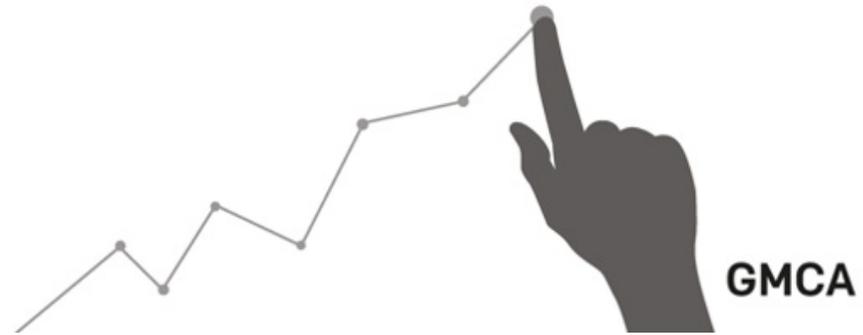


Economic Resilience Dashboard

Tracking the GM Economy



The Economic Resilience Dashboard was created to monitor a suite of economic measures related to the impact on the Greater Manchester economy of the UK's exit from the European Union.

Following the outbreak of Covid-19, the dashboard will be used to monitor the impact of the pandemic on the GM economy as well as continuing to provide an assessment of the impact of Brexit and other economic shocks.

We intend to periodically review the indicators in this dashboard to ensure they provide timely and accurate information on the economic climate in Greater Manchester and would welcome feedback on the most appropriate measures. If you have any feedback please email jack.james@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk.

The indicators are grouped under three themes – Economic Resilience, Business and Sectors and Residents.

ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

Yield Spread

UK government bond yield spread improved slightly from 0.06 at the end of March to 0.2 in April 2020. A number close to or less than zero indicates that bond markets have little confidence in the future.

Regional Purchasing Managers Index

The NW regional PMI fell from 40.7 in March to 19.7 in April, across the same period the UK average fell from 35.5 to 12.9. All regions of the UK saw a record breaking decline in incoming new work in April amid reports of client closures and a collapse in both international and domestic demand, however, the North West saw the slowest decline in activity compared to all other regions of the UK.

Greater Manchester Index

GM Chamber's GM Index™, increased from 13.1 in Q4 2019 to 32.9 in Q1 2020. It should be noted that the Q1 2020 only includes a short period at the end of March during lockdown. The GM Chamber of Commerce's Weekly Tracker Report which examines the impact of Covid-19 has shown a severe downward trend in both current sales and advance orders since the start of lockdown, with scores for the period 25 April to 1 May showing an indexed score of -58 and -60 respectively.

House Sales

The volume of house sales in GM decreased by 21% in December 2019 to 2,804, from 3,543 in November. This reflects the underlying trend, with the 3 month rolling average of sales down 8%. The analysis relates to the most recent available data and due to the lag in reporting does not yet take account of the Covid-19 pandemic.

BUSINESS & SECTORS

Purchasing Managers Index

All three measures of PMI fell in April with both Services (13.4) and Construction (8.2) PMI measures falling to their lowest levels since surveying began in 1992. Whilst the most resilient of the three measures, Manufacturing PMI also declined substantially from 47.8 to 32.6

Retail Sales

The volume (not value) of retail sales remained the same at 108.2 on the retail sales index in February. There was little change in the underlying trend in the retail industry, as the three-month on three-month measure improved just 0.1 in February. It should be noted that this figure refers to the pre-lockdown period.

Export Documents

Export documents decreased by 19% month on month in April, to 2,157 from 2,668 in March, and declined by 32% y-o-y.

Credit Risk

The latest breakdown of credit risk data by size of firm is not yet available however, from the latest report as at 11th May, 5.4% of firms in GM (10+ staff) have 'high' credit risk, compared to 5.4% in the UK, a decrease by 0.1% in GM and no change across the UK from last week; 3.5% (decrease from 3.7%) of GM firms with 250+ employees have 'high' credit risk compared to 3.0% (no change from last week) of large firms in the UK. Accommodation and food (within Hospitality, Leisure and Tourism) continues to indicate the largest percentage of businesses with 'high' credit risk, both in GM (20.5%) and the UK (19.6%).

Inward Investment

Inward investment in GM created GVA of £47.6 million and safeguarded £4.1 million in quarter 4 of 2019/2020; this is compared to £39.5 million created and £40.5 million safeguarded in quarter 3. In 2019 Inward investment in Greater Manchester created £182.0 million (down 41% compared to 2018) and safeguarded £74.1 million (up 70% compared to 2018).

PEOPLE

Consumer Confidence

The UK Consumer Confidence Index fell 25 points to -34 in April 2020, this is the lowest figure since the 2008 financial crisis. This is primarily due to low confidence in the country's economic situation, poor household finances and low willingness to make major purchase largely in response to Covid-19.

Claimant Count and Universal Credit

The number of people on UC in GM increased by 65,820 in April 2020 - a 38% increase from March 2020 - taking the total number of UC claimants in GM to 240,460. The increase in UC claimants was slightly lower than the increase that has occurred among UC claimants in the UK as a whole (40%). Data on the 'alternative claimant count' - combining UC unemployed with claimants of Jobseekers Allowance - also reflected a sharp rise between March and April 2020. The claimant count in GM rose from 74,760 in March 2020 to 120,730 in April 2020, an increase of 61%. Again, this was slightly lower than the increase in the UK of 66%

Job Vacancies

Job vacancies fell by 11% between q4 2019 and Q1 2020 from 64,712 to 57,345. In addition, Job vacancy intelligence is available weekly at a GM level from Labour Insight providing an indication of how the labour market is functioning during the Covid-19 pandemic. The weekly data indicates a drop in overall volume of vacancies since the beginning of March 2020. The most recent data shows the situation as of 9 May 2020. There has been a fall in the overall volumes of recruitment postings (just over 2000 adverts - about 890 fewer than in the previous week. Total postings are 2225 fewer than in the equivalent week in 2019. Comparing the recruitment picture in the first week of May with that of the first week in February, there has been a drop in total postings per week of 5470 job adverts. All three of the main recruiting industries registered a fall.

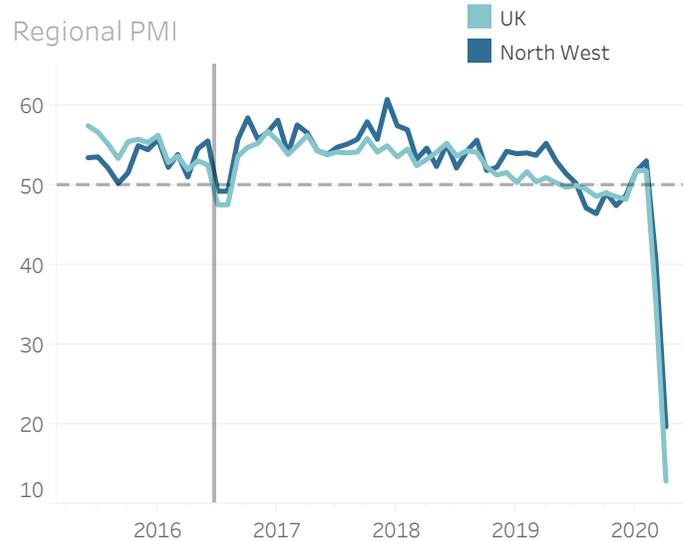
National Indicators

Yield Spread



Regional Indicators

Regional PMI



ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

The economic resilience variables track how the national, regional, and GM economy is performing at a macro level to identify any potential economic sho..

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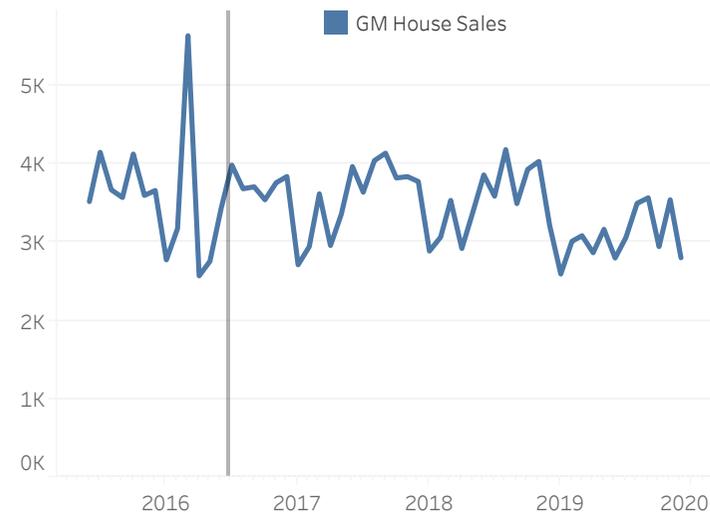
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Greater Manchester Indicators

GM Index

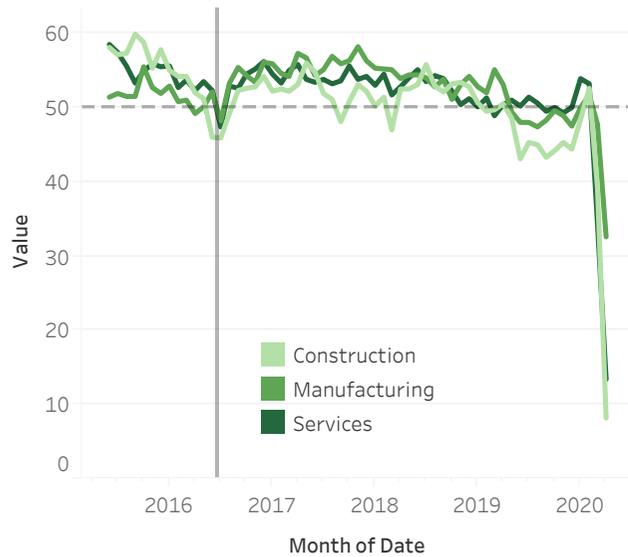


GM House Sales

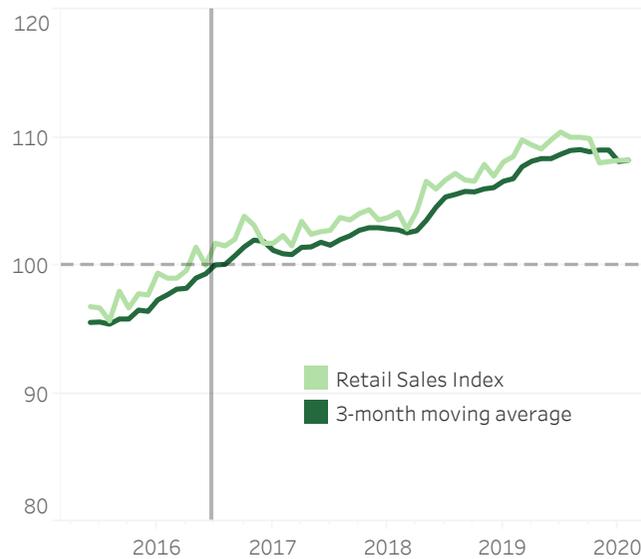


National Indicators

Purchasing Managers Index



Retail Sales



BUSINESS & SECTORS

The business & sectors variables track how businesses and sectors are performing to give a more in depth picture of the current economic landscape

Purchasing Managers Index

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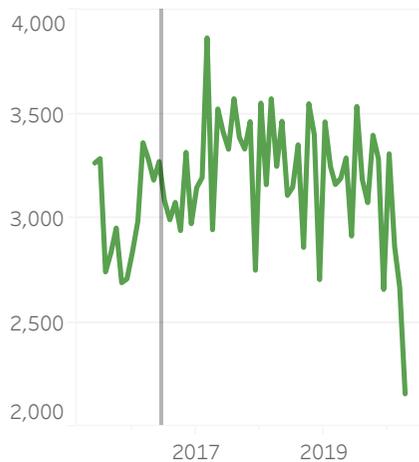
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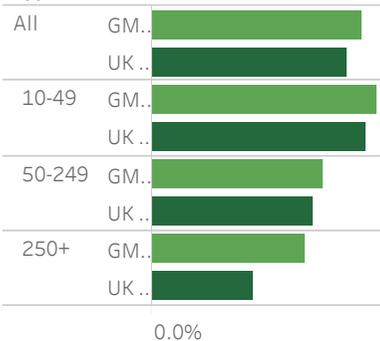
Export Documents



Credit Risk

% of SMEs reported as having 'high' credit risk

Business Type

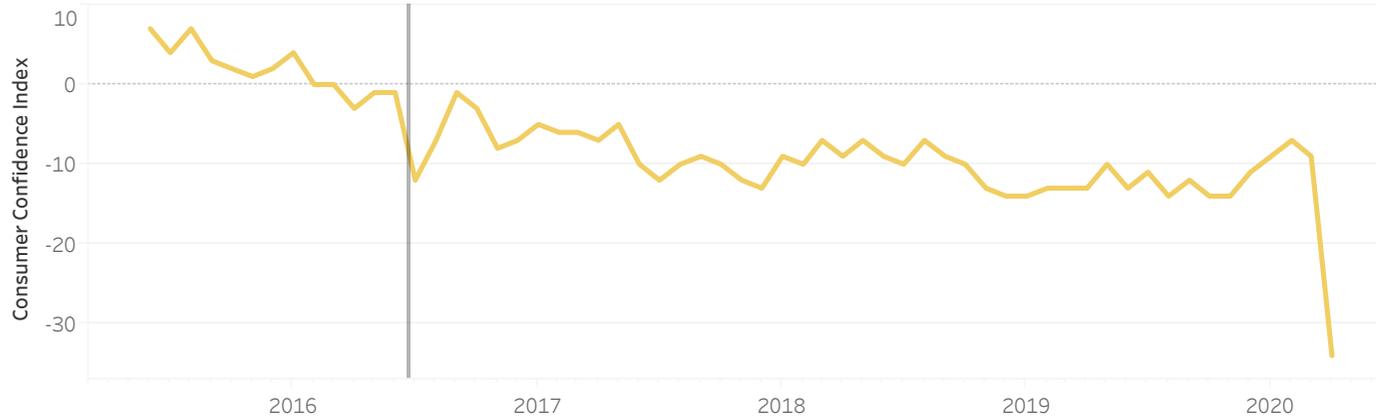


Inward Investment



National Indicators

Consumer Confidence



PEOPLE

The people variables track the wellbeing of people in GM in order to understand the material impacts of an..

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Claimant Count and Universal Credit

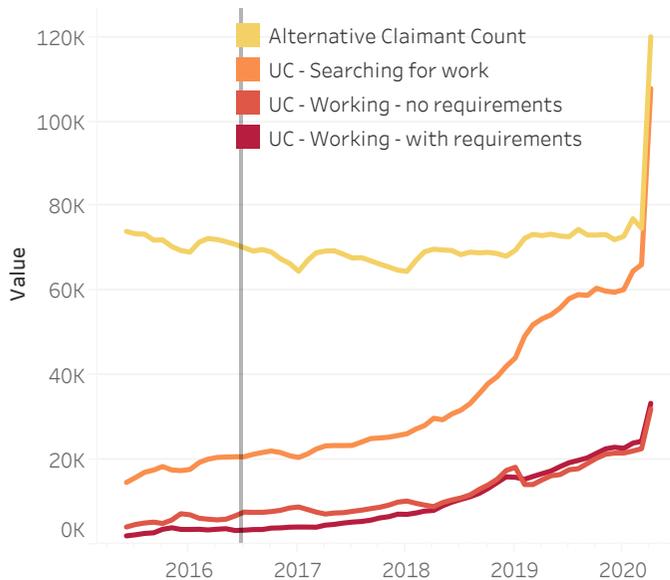
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