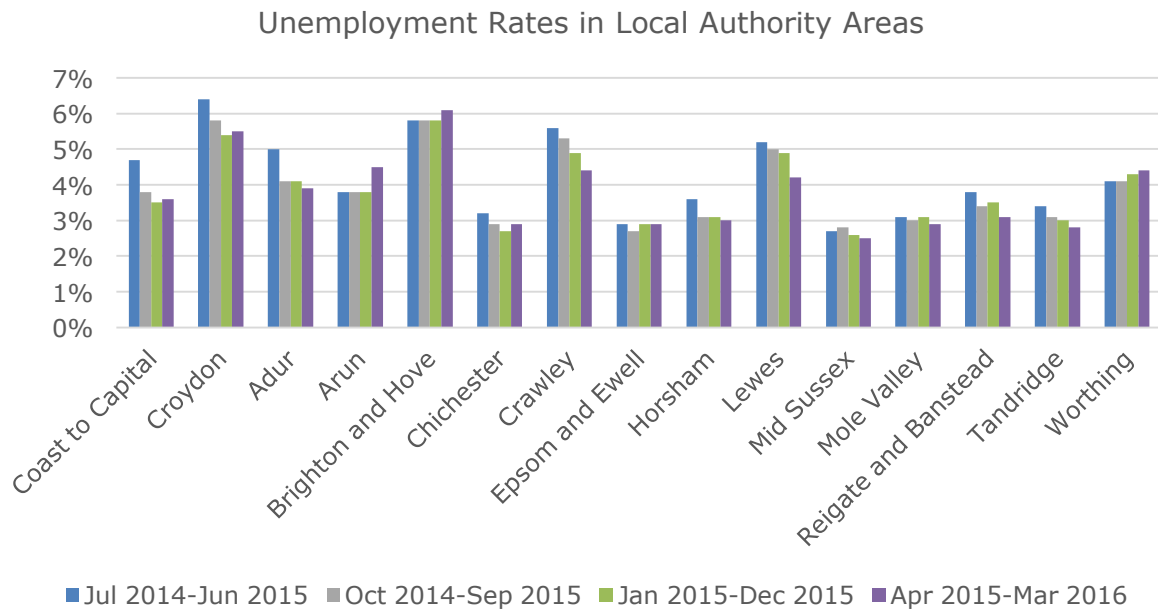


Figure 4 – Unemployment Rate in Local Authorities – Source: Annual population survey model based unemployment July 2016

Jul-16	Employment Rate	Unemployment Rate
United Kingdom	73.6%	5.2%
South East	77.2%	4.1%
Coast to Capital	77.7%	3.6%
Croydon	75.2%	5.5%
Greater Brighton City Region	76.1%	4.8%
Gatwick Diamond	82.1%	3.3%
Rural West Sussex	78.1%	3.5%
Coastal West Sussex	76.7%	4.2%
West Sussex	79.2%	2.6%
Croydon	75.2%	5.5%
Adur	81.4%	3.9%
Arun	71.2%	4.5%
Brighton and Hove	71.6%	6.1%
Chichester	78.9%	2.9%
Crawley	83.1%	4.4%
Epsom and Ewell	81.8%	2.9%
Horsham	81.2%	3.0%
Lewes	77.0%	4.2%
Mid Sussex	81.4%	2.5%
Mole Valley	84.5%	2.9%
Reigate and Banstead	81.7%	3.1%
Tandridge	82.0%	2.8%
Worthing	79.0%	4.4%

Table 1 – Employment and Unemployment Rates in the Coast to Capital Region Source: Annual population survey and model based unemployment July 2016

Area Partnerships:

For data purposes these partnerships have been built up using the Local Authority areas that they cover, a list is below. It should be noted that some of these partnerships overlap and some Local Authority areas are counted in both, for this reason the Area Partnership data will not add up to the Coast to Capital regional data. The Gatwick Diamond, Rural West Sussex, and Coastal West Sussex all have areas that overlap.

It should also be noted that in Rural West Sussex the Arun and Mid Sussex Local Authorities are not classified as rural and that data for Rural West Sussex includes the urban centres within those Local Authorities. Currently there are no regularly updated datasets for locations below Local Authority level, which makes it impossible to provide up to date data for strictly rural areas. This necessitates the use of the broader Local Authority areas to make up Rural West Sussex.

Similarly Chichester is largely rural but is also part of the Coastal West Sussex Partnership and as such those rural areas are included in data for Coastal West Sussex.

Brighton & Hove and Lewes has now been expanded to reflect the Greater Brighton City Region, this involves further overlaps of Local Authority Areas. Mid Sussex is now in Rural West Sussex, the Gatwick Diamond, and the Greater Brighton City Region, and Adur and Worthing are now both in the Coastal West Sussex partnership and the Greater Brighton City Region.

Croydon	The Greater Brighton City Region	The Gatwick Diamond	Rural West Sussex	Coastal West Sussex
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Croydon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Brighton and Hove •Lewes •Adur •Mid Sussex •Worthing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Crawley •Epsom and Ewell •Horsham •Mid Sussex •Mole Valley •Tanbridge •Reigate and Banstead 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Arun •Chichester •Horsham •Mid Sussex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Adur •Arun •Chichester •Worthing