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## Introduction

Due to the increased prevalence of COVID-19 and subsequent measures to reduce the spread of the virus, Statistics Jersey will be publishing this more focused version of the economic indicators report on a more frequent basis in the short term. Larger monthly reports will still continue to be produced shortly after the end of the month. The aim of these reports is to provide economic information to decision makers, businesses and members of the public during the COVID-19 pandemic. This report presents statistics and indicators in the following areas:

- Registered Actively Seeking Work (ASW)
- Income Support
- Coronavirus Government Co-Funded Payroll Scheme (Phases Three and Three+)
- Royal Court housing transactions
- Road and public transport usage

## Summary

### On 20 December 2020

- the total number of people registered as ASW<sup>1</sup> was 1,350; this total is 10 lower than a week earlier and 490 higher than a year earlier<sup>2</sup>
- a greater number of females (740 individuals) than males (610 individuals) were registered as ASW
- there were 6,050 active Income Support claims, 10 higher compared with 13 December 2020, and 420 more than a year earlier (31 December 2019). This latest number of claims provided support for:
  - 7,650 adults
  - 3,160 children
- under Phase Three and Three+ of the Government Co-Funded Payroll Scheme over £13.1 million had been paid out for a total 3,290 claims<sup>3</sup> for September, October and November 2020
- public transport usage was 69% lower than a year earlier
- road usage was 15% lower than a year earlier

### On 11 December 2020

- there were 35 residential properties transacted through the Royal Court, 24 of which were eligible to be included in the Jersey House Price Index

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<sup>1</sup> Note that those claiming CRESS and registered as ASW are excluded from these figures, see pages 2-3 for more detail.

<sup>2</sup> Numbers of individuals are rounded independently to the nearest 10 throughout this report; hence, categories may not sum to totals.

<sup>3</sup> A business claiming in multiple months will have submitted multiple separate claims, meaning they are counted more than once.

## Registered Actively Seeking Work

Customer and Local Service (CLS) compiles data on people in Jersey who are registered as Actively Seeking Work (ASW). Statistics Jersey independently analyses this anonymised data and publishes a quarterly report. This report constitutes a summarised, more frequent version, of the quarterly report.

It is important to note that unemployed Jersey residents are not required to register as ASW. There are, however, certain requirements for those in receipt of an Income Support claim. Changes to the Income Support criteria have an impact on the total numbers registered as ASW. The numbers presented constitute an informative set of indicators of the level of individuals registered as ASW in the Island at a given point in time. For more information on historical ASW statistics, and methodological information, see the latest quarterly report [here](#).

On 20 December 2020, there were 1,350 people registered as Actively Seeking Work (ASW). The total number registered on this date was 10 lower than a week earlier and 490 higher than a year earlier – see Table 1 and Figure 1.

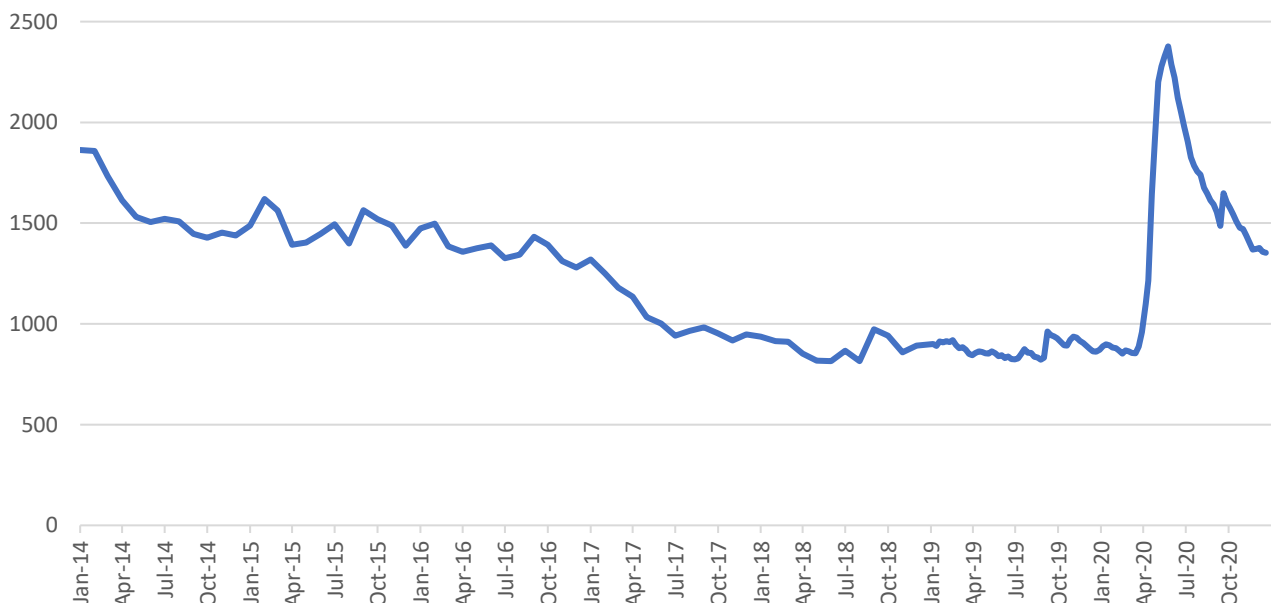
**Table 1 – Number of registered ASW excluding CRESS claimants, Seasonally adjusted total;  
8 November 2020 – 20 December 2020**

	<b>8 Nov 2020</b>	<b>15 Nov 2020</b>	<b>22 Nov 2020</b>	<b>29 Nov 2020</b>	<b>6 Dec 2020</b>	<b>13 Dec 2020</b>	<b>20 Dec 2020</b>
<b>Registered ASW excluding CRESS claimants</b>	1,440	1,400	1,370	1,370	1,380	1,360	1,350

*Note: the CRESS scheme ended on 31/8/20*

Figure 1 shows a historical series of the number of people registered as ASW (excluding CRESS claimants) from January 2014 to date.

**Figure 1 – Number of registered ASW excluding CRESS claimants, January 2014 – 20 December 2020**

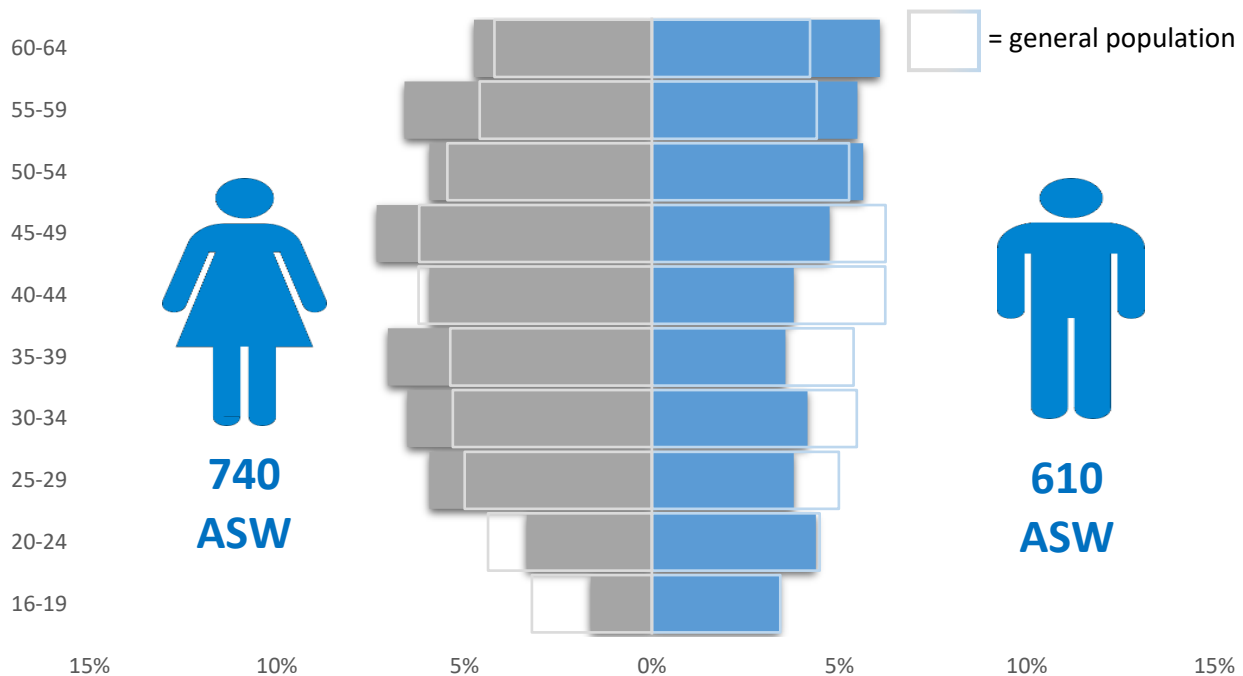


For comparability with the previous year (2019), Table 1 shows the number of individuals registered as ASW excluding CRESS claimants. CRESS may be claimed by individuals who have been working in Jersey for less than five years and, therefore, would not previously have been required to register as ASW.

## Registered ASW by age and sex

On 20 December 2020, more females (740 individuals) than males (610 individuals) were registered as ASW. Figure 2 shows the breakdown by sex and age group:

Figure 2 – Age and sex distribution of individuals registered as ASW compared with proportions in the general population<sup>4</sup>, 20 December 2020



On 20 December 2020, 13% of people registered as ASW were under 25 years of age (170 individuals); 5% of the total were teenagers, aged 16-19 years (70 individuals).

## Registered ASW duration

Of all individuals registered as ASW on 20 December 2020, around one-quarter (24%) had been registered for three months or less, corresponding to 330 individuals. Over one-tenth (13%) of all individuals registered as ASW had been registered for less than one month, corresponding to 170 individuals.

## Industry

Individuals working in some industries of the economy, notably the Finance sector, often seek employment through private agencies and do not register as ASW with Customer and Local Services. Such industries will, therefore, tend to be under-reported in the ASW numbers.

The last industry of employment was recorded for around nine out of ten people (92%) registered as ASW. On 20 December 2020:

- 19% were previously employed in ‘Miscellaneous professional & domestic services’ essentially unchanged compared to 31 March 2020
- 18% were previously employed in ‘Retail and Wholesale, Motor repairs and sales’ a decrease of 2 percentage point (pp) compared to 31 March 2020
- 16% were previously employed in ‘Banking, Miscellaneous Insurance, Finance and Business’ an increase of 1 pp compared to 31 March 2020
- 14% were previously employed in ‘Hotel, restaurants, pubs and clubs’ essentially unchanged compared to 31 March 2020
- 8% were previously employed in ‘Construction and allied trades, mining and quarrying’ essentially unchanged compared with 31 March 2020

<sup>4</sup> Age and sex proportions as recorded by the 2011 Jersey Census.

## Income Support

Income Support is a single, means-tested benefit available to individuals who have a low household income, pass the Income Support residence test and are working, looking for work or exempt from looking for work. This benefit provides financial support towards the costs of housing, living, health needs and child care. Since individuals claim on a household basis, multiple individuals may be supported by a single claim.

On 20 December 2020 there were 6,050 active Income Support claims. These claims supported 7,650 adults and 3,160 children. Compared with a week earlier (13 December 2020), the latest number of claims was 10 higher, the number of adults supported was essentially unchanged and the total number of children supported was 10 higher – see Table 2.

Table 2 – Active Income Support Claims, adults and children supported;  
8 November 2020 – 20 December 2020

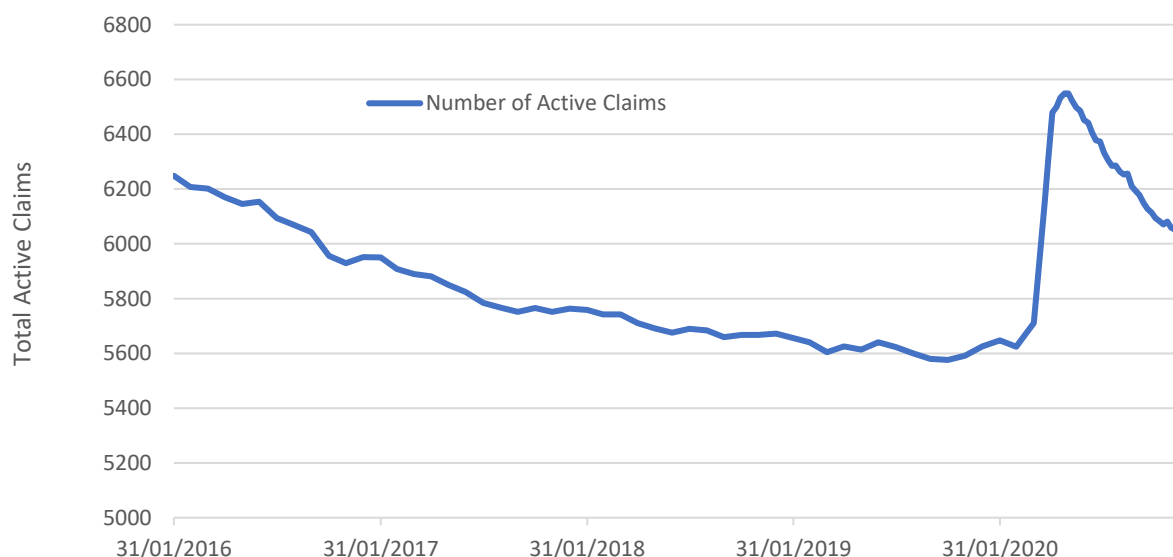
	8 Nov 2020	15 Nov 2020	22 Nov 2020	29 Nov 2020	6 Dec 2020	13 Dec 2020	20 Dec 2020
<b>Active Income Support Claims</b>	6,080	6,070	6,080	6,060	6,050	6,040	6,050
<b>Adults</b>	7,710	7,690	7,700	7,670	7,660	7,650	7,650
<b>Children</b>	3,140	3,140	3,150	3,150	3,150	3,150	3,160

Compared with the closest available date a year earlier (31 December 2019), the latest number of claims was 420 higher, the number of adults supported was 560 higher and the total number of children supported was 50 higher – see Table 3.

Table 3 – Active Income Support Claims, adults and children supported; 30 June 2019 – 31 December 2019

	30 June 2019	31 July 2019	31 Aug 2019	30 Sep 2019	31 Oct 2019	30 Nov 2019	31 Dec 2019
<b>Active Income Support Claims</b>	5,640	5,620	5,600	5,580	5,580	5,590	5,630
<b>Adults</b>	7,080	7,170	7,120	7,060	7,030	7,030	7,090
<b>Children</b>	3,220	3,060	3,070	3,050	3,040	3,080	3,110

Figure 3 – Active Income Support Claims; 31 January 2016 – 20 December 2020



## Coronavirus Government Co-Funded Payroll Scheme

The Government Co-Funded Payroll Scheme consists of three Phases, each with different qualifying criteria. Qualifying criteria and the proportion of wages paid to businesses has at times been changed between and during phases of the scheme, which may affect the number of claims and total amount paid between months. Those businesses meeting the qualifying criteria set by the Government receive payments towards employees' wages. More information on this Scheme can be found on [gov.je](http://gov.je).

Cumulatively, in Phase Three and Three+ over £13.1 million had been paid out for a total of 3,290<sup>3</sup> claims for September, October and November.

Table 4 shows the number of businesses and employees receiving assistance, and the total amount paid, under Phase Three of the Scheme for claims made for September.

**Table 4 – Coronavirus Government Co-Funded Payroll Scheme Phase Three; claims for September 2020  
11 October 2020 – 20 December 2020<sup>5</sup>**

	<b>11 Oct 2020</b>	<b>18 Oct 2020</b>	<b>25 Oct 2020</b>	<b>1 Nov 2020</b>	<b>8 Nov 2020</b>	<b>15 Nov 2020</b>	<b>22 Nov 2020</b>	<b>20 Dec 2020</b>	<b>September Claims Total</b>
<b>Total Business Claims</b>	730	210	120	120	40	10	<5	<5	1,230
<b>Total Jobs Supported</b>	2700	1,380	750	480	170	10	<5	<5	5,490
<b>Total Amount Paid, £</b>	2,663,010	1,368,650	706,310	455,090	171,710	11,080	670	1,190	5,376,520

*Note: the claims originally allocated to the week ending 4/10/20, as published in the week 40 version of this report, were incorrectly allocated to that week. In actuality, no claims for Phase 3 were processed until the week ending 11/10/20.*

Table 5 shows the number of businesses and employees receiving assistance, and the total amount paid, under Phase Three of the Scheme for claims made for October.

**Table 5 – Coronavirus Government Co-Funded Payroll Scheme Phase Three; claims for October 2020  
8 November 2020 – 20 December 2020<sup>5</sup>**

	<b>8 Nov 2020</b>	<b>15 Nov 2020</b>	<b>22 Nov 2020</b>	<b>29 Nov 2020</b>	<b>6 Dec 2020</b>	<b>13 Dec 2020</b>	<b>20 Dec 2020</b>	<b>October Claims Total</b>
<b>Total Business Claims</b>	480	260	190	140	90	10	<5	1,170
<b>Total Jobs Supported</b>	1,520	1,270	1,050	710	410	60	<5	5,000
<b>Total Amount Paid, £</b>	1,470,410	1,284,280	1,046,150	662,330	396,940	46,860	1,760	4,906,980

Table 6 shows the number of businesses and employees receiving assistance, and the total amount paid, under Phase Three+ of the Scheme for claims made for November.

<sup>5</sup> Weekly information may be revised in the following week. This is due to a small number of payments being returned to Government, usually due to incorrect banking details, after the statistics for the week have been compiled. Such returned payments may be paid again in future weeks.

Table 6 – Coronavirus Government Co-Funded Payroll Scheme Phase Three+; claims for November 2020  
 6 December 2020 – 20 December 2020<sup>5</sup>

	<b>6 Dec 2020</b>	<b>13 Dec 2020</b>	<b>20 Dec 2020</b>	<b>November Claims Total</b>
<b>Total Business Claims</b>	410	310	180	1,070
<b>Total Jobs Supported</b>	1,190	1,380	990	4,540
<b>Total Amount Paid, £</b>	1,022,850	1,060,630	778,980	4,466,340

## Royal Court housing activity

Royal Court transactions represent essentially all of the residential house sales and around 30% of residential flat sales in Jersey. Generally, Royal Court transactions account for around three-quarters of the residential properties that are included in the House Price Index, the remaining property transactions that make up the House Price Index data are transacted by share transfer.

After 49 Royal Court sittings in 2020 there have been 969 properties sold which are eligible to be included in the Jersey House Price Index. This total is 9 lower than that after the first 49 Royal Court sittings in 2019.

Table 7 shows the turnover and total value of residential properties transacted each week in the Royal Court, applying two sets of definition of property: those included in the quarterly House Price Index (HPI); and an extended set which includes the following additional property types: 1-bedroom and 5- or more bedroom houses; 3- or more bedroom flats; bedsits; and designated first time buyer, age restricted and housing gateway properties. Comparable data for the similar time period in 2019 is shown in Table 8.

Table 7 – Royal Court Housing Activity 2020<sup>6</sup>

Week	Date	HPI definitions		Extended definition	
		Turnover	Total Value	Turnover	Total Value
43	30/10/2020	29	23,033,900	35	30,781,400
44	06/11/2020	25	13,331,500	33	17,783,500
45	13/11/2020	27	20,142,550	49	30,132,550
46	20/11/2020	36	27,180,750	45	33,896,750
47	27/11/2020	30	21,009,000	37	26,555,000
48	04/12/2020	39	27,718,450	46	37,763,450
49	11/12/2020	24	15,852,000	35	23,407,000

Table 8 – Royal Court Housing Activity 2019

Week	Date	HPI Definitions		Extended definition	
		Turnover	Total Value	Turnover	Total Value
44	01/11/2019	18	10,474,500	24	12,054,500
44	08/11/2019	22	16,930,888	27	19,590,888
45	15/11/2019	25	16,157,000	27	16,852,000
46	22/11/2019	16	8,958,750	20	10,544,750
47	29/11/2019	20	12,408,000	30	18,470,000
48	06/12/2019	13	9,392,000	25	18,404,500
49	13/12/2019	24	15,452,000	36	20,004,000

Since the numbers presented in Tables 7 and 8 are broken down on a weekly basis, individual figures can be affected by specific new developments and also by any seasonal effects. Caution is advised, therefore, when making weekly comparisons.

<sup>6</sup> Values provided in this section are unrounded.

## Road and public transport usage

Growth, Housing and Environment (GHE) measures the level of traffic on a number of roads in the Island. Road usage had returned to similar levels seen prior to the COVID-19 pandemic; however, with the re-introduction of measures to reduce the spread of Covid-19 changes have been observed – see Table 9.

In the week ending 13 December 2020 road usage was 15% lower compared with a year earlier.

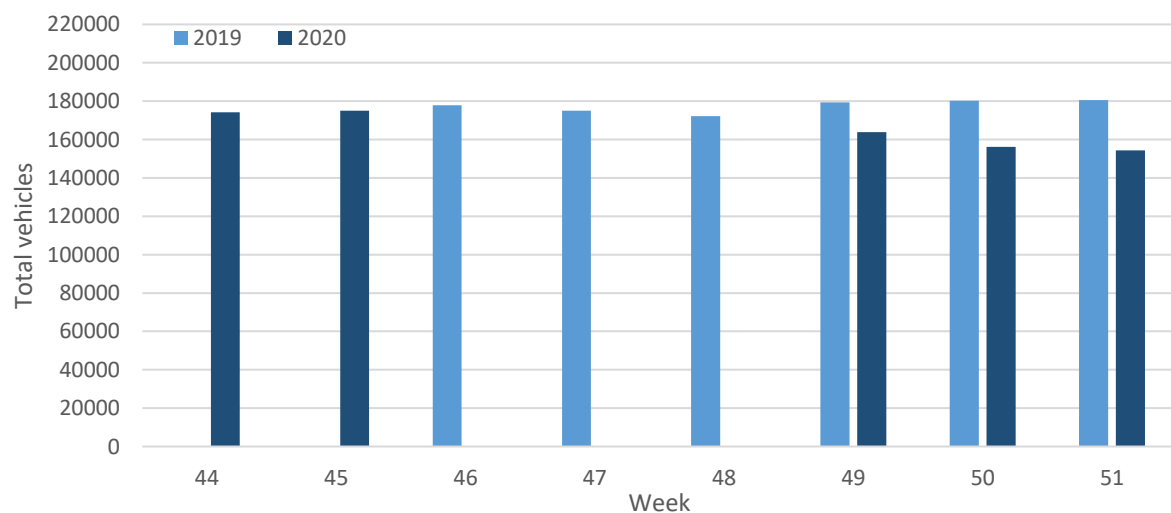
It should be noted that in both 2019 and 2020 there are weeks in which the monitoring equipment was being repaired and as such complete figures are not available.

Table 9 – Weekly number of vehicles passing through the tunnel; weeks ending 1 November 2020 – 20 December 2020

Week	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
	1 Nov 2020	8 Nov 2020	15 Nov 2020	22 Nov 2020	29 Nov 2020	6 Dec 2020	13 Dec 2020	14 Dec 2020
<b>Total vehicles</b>	174,260	175,001	-	-	-	163,780	156,100	154,300
<b>Impactful events</b>	-	-	Not available	Not available	Not available	-	-	-

Figure 4 shows the weekly total number of vehicles passing through the tunnel in 2020 and for comparable weeks in 2019.

Figure 4 – Weekly number of vehicles passing through the tunnel; 2019 and 2020





GHE receives information on the usage of public transport in Jersey. In order to provide an insight into travel within the Island, the total weekly number of bus passengers in 2020 are shown in Table 10. It should be noted that there may have been different numbers of bus journeys timetabled in each week due to Public Holidays and coronavirus measures.

It should also be noted that these numbers may be revised slightly in the future due to occasional late reporting. Therefore, the figures shown in Table 10 should be treated as provisional.

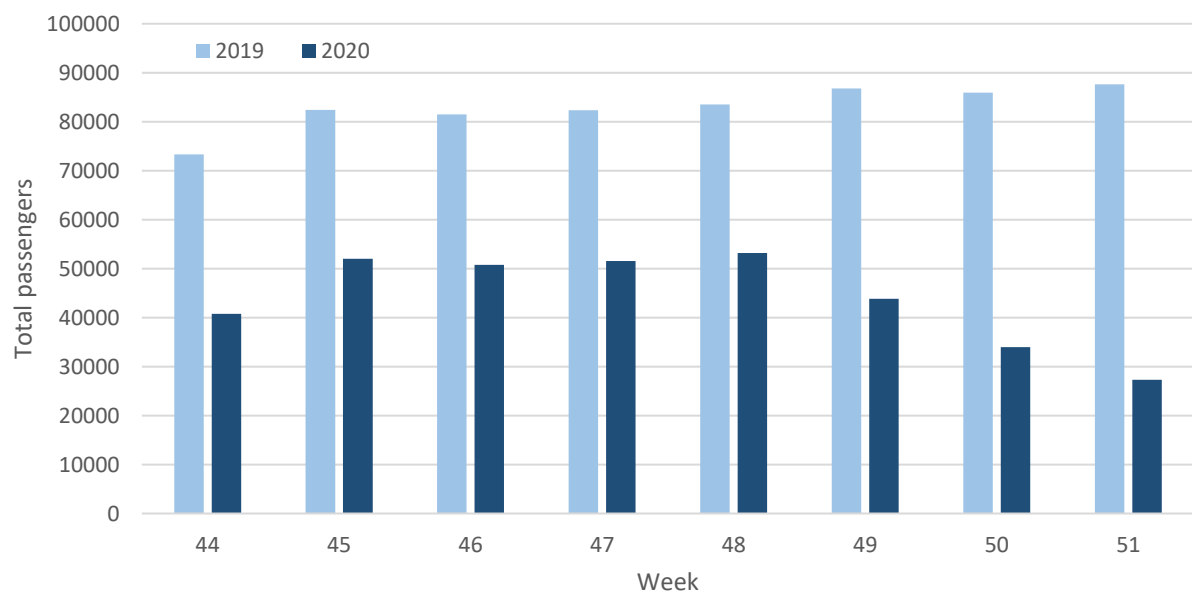
**Table 10 – Total weekly bus passengers; weeks ending 1 November 2020 – 20 December 2020**

Week	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
	<b>1 Nov 2020</b>	<b>8 Nov 2020</b>	<b>15 Nov 2020</b>	<b>22 Nov 2020</b>	<b>29 Nov 2020</b>	<b>6 Dec 2020</b>	<b>13 Dec 2020</b>	<b>20 Dec 2020</b>
<b>Total passengers</b>	40,760	52,020	50,750	51,590	53,210	43,830	33,970	27,290

The total number of bus passengers in the week ending 20 December 2020 was 20% lower compared with the previous week and was 69% lower than in the comparable week of 2019 (22 December 2019).

Figure 5 shows the weekly total number of bus passengers in 2020 and the comparable weeks in 2019.

**Figure 5 – Total weekly bus passengers; 2019 and 2020**



## Notes

### 1. Data Sources

Customer and Local Services (CLS) are the principal data source for the following sections: Registered Actively Seeking Work (ASW), Income Support, Coronavirus Government Co-Funded Payroll Scheme, COVID-Related Emergency Support Scheme.

The Public Registry online “PRIDE” database is the principal data source for Royal Court housing activity. This data is supplemented by information on the type and size of each property sourced from estate agent advertisement brochures and planning documents, as well as information provided by the Island’s Parishes and Customer and Local Services.

Treasury and Exchequer are the principal data source for the Business Disruption Loan Guarantee Scheme.

Growth, Housing and Environment are the principal data source for road and public transport usage.

### 2. Registered Actively Seeking Work

The number of people registered as ASW includes all people who are registered with Back to Work. The ASW total will also include individuals who are working fewer than the 35 hours per week required under the terms of Income Support; such individuals will simultaneously be working and registered as Actively Seeking Work. Individuals who are ASW and claiming via CRESS are given separately for comparability, as before this scheme there would have been no obligation for these individuals to register.

When placing the figures contained in this report in a longer-term historical context it should be recognised that there have been significant changes in the criteria relating to registered ASW in Jersey in recent years. In particular, the introduction of Income Support in 2008 led to greater numbers of individuals who were actively seeking work being included in the registered figures.

People who are registered as Actively Seeking Work receive the support of Back to Work, including targeted support specifically for young people aged 16-24 years, those who are long term unemployed or those who have other barriers to employment. There is also industry-specific support as well for those who are closer to employment.

In addition to the above, some individuals registered as ASW will be assisted by the Jersey Employment Trust (JET), a registered charity whose role is to assist people with a disability to prepare, find and maintain employment.

As well as the development and expansion of the above schemes, Back to Work is responsible for:

- the Employment Incentive
- a dedicated Back to Work Recruitment team
- industry and employer specific initiatives

The aim of Back to Work is to increase access to job opportunities for locally qualified people who are registered as Actively Seeking Work by supporting jobseekers and building a partnership with employers to provide sustainable job opportunities.

All figures presented in this report, are based on the non-seasonally adjusted measures.

### 3. Key features of the Business Disruption Loan Guarantee Scheme

- the Government of Jersey underwrites 80% of lending under the Scheme up to the value of £50 million
- credit is only extended to businesses which are considered viable were it not for Covid-19 related disruption, in line with a prescribed questionnaire and the bank's own judgement
- applications for finance must be to support a business's working capital and will not involve extensions to existing facilities, re-financing or asset financing
- the Scheme is open to all local businesses. Credit extended under the Scheme will be between £5,000 and £500,000 per business. The term of any credit facility under the Scheme must be no more than 6 years, with a maximum of 3 years for overdrafts
- if the lending is below £250,000 it can be unsecured. If the lending is above £250,000, the bank will establish a lack, or absence, of sufficient security prior to an applicant using the Scheme
- the maximum interest rate a bank can charge under the Scheme is 4.5% above the Bank of England base rate (currently 0.1%)
- the Scheme originally excluded businesses in certain sectors and all businesses with a turnover greater than £10 million. These restrictions have subsequently been removed, this being announced on 15 May 2020

*Statistics Jersey*  
*24 December 2020*