EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There were nearly 200,000 core information technology (IT) job postings in the UK during the fourth quarter of 2020 according to Burning Glass Technologies Labour Insights.

In relation to the entire UK job market, there were 1.79 million total postings for the same 2020 Q4 period. IT postings continue to be a notable share of all UK job postings (11% in Q4 2020).

After the sharp decline in Q2, the number of IT job postings continues to increase, even as uncertainty remains due to COVID-19 and the upcoming effects of the Brexit-EU trade deal. Compared to Q4 2019, IT job postings are up by 17% in Q4 2020 – also a continued upswing when we typically see a lower number job postings in the last quarter of the year compared to the prior Q3. Notes: The number of job postings may vary widely over time. Not all postings translate to a hire. (See "About This Snapshot" on page 3.)
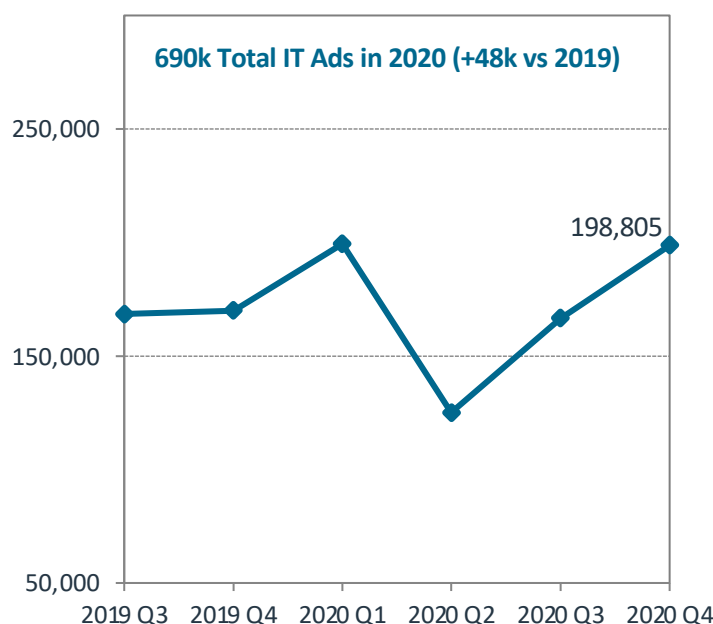
According to the Office for National Statistics, the UK unemployment rate increased to 5.0% for the 3-month period September to November 2020. This is 1.2 percentage points higher vs. a year earlier, as well as 0.6 points higher than for the prior 3 months.

There were 32.50m people in employment September to November 2020 (398,000 fewer than a year earlier and 88,000 fewer than the prior 3 months), vs. 1.72m unemployed people looking for work (418,000 more than the year earlier and 202,000 more than the prior 3 months). However, note the Bank of England Agents' summary of business conditions – 2020 Q4 points to IT firms performing well and the continued demand for skilled IT professionals.

About 1 in 10 of all job postings in the UK are for IT positions (11% in 2020)
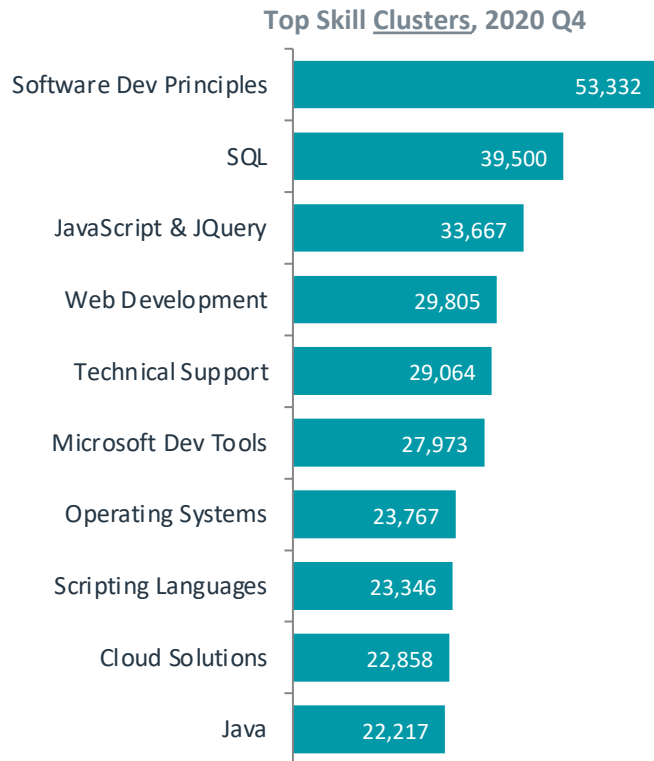
NUMBER OF CORE IT JOB POSTINGS

690k Total IT Ads in 2020 (+48k vs 2019)

198,805

Source: Burning Glass Technologies Labour Insights

Core IT Occupations	# Ads 2020 Q4
Programmers & software dev pros	79,138
IT bus analysts, architects & sys designers	31,347
IT user support technicians	19,579
IT & telecommunications pros (other)	17,338
Web design & dev pros	17,320
IT operations technicians	16,081
IT project & programme managers	9,324
IT & telecommunications directors	3,757
Telecommunications engineers	2,587
IT specialist managers	1,420
IT engineers	914
TOTAL	**198,805**

TOP SKILLS IN IT JOB POSTINGS

Top Skill Clusters, 2020 Q4

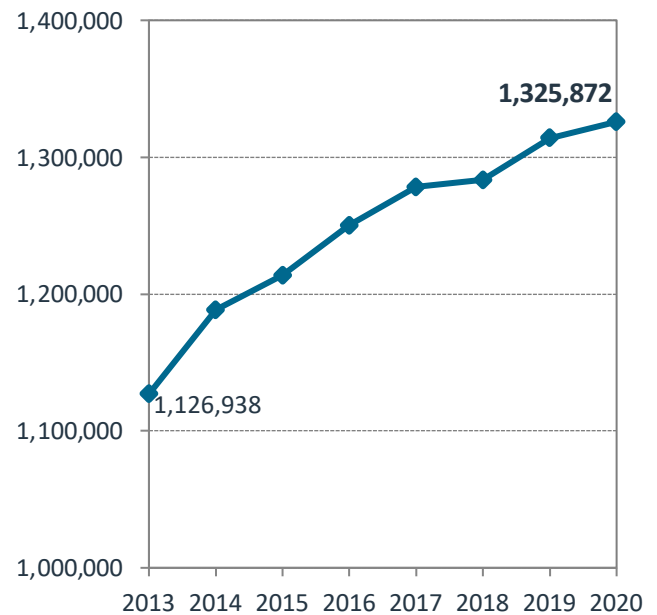| Skill	Count
Software Dev Principles	53,332
SQL	39,500
JavaScript & JQuery	33,667
Web Development	29,805
Technical Support	29,064
Microsoft Dev Tools	27,973
Operating Systems	23,767
Scripting Languages	23,346
Cloud Solutions	22,858
Java	22,217

UK EMPLOYERS WITH THE MOST IT JOB POSTINGS, 2020 Q4

1. National Health Service
2. Amazon
3. Telecoms.com
4. JPMorgan Chase & Co.
5. BAE Systems

	# Job Ads Last 12 Months	Ads per 1,000 Employed	Local Demand
London	160,577	37	Much higher
Manchester	30,772	25	Average
Bristol	14,973	34	Much higher
Leeds	12,229	30	Higher
Belfast	11,458	27	Higher
Edinburgh	11,215	33	Higher
Nottingham	8,015	20	Average
Cardiff	5,692	15	Lower

Small sampling of work area locations | Local demand vs. the UK

UK IT WORKFORCE SIZE & GROWTH

Source: Economic Modelling Specialists, Intl. (Emsi)

Base of IT Workers in the UK	# of Workers
Programmers & software dev pros	265,372
IT specialist managers	229,369
IT & telecommunications pros (other)	189,669
IT operations technicians	123,731
IT bus analysts, architects & sys designers	114,852
IT user support technicians	103,509
IT project & programme managers	77,170
IT & telecommunications directors	71,668
Web design & dev pros	57,053
Telecommunications engineers	50,820
IT engineers	42,659
TOTAL	**1,325,872**

Note: includes proprietors

Forecasted growth 2020 to 2025: 31,500+ new jobs to be added (+2%)

Top industries employing IT workers in the UK include information & communication; professional, scientific & technical; financial & insurance; wholesale & retail trade; and manufacturing.

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ABOUT THIS SNAPSHOT

The data highlighted in this summary is from Burning Glass Technologies Labour Insights and was pulled January 2021, primarily focusing on 2020 Q4 data. All data is UK only. Additional IT employment data from the ONS and Emsi is also provided. Insight from the Bank of England is noted as well.

For the purposes of this summary, core IT occupations include positions related to those listed therein. This report excludes certain occupations, such as graphic designer.

Job posting data is a useful, but an imperfect proxy for job demand. Not every posting translates to a new job; hiring firms may change their plans, post multiple times for the same job, hire internally, try different approaches to find the right candidate and so forth. Also, one ad may be posted for multiple openings. Burning Glass Technologies addresses many of these issues, but not all.

CompTIA recommends using job posting data in conjunction with government data to get a more complete picture of labor dynamics for a given occupation category. Also refer to additional CompTIA research for further context, e.g. *IT Industry Outlook 2021*, *Assessing the IT Skills Gap in the UK*, *UK Tech Town Index*, *International Trends in Technology and Workforce*, and *International Youth Perspectives of Technology and Careers*.

CompTIA is responsible for all content contained in this summary. Any questions should be directed to CompTIA Research and Market Intelligence staff at research@comptia.org.

ABOUT COMPTIA

The Computing Technology Industry Association (CompTIA) is a leading voice and advocate for the $5 trillion global information technology ecosystem; and the estimated 75 million industry and tech professionals who design, implement, manage, and safeguard the technology that powers the world's economy. Through education, training, certifications, advocacy, philanthropy, and market research, CompTIA is the hub for advancing the tech industry and its workforce. Visit www.comptia.org to learn more.

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The CompTIA UK Business Technology Community is one of many forums for sharing best practices, collaborative problem solving, and mentoring. Discussions frequently revolve around workforce issues.

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