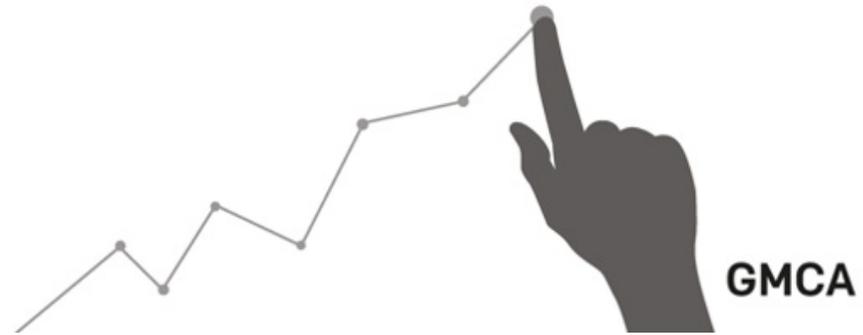


# Economic Resilience Dashboard

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 developments.

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](mailto:jack.james@greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk).

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

## PEOPLE

### Consumer Confidence

The UK Consumer Confidence Index fell 2 points to -36 in May 2020, this is the lowest figure since the 2008 financial crisis. Consumer confidence fell in May as restrictions to curb covid-19 and low expectations of the gradual reopening process dented confidence further.

### Claimant Count and Universal Credit

The total number of people on Universal Credit in May 2020 was 285,211. Since the start of the lockdown in March there has been a 63% increase in people on Universal Credit, though GM's sharp rise is nevertheless lower than that seen in the UK as a whole (75% between March and May). GM also saw a 90% rise in the volume of claimants between March and May as the lockdown took effect. There were 141,740 unemployment benefit claimants in May 2020. In addition, there are 327,600 people have been furloughed across Greater Manchester.

### 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.

## BUSINESS & SECTORS

### Purchasing Managers Index

All three measures of PMI recovered slightly in May. Manufacturing, the most resilient of the three indicators during the pandemic, was at 40.7 from 32.6 in April. Services reached 29.0 from 13.4 in April. Construction recovered to 28.9 from 8.2 in April. Both Services and Construction PMI measures had previously fallen to their lowest levels since 1992.

### Retail Sales

The volume (not value) of retail sales remained the same at 108.2 on the retail sales index in March. There was no change in the underlying trend in the retail industry, as the three-month on three-month measure remained the same.

### Export Documents

Export documents decreased by 16% month on month in May, to 1,821 from 2,157 in April, and declined by 45% y-o-y.

### Credit Risk

Credit risk data as of 9th June states that 5.4% of firms in GM (10+ staff) have 'high' credit risk, compared to 5.3% in the UK, 3.9% of GM firms with 250+ employees have 'high' credit risk compared to 3.1% 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 (19.6%) and the UK (19.3%).

### 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). These figures reflect the 3 months prior to the covid-19 lockdown.

## ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

### Yield Spread

UK government bond yield spread fell slightly from 0.2 at the end of April to 0.17 in May 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 recovered slightly over the last month, from 19.7 in April to 33.0 in May. Across the same period the UK average rose from 12.1 to 29.1. All regions of the UK saw an improvement in their Purchasing Managers Index following the easing of lockdown restrictions and people returning to work.

### Greater Manchester Index

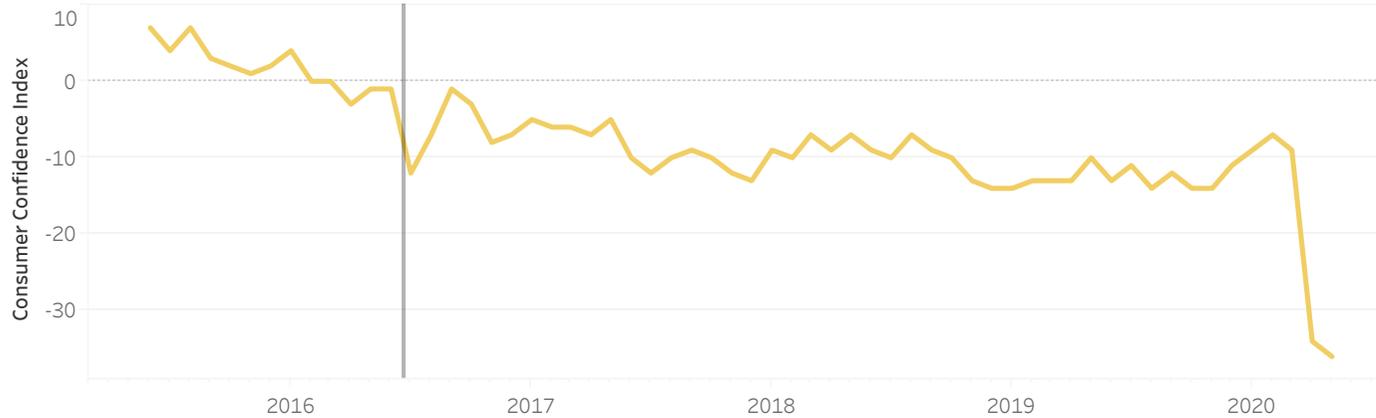
GM Chamber's GM Index™, increased from 13.1 in Q4 2019 to 32.9 in Q1 2020. It should be noted that the Q1 2020 only includes a short period at the end of March during lockdown. The GM Chamber of Commerce's Weekly Tracker Report which examines the impact of Covid-19 has shown a severe downward trend in 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 18% from 2,923 in December to January 2020 to 2,407, This reflects the underlying trend, with the 3 month rolling average of sales down 6%. 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.

## 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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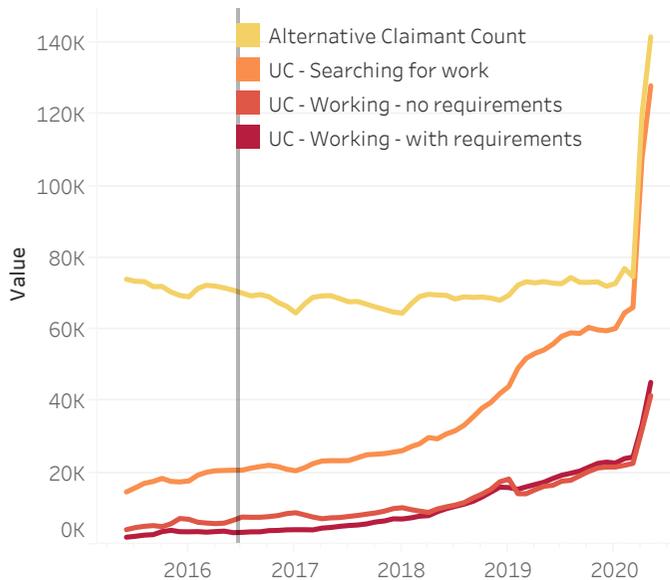
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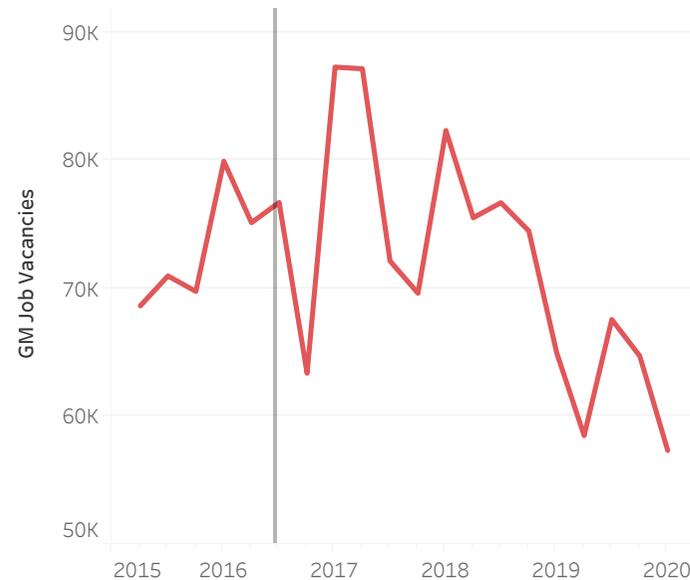
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## Greater Manchester Indicators

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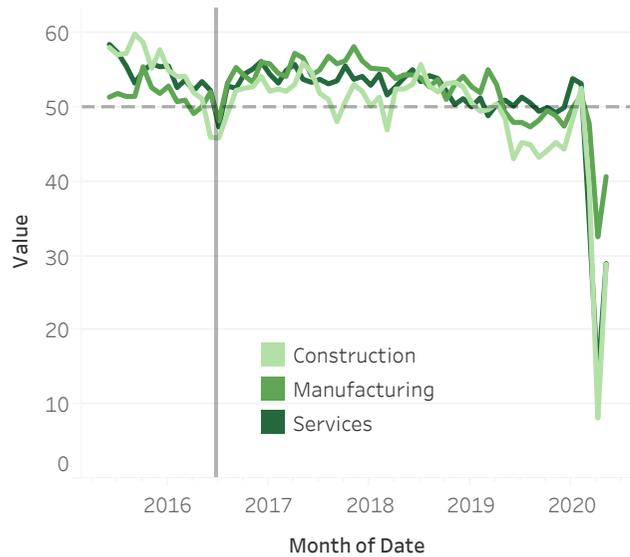


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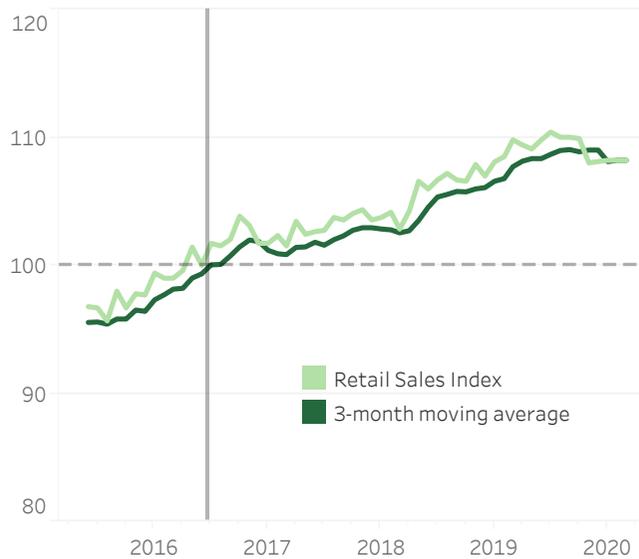


## National Indicators

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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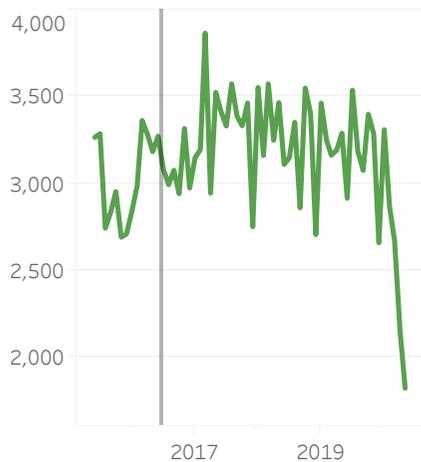
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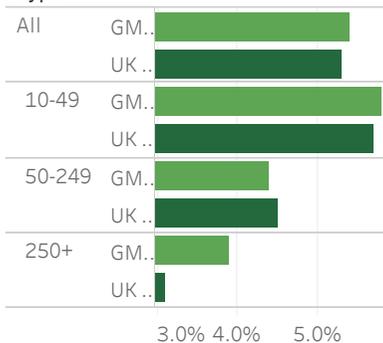
Export Documents



Credit Risk

% of SMEs reported as having 'high' credit risk

### Business Type



Inward Investment



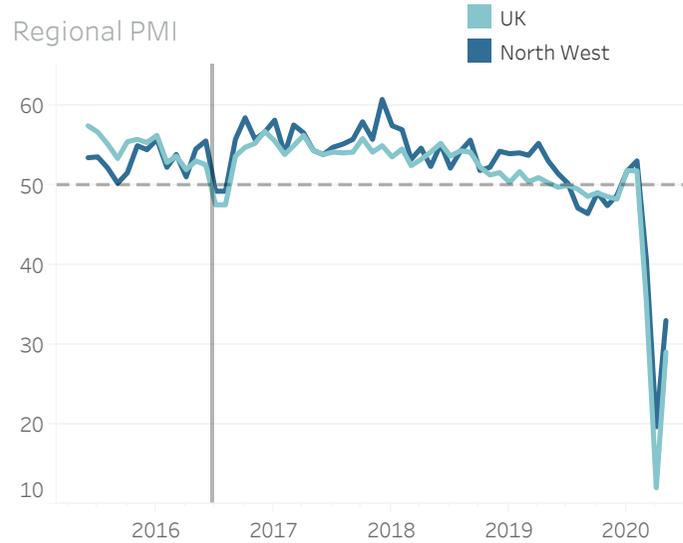
## National Indicators

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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## Greater Manchester Indicators

GM Index



GM House Sales

