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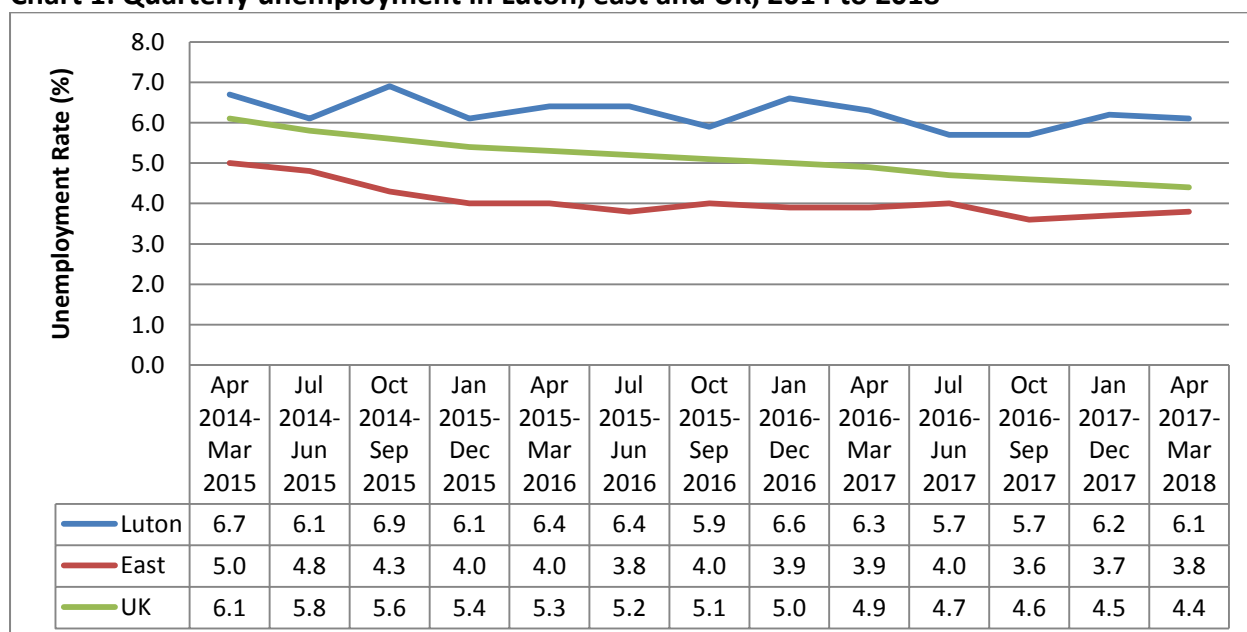
# Luton labour market headlines

- unemployment in Luton from April 2017 to March 2018 (6.1%) is higher than the national rate of 4.4 per cent
- the number of economically inactive people in Luton has been stable but is still higher than the national rate, 25.5 per cent compared with 21.7 per cent nationally
- the highest proportions of claimants are in Northwell, South and Crawley wards (2.3, 2.3 and 2.1 per cent respectively) with the fewest claimants in Bramingham (0.5 per cent)
- the number of people in Luton with degree level qualifications has been rising but is still lower than the national rate
- the proportion of people in Luton without any qualifications is higher than the national rate, 12.9 per cent compared with 8.0 per cent

## Unemployment

The unemployment rate measured from the annual population survey is a broader measure from a survey question. The claimant count is an administrative measure of the number of people claiming unemployment benefit.

**Chart 1: Quarterly unemployment in Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**

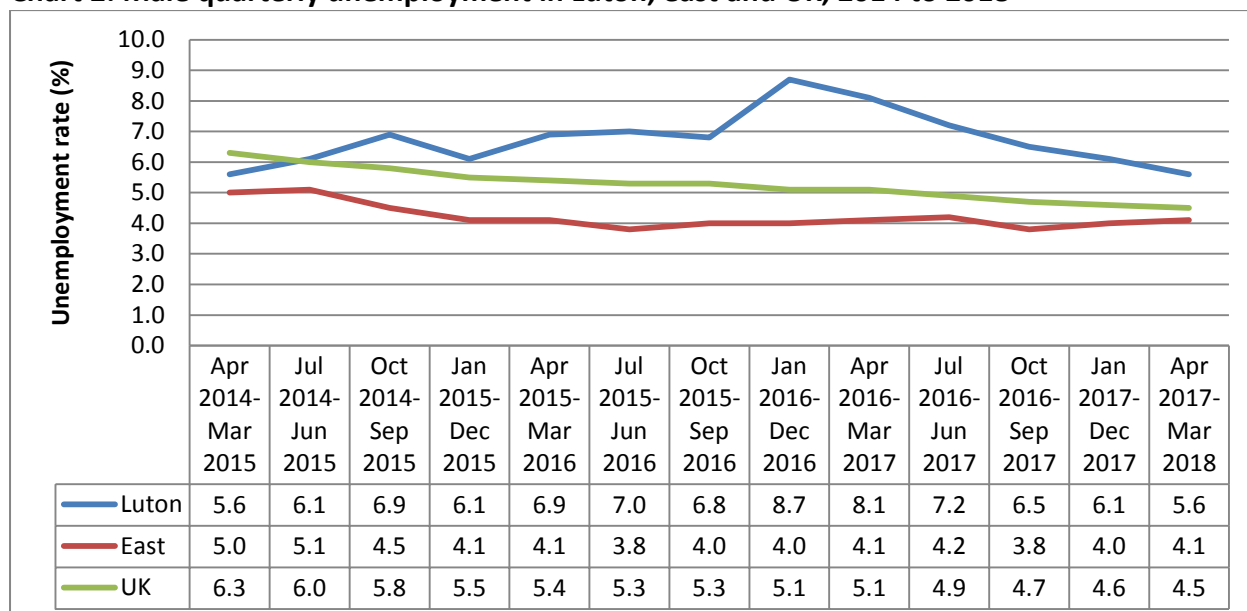


% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Luton's unemployment rate has generally been rising, while the national and regional trends have been falling. The above graph shows the total unemployment rate in Luton compared to the eastern region and the UK. The unemployment rate is higher than the regional and national rates, 6.1 per cent in comparison to 3.8 and 4.4 per cent respectively.

**Chart 2: Male quarterly unemployment in Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**

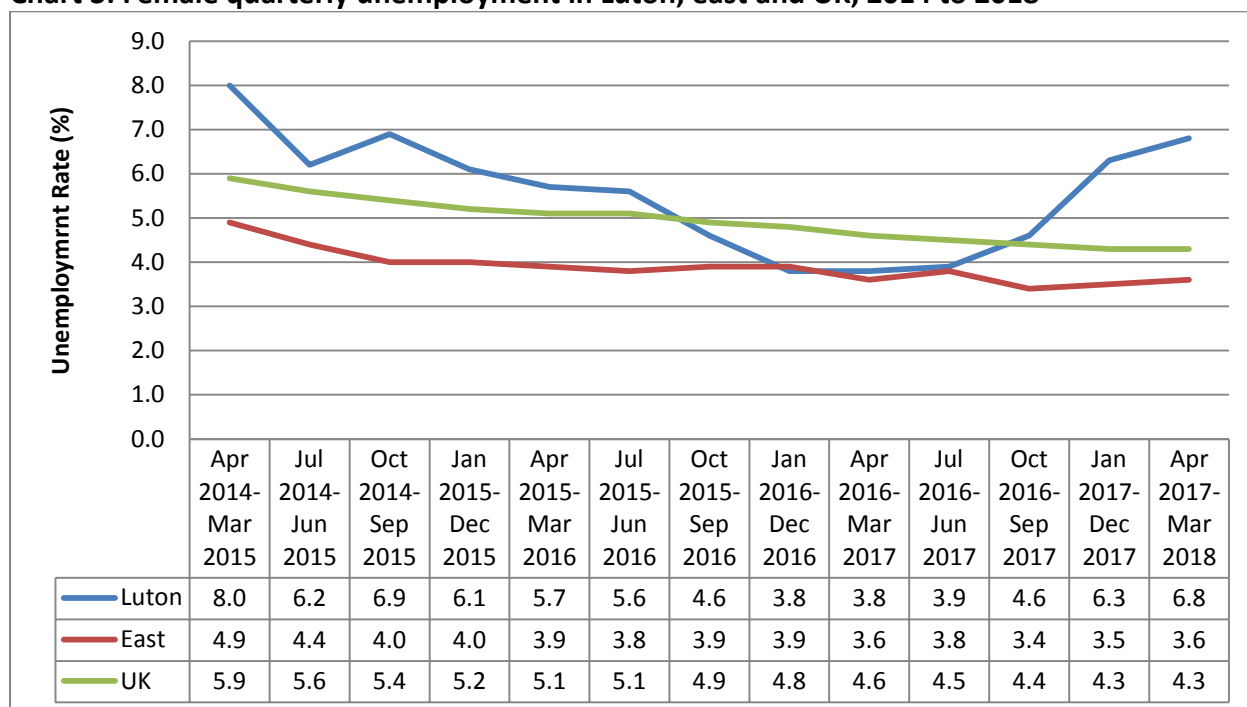


% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The above graph shows the total male unemployment in Luton compared to the eastern region and the UK. Luton's total male unemployment rate (5.6 per cent) is significantly higher than the east (4.1 per cent) and the UK (4.5 per cent).

**Chart 3: Female quarterly unemployment in Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**

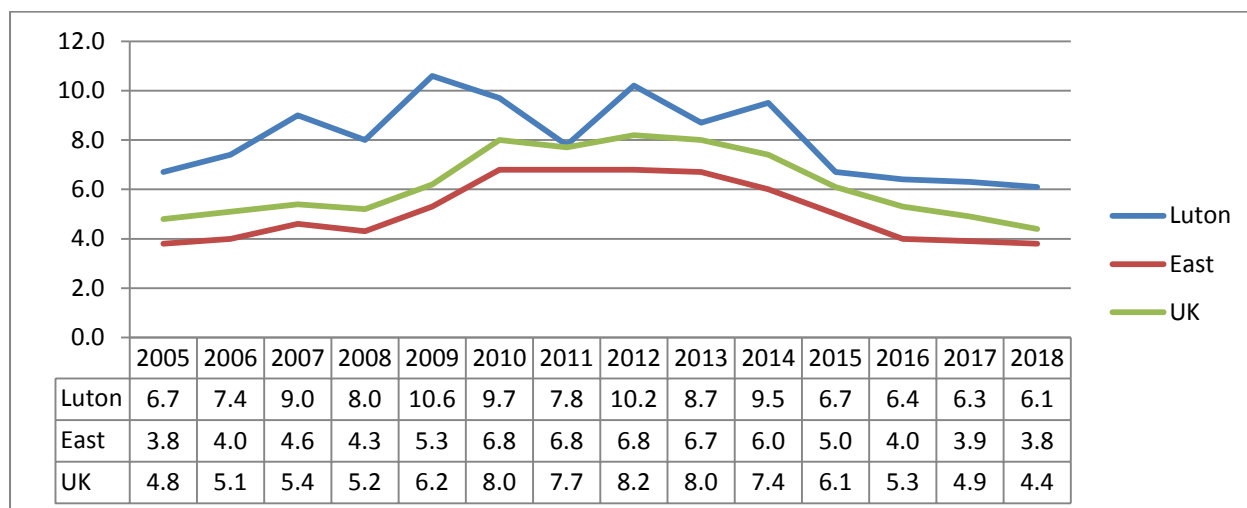


% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Chart 3 shows the female unemployment rate in Luton compared to the eastern region and the UK. The female unemployment rate in Luton is significantly higher (6.8 per cent) than the UK (4.3 per cent) and the east (3.6 per cent).

**Chart 4: Long term unemployment rates, Luton, east and UK, 2005 to 2018**



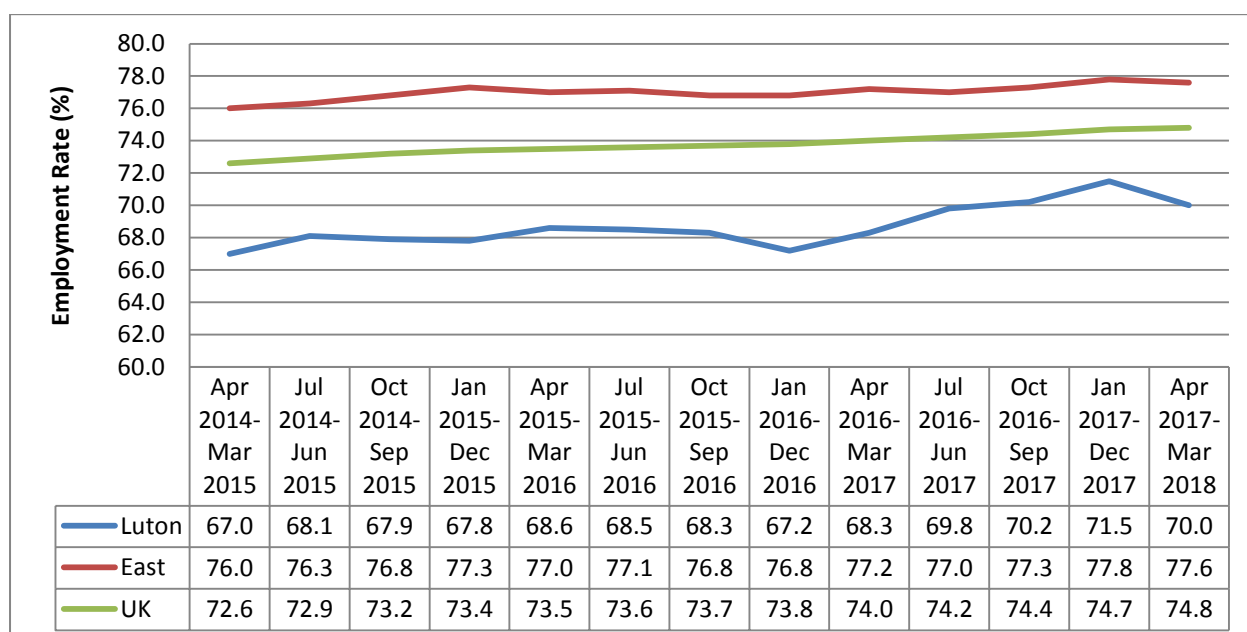
% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

Luton's unemployment rate has generally been higher than the national and regional rates. 6.1 compared with 4.4 and 3.8 per cent respectively.

## Employment rate

**Chart 5: Total employment rate Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**

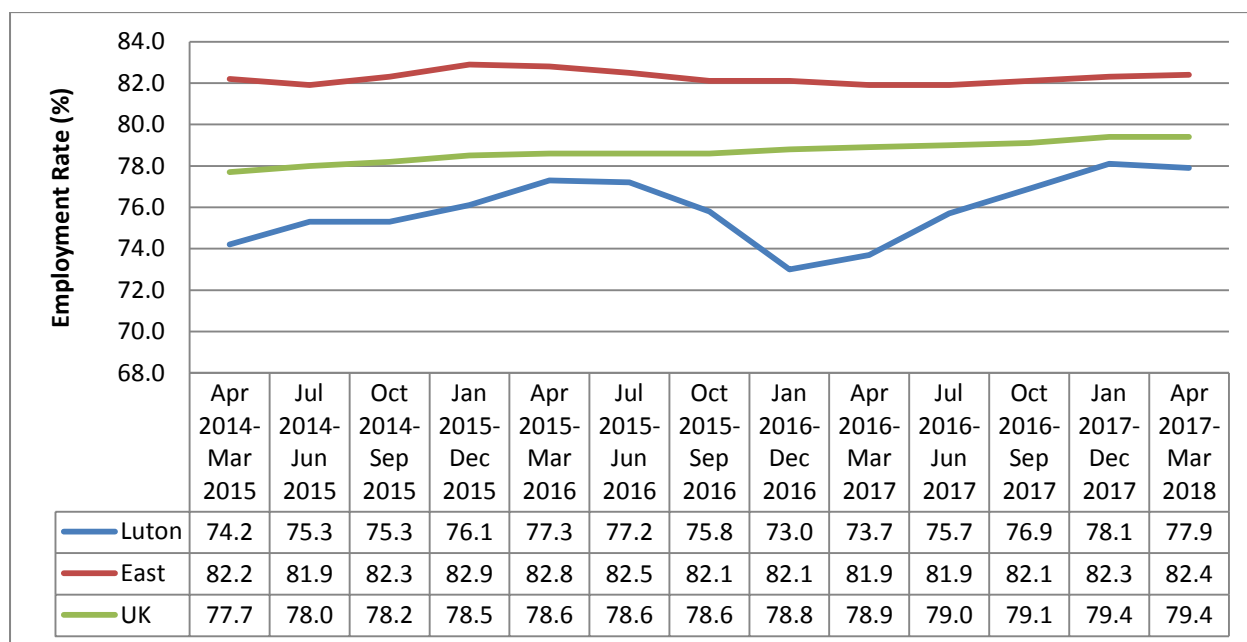


% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The employment rate i.e. the proportion of those economically active and in work is lower in Luton (70.0 per cent) than the regional (77.6 per cent) and national figures (74.8 per cent).

**Chart 6: Male employment rate Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**

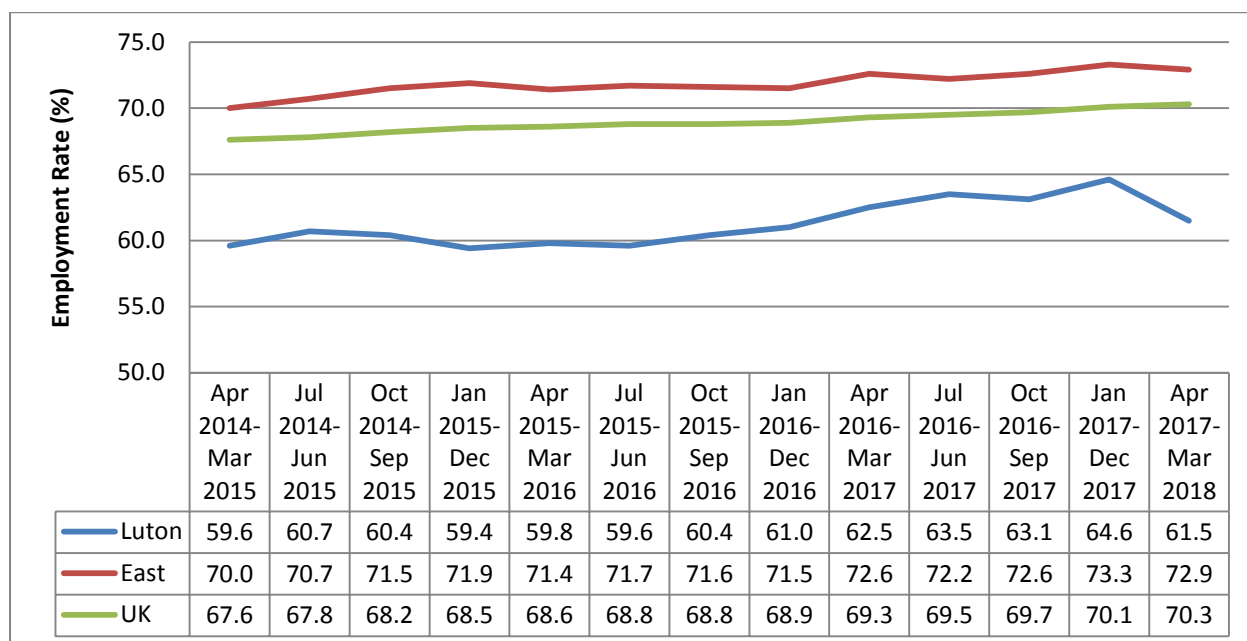


% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The male employment rate in Luton (77.9 per cent) is lower than the regional (82.4 per cent) and national (79.4 per cent) figures.

**Chart 7: Female employment rate Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**



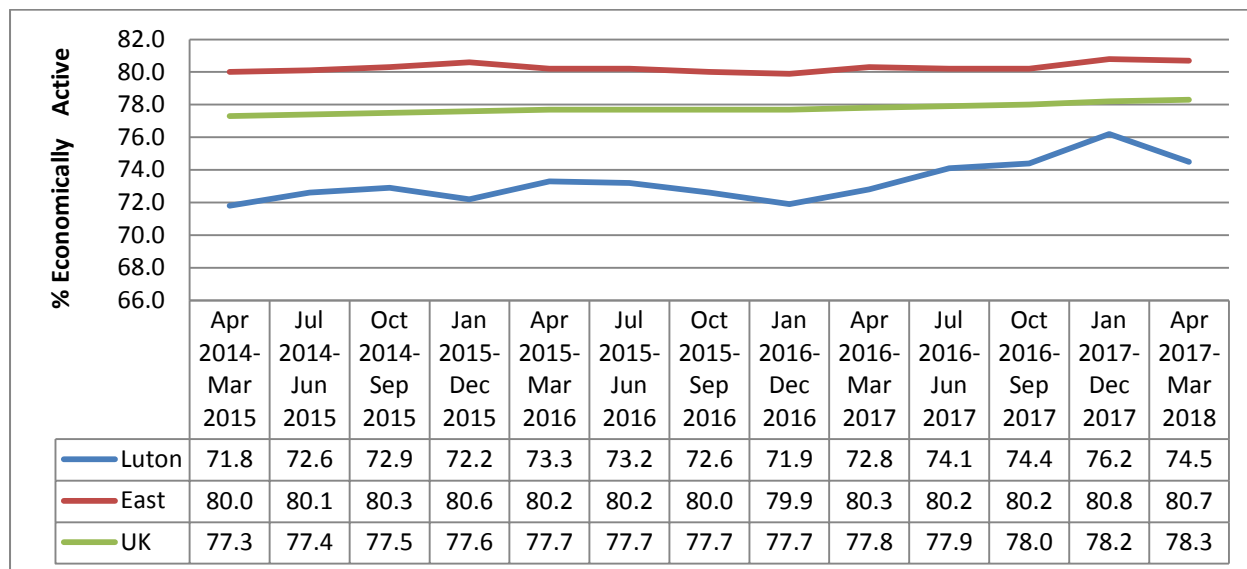
% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The female employment rate in Luton (61.5 per cent) is lower than the regional (72.9 per cent) and national (70.3 per cent) figures.

## Economic activity rate

**Chart 8: Total economic activity rate Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**

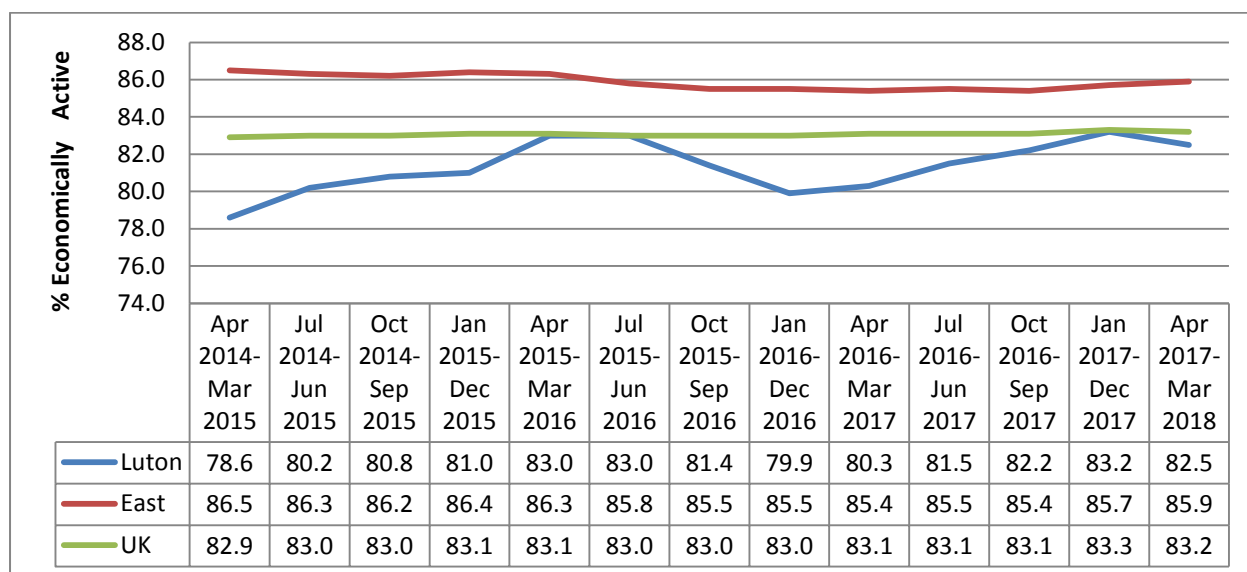


% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The percentage of the working age population who are economically active i.e. either in employment or actively seeking work in Luton (74.5 per cent) is lower than the regional (80.7 per cent) and national rate (78.3 per cent).

**Chart 9: Male economic activity rate Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**

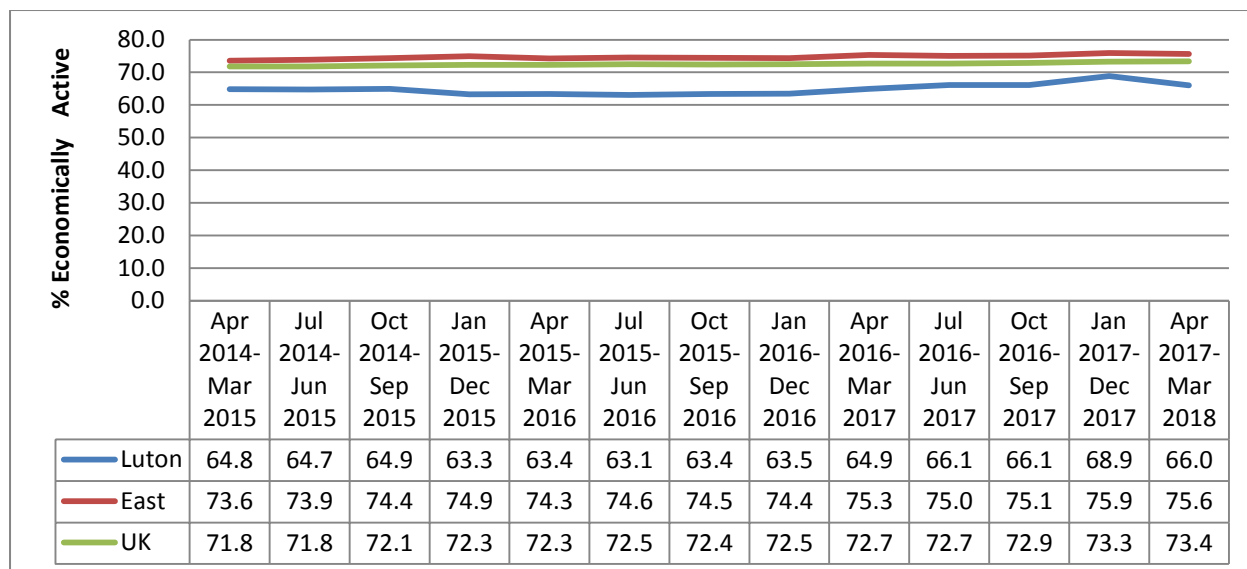


% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The male economic activity rate for Luton (82.5 per cent) is lower than the regional (85.9 per cent) and national (83.2 per cent) rates.

**Chart 10: Female economic activity rate Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**



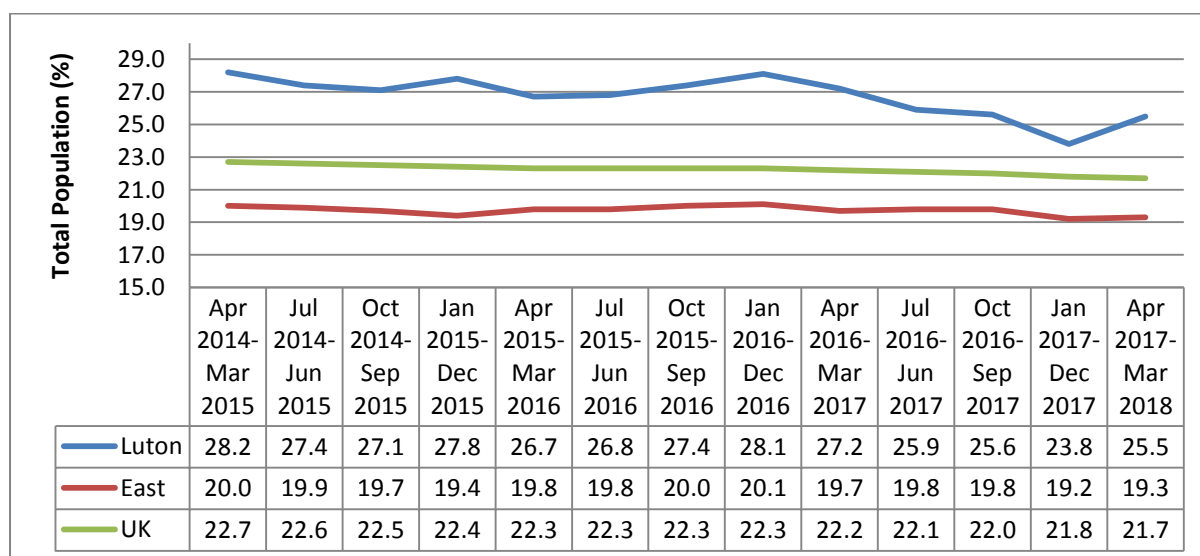
% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The female economic activity rate for Luton (66.0 per cent) is lower than the regional (75.6 per cent) and national (73.4 per cent) rates.

## Economic inactivity rate

**Chart 11: Total economic inactivity rate Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**

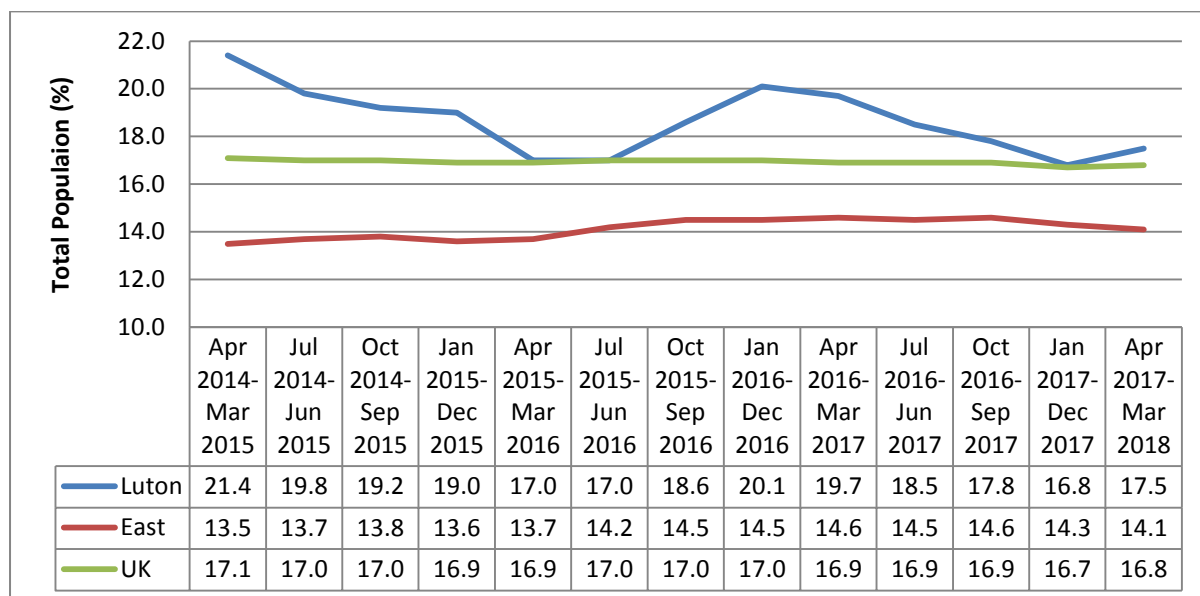


% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The percentage of the working age population who are economically inactive i.e. not actively seeking work in Luton (25.5 per cent) is higher than the regional (19.3 per cent) and national rate (21.7 per cent).

**Chart 12: Male economic inactivity rate Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**

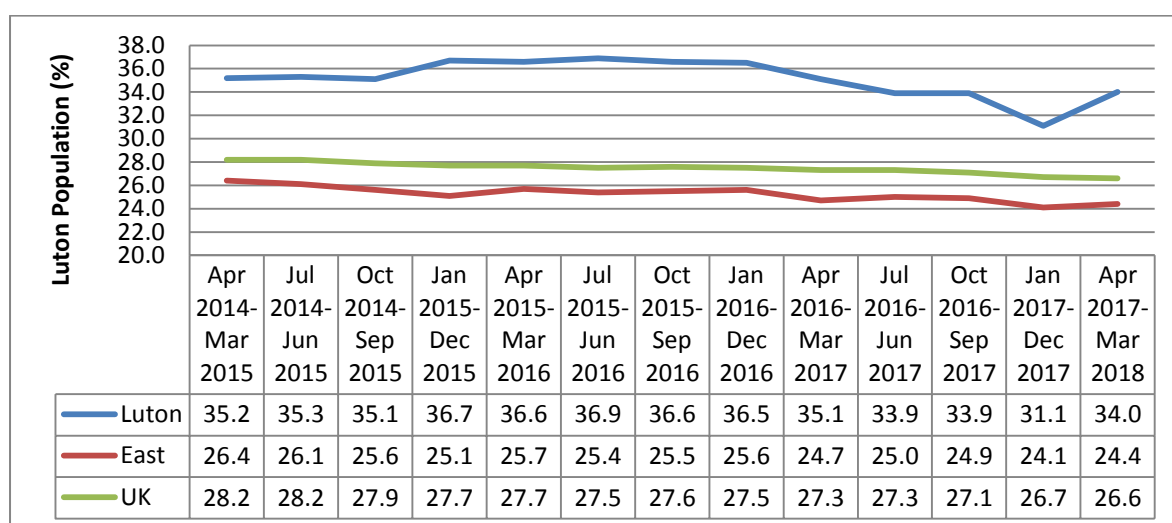


% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The male economic inactivity rate for Luton (17.5 per cent) is higher than the regional (14.1 per cent) and national (16.8 per cent) rates.

**Chart 13: Female economic inactivity rate Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**



% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

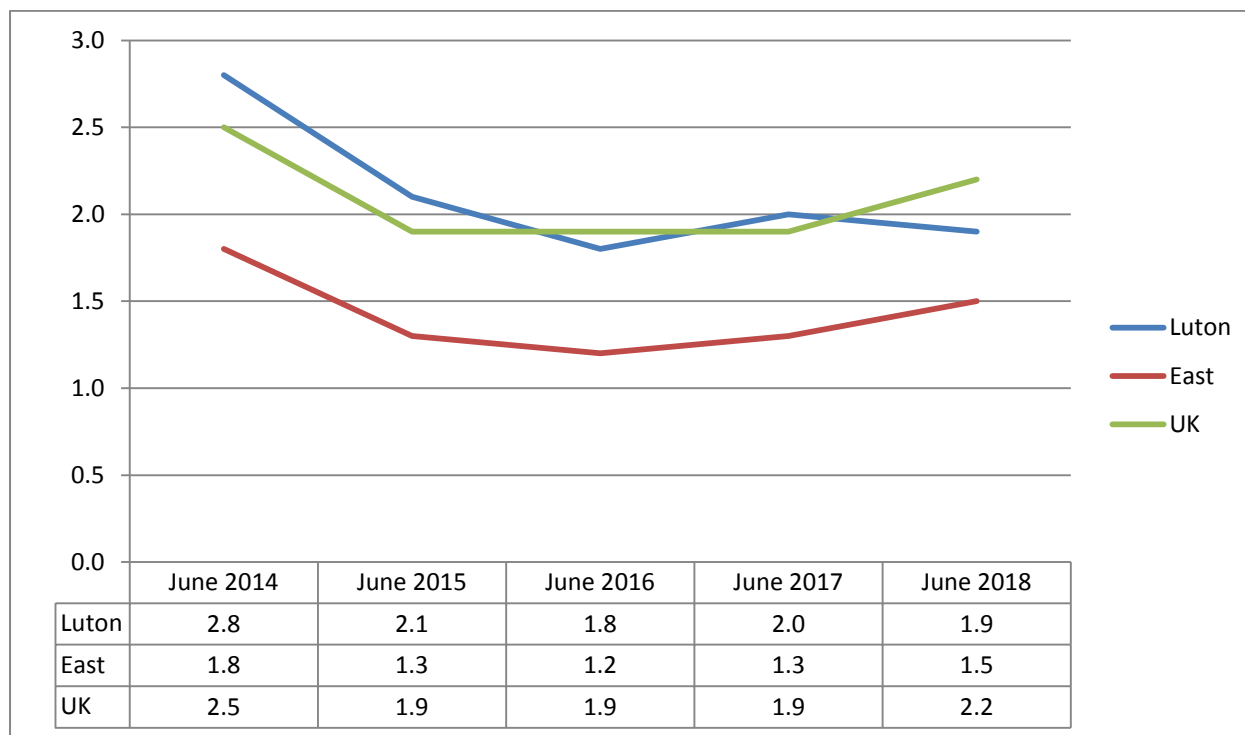


The female economic inactivity rate for Luton (34.0 per cent) is higher than the regional (24.4 per cent) and national (26.6 per cent) rates.

The percentage of people who are economically inactive who do not want a job in Luton was measured at 84.1 per cent for 2018 Q1, in comparison the national figure is 77.6 per cent.

## Benefit claimants

**Chart 14: Unemployment claimant count rate Luton, east and UK, 2014 to 2018**



% rate of working age population

Source: Office for National Statistics via NOMIS

The above graph shows the total proportion of the working age population who are benefit claimants. The total proportion of claimants in Luton has decreased slightly from 2.0 per cent to 1.9 per cent between June 2017 and June 2018. Luton's claimant count rate is lower than the east (2.2 per cent) and is higher than the national rate (1.5 per cent).

**Table 1: Luton's total benefit claimants by ward, July 2018**

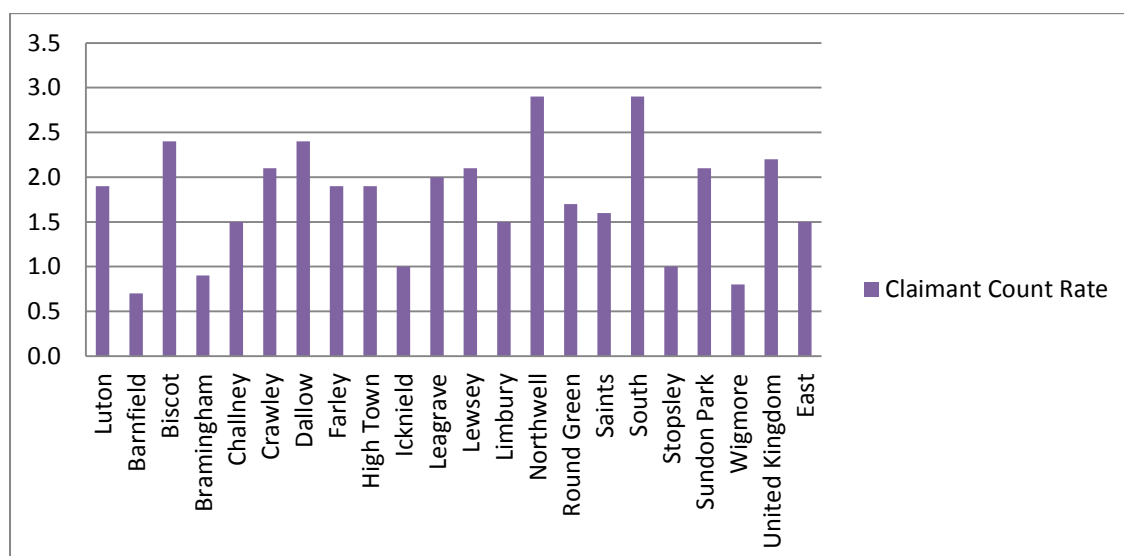
Area	Total	% Total	Male	% Male	Female	% Female
Luton	2,600	1.9	1,600	2.3	1,000	1.5
Barnfield	35	0.7	20	0.8	15	0.6
Biscot	255	2.4	165	2.9	90	1.7
Bramingham	40	0.9	25	1.2	10	0.5
Challney	130	1.5	80	1.8	50	1.1
Crawley	105	2.1	55	2.1	50	2.1
Dallow	265	2.4	170	2.9	95	1.8
Farley	160	1.9	105	2.3	60	1.4
High Town	150	1.9	90	2.1	60	1.8
Icknield	45	1.0	30	1.4	15	0.7
Leagrave	155	2.0	90	2.3	65	1.6
Lewsey	170	2.1	105	2.7	65	1.5
Limbury	75	1.5	45	1.8	30	1.1
Northwell	145	2.9	80	3.4	65	2.3
Round Green	135	1.7	75	1.9	60	1.5
Saints	155	1.6	95	1.9	60	1.3
South	375	2.9	240	3.5	135	2.3
Stopsley	45	1.0	25	1.2	15	0.8
Sundon Park	105	2.1	70	2.8	35	1.4
Wigmore	65	0.8	35	0.9	30	0.8

% rate of working age population

Source: Office for National Statistics via NOMIS

Both Northwell and South have the highest rate of claimants at 2.3 per cent. Crawley (2.1 per cent) has the next highest claimant rate. Bramingham has the lowest rate of claimants at 0.5 per cent.

**Chart 15: Proportion of benefit claimants in Luton and its wards, July 2018**

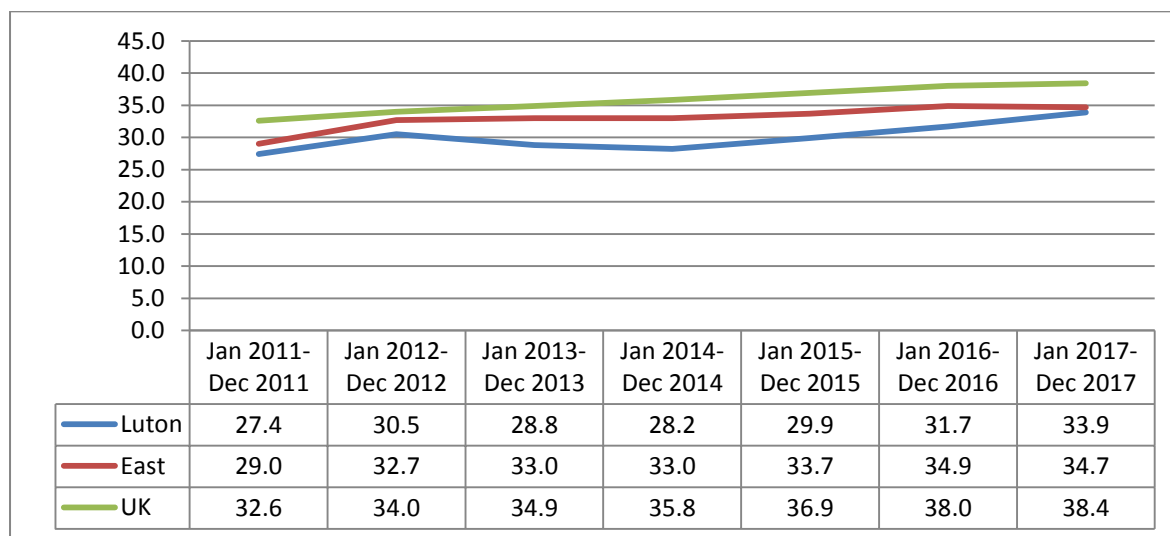


% rate of working age population

Source: Office for National Statistics via NOMIS

# Qualifications

**Chart 16: Percentage of working age population with NVQ Level 4 qualifications Luton, east and UK, 2011 to 2017**

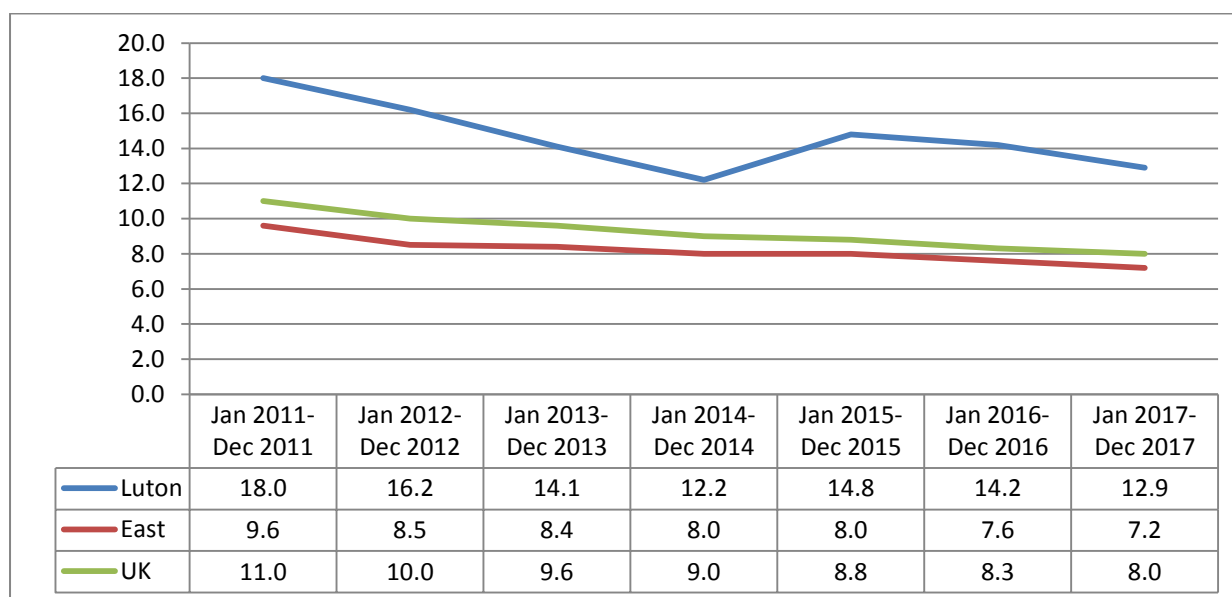


% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The above graph shows that the proportion of people in Luton with NVQ level 4 (degree level) qualifications has increased from 31.7 per cent to 33.9 per cent from 2016-2017. The proportion of people in Luton with degree level education is lower than the national and regional rates.

**Chart 17: Percentage of working age population without qualifications Luton, east and UK 2011 to 2017**



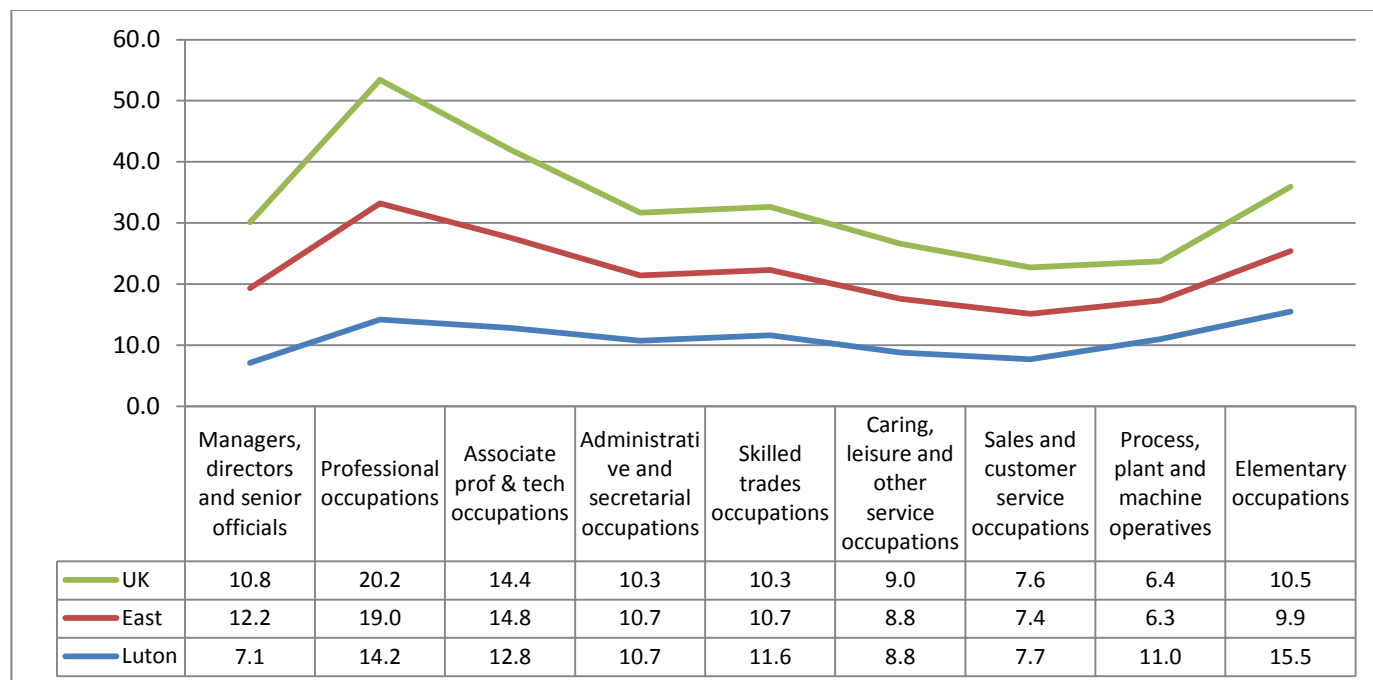
% rate of working age population

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey

The proportion of the working age population in Luton without qualification is 12.9 per cent which is higher than the regional (7.2 per cent) and national figures (8.0 per cent).

Labour market data can be found on the NOMIS website: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>

**Chart 18: Percentage of employment types Luton, east and UK 2018**



% of employment types Apr 2017-Mar 2018

Source: Office for National Statistics via NOMIS

The above graph shows that 'elementary occupations' are the highest proportion of employment for people in Luton, with 15.5 per cent, compared with 10.5 per cent nationally. 'Managers, directors and senior officials' ranks as the lowest percentage (7.1 per cent) of employment for the people of Luton and is lower than the national (10.8 per cent) and regional (12.2 per cent) rates. Luton has a significantly higher proportion of people employed as 'Process, plant and machine operatives' with 11.0 per cent.

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