



West
Yorkshire
Combined
Authority

Tracy
Brabin
Mayor of
West Yorkshire

Appendix 1: Indicator report

Employment and Skills Committee

15 February 2024



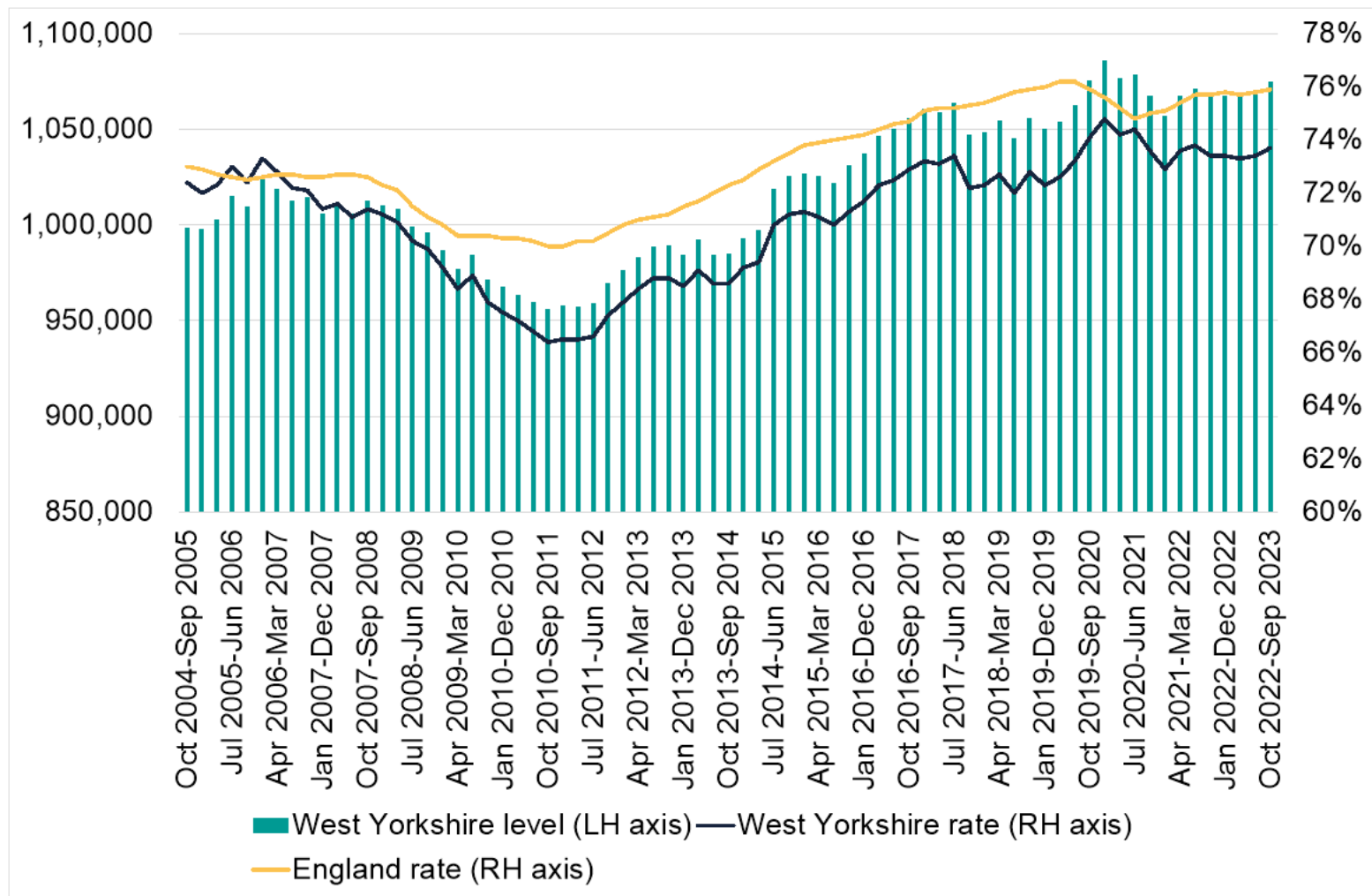
Introduction

- 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

West Yorkshire's employment rate has remained flat since the pandemic

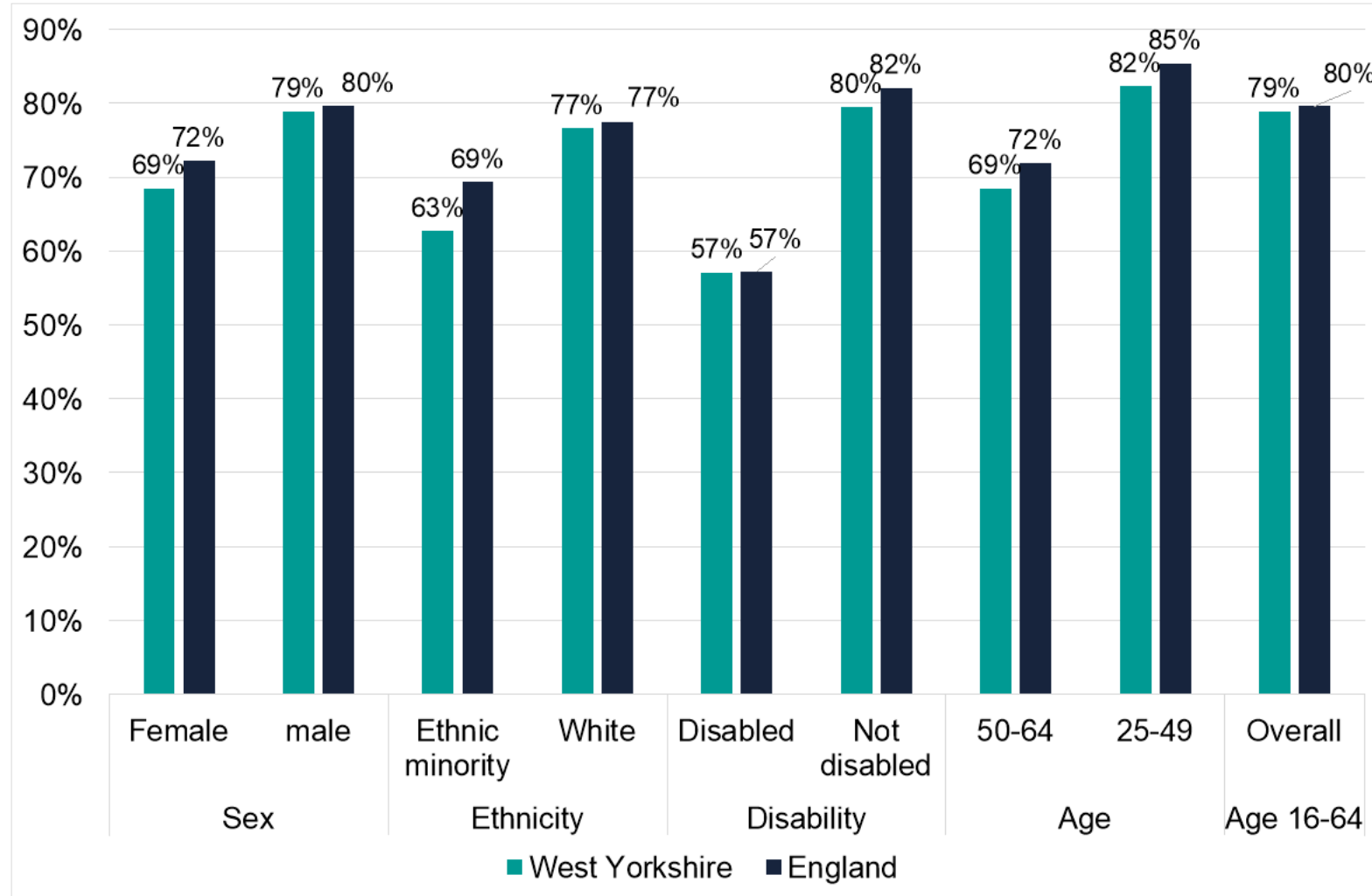
Figure: Trend in employment rate and number of people in employment (people aged 16-64)



Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS

Some population groups face substantial employment rate gaps

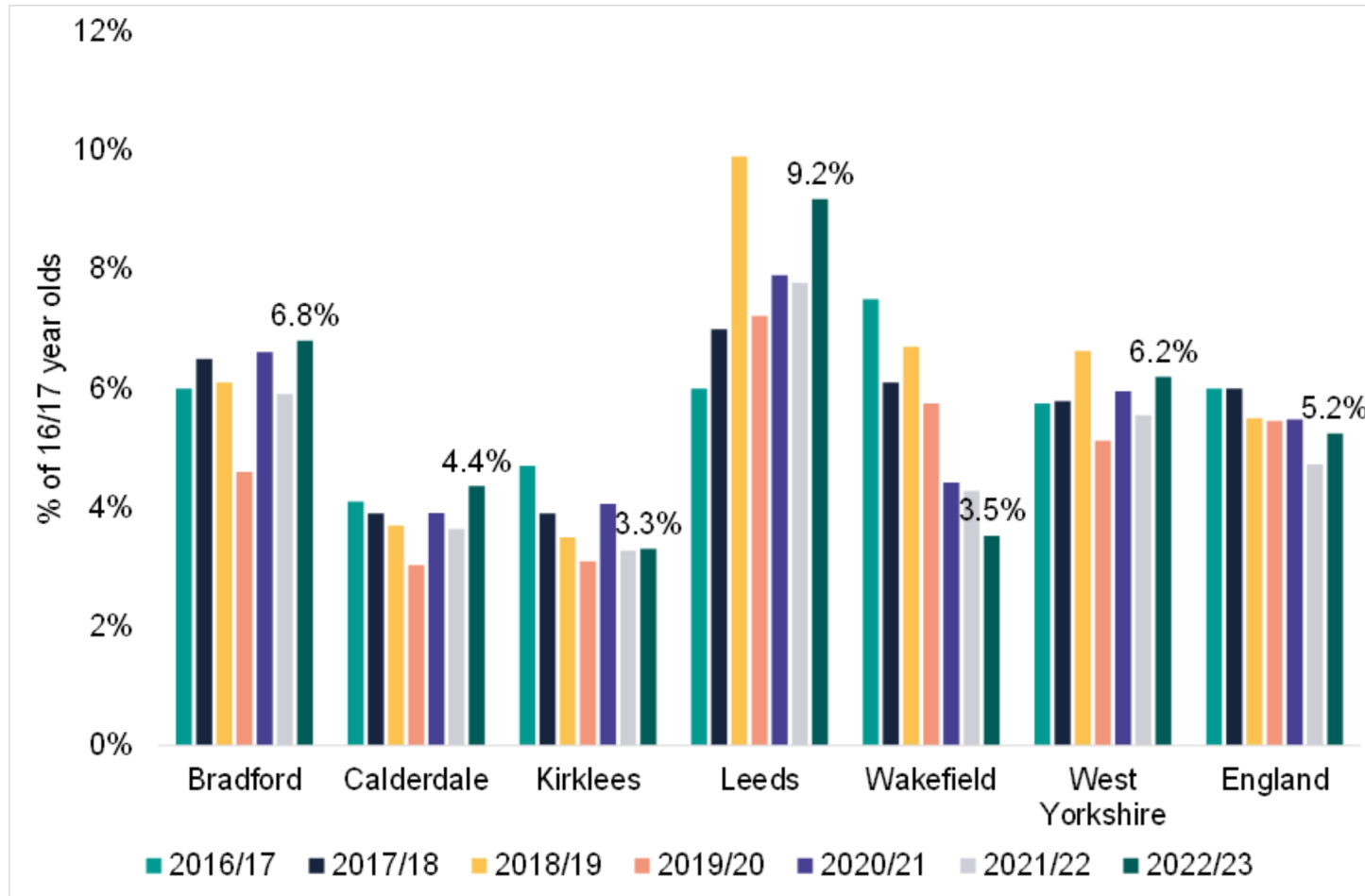
Figure 2: Employment rate by group



Source: Annual Population Survey, October 2022 to September 2023

West Yorkshire's prevalence of NEET young people is above the national average

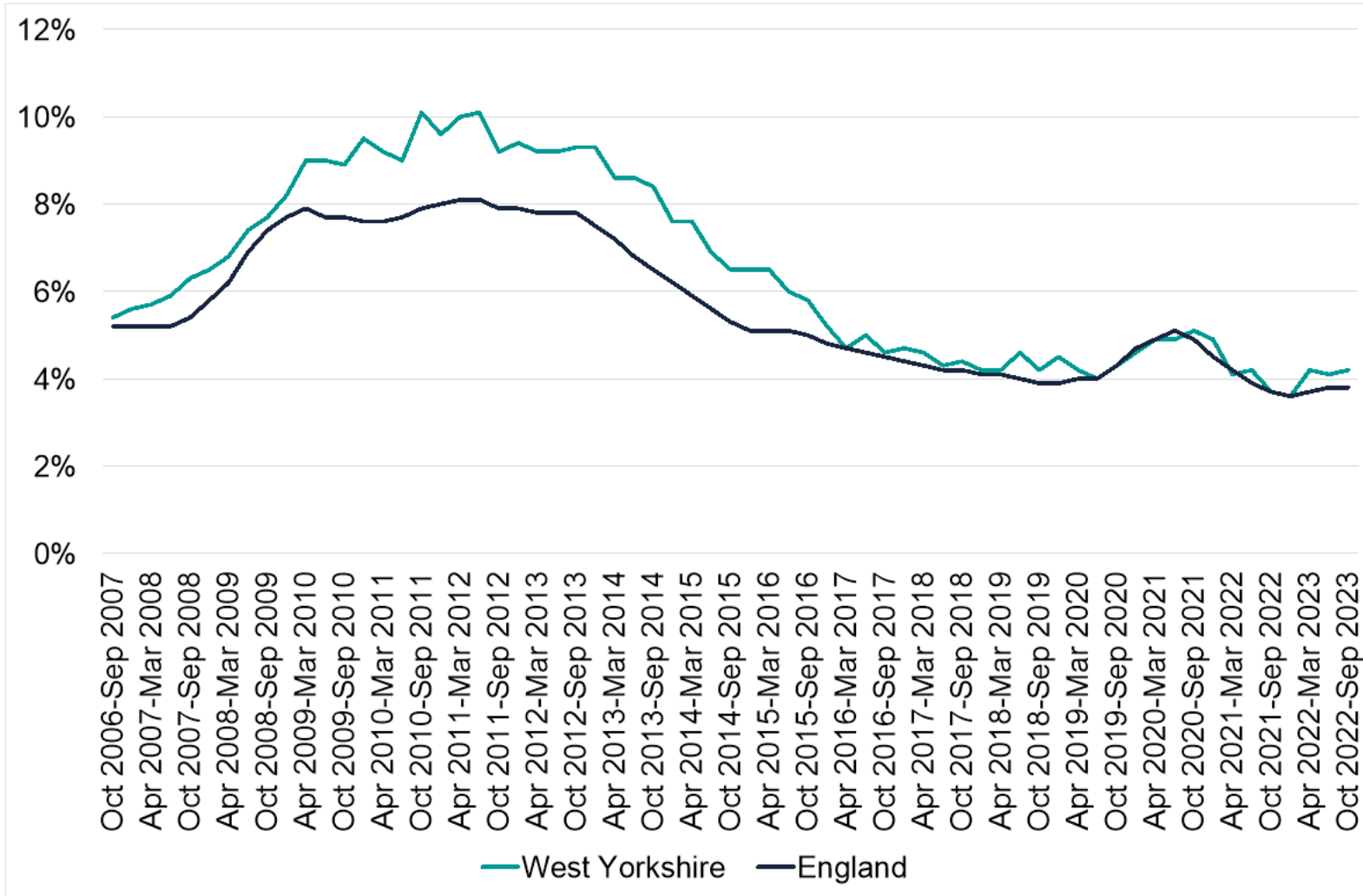
Figure 3: Trend in proportion of 16- and 17-year-olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) or whose activity is not known



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

There are signs of an increase in the unemployment rate, although there is a lag in the data

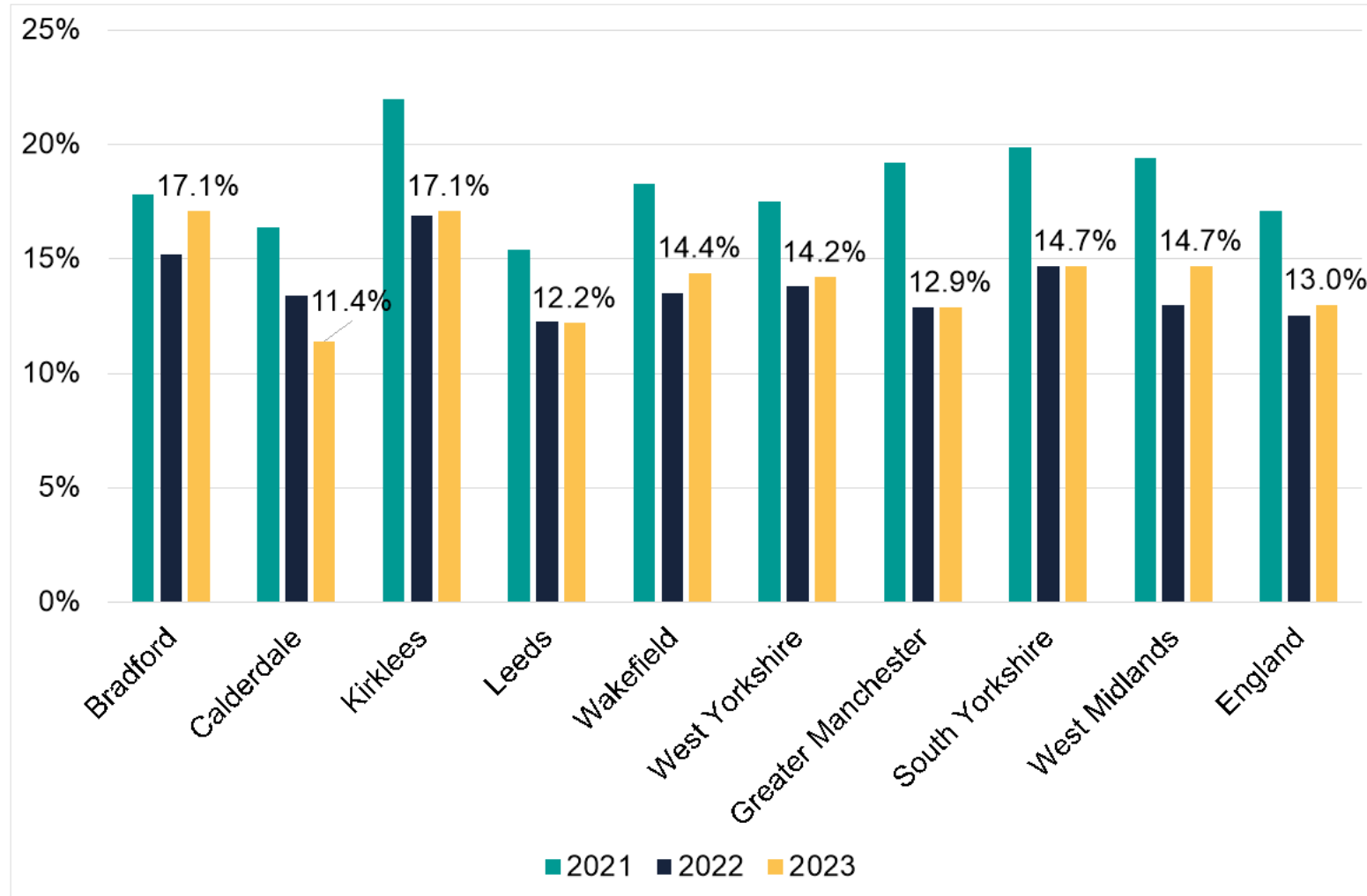
Figure 5: Trend in unemployment rate - % of economically active population aged 16+



Source: Annual Population Survey

The % of jobs paying below the Real Living Wage in remained largely unchanged in 2023 but is above the national average

Figure 6: Proportion of all employee jobs paying below the Real Living Wage rate

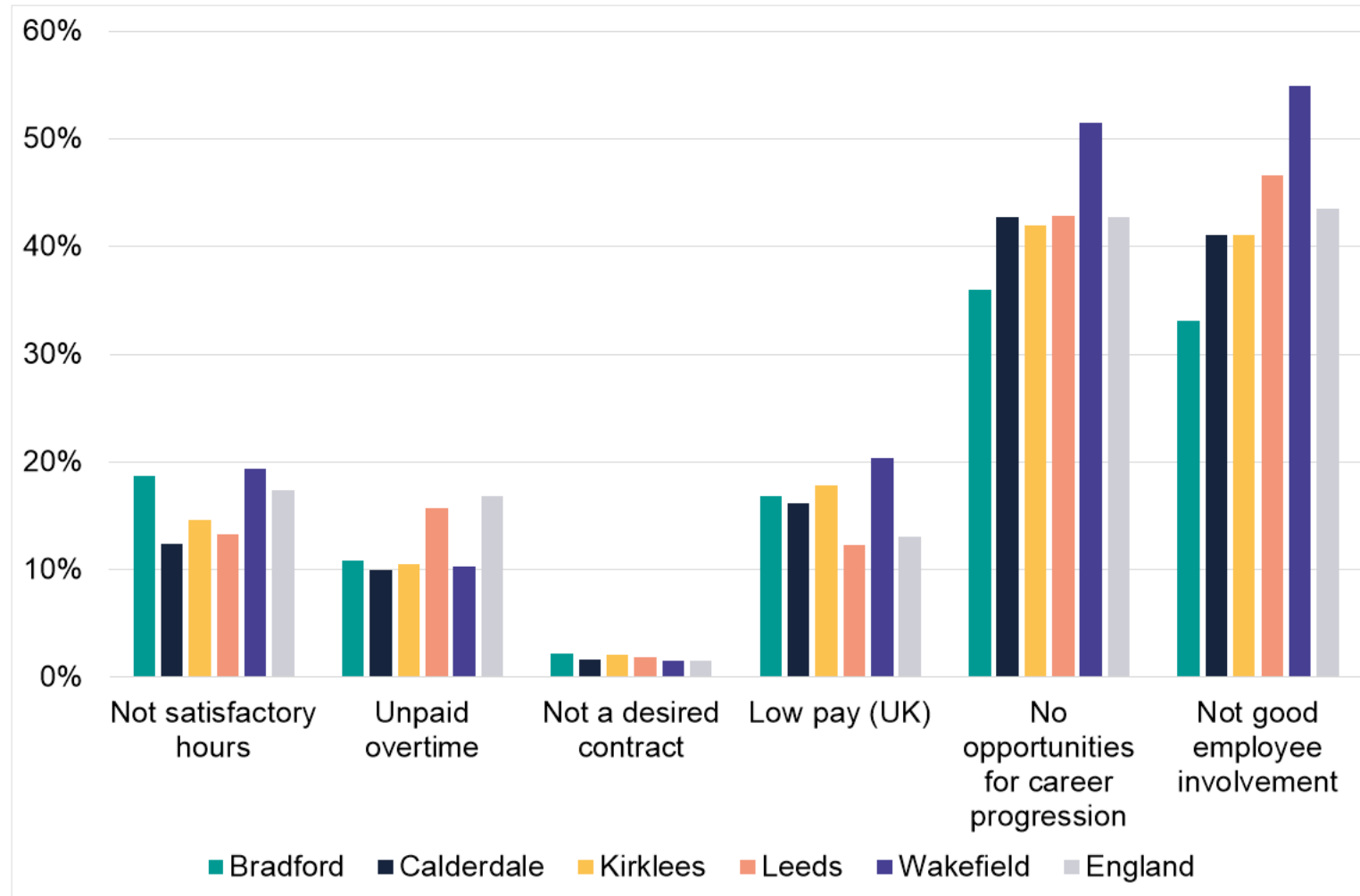


The data presented relate to Real Living Wage rate of £10.90, the prevailing rate for jobs outside London in April 2023.

Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings, ONS

Opportunities for career progression and employee involvement are key issues in terms of job quality

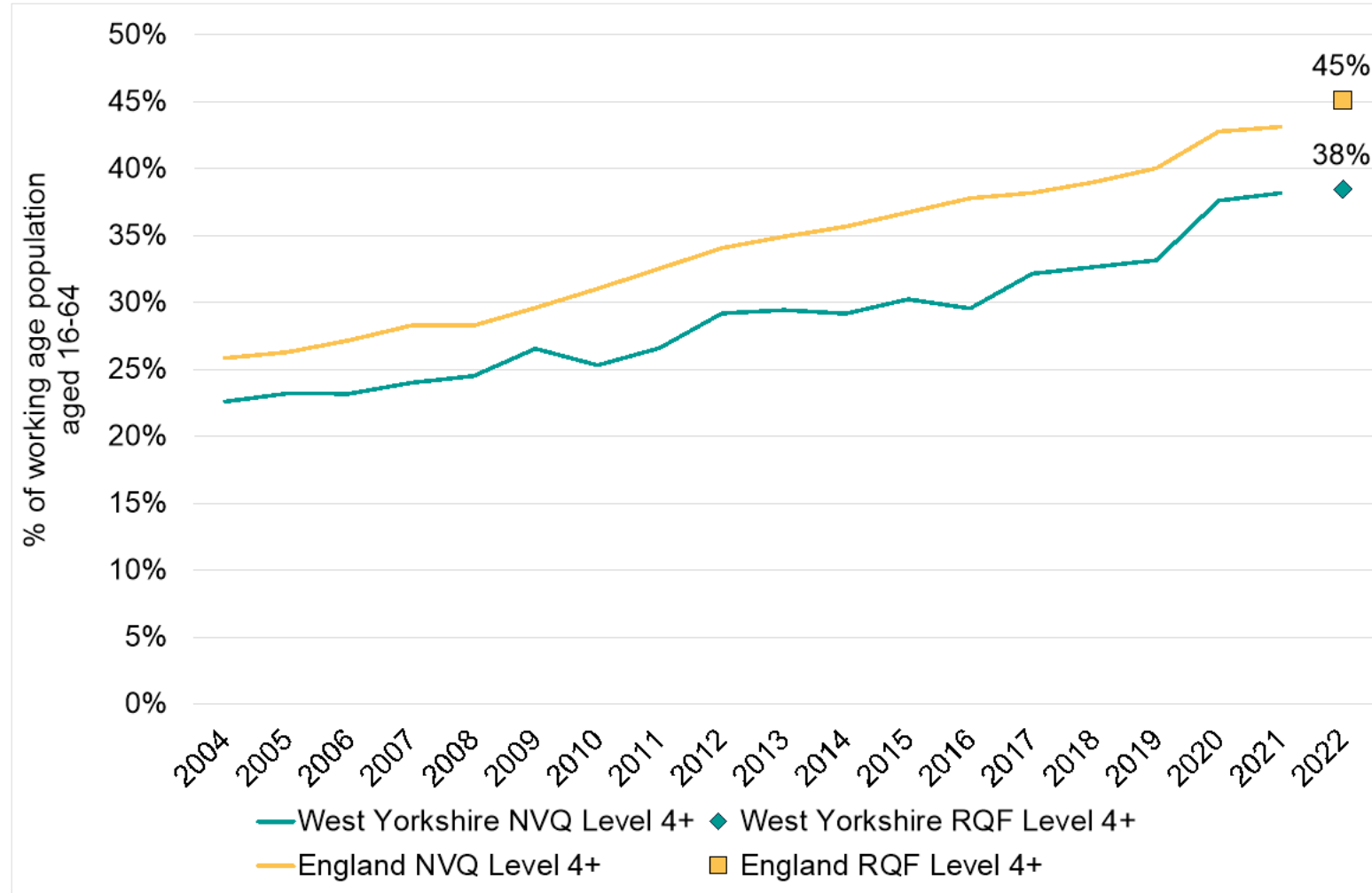
Figure: Job quality indicators by local authority, January to December 2021



Source: Jobs quality indicators in the UK, 2021, Office for National Statistics

The proportion of people with a higher level qualification has been on an upward trend but a sizeable gap remains with the national average

Figure 7: Trend in proportion of working age population qualified at Level 4+

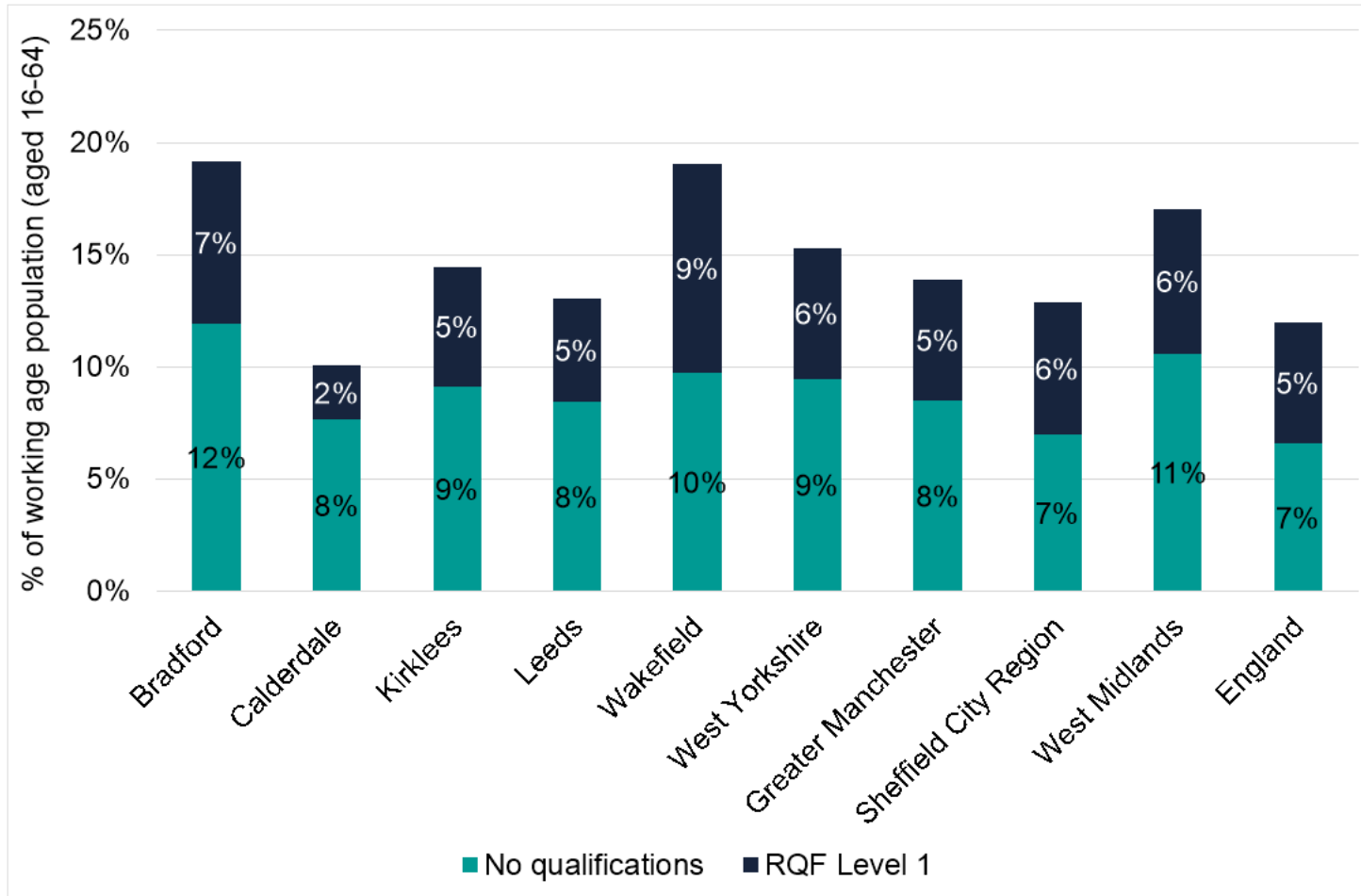


For the latest qualification profile estimates National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ) estimates have been replaced with estimates on a Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) basis, which means that there is a break in the time series and the current estimates cannot be compared on a consistent basis with earlier ones.

Source: Annual Population Survey, Jan – Dec periods

15% of people in West Yorkshire have no qualifications or are qualified to a low level, with higher proportions in Bradford and Wakefield

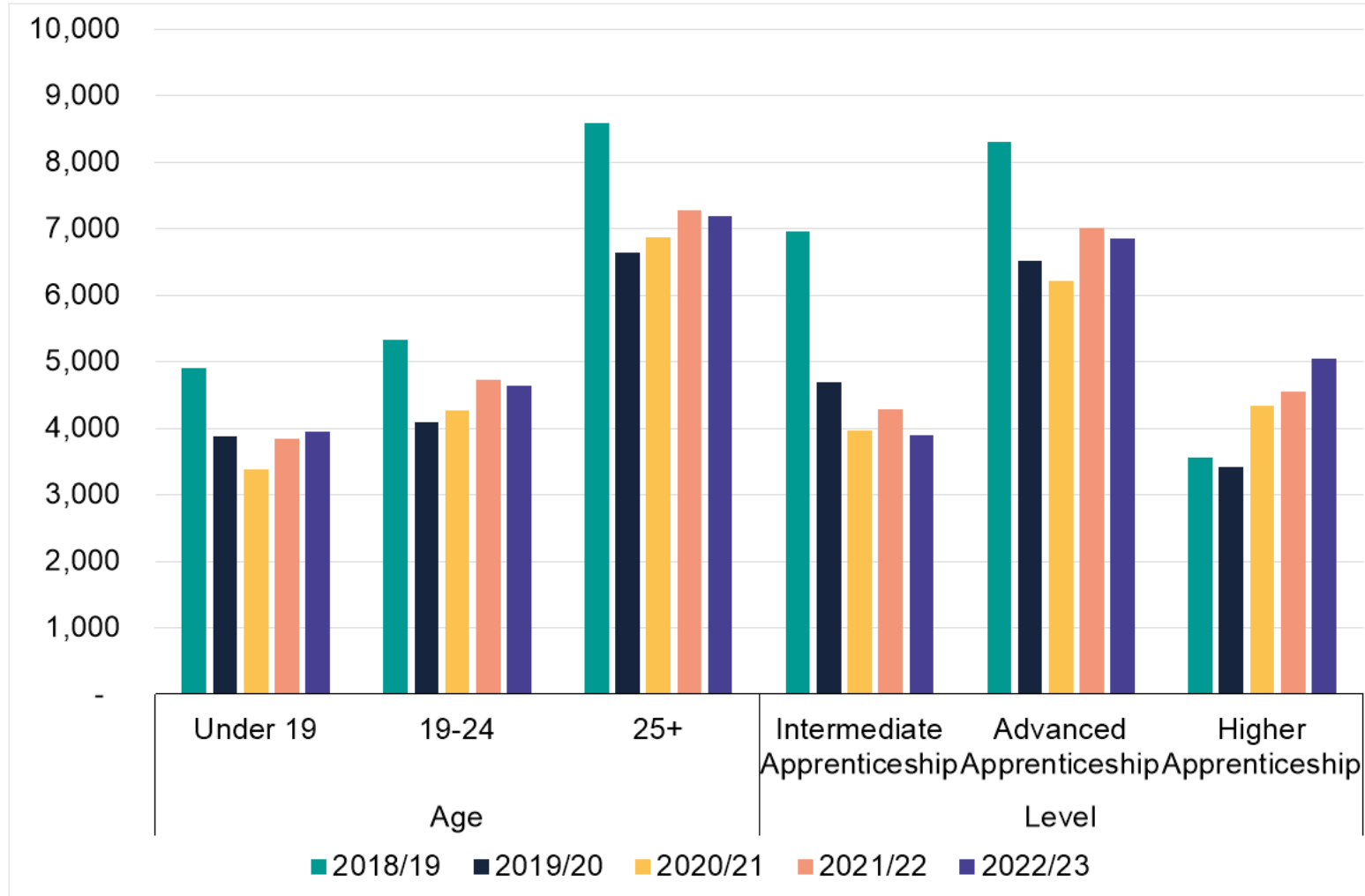
Figure 8: Proportion of working age population with no qualifications / qualified below Level 2



Source: Annual Population Survey, Jan – Dec 2022

Apprenticeship starts were static in 22/23 and well below pre-pandemic levels – except higher apprenticeships

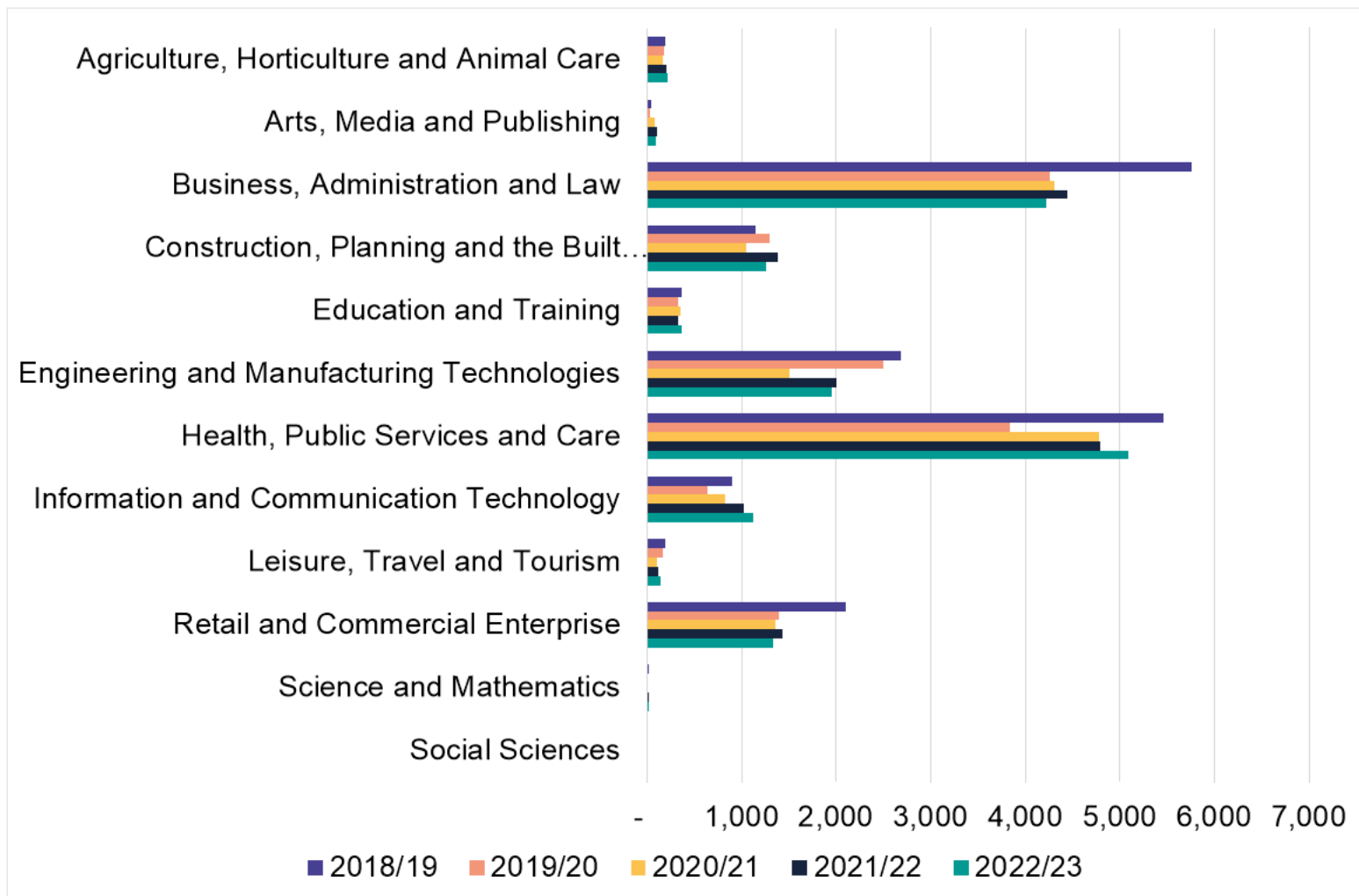
Figure 9: Trend in apprenticeship starts by age and level, West Yorkshire



Source: Department for Education

Biggest year on year growth in apprenticeship starts was for *Health, public services and care* and *ICT*

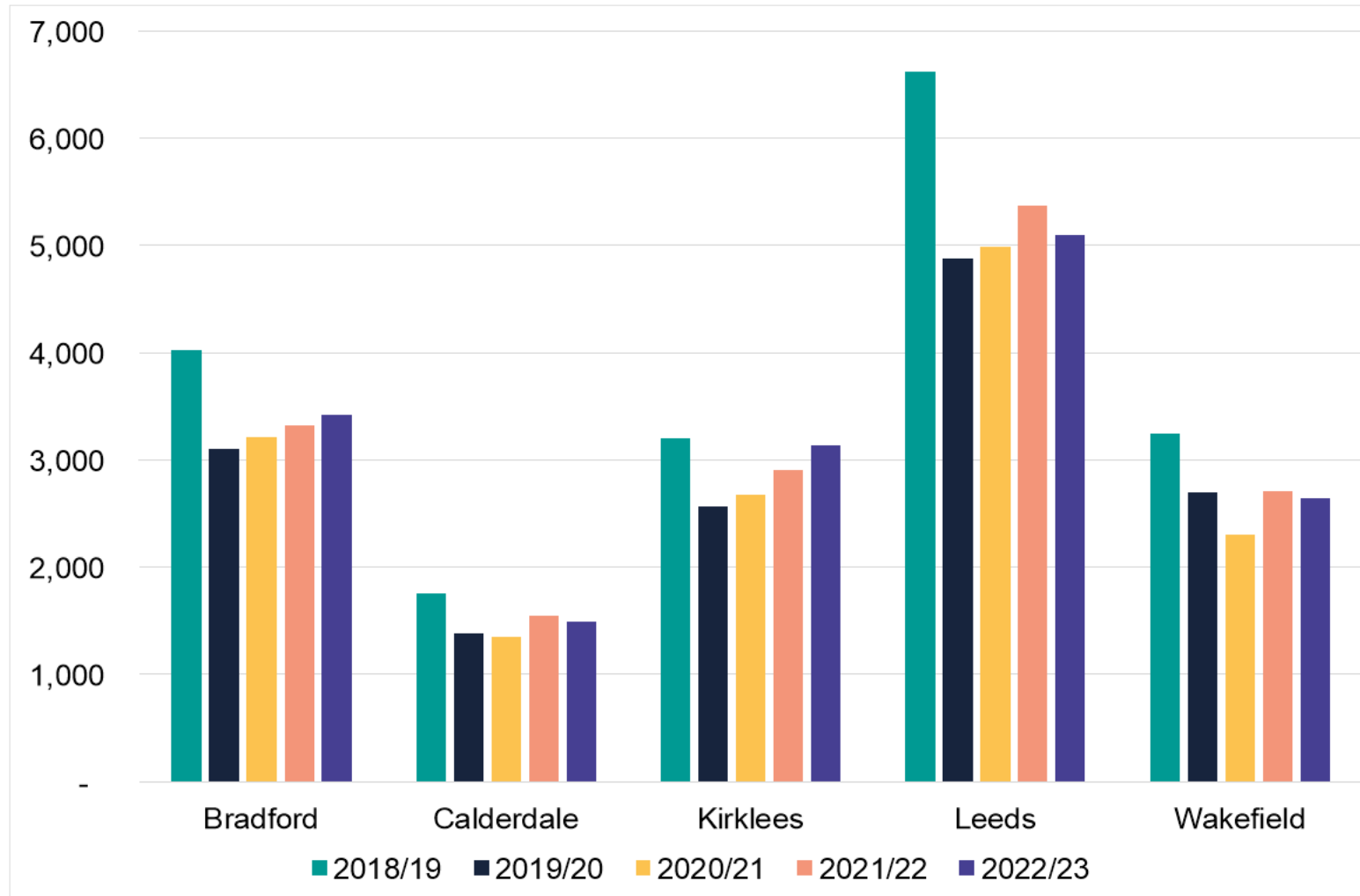
Figure: Trend in apprenticeship starts by subject, West Yorkshire



Source: Department for Education

Only Kirklees and Bradford saw growth in apprenticeship starts in 2022/23

Figure: Trend in apprenticeship starts by local authority, West Yorkshire



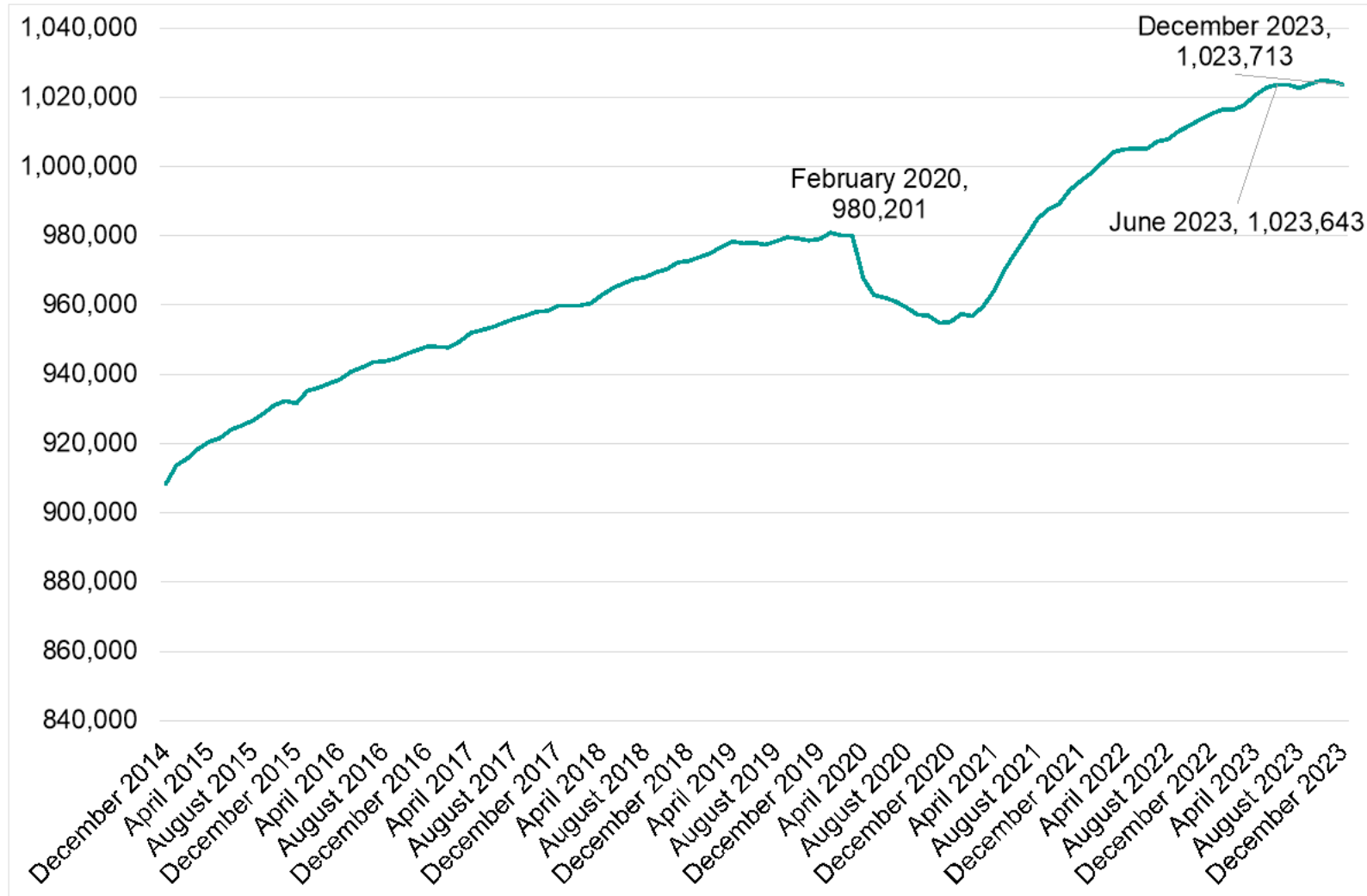
Source: Department for Education



Labour market reporting

West Yorkshire's employee count has been flat since summer 2023 following 2 years of post-pandemic growth

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

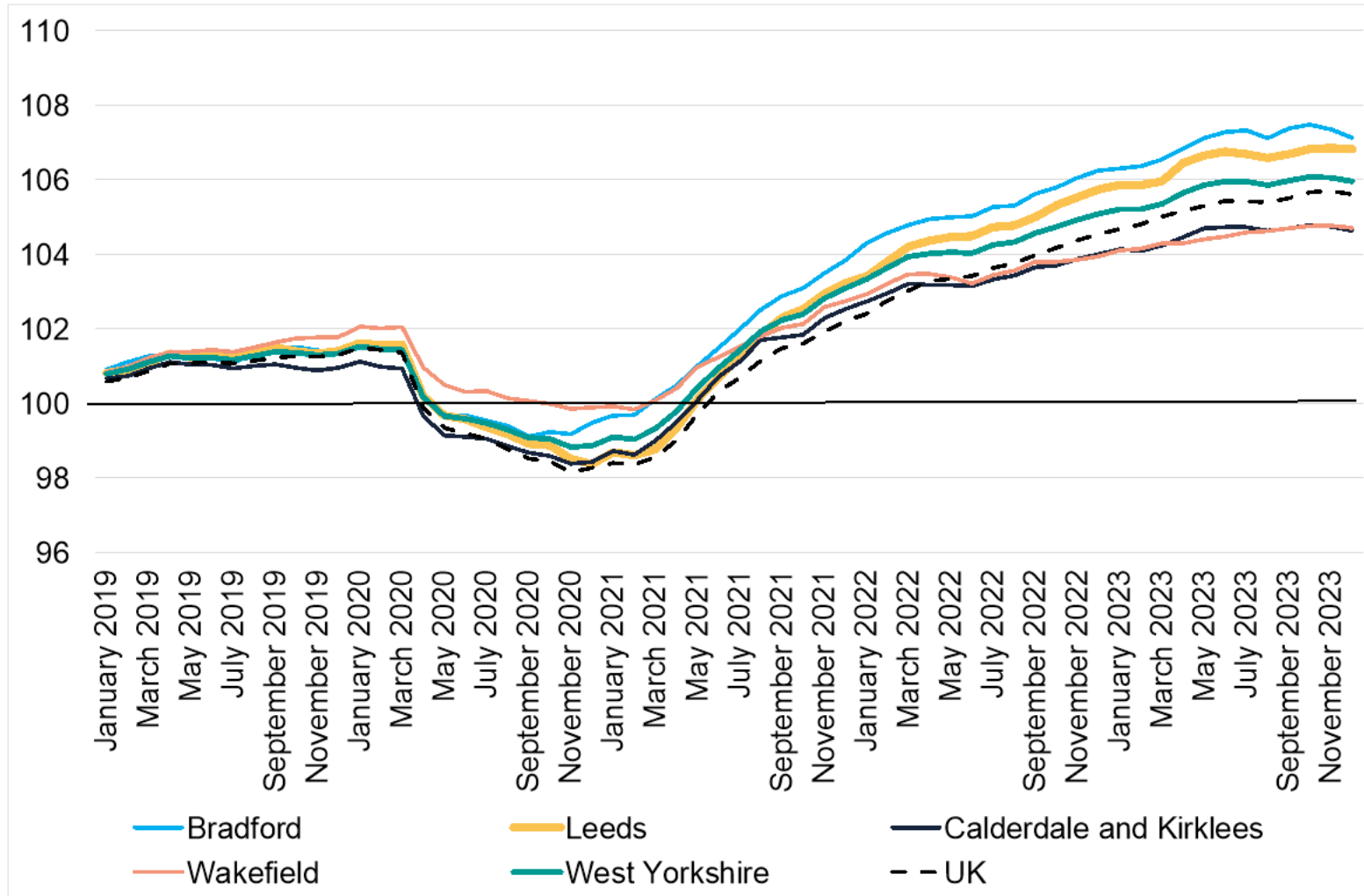


NB: December's figure is a flash estimate and subject to revision

Source: HMRC

The employee count has also remained flat across much of West Yorkshire since the summer

Figure: Trend in seasonally-adjusted count of payrolled employees by NUTS3 areas; index: average of 2018=100

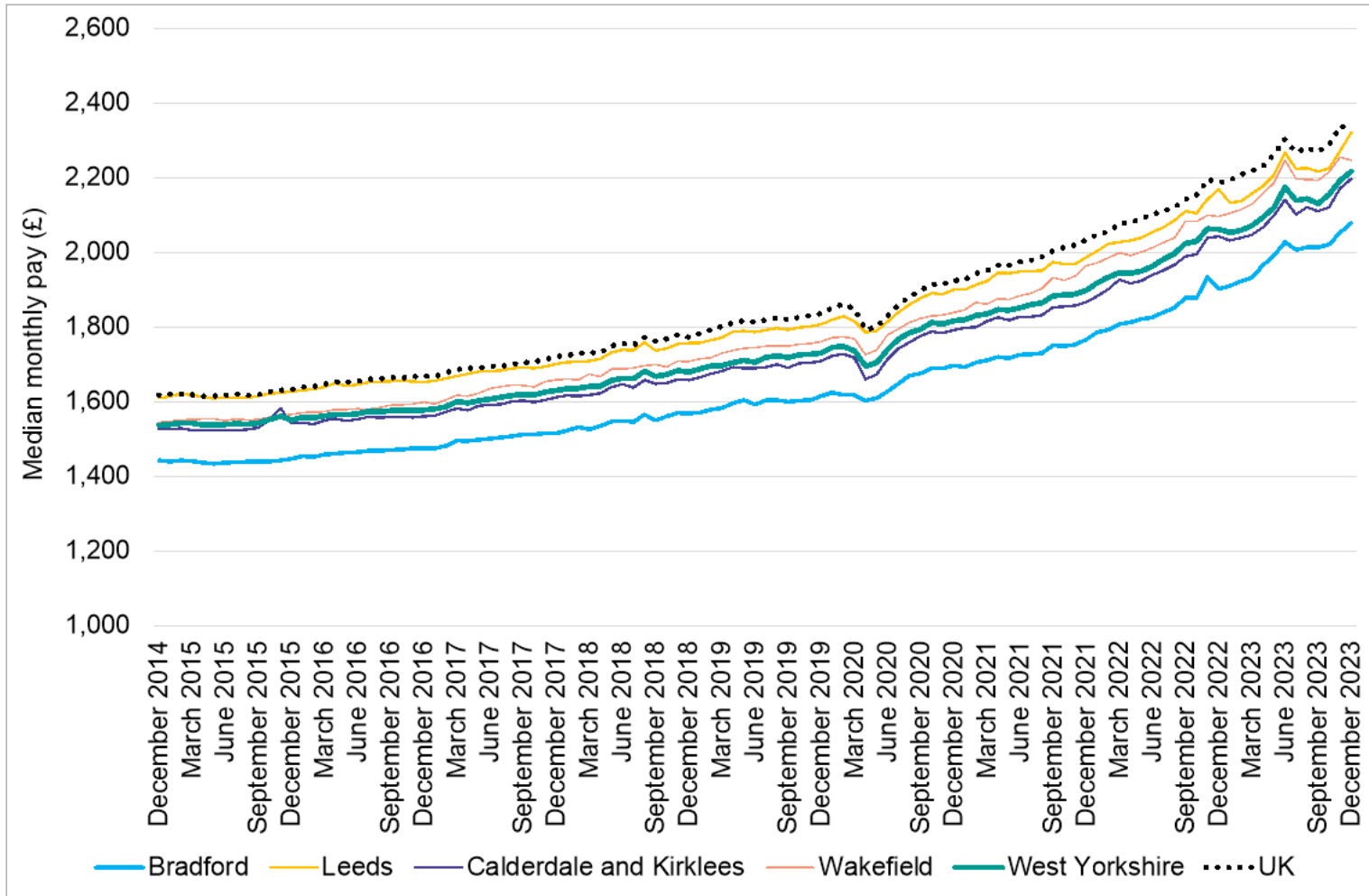


NB: December's figures are based on flash estimates and subject to revision

Source: HMRC

Latest flash estimate suggests pay growth in December following levelling off in previous months

Figure: Trend in median monthly pay for employee jobs (£)

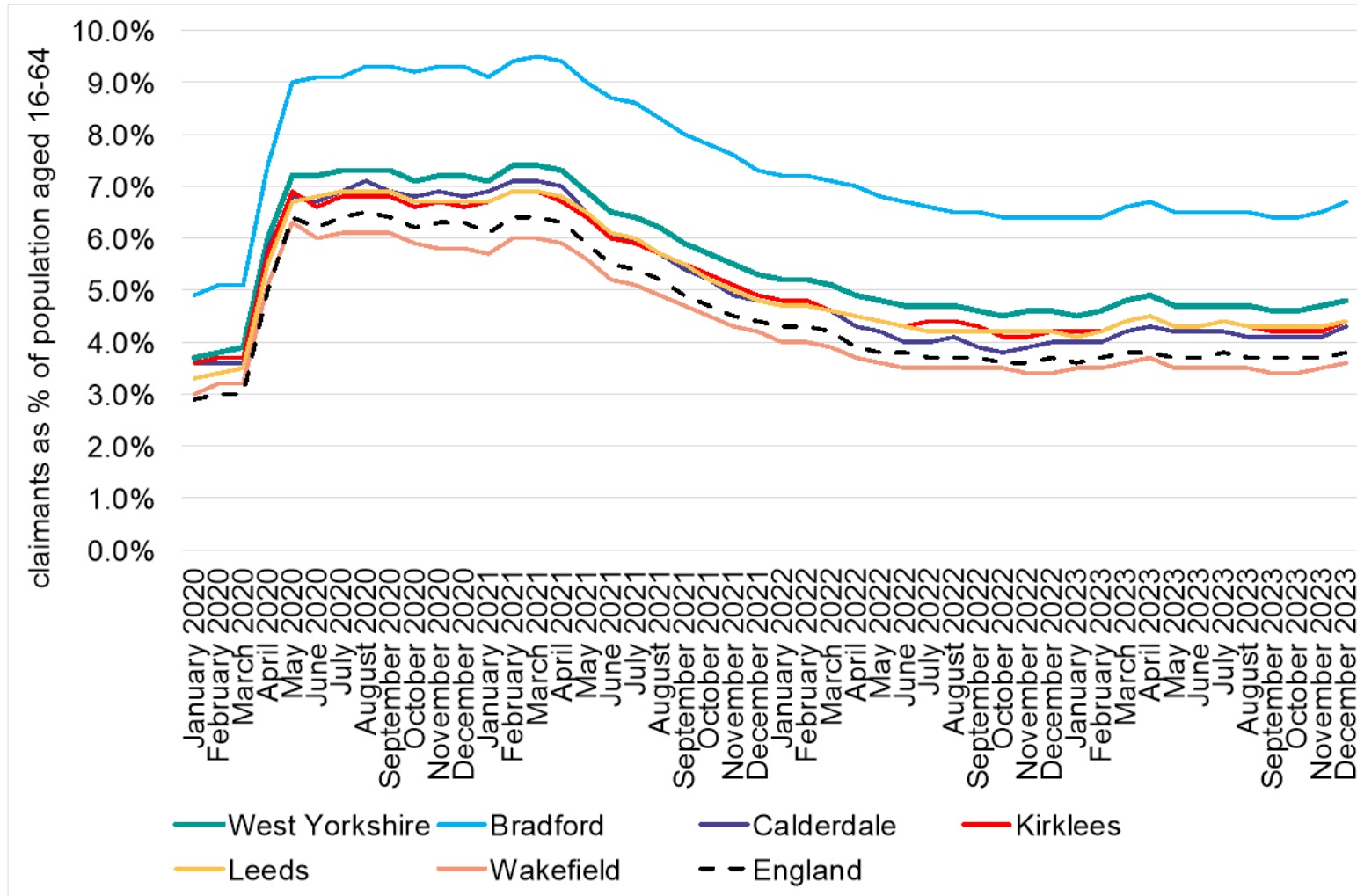


NB: December's figures are based on flash estimates and subject to revision

Source: HMRC

West Yorkshire's Claimant count rate has increased to a moderate degree since late 2022

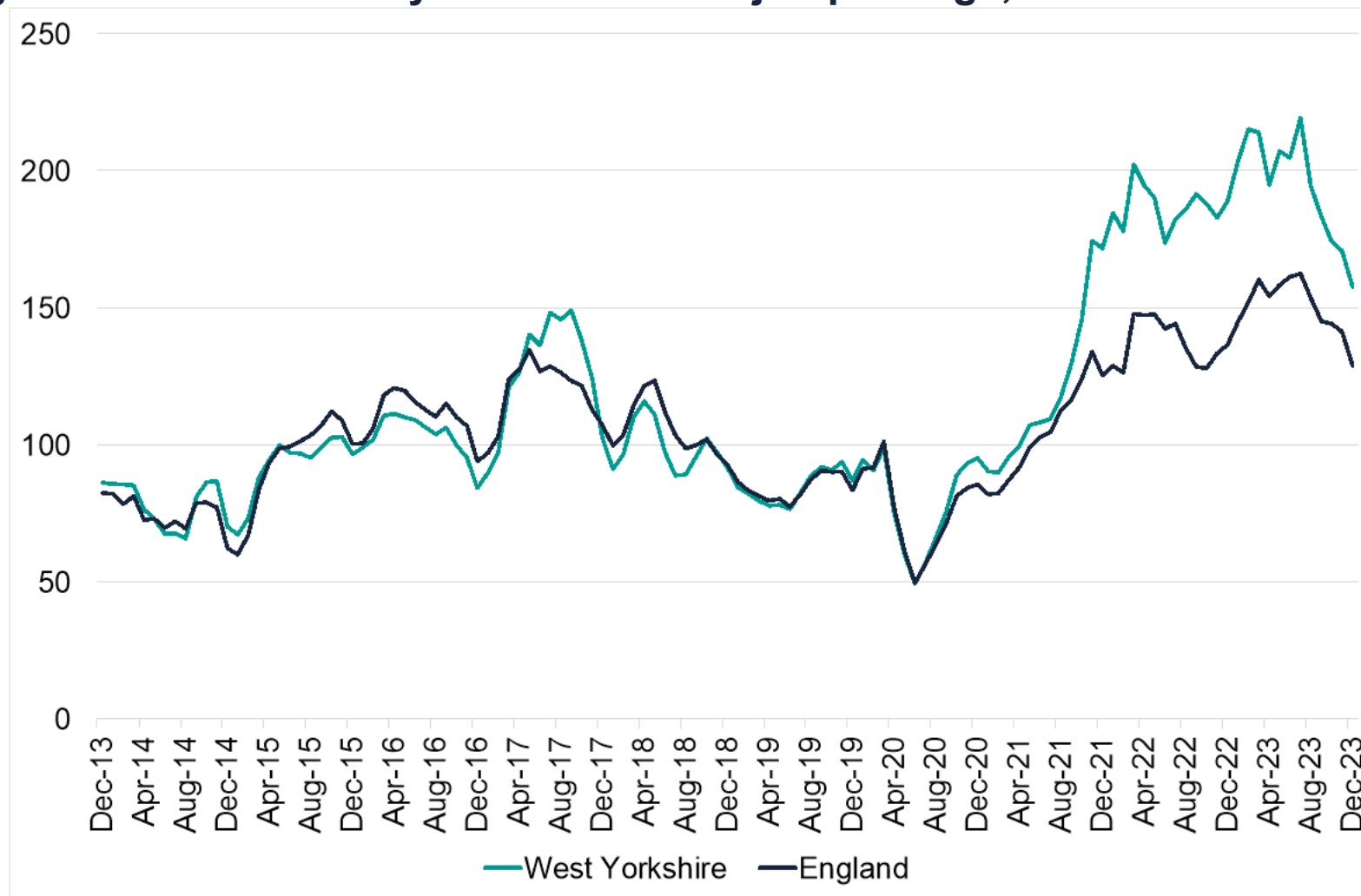
Figure: Claimant unemployment rate trend, West Yorkshire



Source: NOMIS

The level of job postings remains high in West Yorkshire although with signs of sustained decline in recent months

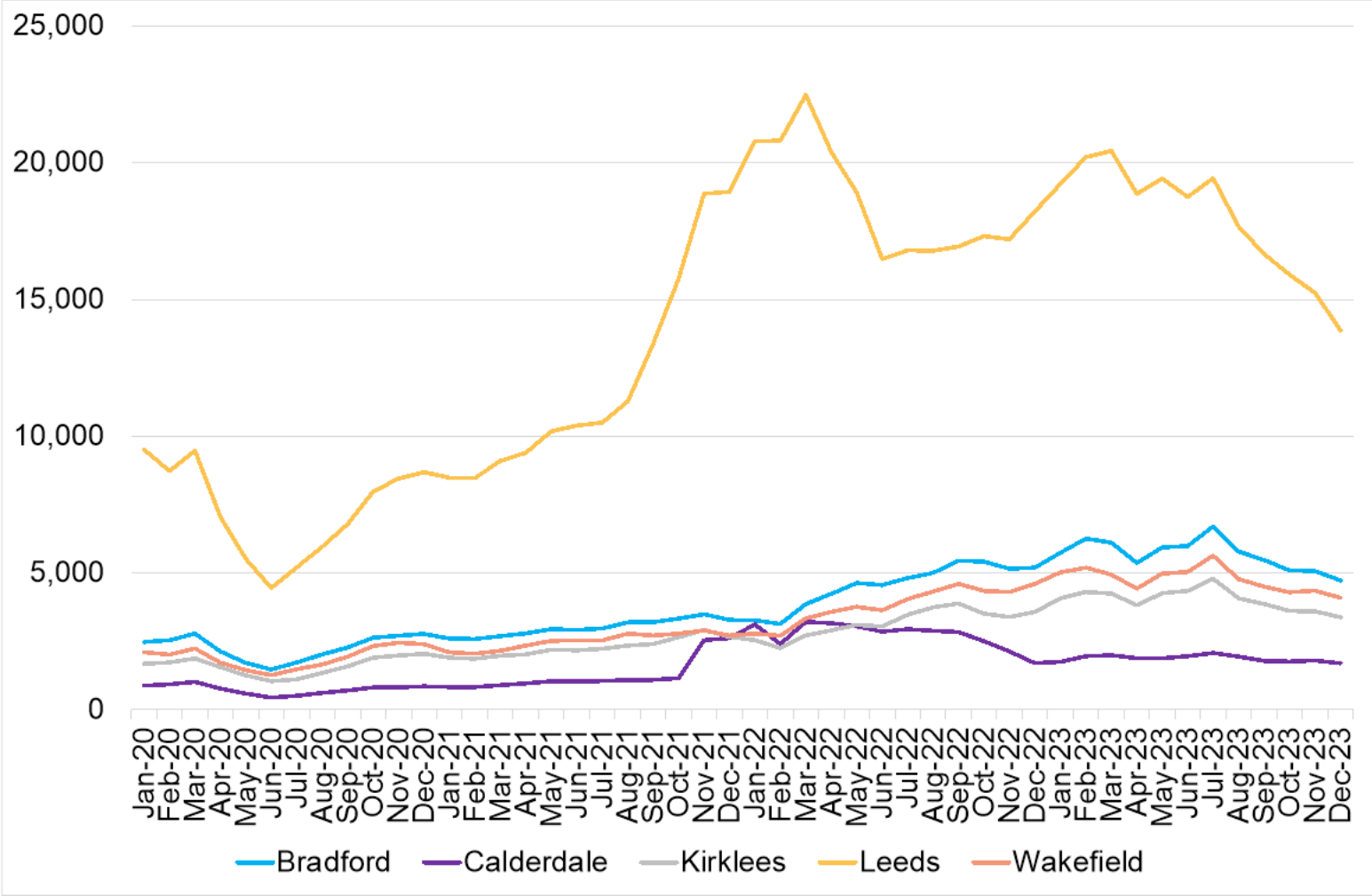
Figure: Index of monthly count of online job postings, three month moving average (2012 = 100)



Source: Lightcast

There is has also been decline in job postings across the local authorities in recent months, most notably in Leeds

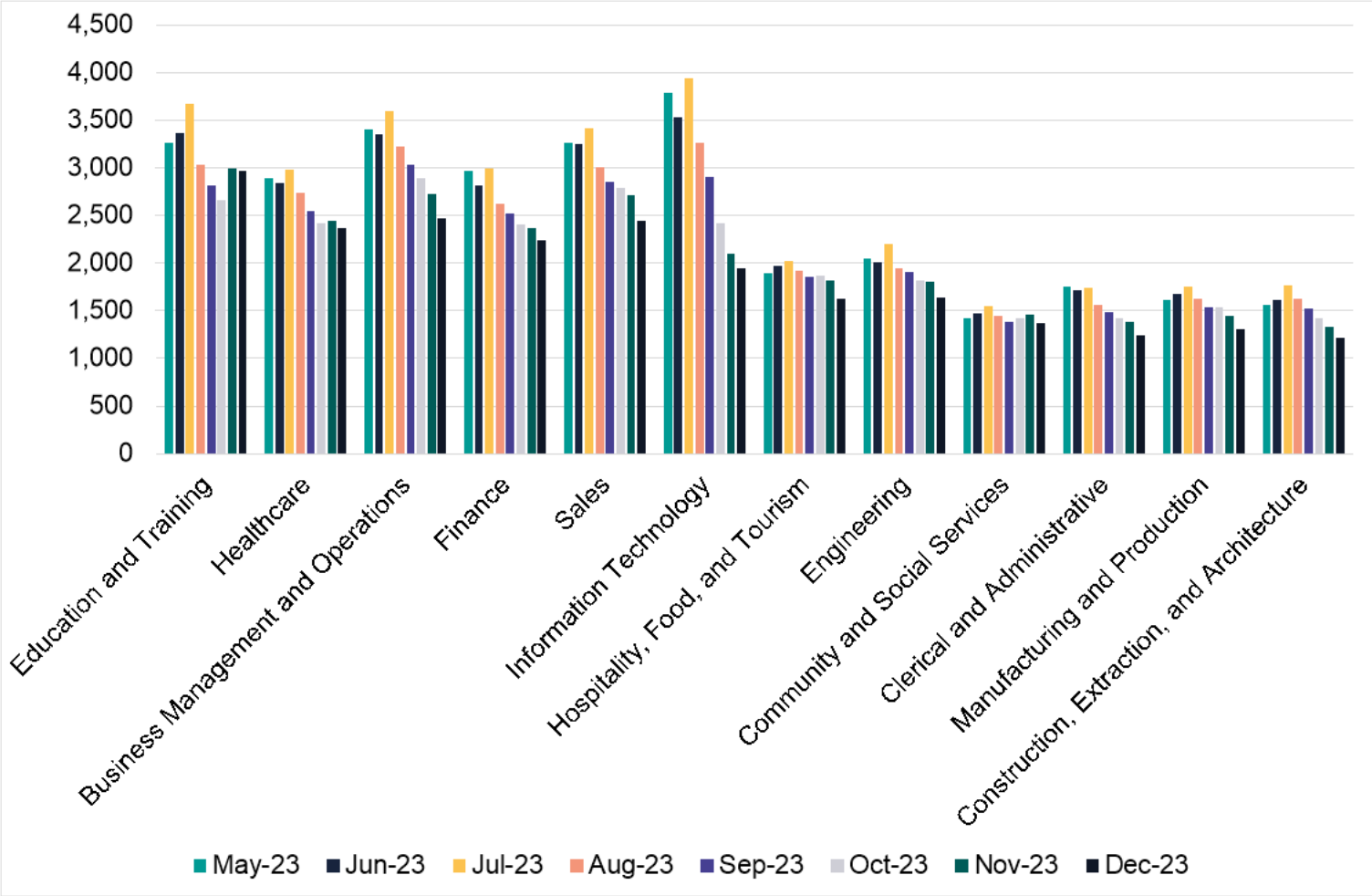
Figure: Monthly count of online job postings, three month moving average



Source: Lightcast

Job postings now in decline across the board in terms of occupational groups

Figure: Monthly count of online job postings by Top occupational groups, three month moving average, West Yorkshire



Source: Lightcast