

**LEEDS ECONOMY  
BRIEFING PAPER**

**ISSUE 66 | OCTOBER 2019**

**EMPLOYMENT CHANGE:  
2015-18**

# LEEDS ECONOMY BRIEFING PAPER

ISSUE 69 | OCTOBER 2019

## EMPLOYMENT CHANGE 2015 – 2018

- Leeds has seen higher employee job growth than Leeds City Region, the Yorkshire & Humber region, West Yorkshire and the Core Cities as a whole:
  - Employee jobs in Leeds grew by 34,000 – a 7.9% increase. In comparison, the increase in West Yorkshire was 3.7%, the City Region 3.4% and in Yorkshire and the Humber 2.9%. For GB it increased by 3.5% and in the Core Cities as a whole by 4.4%.
  - The ten Core Cities, which include Leeds, gained 132,000 jobs.
    - Manchester gained 43,000, Leeds 34,000, Birmingham 18,000.
    - Liverpool gained 18,500, Sheffield 10,000, Cardiff 8,000.

## MAJOR EMPLOYMENT CENTRES

- Outside London, 18 centres in Great Britain had more than 150,000 employees in 2018.
- Leeds with 466,500 employees was the second largest after Birmingham (with 512,000).
- The other key centres are Glasgow (410,000), Manchester (393,000) and Edinburgh (347,000).

## DIVERSITY

- Leeds has consistently been ranked in the top three most diverse locations for the 14 major centres – being the 3<sup>rd</sup> most diverse in 2018 behind Sheffield and Birmingham.

## SECTORS

In terms of number of employees

- Finance & business services was the largest sector with 139,000 employees, followed by Public services (106,000) and Wholesale & retail (55,100).
- Finance & business services saw a 36,000 increase, while Public admin saw a 4,600 fall.
- The growth of jobs in Finance & business services was higher in Leeds than in GB, Core Cities and Y&H.
- Leeds is the largest centre for Finance & business services, Creative industries, Digital, Publishing & broadcasting, export intensive, info & communications
- It was the second largest centre for Knowledge intensive industries, Manufacturing, Environmental technologies, Total services, Finance & insurance, Hospitality economy.

## FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME

- 70% of employees worked full time, 30% part time.
- Between 2015 and 2018, full time employees increased 6.4% while part time increased by 11.5%.

## PUBLIC/PRIVATE SECTOR SPLIT

Public sector is determined by the legal status of the enterprise, not by its industrial classification.

- For the 10 Core Cities, Leeds had the highest percentage in the private sector
- For the 10 locations making up the Leeds City Region, Leeds is mid-table.

## DETAILS

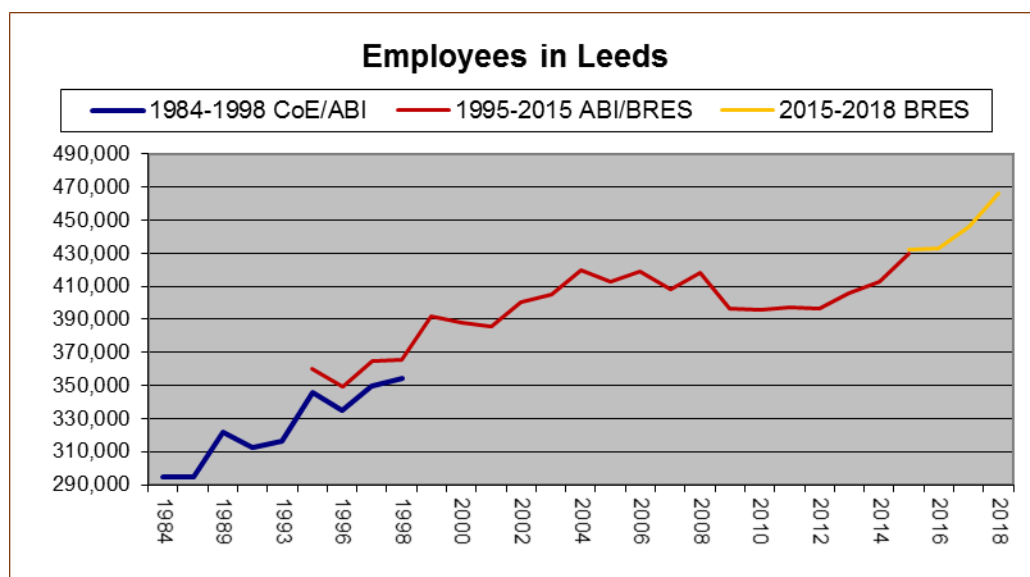
The government's Annual Business Inquiry provided estimates of employees for 2000-2008, whilst the Business Register Employment Survey covers both employees and working proprietors for 2008-2018.

- The earlier 2009 and 2010 estimates have been adjusted to be consistent with the 2011 estimates. The adjustment is necessary due to changes made to the BRES questionnaire in 2011 that made it clearer to respondents as to how they should be returning information on working owners. This change had the effect of increasing the number of employees and decreasing the number in employment. The 2008 data has not been adjusted.

## HOW RELIABLE IS THE DATA?

The survey results can fluctuate significantly from one year to the next so care should be taken in interpreting the results. This is because the surveys are based on a sample, so the results contain sampling errors. The results are also affected by two unmeasurables: the quality of the sampling frame and reporting errors by survey respondents.

The graph below shows the annual estimates for Leeds. Unexpected peaks and troughs are clearly evident.



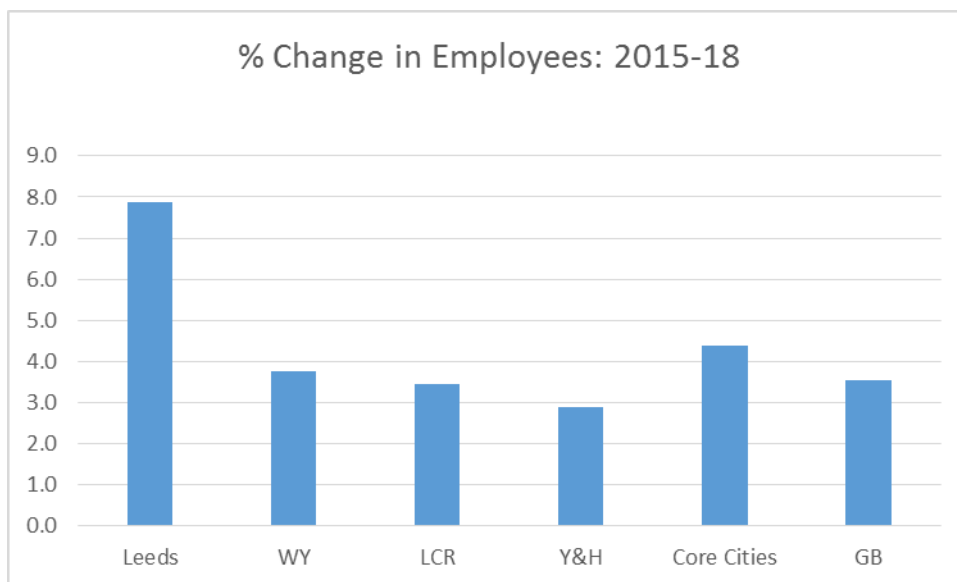
Three discrete series are available: 1984-1998, 1998-2015 and 2015-2018 onwards. ONS has re-worked the original 1995-1997 data make it comparable with the 1998-2008 series: this is shown where the lines overlap.

The Leeds City Region comprises the five districts in West Yorkshire together with Barnsley, Craven, Harrogate, Selby and York. The ten Core Cities are Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield, Cardiff and Glasgow.

## 2015-2018

- Leeds has seen higher employee job growth than Leeds City Region, the Yorkshire & Humber region, West Yorkshire and the Core Cities as a whole:
  - Employee jobs in Leeds grew by 34,000 – a 7.9% increase. In comparison, the increase in West Yorkshire was 3.7%, the City Region 3.4% and in Yorkshire and the Humber 2.9%. For GB it increased by 3.5% and in the Core Cities as a whole by 4.4%.
  - The ten Core Cities, which include Leeds, gained 132,000 jobs.
    - Manchester gained 43,000, Leeds 34,000, Birmingham 18,000.
    - Liverpool gained 18,500, Sheffield 10,000, Cardiff 8,000.

The table below shows the increase in net jobs for each of the areas.



## THE MAJOR EMPLOYMENT CENTRES

- Outside London, 18 centres in Great Britain had more than 150,000 employees in 2018.
- Leeds with 466,500 employees was the second largest after Birmingham (with 512,000).
- The other key centres are Glasgow (410,000), Manchester (393,000) and Edinburgh (347,000).

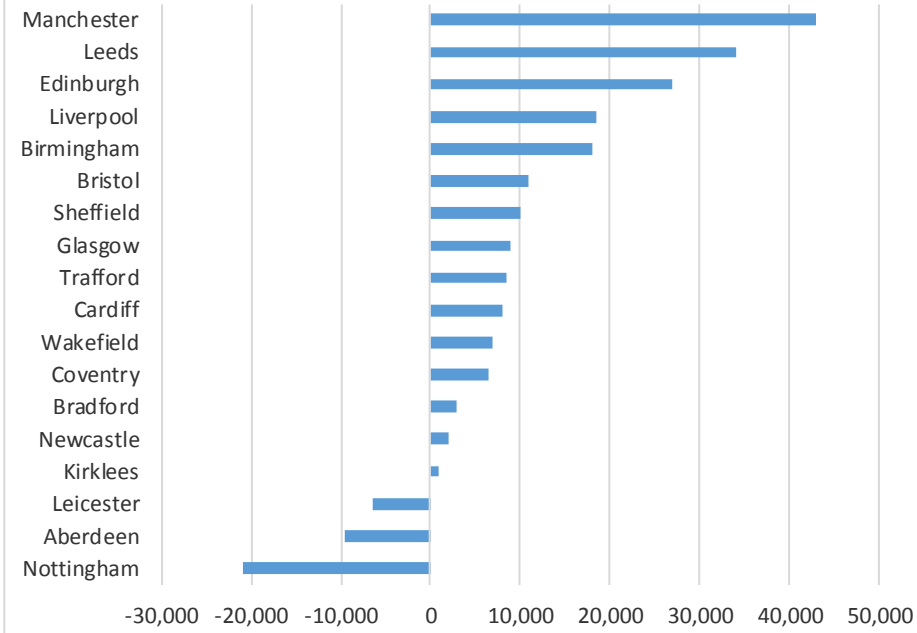
### LARGEST CENTRES IN 2018

|            |         |           |         |
|------------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Birmingham | 512,000 | Bristol   | 268,000 |
| Leeds      | 466,500 | Sheffield | 261,000 |
| Glasgow    | 410,000 | Liverpool | 250,000 |
| Manchester | 393,000 | Cardiff   | 212,000 |
| Edinburgh  | 347,000 | Bradford  | 198,000 |

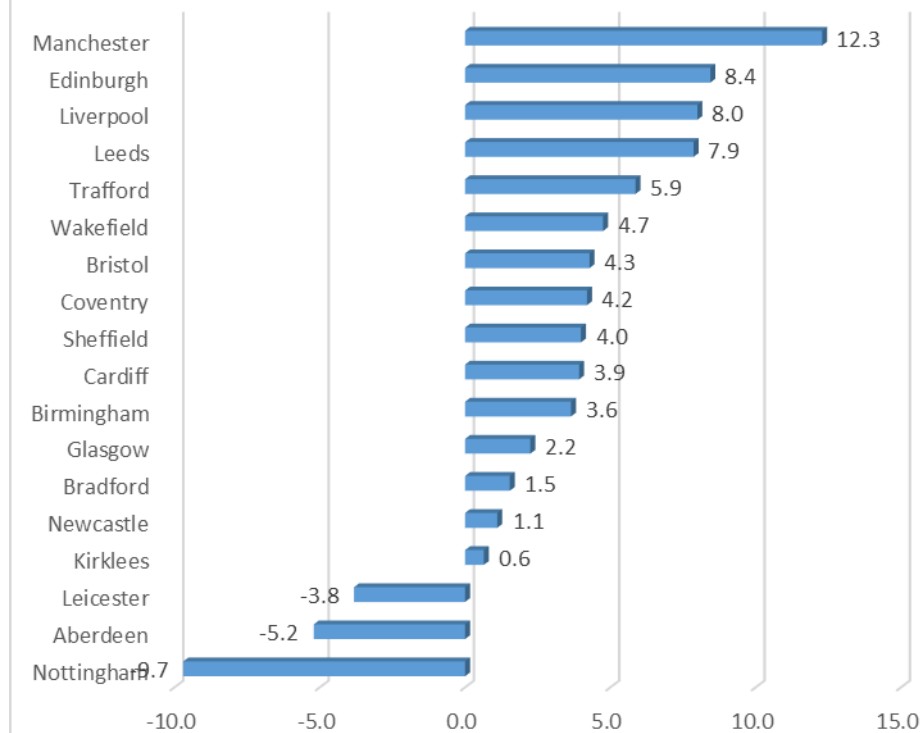
### BETWEEN 2015 AND 2018

- All 18 centres showed an increase over the period, ranging from 12.9% in Manchester and 0.4% in Bradford.
- The charts below show employment change between 2015 and 2018.

## Change in Employees: 2015-18



## % change: 2015-18



## DIVERSITY 2018

The diversity rankings below are a measure of how the industrial structure of a particular location mirrors the structure of Great Britain as a whole.

- In 2018 Sheffield, Birmingham and Leeds were the most diverse of the 14 major employment centres outside of London.
- Leeds has consistently ranked in the three most diverse locations.
- It emphasizes the fact that Leeds has retained its manufacturing strength as well as consolidating its position a major centre for finance and business services.

| City       | Rank | City       | Rank |
|------------|------|------------|------|
| Sheffield  | 1    | Aberdeen*  | 8    |
| Birmingham | 2    | Liverpool  | 9    |
| Leeds      | 3    | Newcastle  | 10   |
| Glasgow    | 4    | Bradford   | 11   |
| Bristol    | 5    | Leicester  | 12   |
| Cardiff    | 6    | Edinburgh  | 13   |
| Nottingham | 7    | Manchester | 14   |

\* The energy sector was excluded from the analysis, hence the reason for this ranking

## SECTOR ANALYSIS – RANKINGS AND REGIONAL STRENGTH

From the sheer size of the employment markets in Birmingham and Leeds, one would expect them to dominate any sector rankings based purely on size.

Leeds accounted for 33% of total employees in the Leeds City Region.

| Sector                        | 2018 employees | Rank outside London | % of WY   | % of LCR  | % of Y&H  | % of Core Cities |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>466,500</b> | <b>2</b>            | <b>44</b> | <b>33</b> | <b>19</b> | <b>15</b>        |
| Knowledge intensive           | 229,500        | 2                   | 50        | 39        | 24        | 14               |
| Low carbon                    | 13,000         | 3                   | 53        | 38        | 22        | 17               |
| Digital ONS                   | 20,500         | 2                   | 65        | 53        | 37        | 23               |
| Digital LCC                   | 36,500         | 1                   | 66        | 53        | 35        | 19               |
| Export intensive              | 86,500         | 1                   | 45        | 35        | 20        | 17               |
| Creative DCMS 2014            | 30,000         | 1                   | 66        | 52        | 36        | 21               |
| Creative DCMS all             | 47,000         | 1                   | 53        | 42        | 28        | 18               |
| Manufacturing                 | 29,000         | 2                   | 25        | 20        | 10        | 18               |
| Engineering                   | 10,000         | 13                  | 27        | 22        | 10        | 13               |
| Other mfrg                    | 19,000         | 1                   | 24        | 19        | 11        | 21               |
| Environmental technologies    | 17,000         | 2                   | 49        | 36        | 22        | 18               |
| Life science & healthcare ONS | 35,000         | 4                   | 42        | 32        | 18        | 11               |
| Medical & healthcare          | 32,500         | 5                   | 41        | 31        | 17        | 10               |
| Print & publishing            | 3,000          | 3                   | 32        | 27        | 19        | 18               |
| Publish & broadcasting ONS    | 14,000         | 1                   | 65        | 52        | 33        | 17               |
| Construction                  | 17,500         | 3                   | 43        | 32        | 18        | 16               |
| Construction LCC              | 38,500         | 3                   | 45        | 33        | 20        | 14               |

|   |         |   |    |    |    |    |
|---|---------|---|----|----|----|----|
| Total services  | 411,500 | 2 | 46 | 35 | 21 | 14 |
| Distribution  | 84,500  | 3 | 38 | 28 | 16 | 13 |
| Motor trades  | 5,500   | 2 | 34 | 26 | 14 | 13 |
| Wholesale   | 17,000  | 2 | 34 | 27 | 17 | 16 |
| Retail  | 33,000  | 4 | 36 | 27 | 15 | 12 |
| Food & drink  | 43,000  | 3 | 35 | 25 | 14 | 13 |
| Accom & food services   | 28,500  | 5 | 43 | 29 | 16 | 13 |
| Transport & storage   | 22,500  | 3 | 38 | 29 | 17 | 16 |
| Info & communication  | 20,500  | 1 | 68 | 55 | 39 | 24 |
| Software DCMS   | 19,000  | 1 | 69 | 55 | 39 | 25 |
| Fin & bus servs   | 144,000 | 1 | 58 | 45 | 30 | 17 |
| Finance & insurance   | 27,000  | 2 | 60 | 49 | 37 | 18 |
| Other bus services  | 117,000 | 1 | 57 | 44 | 28 | 17 |
| Legal activities  | 9,000   | 3 | 69 | 60 | 39 | 14 |
| Property  | 6,500   | 4 | 42 | 32 | 21 | 12 |
| Prof, scientific & technical  | 51,000  | 1 | 61 | 47 | 31 | 18 |
| Bus admin & support   | 59,500  | 1 | 57 | 44 | 28 | 18 |
| Public admin, educ, defence   | 114,500 | 3 | 41 | 31 | 17 | 12 |
| Education   | 43,500  | 2 | 42 | 32 | 19 | 14 |
| Public admin & defence  | 15,000  | 9 | 37 | 28 | 15 | 9  |
| Health  | 59,500  | 3 | 40 | 30 | 17 | 12 |
| Tourism ONS   | 48,500  | 3 | 48 | 33 | 19 | 14 |
| Hospitality economy   | 49,500  | 2 | 45 | 33 | 19 | 14 |
| Culture, recreation & personal  | 19,000  | 2 | 49 | 38 | 22 | 14 |
| Rank: Leeds ranking, excluding London boroughs, in terms of number of employees |         |   |    |    |    |    |
| %: % of employees in .... sector working in Leeds                               |         |   |    |    |    |    |
| Source: BRES 2018   |         |   |    |    |    |    |

Although employment growth in some of these sectors may not be as high as some of the lower ranked cities, it does show that Leeds has retained the critical mass needed to prosper.

## SECTORAL EMPLOYMENT

The table below shows the distribution of employee jobs in 2018.

- The service sector as a whole accounted for 411,500 jobs – 88% of the whole.
- Leeds has a higher proportion of financial and business services jobs, and a lower one in the public sector.

| Sector                        | Employees in Leeds | % distribution |            |             |            |            |             |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|
|                               |                    | Leeds          | WY         | City Region | Y&H        | GB         | Core Cities |
| Agriculture,mining ,quarrying | -                  | -              | -          | -           | -          | -          | -           |
| Mining & utilities            | 8,000              | 2              | 2          | 1           | 1          | 1          | 1           |
| Manufacturing                 | 29,000             | 6              | 11         | 11          | 12         | 8          | 5           |
| Construction                  | 17,500             | 4              | 4          | 4           | 4          | 5          | 3           |
| Wholesale & retail            | 55,500             | 12             | 15         | 15          | 15         | 15         | 14          |
| Transport & storage           | 22,500             | 5              | 6          | 6           | 6          | 5          | 5           |
| Accomm & food services        | 28,500             | 6              | 6          | 7           | 7          | 8          | 7           |
| Info & communications         | 27,000             | 6              | 4          | 4           | 3          | 4          | 4           |
| Finance & Business Services   | 144,000            | 31             | 23         | 23          | 20         | 23         | 26          |
| Public services               | 114,500            | 25             | 26         | 27          | 28         | 26         | 30          |
| Other services                | 19,000             | 4              | 4          | +4          | 4          | 4          | 4           |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>466,500</b>     | <b>100</b>     | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b>  | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b> | <b>100</b>  |

The table below shows employee change over 2015 to 2018.

| Sector                        | Change in employees in Leeds | % change 2015-2018 |           |             |           |           |             |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
|                               |                              | Leeds              | WY        | City Region | Y&H       | GB        | Core Cities |
| Agriculture,mining ,quarrying | -                            | -                  | -         | -           | -         | -         | -           |
| Mining & utilities            | 1,500                        | +23                | +23       | +18         | +13       | +9        | +20         |
| Manufacturing                 | -                            | -                  | +5        | +5          | +7        | +2        | -2          |
| Construction                  | -1,000                       | -5                 | -7        | -8          | -8        | +7        | -           |
| Wholesale & retail            | 1,500                        | +3                 | +1        | -           | -         | -         | +3          |
| Transport & storage           | 4,500                        | +25                | +23       | +20         | +16       | +8        | +10         |
| Accomm & food services        | 3,500                        | +14                | +14       | +13         | +12       | +8        | +7          |
| Info & communications         | 11,000                       | +69                | +48       | +46         | +47       | +6        | +29         |
| Finance & Business Services   | 4,500                        | +3                 | -2        | -           | +1        | +5        | +2          |
| Public services               | 8,000                        | +8                 | +1        | +1          | -1        | +2        | +3          |
| Other services                | -                            | -                  | -5        | -6          | -6        | +2        | +8          |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>34,000</b>                | <b>+8</b>          | <b>+4</b> | <b>+3</b>   | <b>+3</b> | <b>+4</b> | <b>+4</b>   |

## GENDER AND HOURS WORKED

Data by gender is not available from BRES because it is deemed unreliable.

- 70% of employees worked full time, 30% part time
- Full time employees increased 6% while part time increased by 11%

|                        | Employees 2018 | % of employees | Change 2015-18 |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Full time              | 325,500        | 70%            | +6.4%          |
| Part time              | 141,000        | 30%            | +11.5%         |
| <b>Total employees</b> | <b>466,500</b> | <b>100%</b>    | <b>+7.9%</b>   |



## PUBLIC/PRIVATE SECTOR SPLIT

ONS provides a public/private sector employee split for 2018 from the BRES survey. Public sector is determined by the legal status of the enterprise, not by its industrial classification.

| <b>Core Cities</b> | <b>% public sector</b> | <b>Leeds City Region</b> | <b>% public sector</b> |
|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Newcastle          | 27                     | Bradford                 | 23                     |
| Liverpool          | 24                     | Barnsley                 | 21                     |
| Cardiff            | 23                     | Wakefield                | 20                     |
| Nottingham         | 22                     | York                     | 19                     |
| Glasgow            | 21                     | Kirklees                 | 17                     |
| Birmingham         | 21                     | Leeds                    | 17                     |
| Sheffield          | 20                     | Harrogate                | 15                     |
| Manchester         | 18                     | Calderdale               | 15                     |
| Bristol            | 18                     | Selby                    | 10                     |
| Leeds              | 17                     | Craven                   | 9                      |
|                    |                        |                          |                        |
| <b>GB</b>          | <b>17</b>              |                          |                        |

- For the 10 Core Cities, Leeds has the lowest percentage in the public sector
- For the 10 locations making up the Leeds City Region, Leeds is mid-table.