



**LABOUR MARKET REPORTING, OCTOBER 2021**

**EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS COMMITTEE, 29 OCTOBER 2021**

# Introduction

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- The following slides provide an overview of the latest indicators relating to the performance of West Yorkshire's labour market
- A subset of indicators has been presented, reflecting those most directly relevant to the Employment and Skills agenda.
- An assessment of progress against the full range of indicators is provided in the forthcoming State of the Region report.

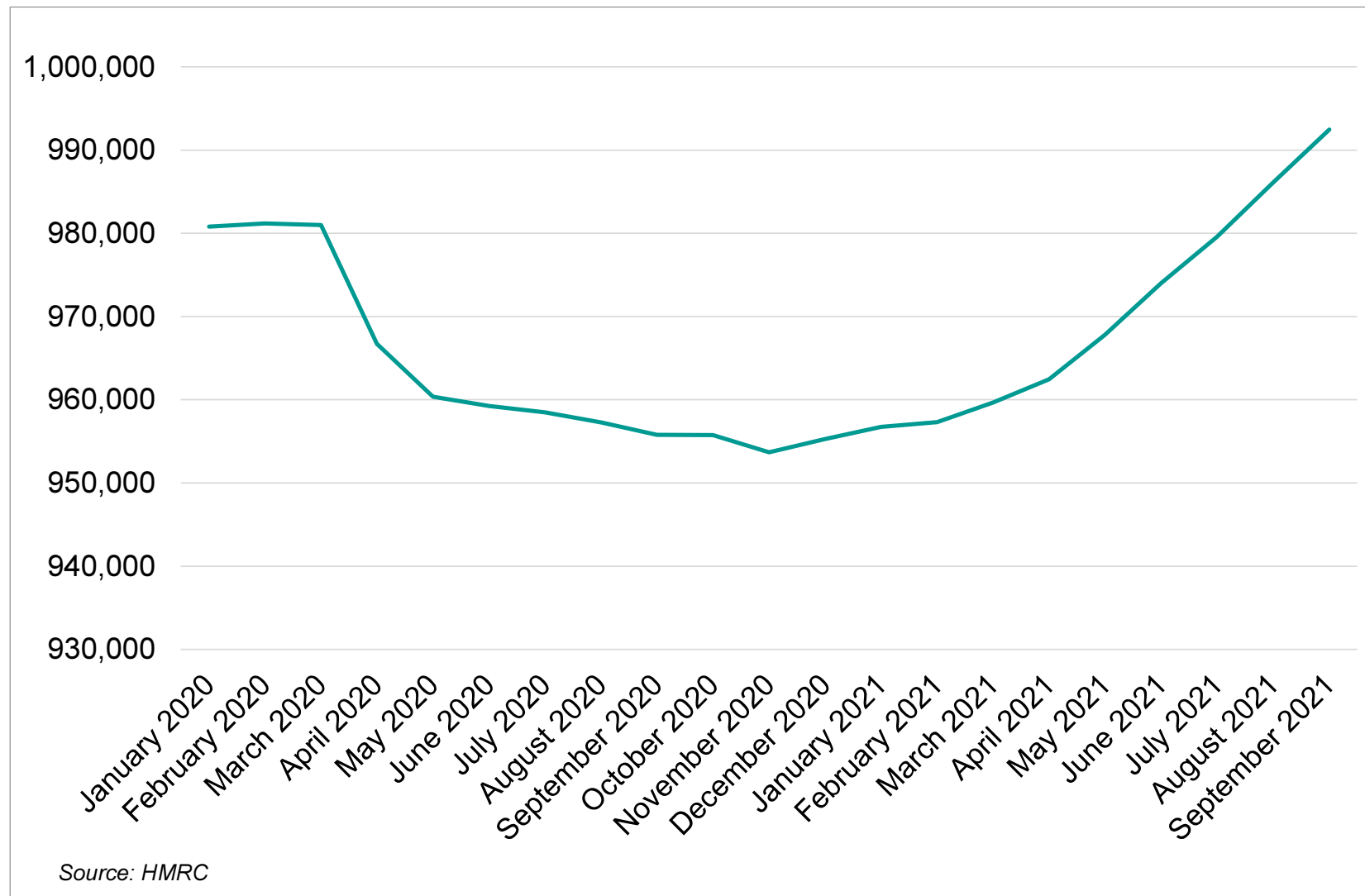
# National context

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- Vacancies at record levels
- Unemployment now falling on official measure and long-term unemployment has levelled off
- Employment rate recovering
- No sign of redundancies rising
- Shortage of workers: number of people in labour force is almost 1m lower than it should be based on pre-pandemic trend
- Overall, extremely tight labour market

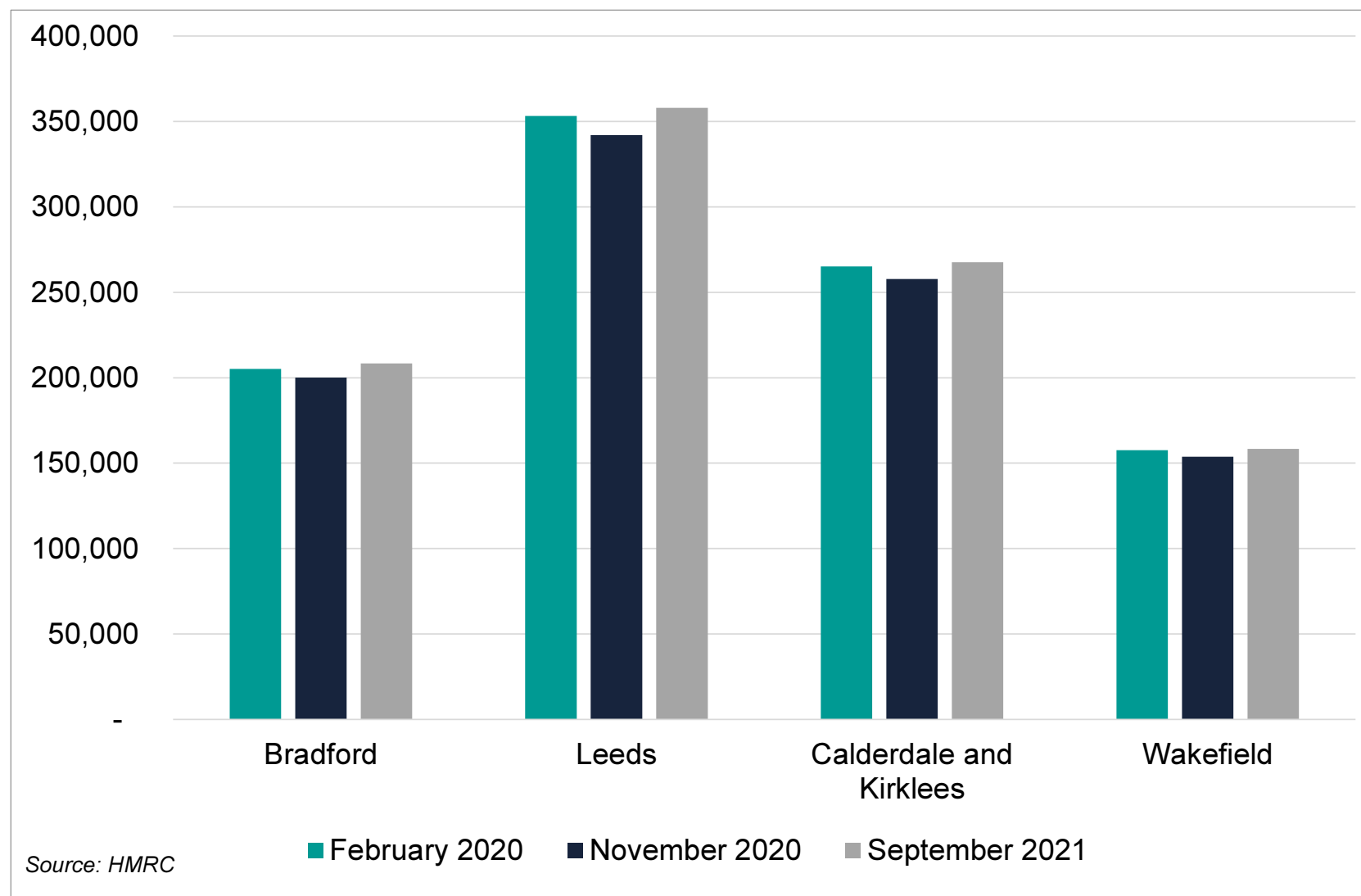
# Strong recovery in employment continues

**Figure: Count of payrolled employees from PAYE Real-time information (seasonally adjusted), West Yorkshire**



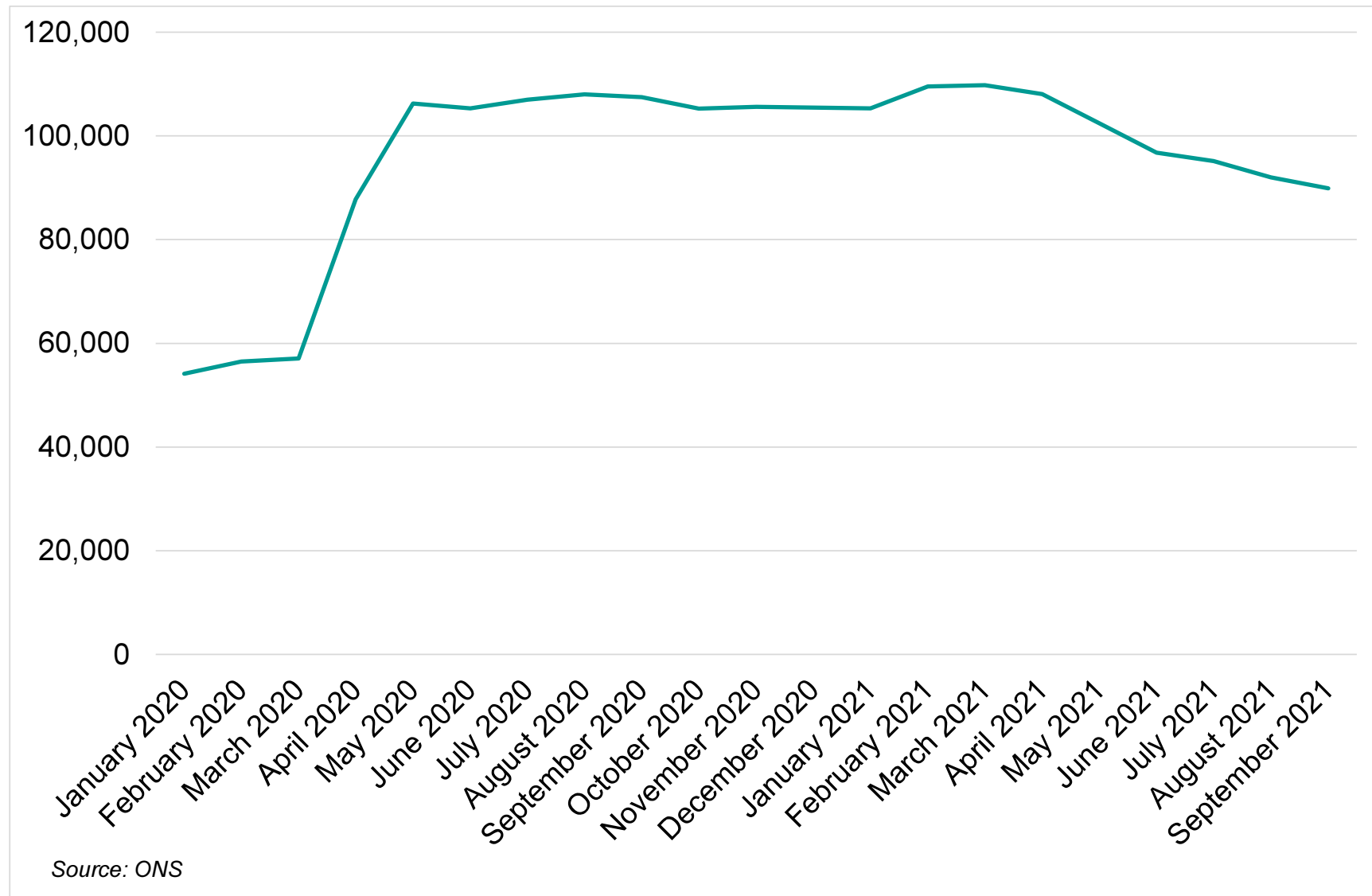
# All parts of West Yorkshire have returned to pre-pandemic levels of employment

**Figure: Count of payrolled employees from PAYE Real-time information (seasonally adjusted), by NUTS 3 area**



# The claimant count (out of work benefits) is falling steadily

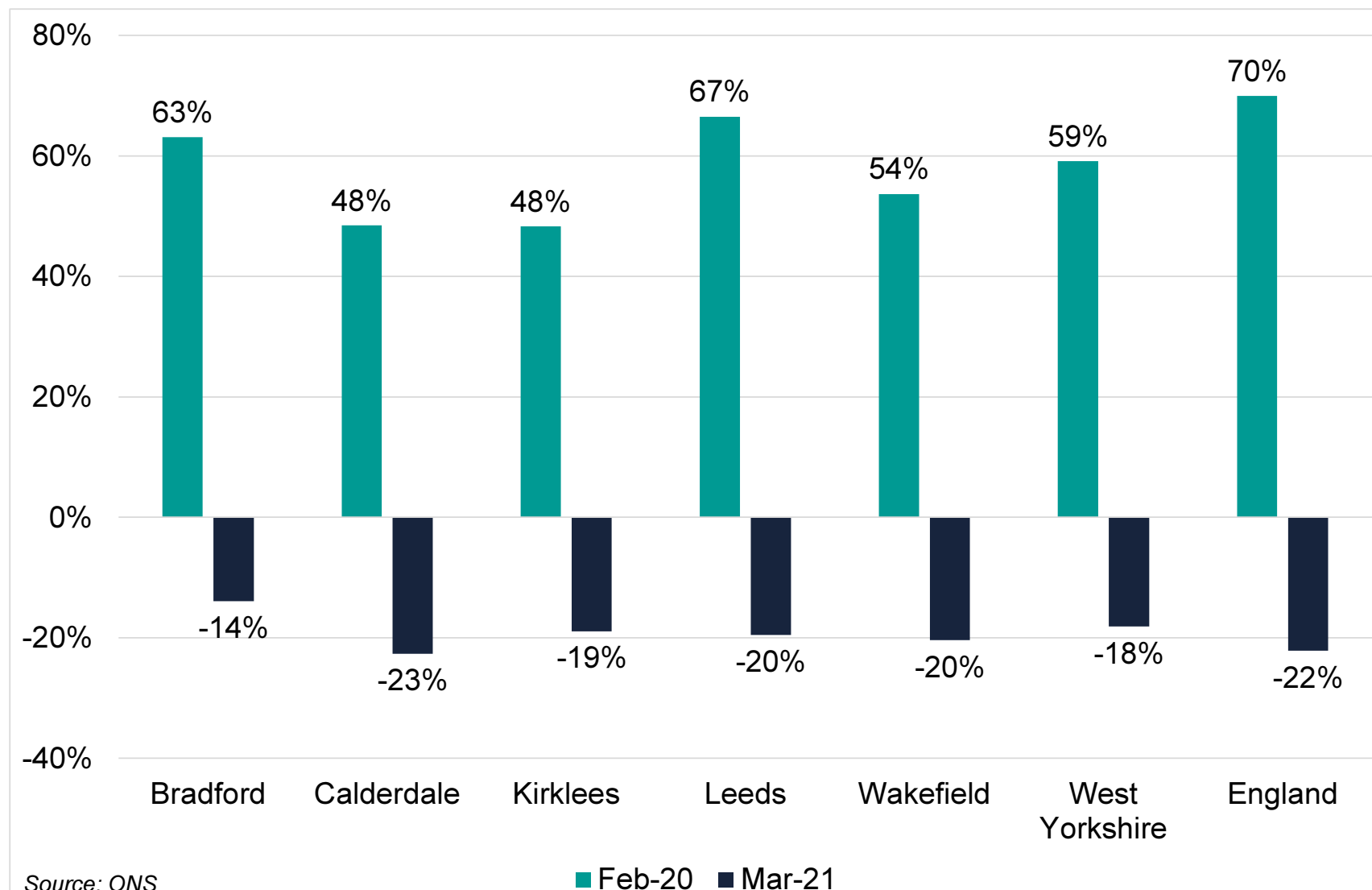
Figure: Trend in claimant count, West Yorkshire



Source: ONS

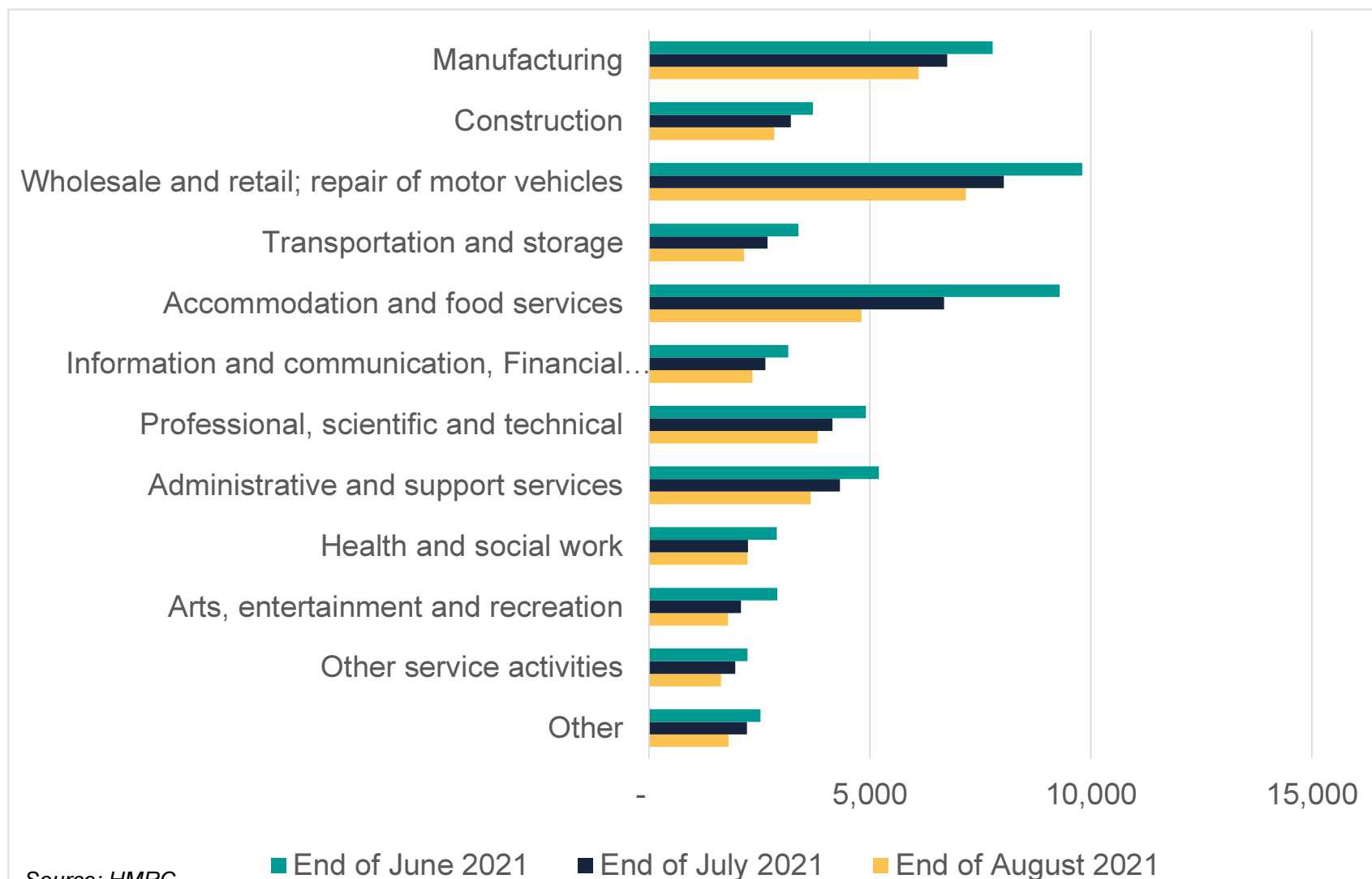
# Claimant count remains particularly high in Bradford and Leeds relative to pre-pandemic levels

Figure: Change in claimant count – September 2021 vs March 2021 and February 2020



# In spite of declines in recent months there were still 40,000 people on furlough in WY at the end of August

Figure: Number of furloughed employments by sector, West Yorkshire

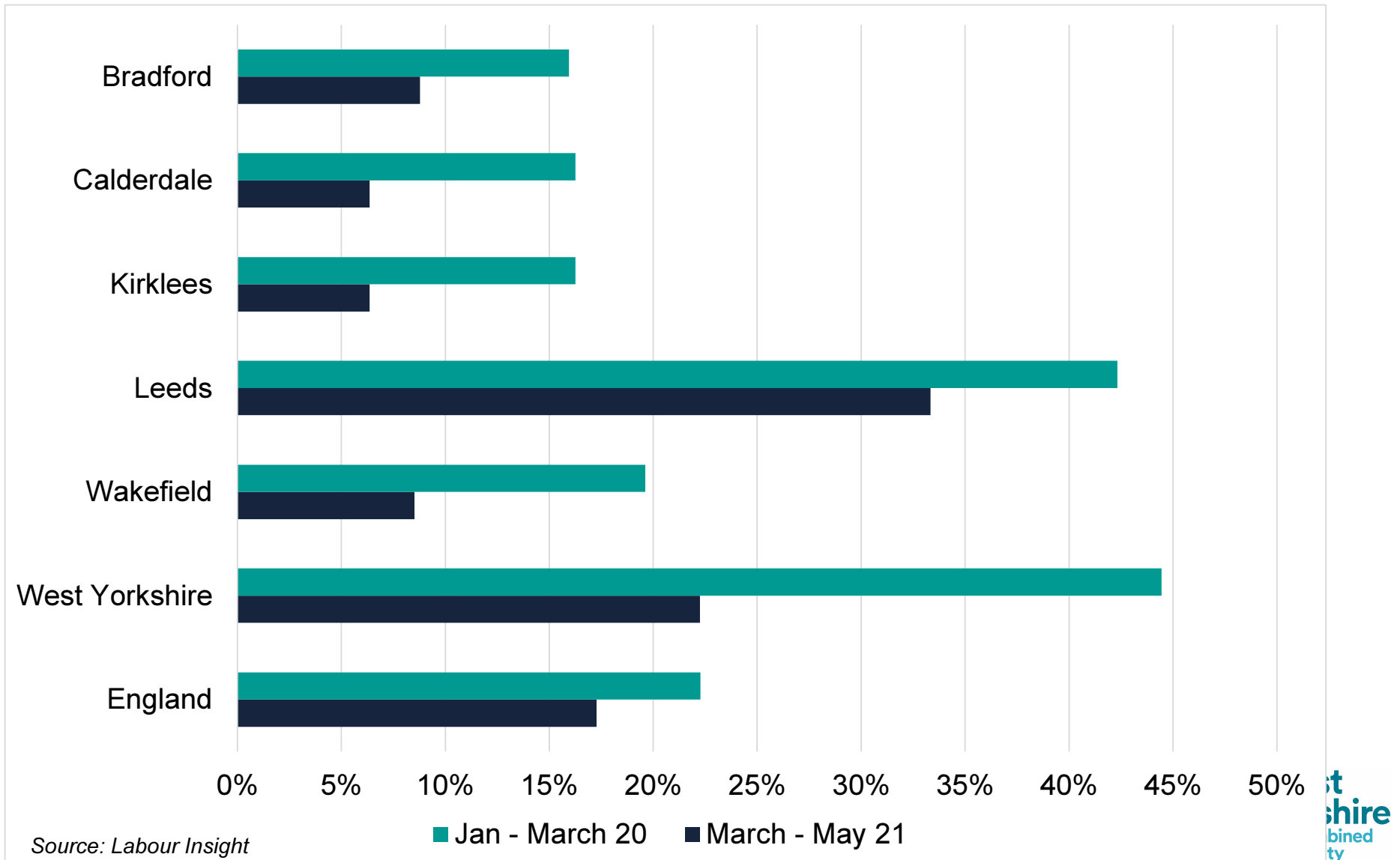


Source: HMRC



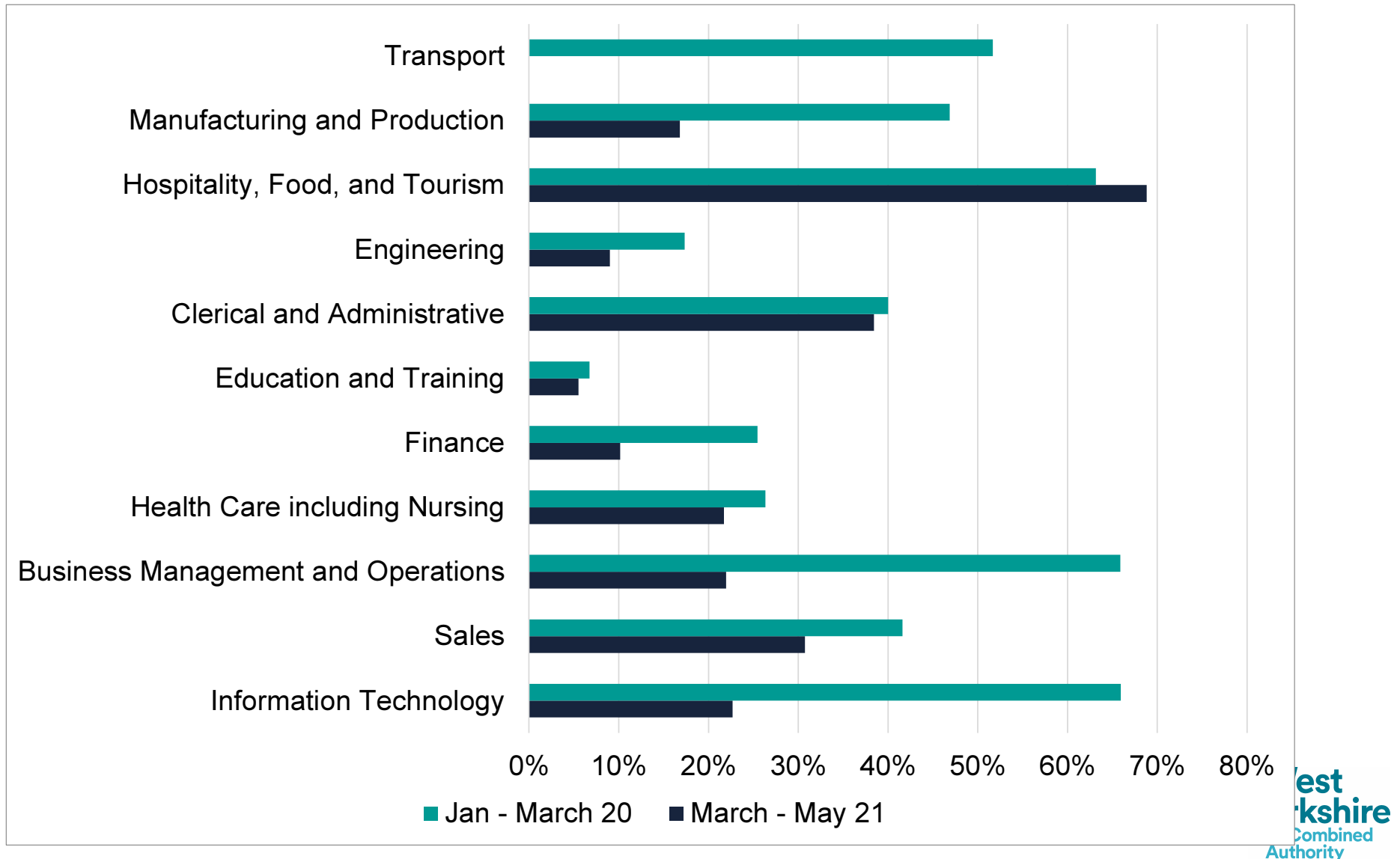
# Leeds has seen a strong recovery in vacancies since the lifting of restrictions in the summer

Figure: 3-month average of online job postings: Jul-Sept 2021 vs March-May 21 and Jan- March 21



# Hospitality and clerical have recovered strongly since the lifting of restrictions

Figure: 3-month average of online job postings: Jul-Sept 2021 vs March-May 21 and Jan- March 21



# Apprenticeship starts remain below pre-pandemic levels as of the end of Q3 of the 2020/21 academic year

Figure: Apprenticeship starts at end of academic year Q3

