

Employee Jobs in Bristol (Pre-Recession¹) 2008 to 2017.

Summary



Data from the Office for National Statistics² indicates that the economy of Great Britain supported 25.9m employee jobs in 2017, up by 2.8% from 28.7m in 2015.



The same data indicates that the economy of Bristol supported 267k employee jobs in 2017, up by 4.0% from 257k in 2015.



Numbers of employee jobs have been growing more or less steadily since 2012, both nationally (GB) and for all ten of the British Core Cities and all³ but Glasgow⁴ have more employee jobs than in pre-recession¹ 2008.



The number of employee jobs supported by the Bristol economy grew at an annual average of 2.9% per year, second fastest, behind Manchester (3.7% per year) of the Core Cities and a full percentage point above the British average (1.9% per year).

¹ Employee jobs data is published "mid year" thus data for 2008 is pre the recession which started 3-6 months latter

² Source: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/> - Open Access; Annual Business Inquiry (2007-08) and Business Register and Employment Survey 2009-15 and 2015-17

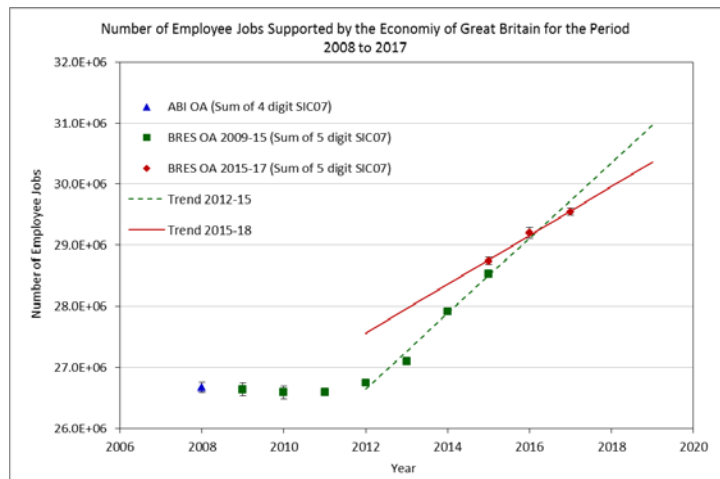
³ See charts in Appendix 1

⁴ For Glasgow the numbers of jobs are at about the same level as 2008.

Employee Jobs in Bristol for the Period 2008 to 2017

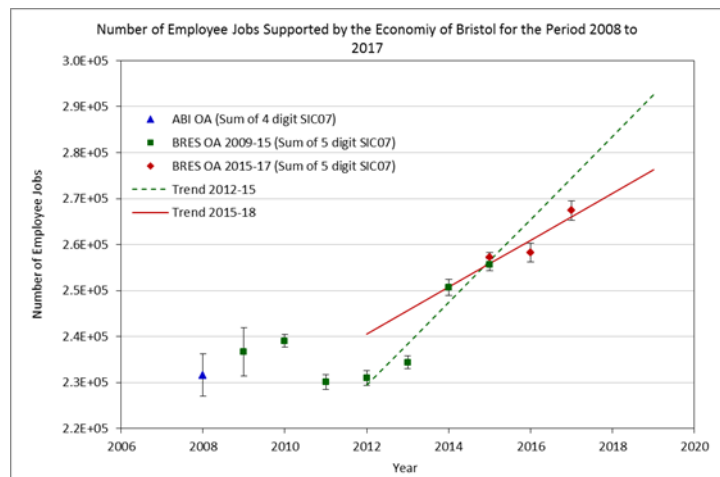
The National Picture (Great Britain)

Having fallen in the three consecutive years after the recession (2009, 2010 and 2011) the number of employee jobs⁵ supported by the economy of Great Britain increased between 2011 and 2012. The time series data is shown in the chart opposite along with the results of trend analysis^{6,7} for two different time periods (2012-15 and 2015-17) of the data series⁸. Clearly the number of employee jobs supported by the British economy has continued to increase year on year since 2012. Between 2012 and 2015 the number of employee jobs grew at a definite⁹ trend rate of 616,625 jobs per year. Between 2015 and 2017 the number of employee jobs grew at a definite¹⁰ trend rate of 401,063 jobs per year. Over the period 2012 to 2017 the number of employee jobs supported by the British economy grew at an annual average¹¹ of 1.9% per year.



The Picture for Bristol

The chart opposite shows the number of employee jobs supported by the Bristol economy for the period 2008 to 2017. As is the case for Great Britain, the number of employee jobs supported by the Bristol economy has increased year on year since 2012. Trend analysis for the same time periods used for GB yields a definite¹² trend growth of 9,035 jobs per year for the period 2012 to 2015 and a probable¹³ trend growth of 5,108 jobs per year for the period 2015 to 2017. Overall the number of



⁵ Source: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>- Open Access; Annual Business Inquiry (2007-08) and Business Register and Employment Survey 2009-15 and 2015-17

⁶ Trend analysis gives a growth rate in jobs per year along with a measure (R^2) of the quality of the trend.

⁷ Trend analysis results in a value of R^2 between 0 and 1. $R^2 = 0$ means no trend and $R^2 = 1$ an absolutely definite trend

⁸ Note the time series has a discontinuity in 2015. The series run from 2009 to 2015 and 2015 to 2017.

⁹ Here "definite" means of R^2 greater than 0.85 - in this case 0.9791

¹⁰ $R^2 = 0.9934$

¹¹ This growth rate is unaffected by the discontinuity in the time series

¹² $R^2 = 0.9314$

¹³ $R^2 = 0.8280$

employee jobs supported by the Bristol economy increased at an annual average of 2.9% per year. This compares to 1.9% for Great Britain.

Comparison with the British Core Cities

The table below summarises the BRES data¹⁴ for the British Core Cities. Clearly the numbers of jobs supported by the economies of the Core Cities have recovered to levels above¹⁵ those of 2009 for all but Glasgow. Since 2012 all of the British Core Cities have

Area Name	Trend 2015-17 (jobs/yr)	Quality of Trend	Growth Between Years (%)					Annual Average (%)
			2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	
Bristol	5,108	probable	1.5	7.0	2.0	0.4	3.5	2.9
Birmingham	12,103	definite	2.3	3.2	-0.2	2.6	2.3	2.0
Cardiff	5,323	definite	1.3	0.6	3.4	2.7	2.5	2.1
Glasgow	5,958	possible	1.7	3.3	1.3	3.2	-0.2	1.9
Leeds	7,300	definite	2.1	1.3	4.3	1.0	2.4	2.2
Liverpool	5,980	probable	-0.1	2.7	-0.5	4.7	0.5	1.5
Manchester	16,758	definite	4.0	0.9	4.2	6.8	2.6	3.7
Newcastle	993	none	-0.1	1.3	1.3	-2.2	3.3	0.7
Nottingham	5,053	definite	2.5	0.8	3.4	1.7	3.0	2.3
Sheffield	4,308	definite	0.3	4.4	-0.8	1.1	2.3	1.5
Great Britain	401,063	definite	1.3	3.0	2.2	1.6	1.2	1.9

all experienced jobs growth that has been more or less steady¹⁶. Further trend analysis for the period 2015 to 2017 showed definite or probable trend growth for all but Newcastle. By average annual growth rate, for the period 2012 and 2017, Bristol grew (2.9%) second fastest of the British Core Cities behind Manchester (3.7%) and one percentage point ahead of Great Britain. Questions related to the types of jobs (full time, part time and industry) are beyond the scope of this note but may be reported on in the future.

Questions about the contents of this briefing should be addressed to:

Stephen Usmar,
Economic Intelligence Officer,
Policy and Research Team,
Bristol City Council.
BS3 9FS
email: stephen.usmar@bristol.gov.uk
Phone: 0117 9222925

¹⁴ Charts of the full time series 2008 to 2017 are shown in Appendix 1

¹⁵ regardless of the discontinuity between the 2008-15 and 2015-17 data series

¹⁶ with the occasional small downward excursion

Appendix 1

