

Labour Market INFORMATION

Dorset Data



Average yearly pay for full-time jobs (2025)

- Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole area: £37,500
- Dorset area: £37,500
- England (overall): £39,300



Jobs in the area

- About 358,400 people have a job
- That's 79.4% of people who are old enough to work



People without jobs in the area

- About 17,900 people don't have a job – that's 4 out of every 100 people who are old enough to work
- A further 75,400 people aren't working and aren't looking for a job – that's about 17 out of every 100 people



Population changes over 10 years

- Overall population: up by 5.3% (England: up by 7.8%)
- Ages 16–24: down by 1.5% (England: up by 1.2%)
- Ages 65 and over: up by 14% (England: up by 15.5%)



Types of jobs

- 13 out of every 100 people work for themselves (self-employed)
- 86 out of every 100 people work for someone else (employees)



Biggest job areas in Dorset (2024)

- Health and Social Care: 56,000 jobs
- Shops and Retail: 48,000 jobs
- Hospitality (hotels, restaurants): 40,000 jobs
- Manufacturing (making things): 29,000 jobs
- Education (schools, colleges): 29,000 jobs



What Dorset is good at (compared to the UK)

- Maritime (things related to the sea)
- Metalworking technology
- Visitor economy (tourism)
- Building services
- Precision technology



Jobs that need higher skills

- Programmers and software developers: 2,200 jobs
- Teachers: 1,700 jobs
- Nurses: 3,800 jobs
- Solicitors / Lawyers: 1,900 jobs
- Bookkeepers / Finance: 2,300 jobs



Job adverts

- 85,200 jobs advertised in the last year
- 9,700 jobs advertised last month
- Peak was 11,500 jobs in 2022
- 84,000 previous year
- About 7,100 employers advertised jobs, including NHS, JPMorgan Chase, Holt Engineering, BCP Council, Compass Group



Top skills employers want

- Auditing
- Communication
- Customer Service
- Detail Oriented
- Management
- Sales



Most wanted jobs in the last year

- Care workers and home carers: 11,100 jobs
- Sales: 5,200 jobs
- Cleaners: 5,000 jobs
- Kitchen and Catering assistants: 4,200 jobs
- Teaching assistants: 3,000 jobs

Sources: ONS (Nomis) and Lightcast.

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