

# Appendix 1: Labour market indicators

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**Economic Scrutiny Committee, October 2022**

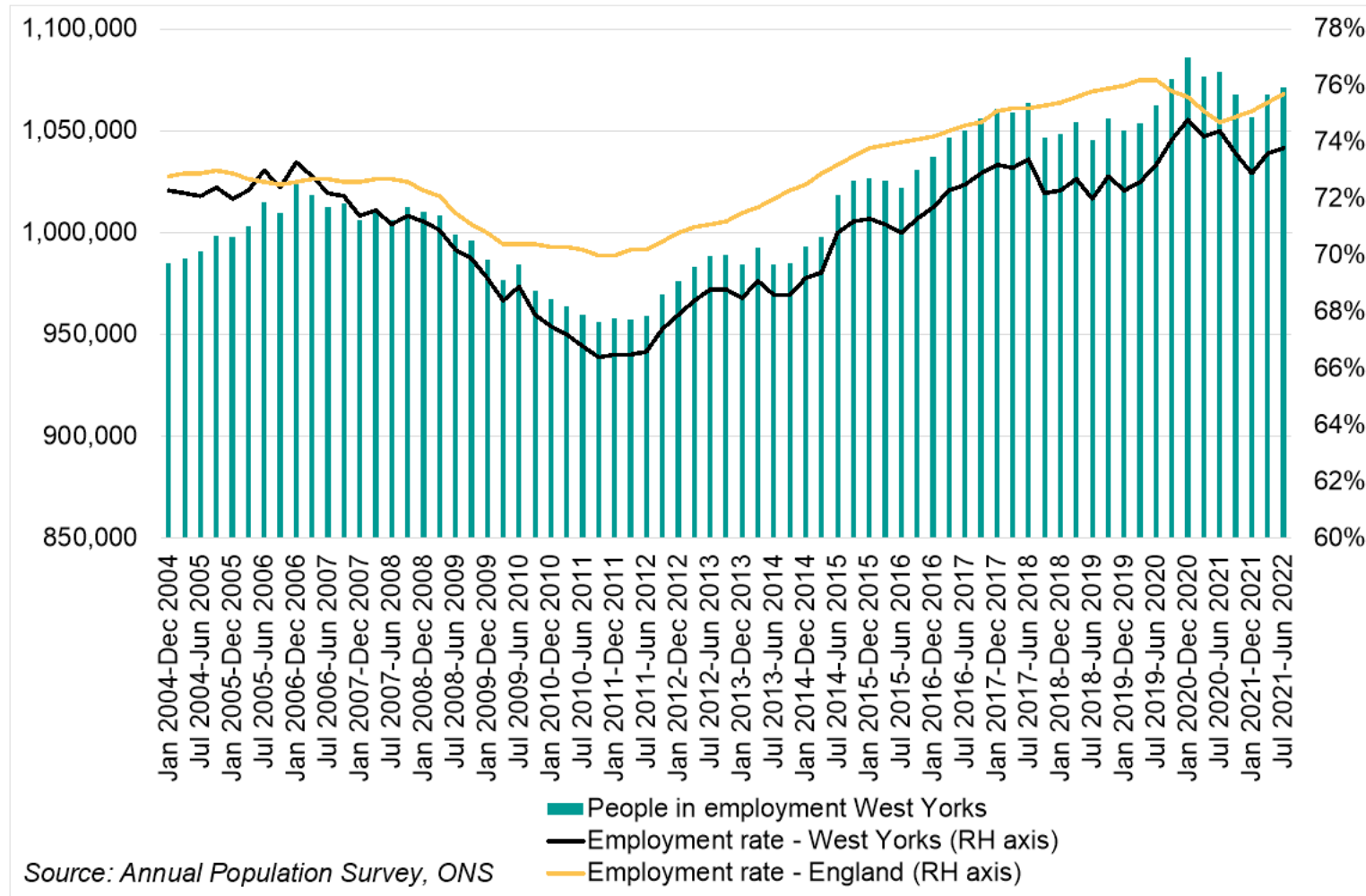
# Introduction

- The following slides provide an overview of West Yorkshire's performance and progress against the headline indicators for State of the Region
- A subset of indicators has been presented, reflecting those most directly relevant to the Employment and Skills agenda.
- For some indicators there has been no change in the available data but the latest figures are contained in the pack for consistency.
- The pack also contains an update based on more timely labour market indicators, including payrolled employees, claimant count and vacancies (online job postings).

# State of the Region indicators

# The latest figures point to a modest recovery in West Yorkshire's employment level and rate

Figure: Trend in employment rate and number of people in employment (people aged 16-64)

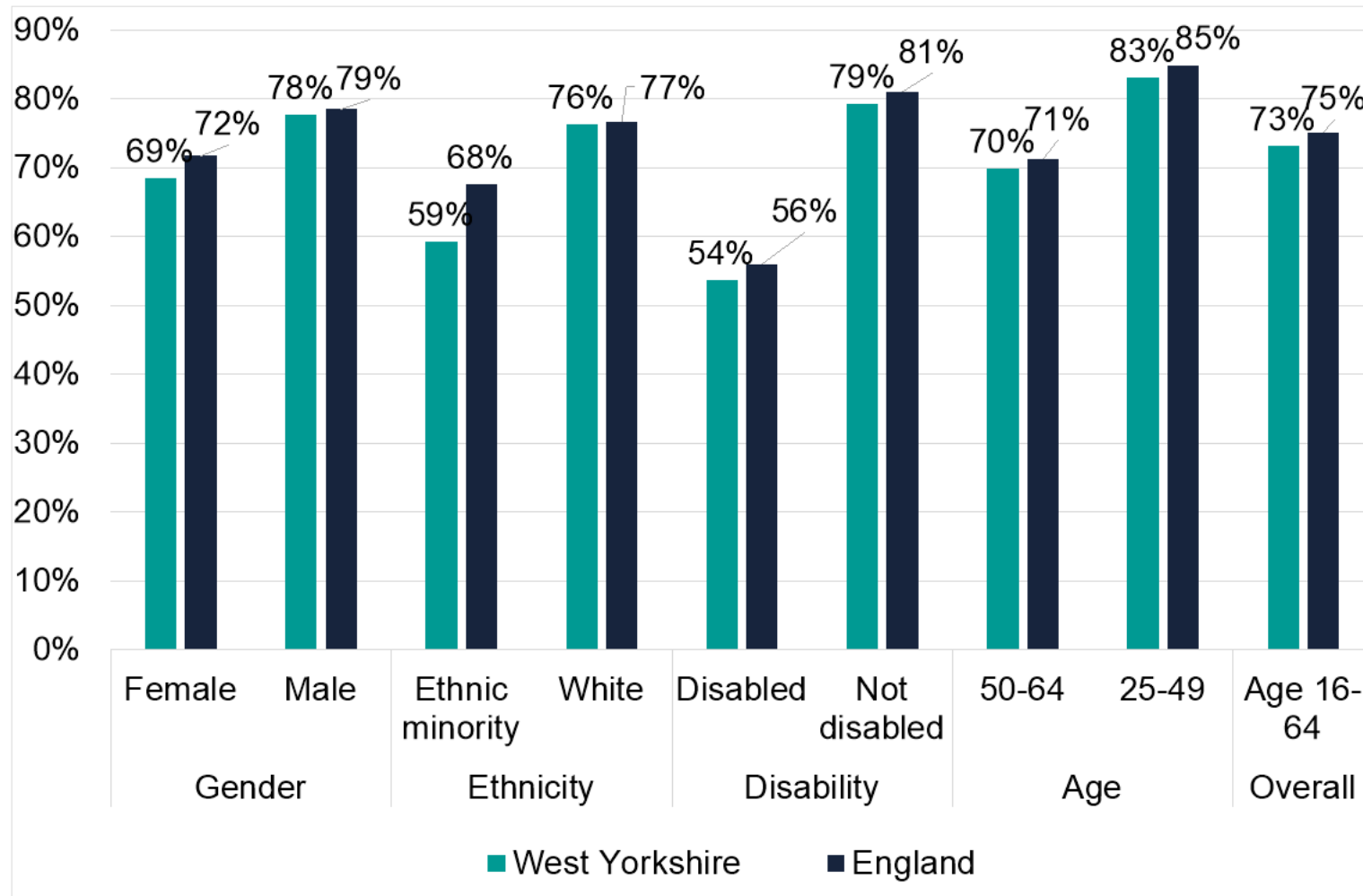


Driving economic growth and innovation to enable good jobs

Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS

# Some groups face substantial employment rate gaps

Figure: Employment rate by group

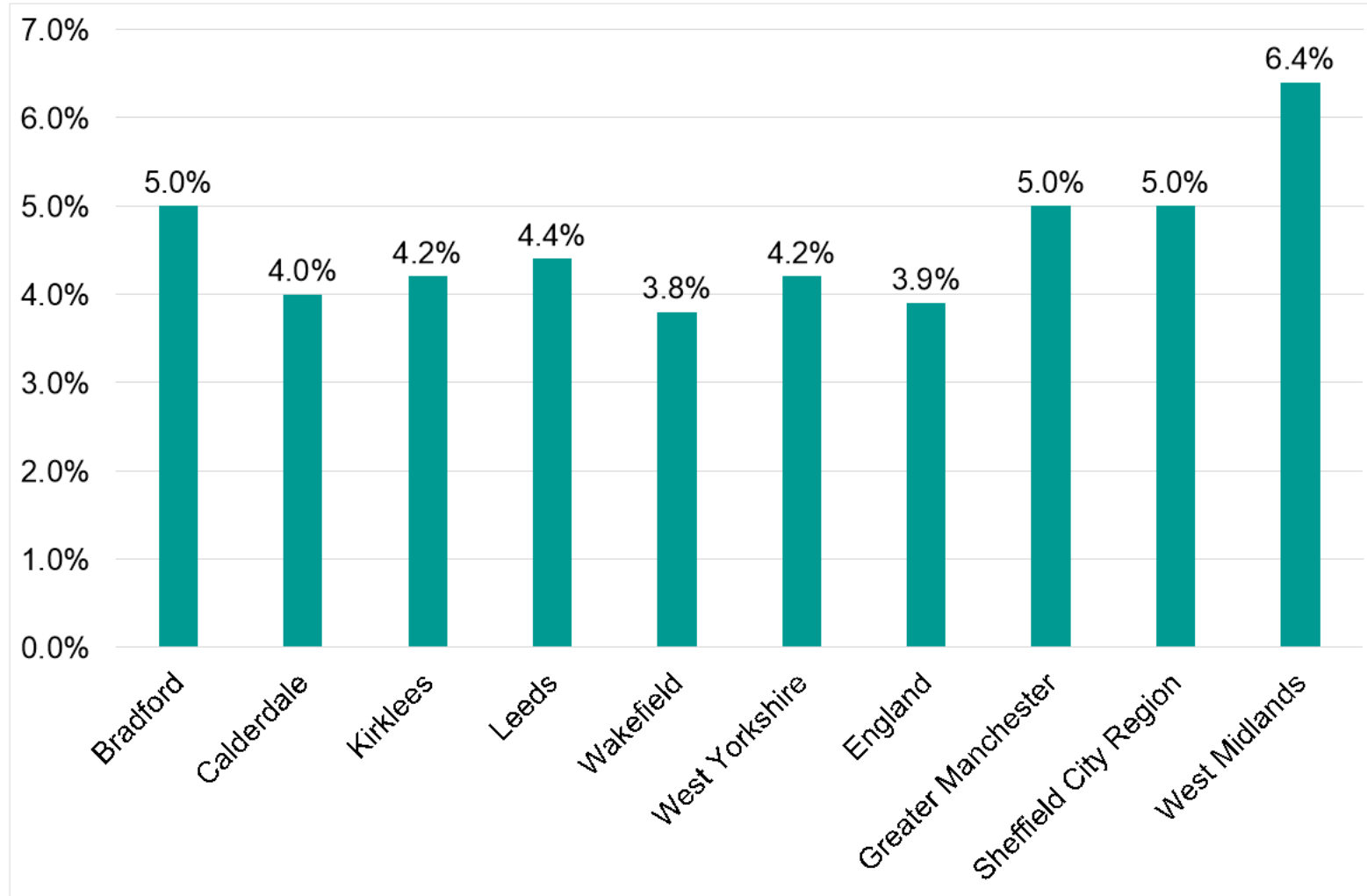


Enabling a diverse, skilled workforce and accessible learning for all

Source: Annual Population Survey

# West Yorkshire's unemployment rate remains similar to the national average but below comparator areas

Figure: Unemployment rate - % of economically active population aged 16+

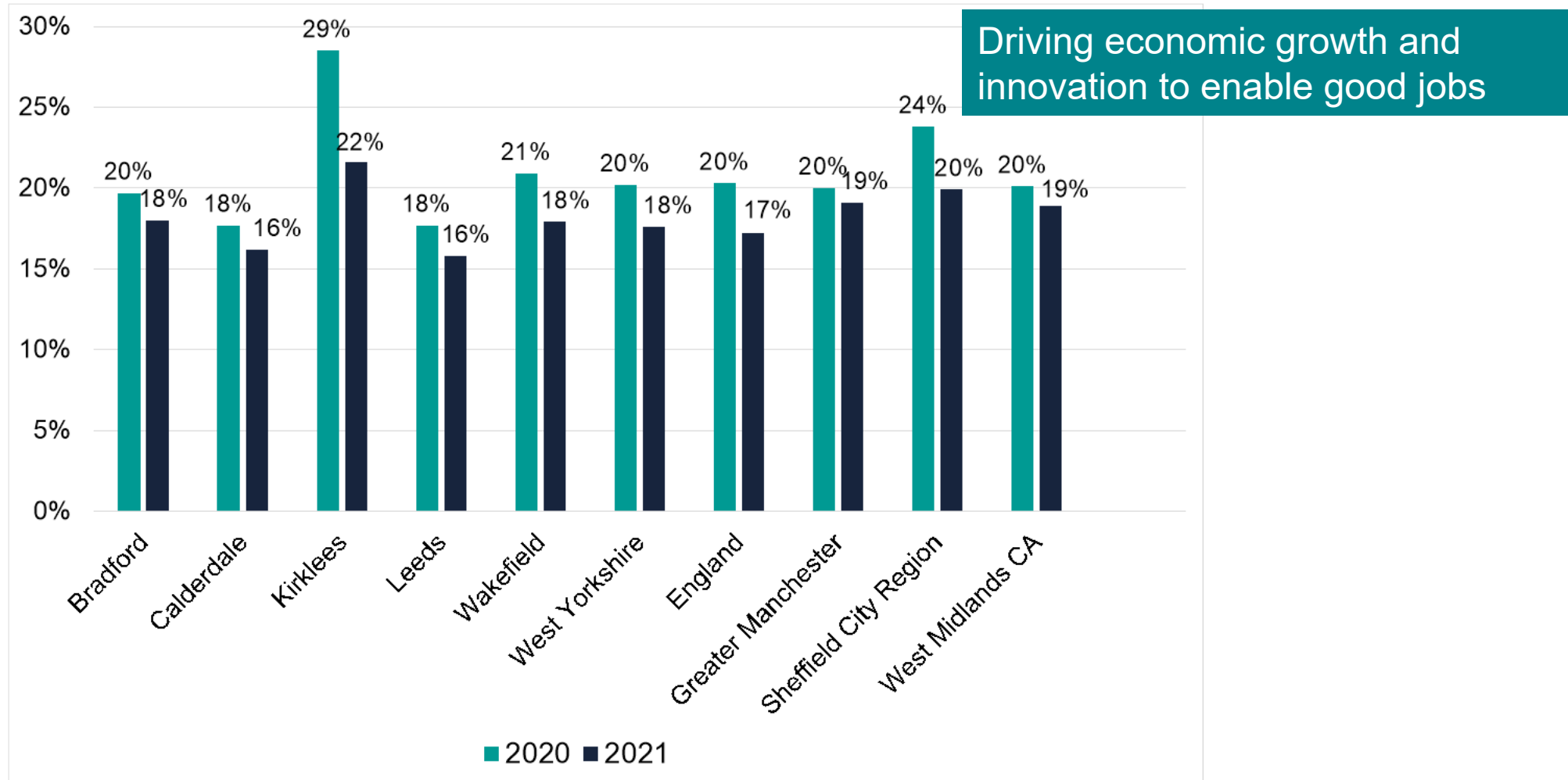


Enabling a diverse, skilled workforce and accessible learning for all

Source: Annual Population Survey, July 2021 to June 2022

# The % of jobs paying below Real Living Wage has been falling

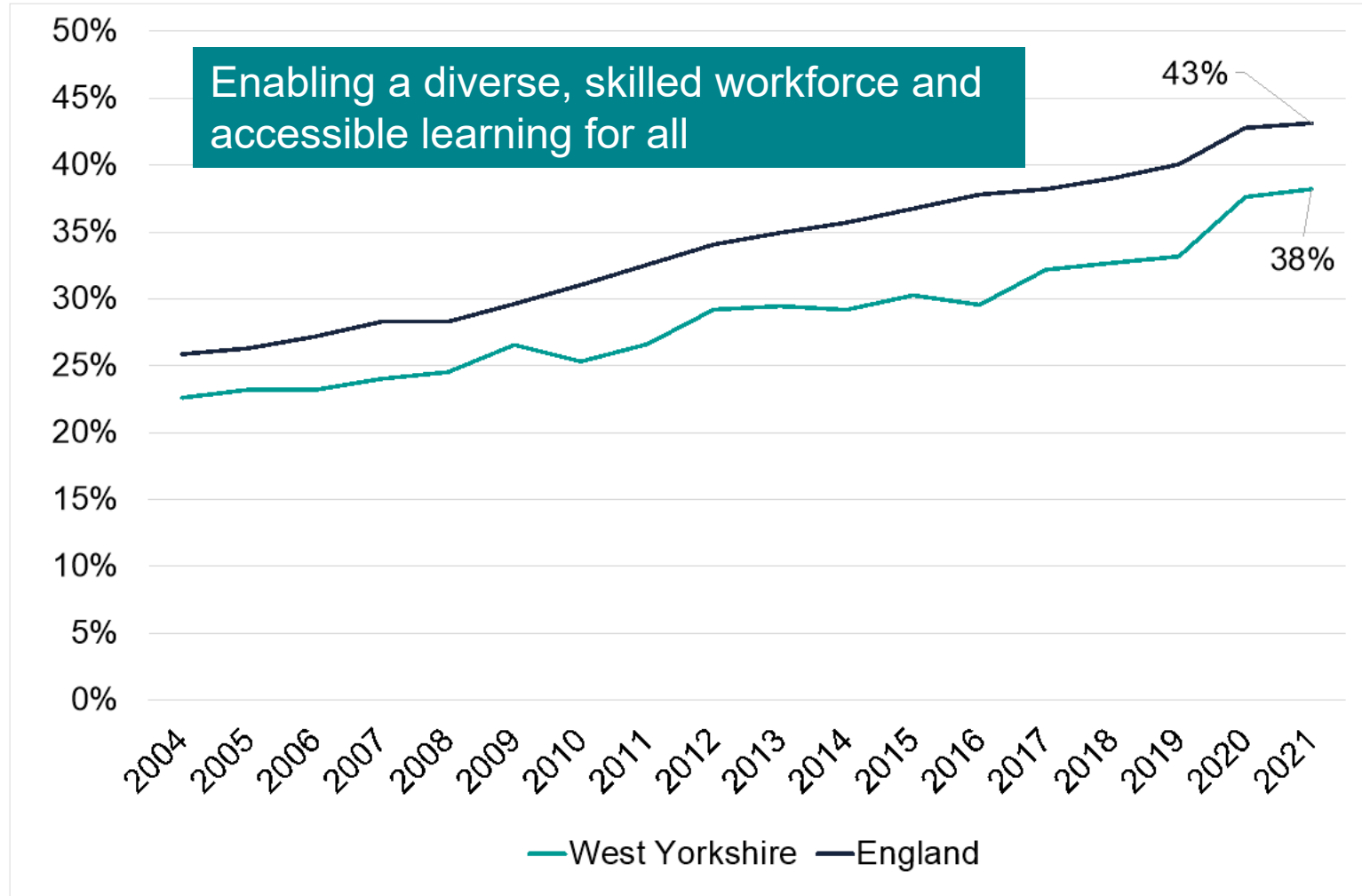
Figure: Proportion of all employee jobs paying below the Real Living Wage rate



Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, ONS

# The proportion of people with a higher level qualification is growing but a gap remains with the national average

Figure: Trend in proportion of working age population qualified at Level 4+

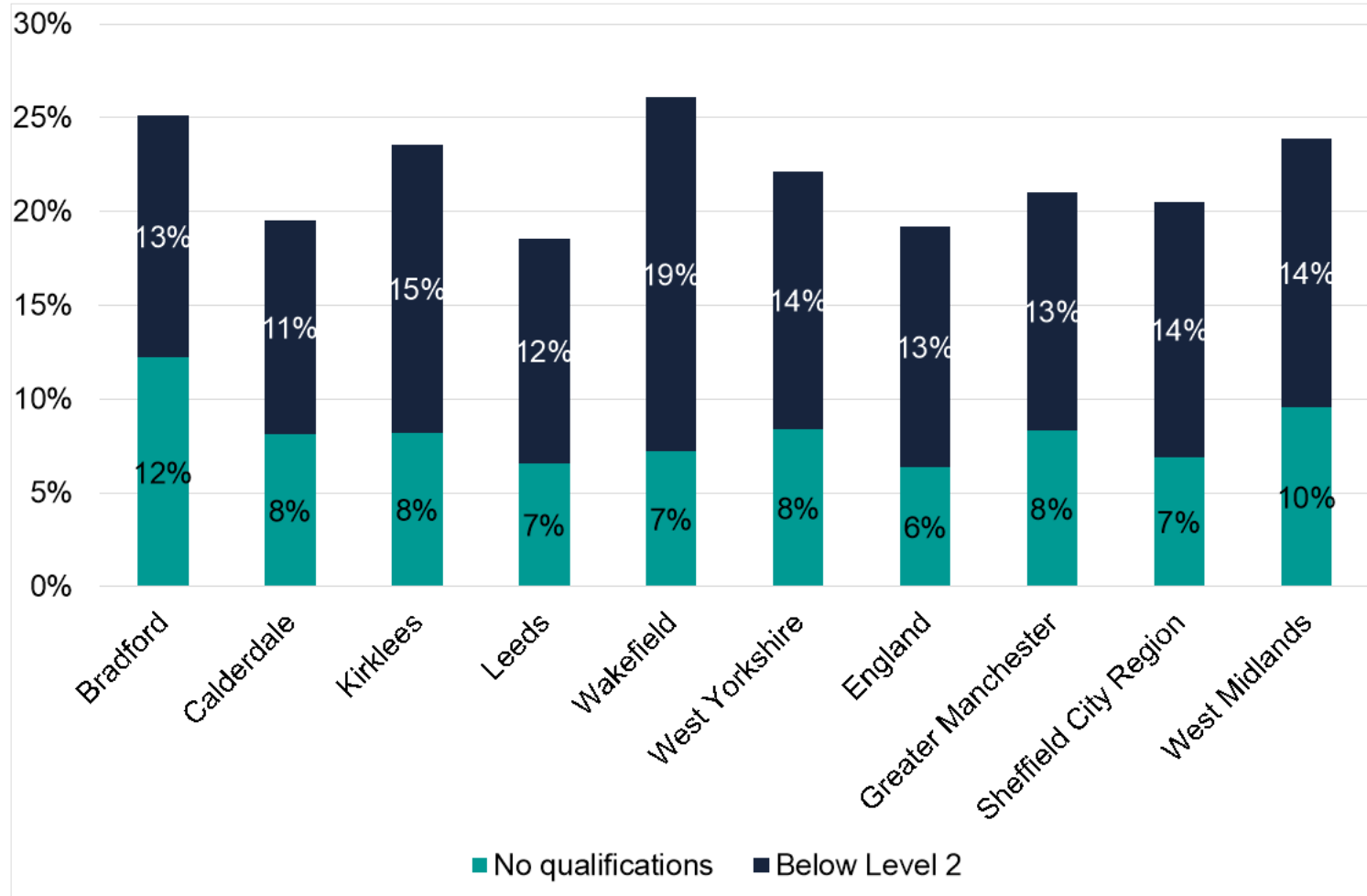


Source: Annual Population Survey, Jan – Dec periods



# More than one-in-five (22%) of people in West Yorkshire have no qualifications or are qualified to a low level, with little change in 2021

Figure: Proportion of working age population with no qualifications / qualified below Level 2



Source: Annual Population Survey, Jan – Dec 2021

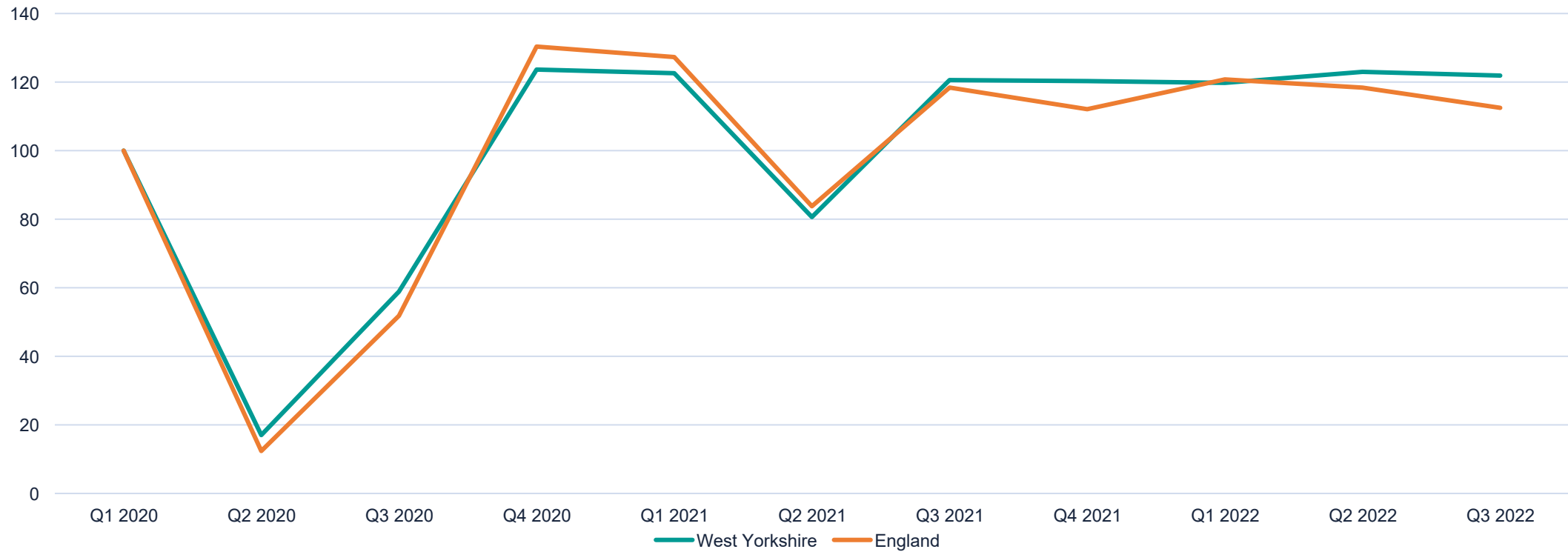
# Labour market reporting, October 2022

# National context

- Fall in employment rate in latest quarter (Jun-Aug 22) - remains below pre-pandemic value
- Number of employees fell during quarter but increase in self-employed
- Unemployment rate is lowest since 1974 (3.5%) but labour force still shrinking due to inactivity (see below)
- Sectoral pattern of employment has not returned to pre-crisis picture
- Number of vacancies is now falling but level remains high in historic terms
- Labour market remains tight - unemployed people per vacancy fell to a record low
- Average pay growing strongly in nominal terms but falling in real terms due to inflation. Pay growth powered by private sector with public sector growth remaining weak.
- Economic inactivity rate increased in quarter, mainly due to increase in long-term sick (now at record levels) and students – working age inactive now = 9m

# Business liquidations in West Yorkshire have been 20% above pre-pandemic levels for the past 15 months

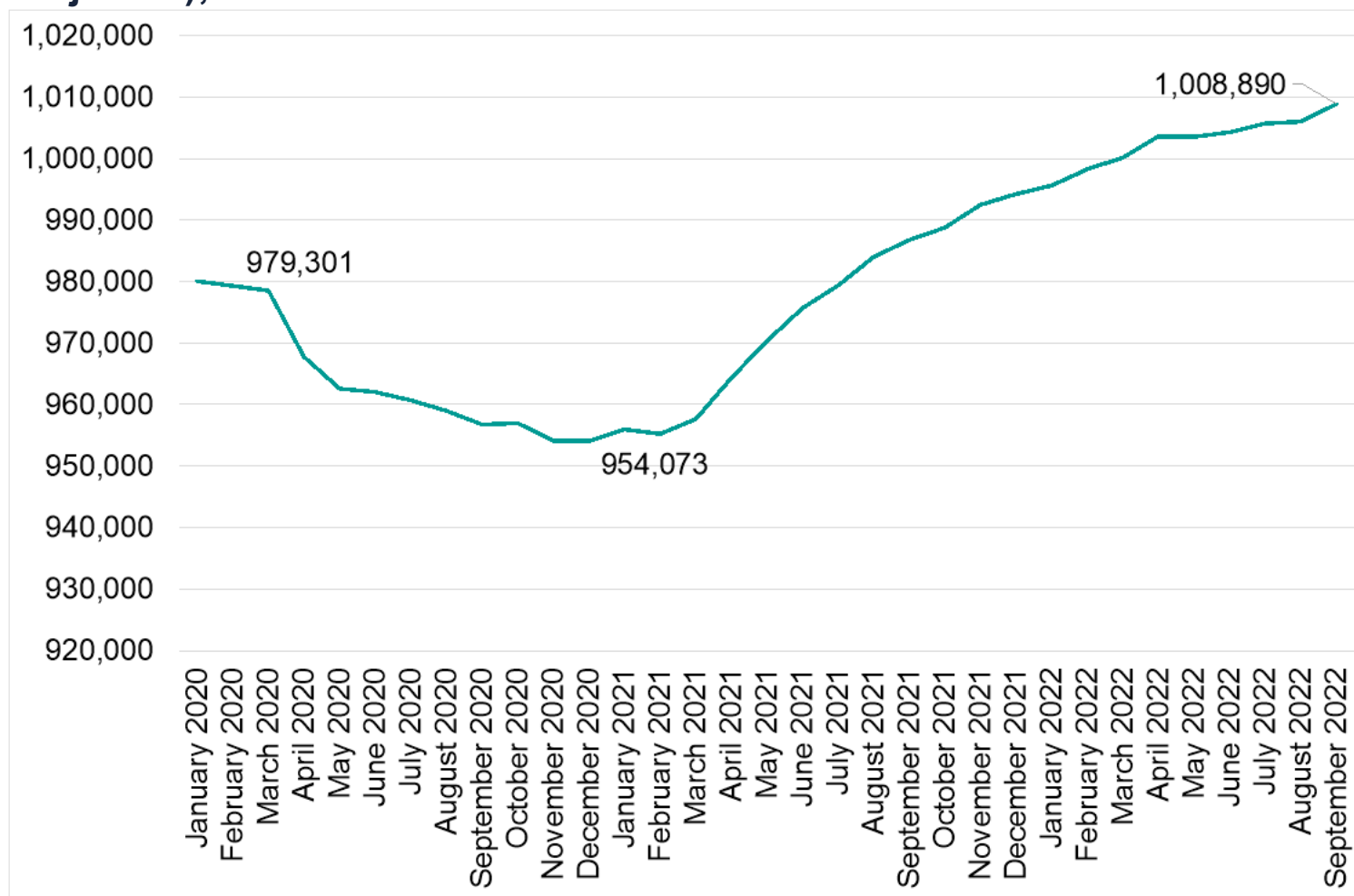
Figure: Trend in business liquidations



Source: FAME, Bureau van Dijk, 2022

# The count of payrolled employees continues to grow

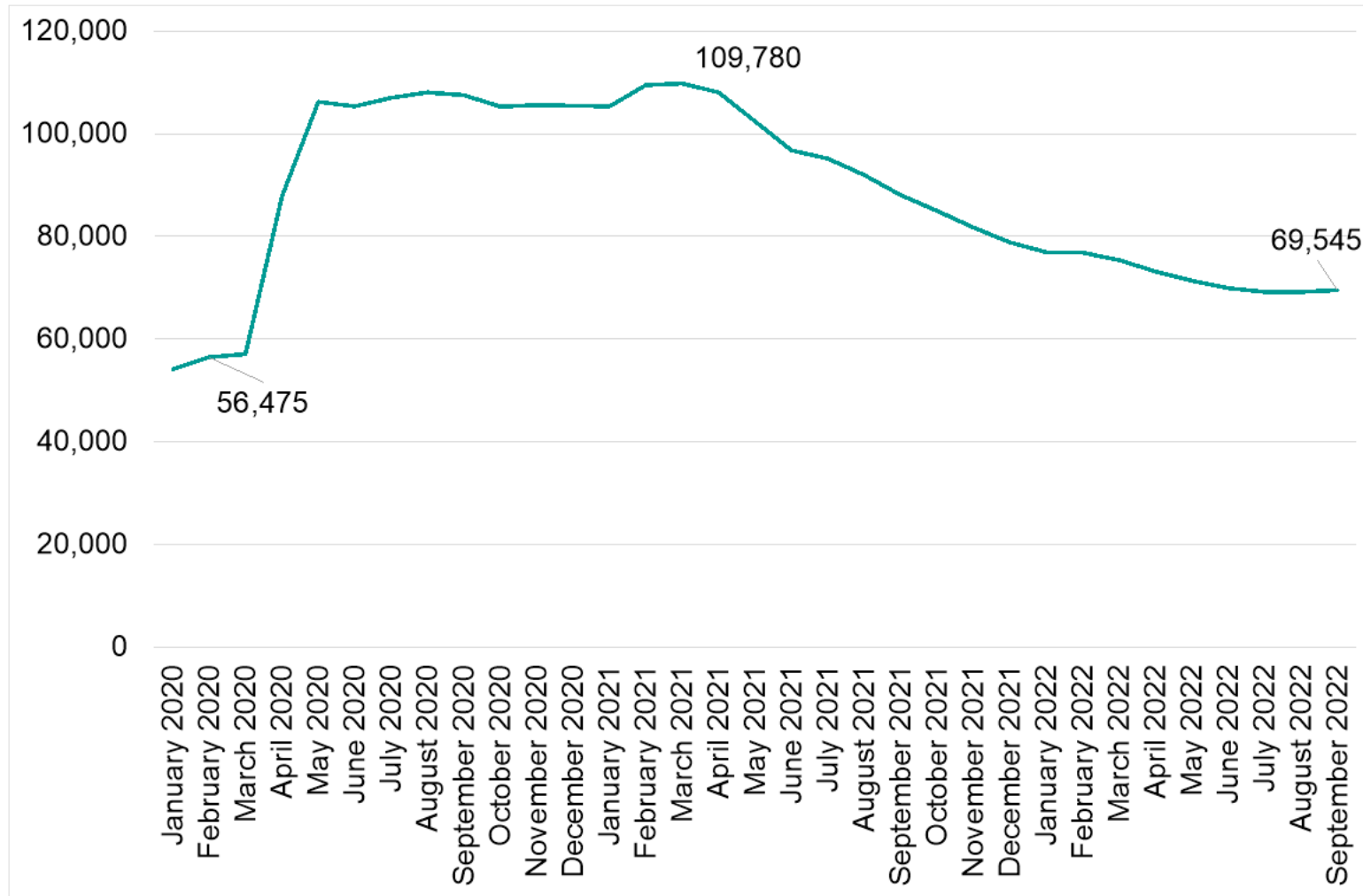
Figure: Count of payroll employees from PAYE Real-time information (seasonally adjusted); West Yorkshire



Source: HMRC

# But the downward trend in the Claimant Count has stalled

Figure: Trend in Claimant Count, West Yorkshire

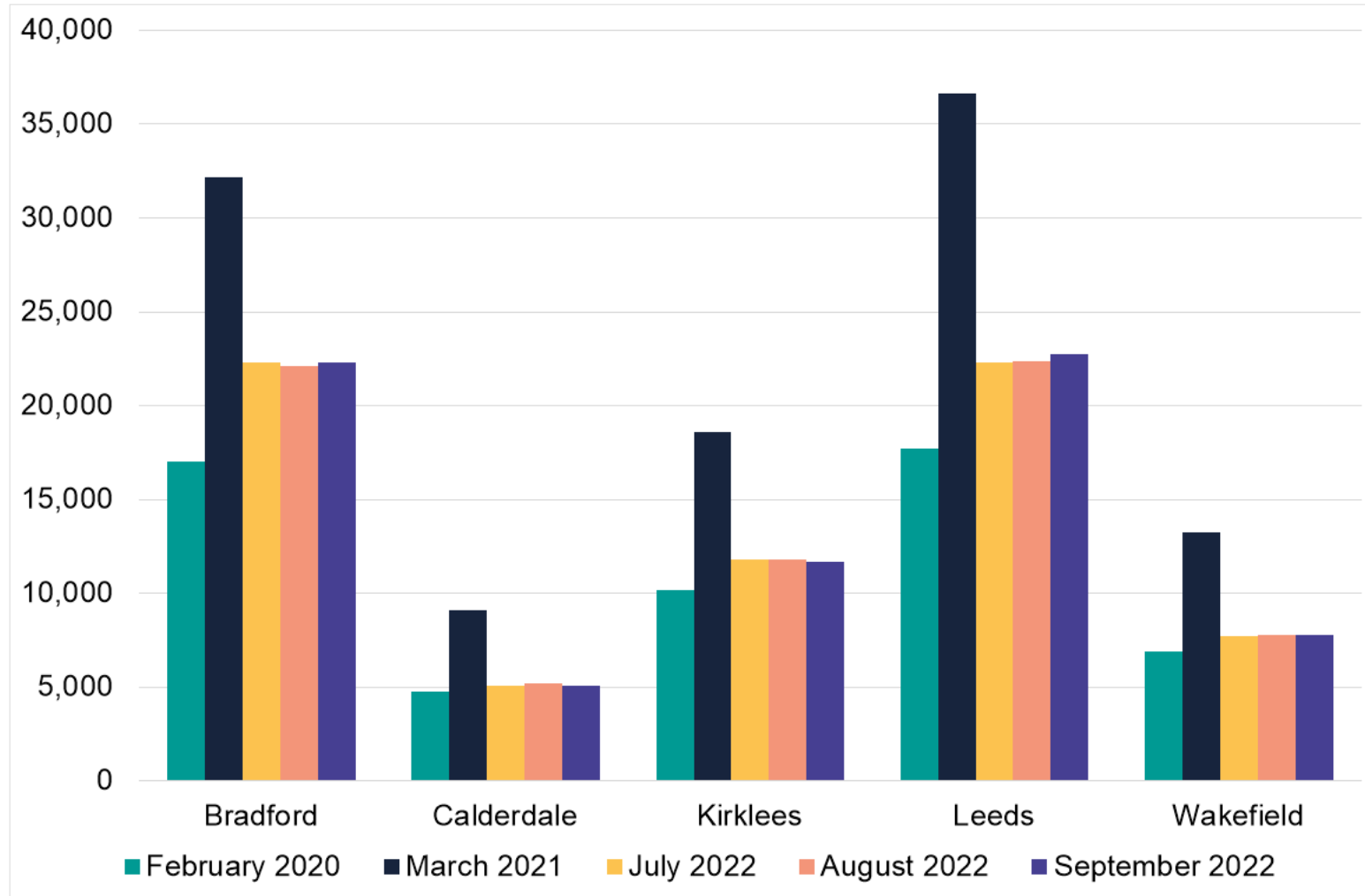


The Claimant Count is a measure of people claiming benefits primarily because they are out of work

Source: Claimant Count, ONS

# Claimant Count has remained flat across all local authorities over last three months

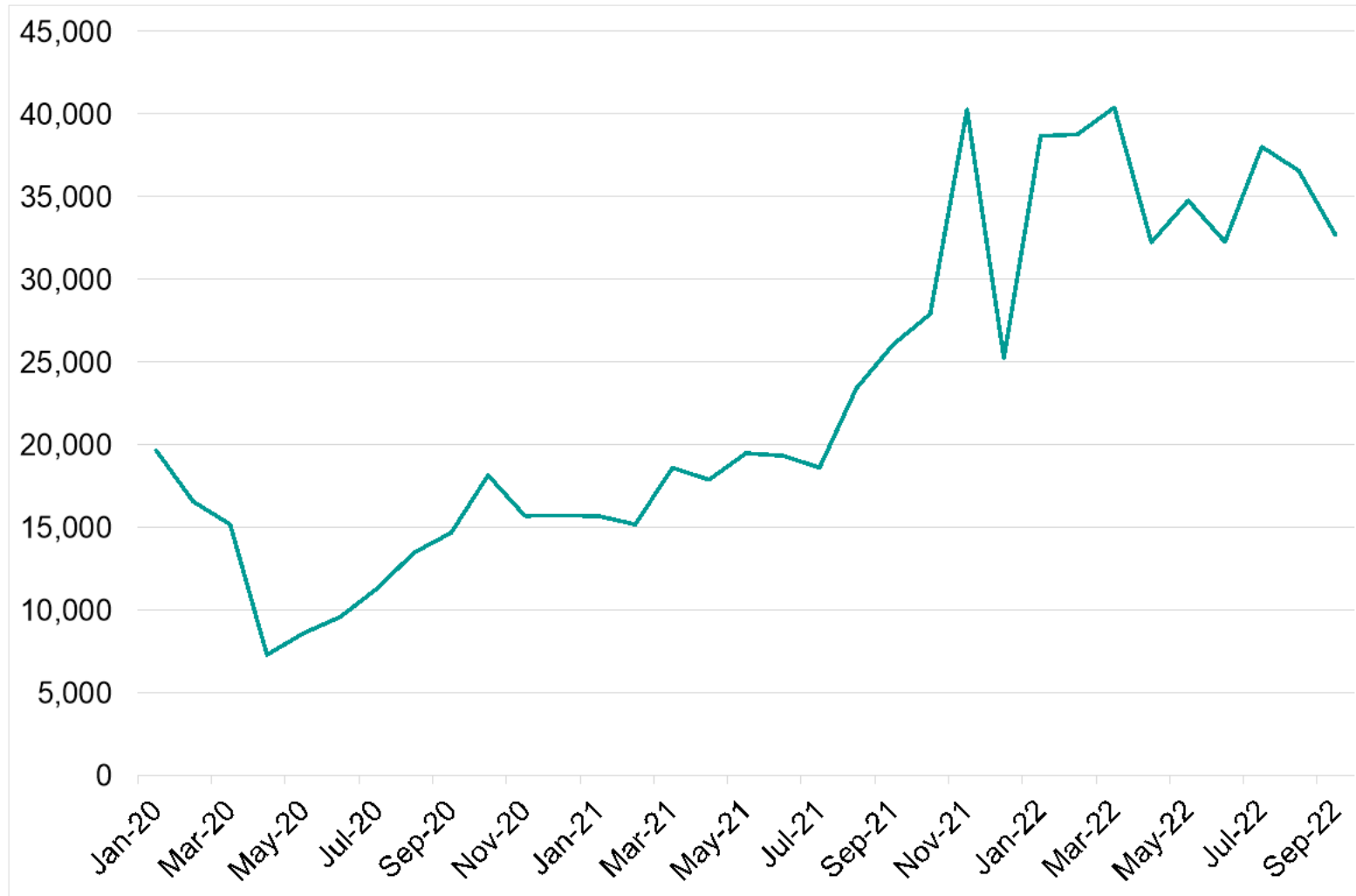
Figure: Trend in Claimant Count by local authority



Source: Claimant Count, ONS

# Recruitment activity remains high by historic standards

Figure: Trend in monthly count of online job postings - West Yorkshire

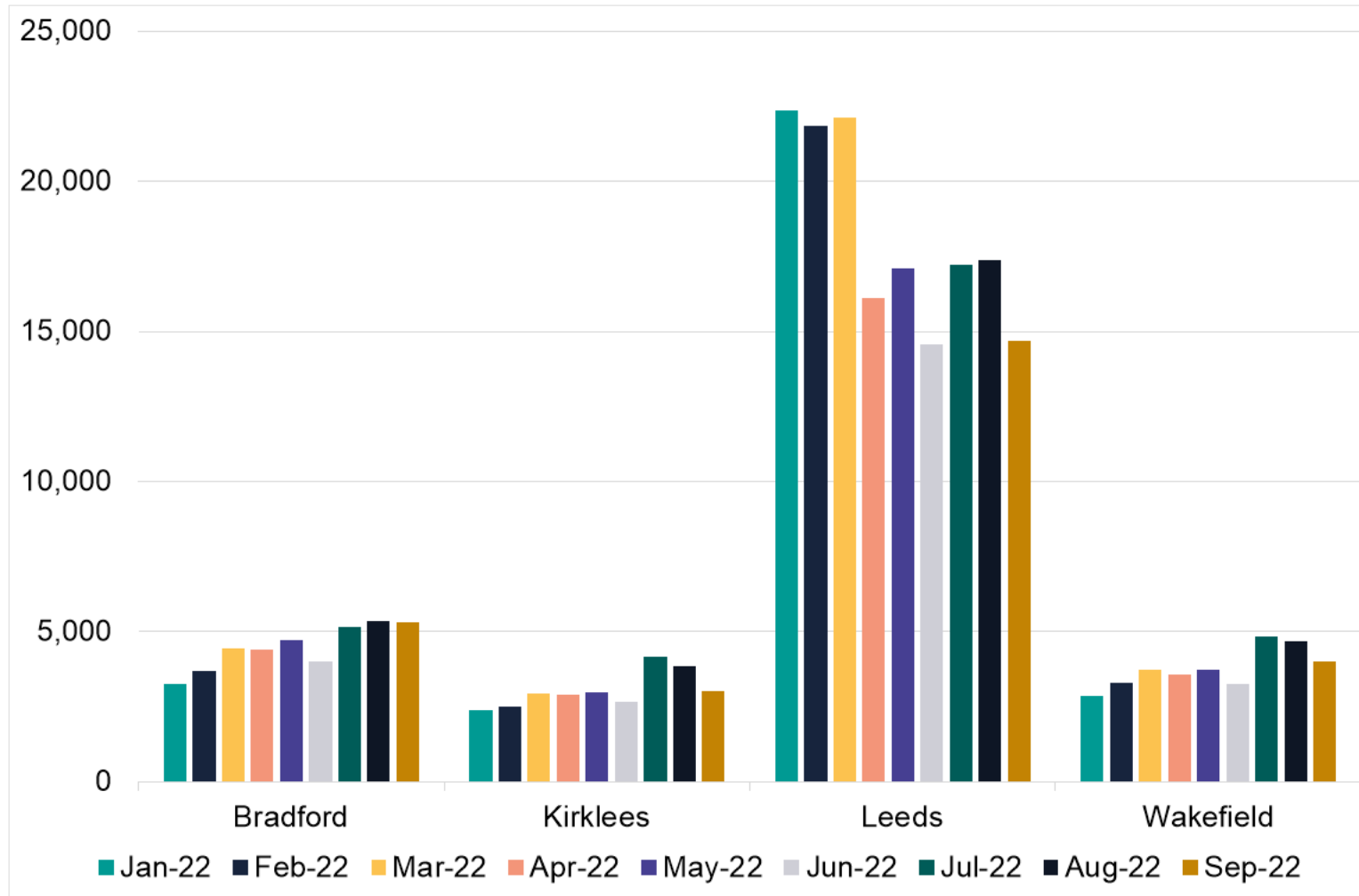


Source: Lightcast



# Monthly count of job postings in Leeds is well below peak seen in early 2022; other local authorities have seen an increase since start of year

Figure: Trend in monthly count of unique online job postings by local authority

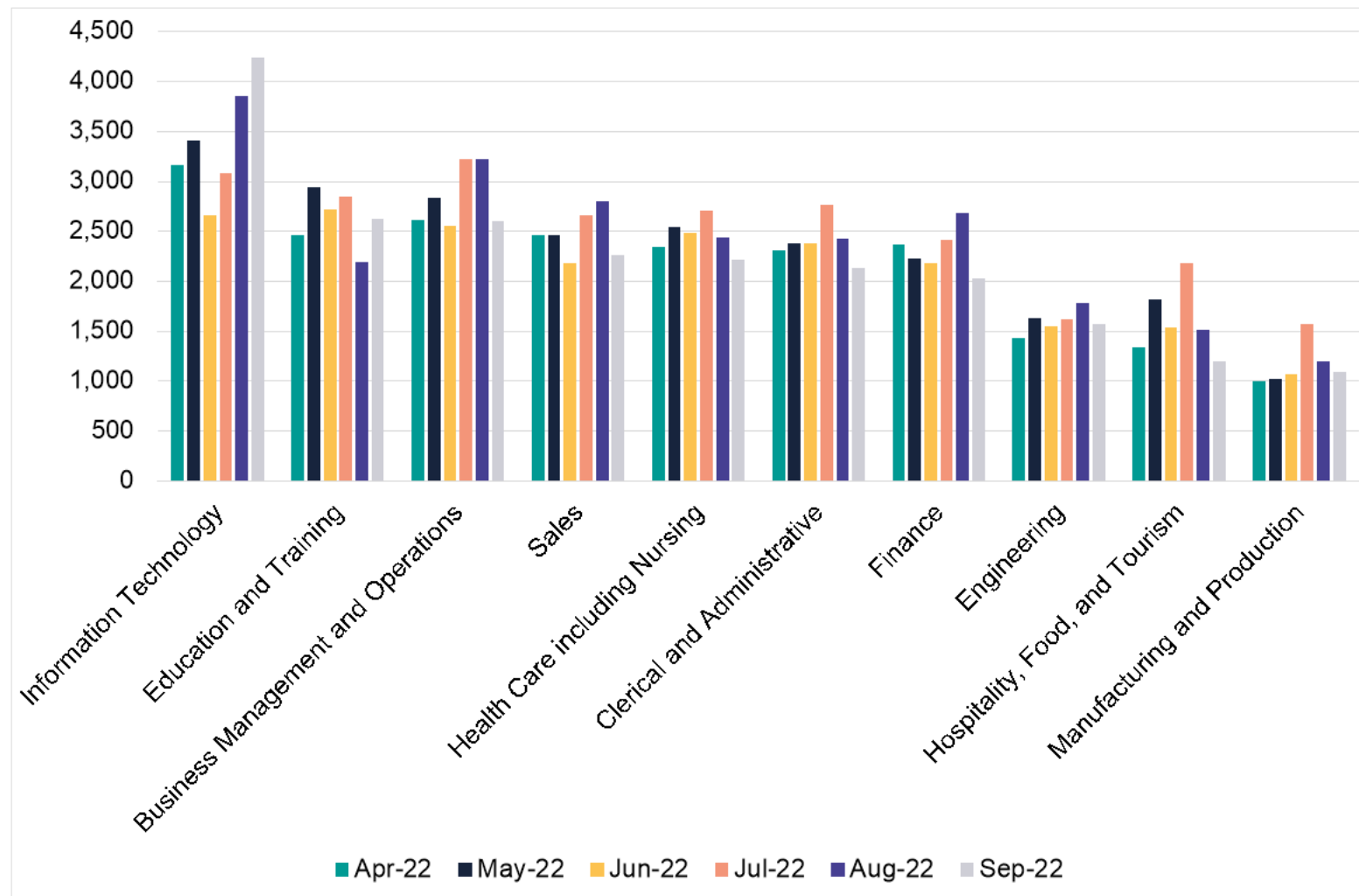


NB: data not currently available for Calderdale due to technical issues. Also note that a proportion of West Yorkshire job postings cannot be assigned to a local authority location.

Source: Lightcast

# Performance across occupations shows a mixed picture

Figure: Monthly count of unique online job postings by top 10 occupational groups, West Yorkshire

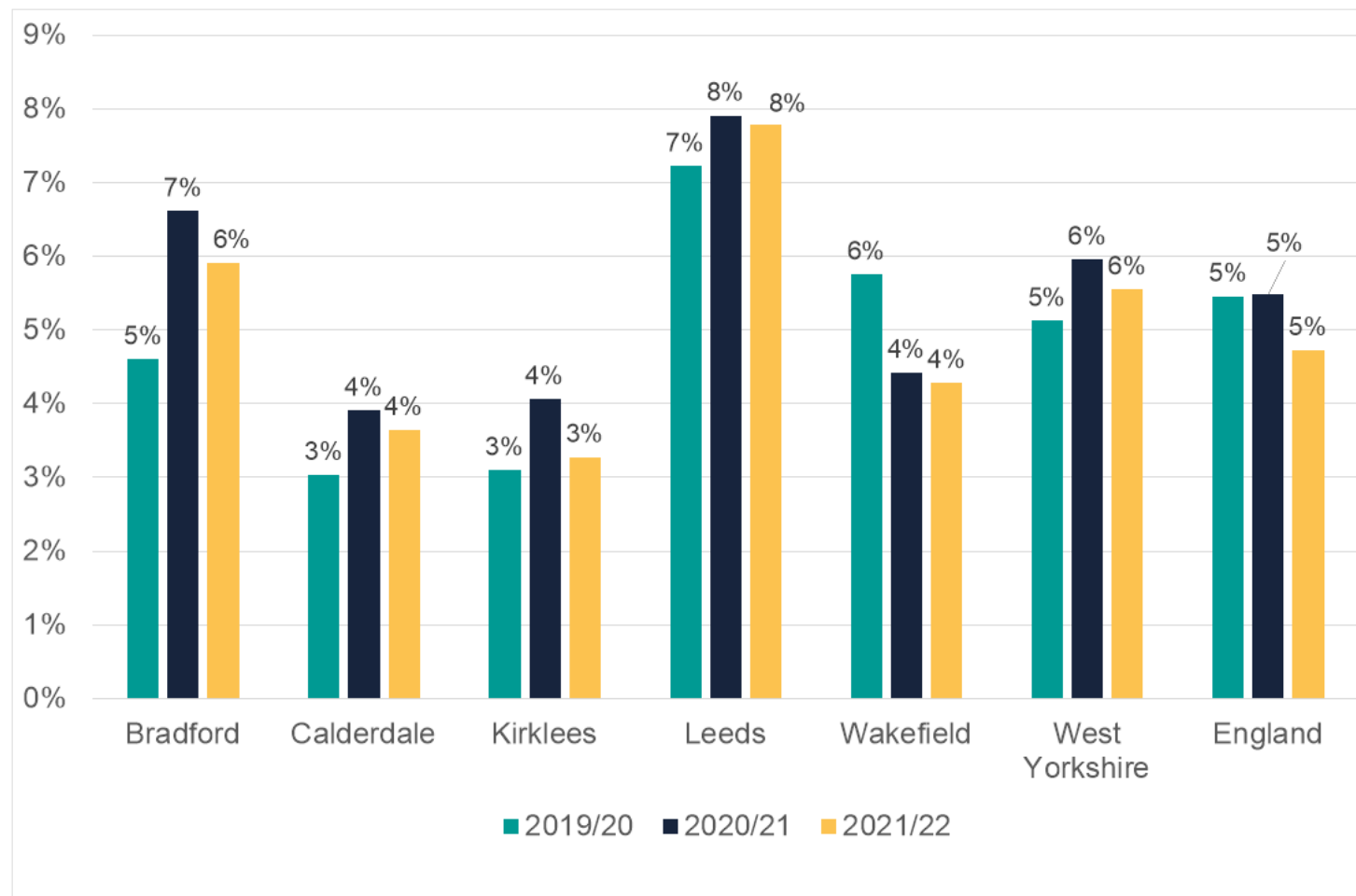


Number of postings increased in Information Technology and Education and Training in September compared with previous month but other areas fell, with Finance and Hospitality, food and tourism seeing the biggest reductions

Source: Lightcast

# NEETs fell in West Yorkshire in 2022 but remain above national average

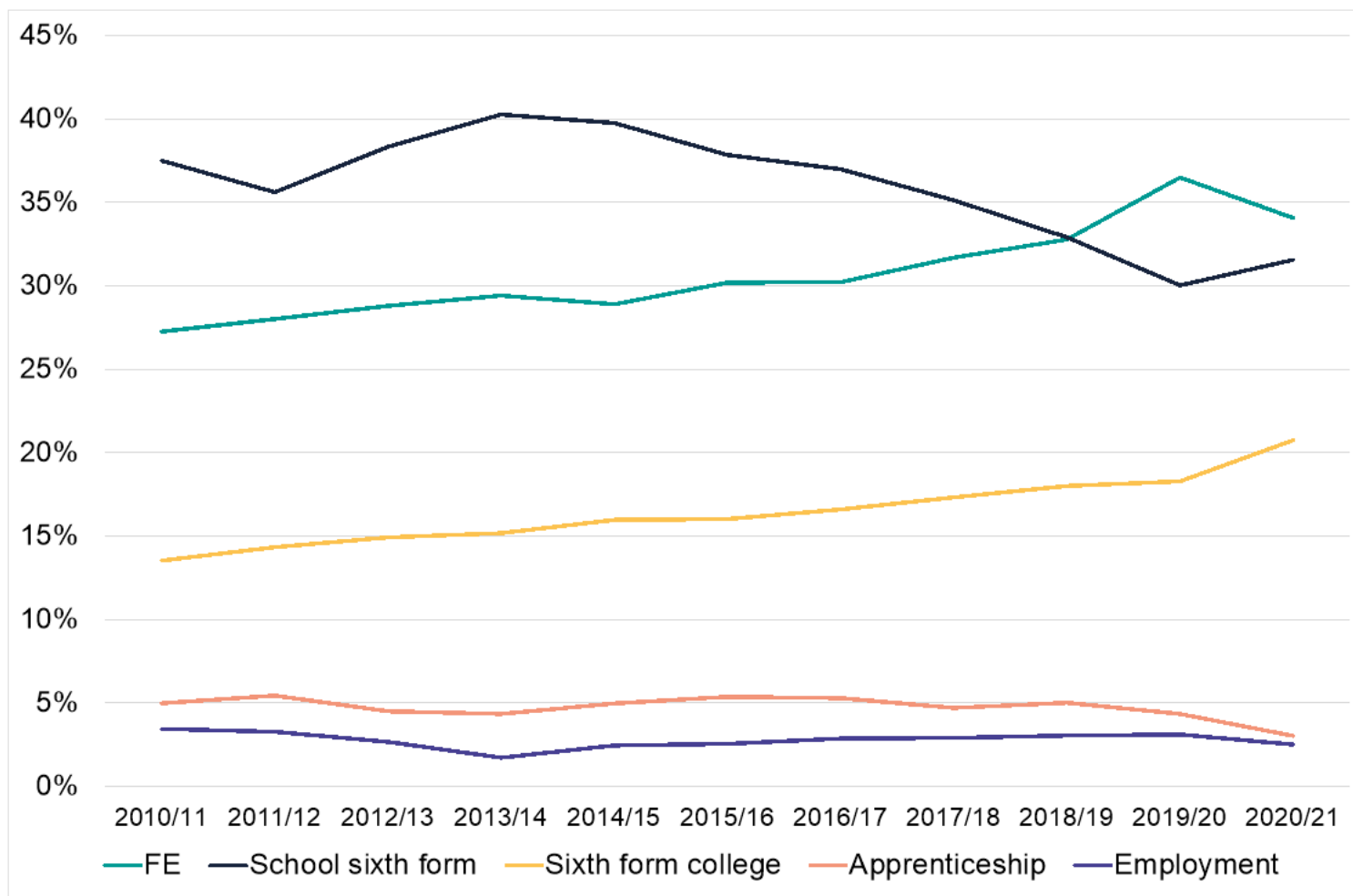
Figure: Trend in proportion of 16- and 17-year-olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) or whose activity is not known



Source: NEET and participation: local authority figures, Department for Education

# A small proportion of young people enter an apprenticeship or employment following Key Stage 4

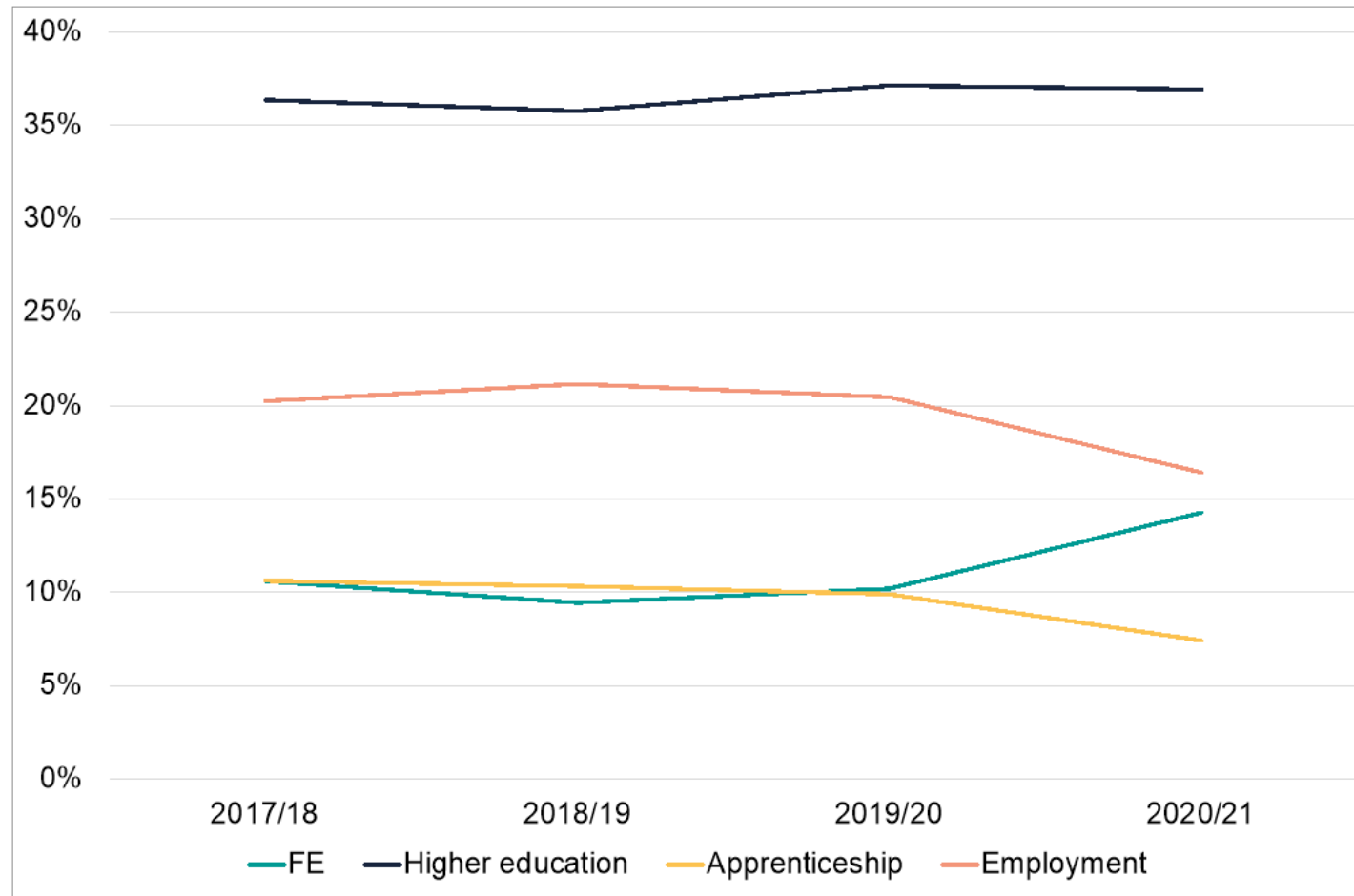
Figure: Destinations of KS4 pupils from state-funded mainstream schools, West Yorkshire



Source: KS4 Destination Measures, DfE

# The proportion of students entering Further Education following 16-18 study increased in 2020/21

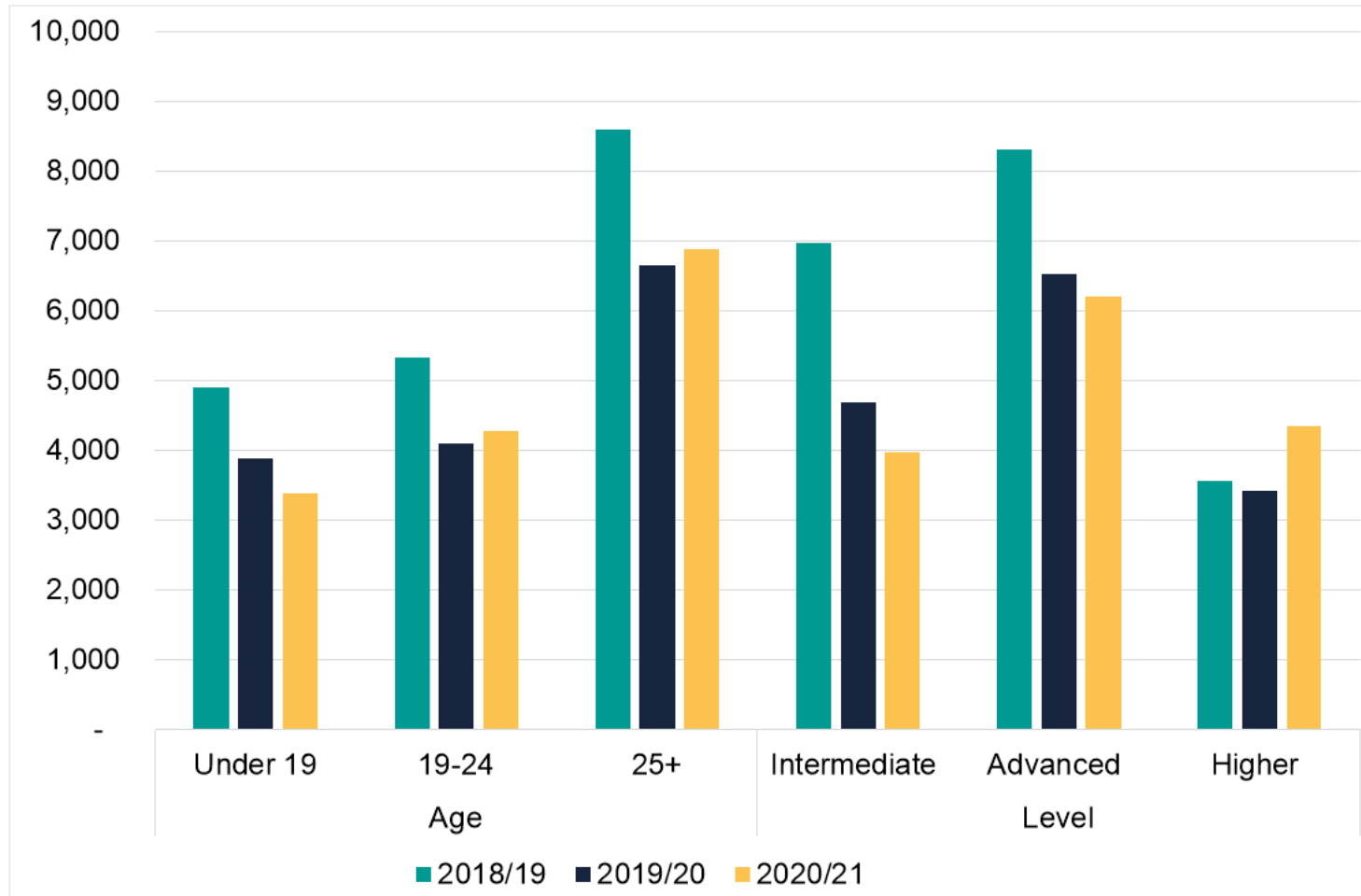
Figure: Destinations of 16-18 students from state-funded mainstream schools and colleges, West Yorkshire



Source: 16-18 Destination Measures, DfE

# Take-up of apprenticeships remains well below pre-pandemic levels

Figure: Trend in apprenticeship starts by age and level, West Yorkshire



Source: Department for Education