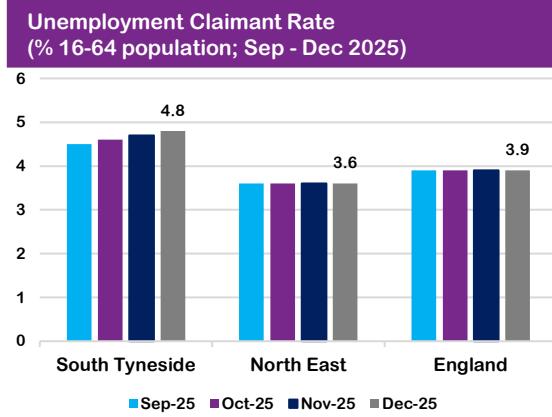
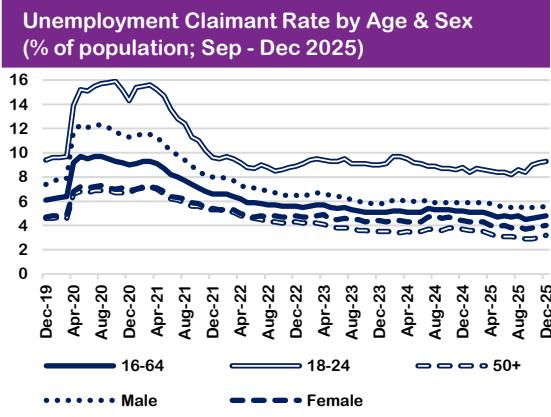


SOUTH TYNESIDE MONTHLY ECONOMIC MONITOR JANUARY 2026

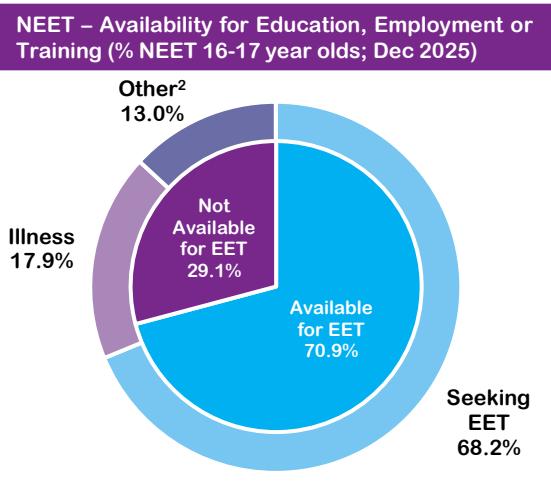
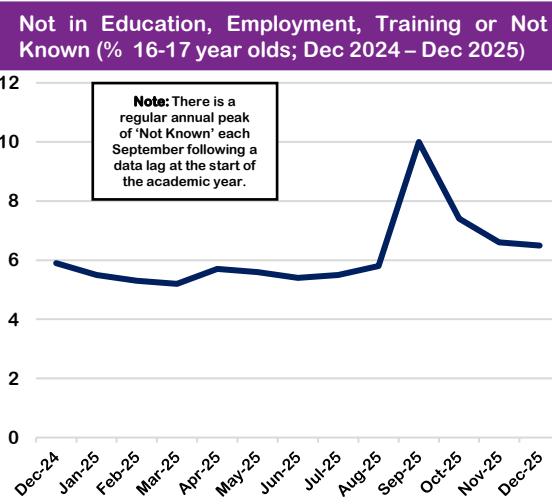
1. In December, South Tyneside's claimant rate rose 0.1 % point to 4.8% (4,390 people 16-64)¹ whilst the regional and national rates both remained unchanged for the fourth consecutive month – following revisions – at 3.6% and 3.9%, respectively. The North East rate has been below that of England since June 2024. All demographical claimant rates in South Tyneside rose this month, though only by 0.1 % point.



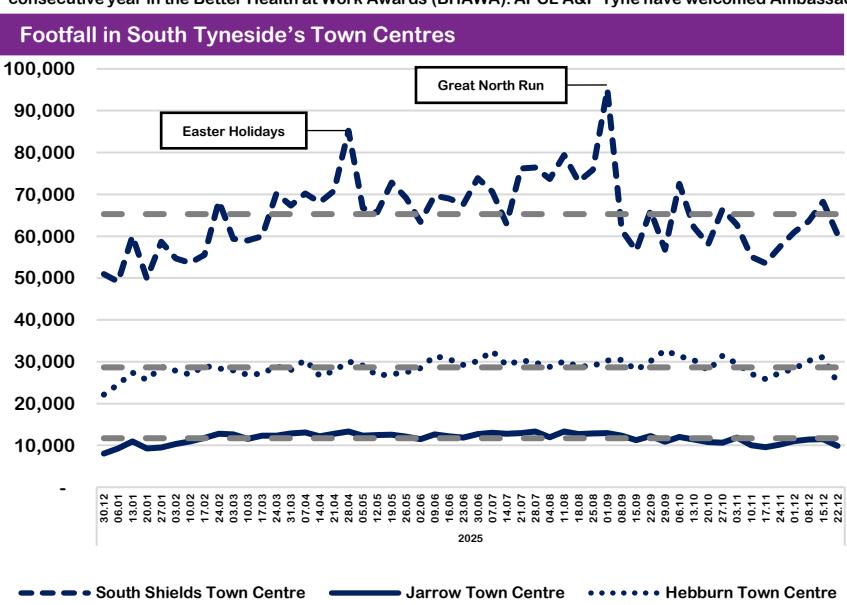
**Claimant counts and rates are calculated by combining the number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance and National Insurance credits with the number of people claiming Universal Credit principally for the reason of being unemployed. This element is still in development by DWP, meaning the total claimant count does not yet correctly reflect the target population of unemployed claimants and is subject to revisions. Under Universal Credit, a broader span of claimants are required to look for work. As Universal Credit is rolled out, the number of people being recorded as being on the Claimant Count is likely to rise.*



2. In December, total NEET and Not Known levels fell to 6.5%. This figure has begun to settle following a spike in 'Not Known' at the start of the new academic year – having to fall from 6.2% (plus 3.8% NEET) in September. Of those whose status is known, availability grew proportionally by 0.4 % points, driven by the proportion of young people citing 'illness' as reason for unavailability falling faster than the proportion of those available.



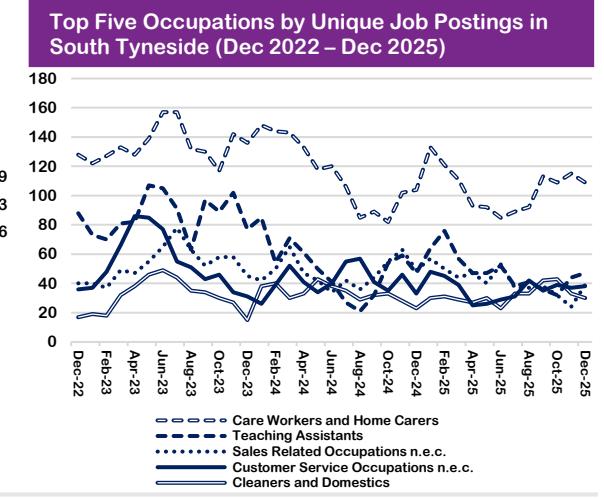
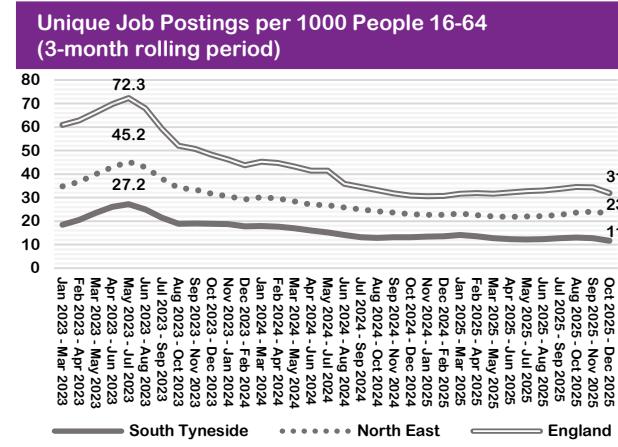
3. Compared to December 2024, footfall in December 2025 was 2.9% higher in Hebburn, 0.5% lower in Jarrow, and 4% lower in South Shields. In business news, South Shields-based manufacturing firm Ford Aerospace received the 'maintaining excellence - ambassador status' award for the second consecutive year in the Better Health at Work Awards (BHAWA). APCL A&P Tyne have welcomed Ambassador Cruise Line's Ambience into drydock, the largest ship to be drydocked on the River Tyne in over 20 years. In training and skills, the Staffpower Training Centre recently opened on Bede Industrial Estate in Jarrow. The 8,573 sq ft facility aims to support the region's skills agenda by working with employers and local leaders to develop green skills, create employment and drive growth in communities across the North East. On business support, Hebburn-based Zenith Training unveiled their Recruit, Retain & Thrive initiative as part of regional Economic Inactivity Trailblazer scheme; offering North East businesses free expert support through a comprehensive series of workshops. Consultiv Utilities, also out of Hebburn, has announced a new sponsorship partnership with non-profit JM Padel Academy for 2026, supporting the academy's mission to make padel a more accessible sport for children from all backgrounds in the UK. Screen Alliance North has announced that the founder of Nana Peg Productions in South Shields has been selected as a senior scripted leader to join its new Into the Lead initiative which seeks to help scale and strengthen North England's creative economy. In housing, work is set to begin on land at the former Whitburn Lodge pub, comprising of 32 properties (8 affordable), whilst a planning application for 198 three, four and five bedroom semi-detached and detached dwellings on South Tyneside College's former Westoe Campus site is expected imminently - from Miller Homes.



largest ship to be drydocked on the River Tyne in over 20 years. In training and skills, the Staffpower Training Centre recently opened on Bede Industrial Estate in Jarrow. The 8,573 sq ft facility aims to support the region's skills agenda by working with employers and local leaders to develop green skills, create employment and drive growth in communities across the North East. On business support, Hebburn-based Zenith Training unveiled their Recruit, Retain & Thrive initiative as part of regional Economic Inactivity Trailblazer scheme; offering North East businesses free expert support through a comprehensive series of workshops. Consultiv Utilities, also out of Hebburn, has announced a new sponsorship partnership with non-profit JM Padel Academy for 2026, supporting the academy's mission to make padel a more accessible sport for children from all backgrounds in the UK. Screen Alliance North has announced that the founder of Nana Peg Productions in South Shields has been selected as a senior scripted leader to join its new Into the Lead initiative which seeks to help scale and strengthen North England's creative economy. In housing, work is set to begin on land at the former Whitburn Lodge pub, comprising of 32 properties (8 affordable), whilst a planning application for 198 three, four and five bedroom semi-detached and detached dwellings on South Tyneside College's former Westoe Campus site is expected imminently - from Miller Homes.

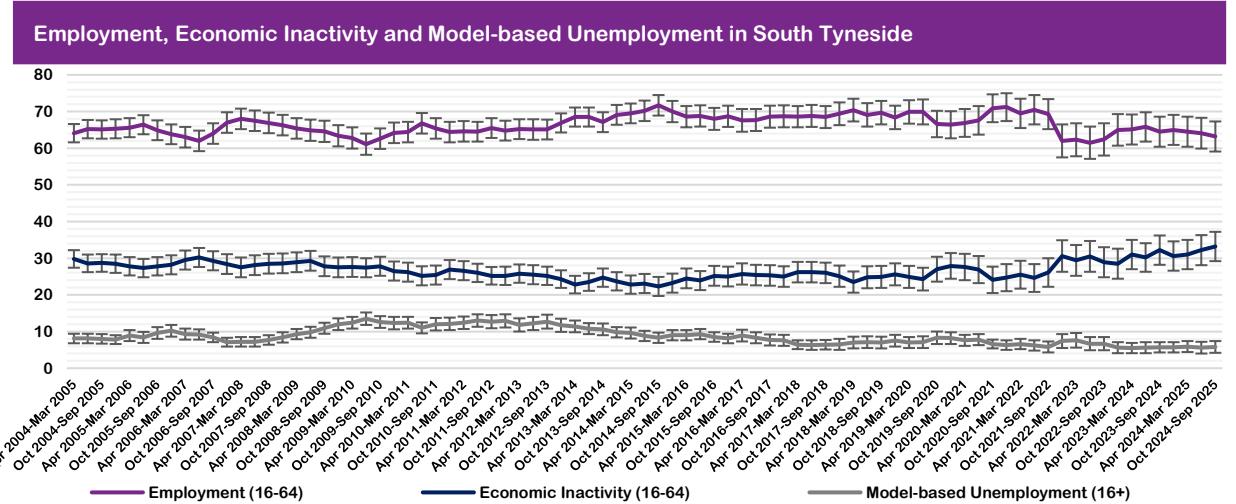
Solid dashed lines depict period averages (calculated using weekly figures from the period between w/c 29.12.24 - w/c 22.12.25 inclusive).

4. In the three-month rolling period ending December 2025, there were an average of 11.6 vacancies per 1,000 people aged 16-64 in South Tyneside. Compared to December 2024, in the top five occupations by unique posting, Sales Related Occupations n.e.c.³ fell by 20.4%. Unique postings for Teaching Assistants were unchanged, whilst Care Workers and Home Carers (4.8%), Customer Service Occupations n.e.c. (15.2%) and Cleaners and Domestic (30.4%) all increased.

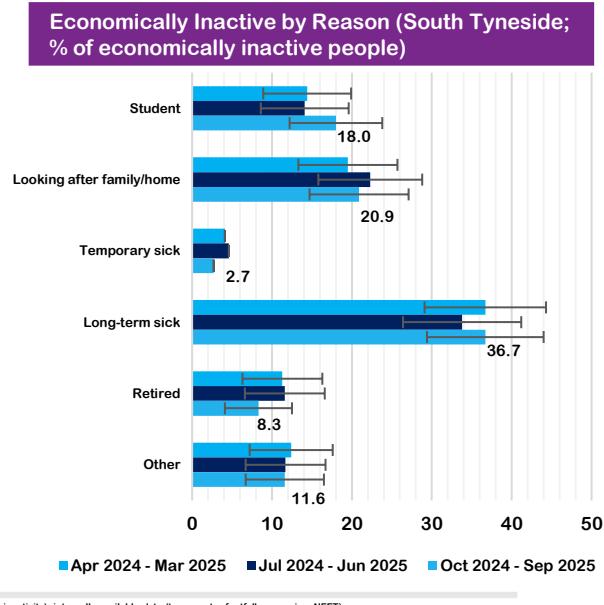
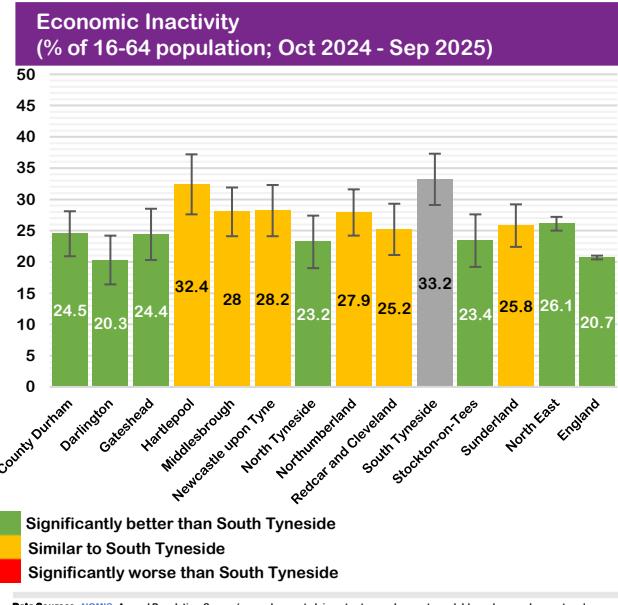


Note: Rates calculated using corresponding mid-year population estimates released by the ONS. Estimates and supporting information available [here](#).

5. In the 12 months to September 2025, South Tyneside's 16-64 employment rate was 63.2% (CI ± 4.1; 59,100 people); a non-significant fall of 0.9 % points on the period prior.⁴ Despite increasing 0.2 % points this month, South Tyneside has experienced historically low unemployment estimates (currently 5.8%; CI 1.6; 3,800 people) since January - December 2023,^{**} though economic inactivity estimates are currently at their highest on record (33.2%; CI 4.0; 31,000 people).^{**}



6. South Tyneside retains the highest economic inactivity estimates in the North East for the fifth consecutive period,^{**} now significantly worse than Durham, Darlington, Gateshead, North Tyneside, Stockton, the North East, and England. Long-term sickness remains the key driver locally, making up 36.7% of economically inactive residents (11,400 people)^{**} and has been the main reason given by over 30% of economically inactive people since around 2021.^{**}



Significantly better than South Tyneside (Green), Similar to South Tyneside (Yellow), Significantly worse than South Tyneside (Red).

Data Source: NOMIS: Annual Population Survey (unemployment claimant rate, employment, model-based unemployment and economic inactivity), internally available data (town centre footfall, vacancies, NEET)
 1. The ONS often marks their monthly estimates as provisional meaning estimates for previous months are often revised. In some cases up to three months prior. In this instance, claimant figures for November 2025 were estimated at 4.8% or 4,390 people; following revision, this estimate now stands at 4.7%, or 4,335 people. This means that the provisional December 2025 figure represents an increase on the month prior.
 2. 'Other' includes young people who have agreed a start date for EET or are NEET due to caring responsibilities, parenting, pregnancy, religious grounds, or are not ready for work or learning and any other reason. Data regarding parenting, pregnancy, and caring responsibilities may not be reliable as this information is reliant on self-reports and is not routinely collected.
 3. Not elsewhere classified.
 4. The vertical lines (also known as error bars) shown on graphs in Section 5 and 6 are 95% Confidence Intervals and indicate the range of values in which we would expect the rate to fall 95% of the time, i.e., if this survey was carried out with a different sample of people 20 times, 19 of those times, we would expect South Tyneside's employment rate (October 2024 - September 2025) to fall between 59.1% and 67.3%. When comparing values, if the confidence intervals of estimates overlap, we cannot be sure that there is a significant difference (higher or lower) between values we are comparing. * is used to signify this. You can learn more about common statistical concepts [here](#).

