

Business impacts of the pandemic

According to the Office for National Statistics' [latest Business Impact of Coronavirus](#) Survey, 71% of UK businesses were trading between the 14 and 27 December 2020, down from 84% in the previous period (30 November to 13 December 2020).

Of all UK trading businesses, 14% of their workforce were on furlough, an increase from 11% from the previous fortnight.

Findings also showed that in Q4-2020, around 22,000 more firms reported increasing turnover than decreasing turnover, compared with the Q3 period.

In the week ending 10 January 2021, a third (34%) of working adults in Great Britain worked exclusively from home, whilst 48% did a combination of working from home and travelling.

Economic impacts of the pandemic

GDP fell by 2.6% in November, the first fall since April 2020. This takes GDP 8.5% below February 2020 levels. The three largest falls in monthly GDP since records began in January 1997 have all occurred in 2020: 7.3% in March, 18.8% in April and 2.6% in November.

According to the [latest Office for National Statistics data](#), the fall in output was widespread but driven by accommodation and food and beverage services, wholesale, retail and motor trades, other service activities, and arts, entertainment and recreation.

Motor trades fell by 17.2% in November 2020, with output 20.8% below February 2020 levels. During the first lockdown, motor trades fell by 90.9% in April 2020.

Manufacturing, construction and repair and maintenance work saw an increase in output.

Social impacts of the pandemic

The Office for National Statistics has published its [latest data on the social impacts](#) of coronavirus, showing that during the first week of the new national lockdown, 42% of adults in Great Britain were experiencing high levels of anxiety. Levels last seen in April 2020.

78% of adults reported that they were worried about the effect of the coronavirus on their life right now, and 56% of adults reported that their well-being was being affected, largely due to boredom, loneliness, anxiety and stress.

Videos and webinars to support businesses

The Government has added a video about the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme Grant Extension to its [suite of video and webinar resources](#) to help businesses learn more about the support available to help deal with the economic impacts of coronavirus.

Advice for hauliers requiring Covid tests

[Guidance has been updated](#) to help drivers and crew of HGVs, LGVs and vans to find sites where they can access free Covid-19 tests and border readiness checks before transporting goods to the EU.

Two further locations have been added to the list of test sites.

Latest case data by local authority

The Government has published new [weekly epidemiological data](#) for each local authority in England, listing number of people tested, case rate per 100,000 population, local COVID alert level and the weekly trend as at 14 January 2021.

The [latest R-rate](#) is between 1.2 and 1.3 meaning that, on average, every 10 people infected will infect between 12 and 13 other people. The growth rate is between +2% and +5% meaning that the number of new infections is growing by between 2% and 5% every day.

A [Covid and influenza surveillance report](#) has also been published showing that case rates in England have decreased across all age groups except in those 80 and above, with the highest rate seen in those aged between 20 to 29 years old.

Case rates per 100,000 continue to be the highest in London, with a rate of 864.9 per 100,000 population and case rates have decreased in all regions except for the North West, South West and West Midlands.

Vaccination update

Public Health England has published [guidance on what to expect](#) after your Covid-19 vaccination, and has [confirmed](#) that by 10 January more than one third of people aged 80 and over in England had received at least one dose of the vaccine as well as a further 960,699 under-80's.

The UK Government's [Vaccine Delivery Plan](#) outlines how it is planning to deploy the vaccine.

Testing update

The Government has updated its [guidance on getting tested](#) to include information on asymptomatic testing and other recently introduced testing. The list of [information about approved suppliers](#) of private testing kits for Covid-19 has also been updated, along with guidance on [antibody testing](#).