Levelling down: The medium term local economic impact of coronavirus

SUMMARY

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By Amy Norman and Kathryn Petrie

There has been a considerable amount of research conducted into the short-term economic implications of coronavirus but very little on which areas and groups will be impacted beyond 2020 and how. This paper analyses which industries, places and groups face the greatest economic risk over the medium-term period (2020-2023).

KEY POINTS

- Different sectors will face different levels of disruption. Employment in those sectors is unevenly distributed by geography and demography, so some locations and some groups of people face much greater economic risks than others.
- The places that face the greatest impact from the downturn are largely in the more affluent South East and London:

Top 10 highest impact areas (NUTS3)

- Camden and City of London
- Kingston and Chelsea and Hammersmith and Fulham
- Lambeth
- East Lancashire
- Hounslow and Richmond upon **Thames**
- Ealing
- Tower Hamlets
- Westminster
- Swindon
- West Essex

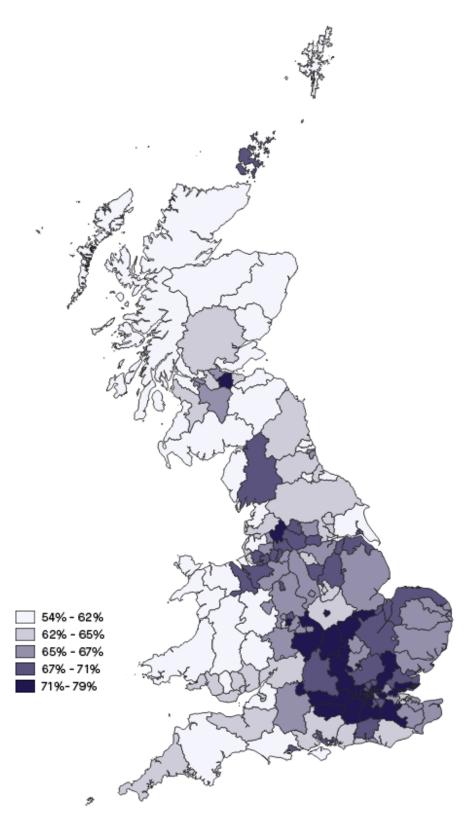
However, an area's recovery from disruption will depend on local resilience and pre-crisis levels of economic output and employment. Taking that into account, the places with most to fear from the downturn are elsewhere:

Top 10 severely impacted areas with the highest pre-crisis unemployment (NUTS3)

- Kingston upon Hull, City of
- Bradford
- Walsall
- Manchester
- Peterborough

- Lambeth
- Thurrock
- **Brent**
- Redbridge and Waltham Forest
- Sandwell

Figure 1: Proportion of jobs facing a moderate or severe impact



Source: SMF analysis of NOMIS data (2020) Note: Comparative data does not exist for Northern Ireland hence its exclusion

Highest impact areas (NUTS3)

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NUTS3 area	Region	Proportion of jobs in moderate & severe	
Camden and City of London	London	79%	
Kensington & Chelsea and Hammersmith & Fulham	London	79%	
Lambeth	London	78%	
East Lancashire	North West	78%	
Hounslow and Richmond upon Thames	London	76%	
Ealing	London	75%	
Tower Hamlets	London	75%	
Westminster	London	74%	
Swindon	South West	74%	
West Essex	East of England	74%	
Thurrock	East of England	74%	
Haringey and Islington	London	73%	
Luton	East of England	73%	
Hackney and Newham	London	73%	
Berkshire	South East	73%	
Harrow and Hillingdon	London	73%	
Warwickshire	West Midlands	73%	
Wandsworth	London	73%	
Leicester	East Midlands	72%	
West Northamptonshire	East Midlands	72%	
West Kent	South East	72%	
West Surrey	South East	72%	
East Surrey	South East	72%	
Redbridge and Waltham Forest	London	72%	
West Lothian	Scotland	71%	
North Northamptonshire	East Midlands	71%	
Buckinghamshire CC	South East	71%	
Sandwell	West Midlands	71%	
Merton, Kingston upon Thames and Sutton	London	71%	
Bexley and Greenwich	London	71%	
Milton Keynes	South East	71%	
Essex Thames Gateway	East of England	71%	
North Hampshire	South East	71%	
Peterborough	East of England	71%	
East Cumbria	North West	71%	
Southend-on-Sea	East of England	70%	
Bournemouth and Poole	South West	70%	
Hertfordshire	East of England	70%	

Calderdale and Kirklees	Yorkshire & the Humber	70%
Heart of Essex	East of England	69%
East Derbyshire	East Midlands	69%
North Nottinghamshire	East Midlands	69%
Manchester	North West	69%
Greater Manchester South West	North West	69%
Wakefield	Yorkshire & the Humber	69%
Brent	London	69%
Warrington	North West	69%
Bromley	London	69%
South Hampshire	South East	69%
Kingston upon Hull, City of	Yorkshire & the Humber	68%
Stoke-on-Trent	West Midlands	68%
Cambridgeshire CC	East of England	68%
Walsall	West Midlands	68%
Flintshire and Wrexham	Wales	68%
Bradford	Yorkshire & the Humber	68%
North and North East Lincolnshire	Yorkshire & the Humber	68%
Croydon	London	68%
Enfield	London	68%
Barnet	London	68%
North and West Norfolk	East of England	68%
Greater Manchester North East	North West	68%
Orkney Islands	Scotland	68%
Portsmouth	South East	68%
West Sussex (North East)	South East	68%
Cheshire West and Chester	North West	67%
East Merseyside	North West	67%
Oxfordshire	South East	67%
Wolverhampton	West Midlands	67%
Staffordshire CC	West Midlands	67%
Central Bedfordshire	East of England	67%
Cheshire East	North West	67%
Derby	East Midlands	67%
Falkirk	Scotland	67%
Mid Kent	South East	67%
Lewisham and Southwark	London	67%
Leeds	Yorkshire & the Humber	67%
Solihull	West Midlands	67%
Birmingham	West Midlands	67%
Greater Manchester North West	North West	67%
Kent Thames Gateway	South East	67%
Barking & Dagenham and Havering	London	67%
Worcestershire	West Midlands	66%

Bedford	East of England	66%
Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham	Yorkshire & the Humber	66%
Suffolk	East of England	66%
Telford and Wrekin	West Midlands	66%
Coventry	West Midlands	66%
South and West Derbyshire	East Midlands	66%
Southampton	South East	66%
Norwich and East Norfolk	East of England	66%
Brighton and Hove	South East	66%
Essex Haven Gateway	East of England	65%
Blackburn with Darwen	North West	65%
East Kent	South East	65%
Lincolnshire	East Midlands	65%
Wiltshire	South West	65%
Greater Manchester South East	North West	65%
Glasgow City	Scotland	65%
Sunderland	North East	65%
South Lanarkshire	Scotland	65%
Breckland and South Norfolk	East of England	65%
Somerset	South West	65%
North Lanarkshire	Scotland	65%
Medway	South East	65%
Swansea	Wales	65%
Gloucestershire	South West	65%
Monmouthshire and Newport	Wales	65%
Torbay	South West	65%
Liverpool	North West	64%
Dudley	West Midlands	64%
Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	South West	64%
Edinburgh, City of	Scotland	64%
Leicestershire CC and Rutland	East Midlands	64%
Central Hampshire	South East	64%
Durham CC	North East	64%
Sefton	North West	64%
North Yorkshire CC	Yorkshire & the Humber	64%
East Sussex CC	South East	64%
Northumberland	North East	64%
Nottingham	East Midlands	64%
Bristol, City of	South West	63%
York	Yorkshire & the Humber	63%
Perth & Kinross and Stirling	Scotland	63%
Sheffield	Yorkshire & the Humber	63%
South Nottinghamshire	East Midlands	63%
Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan	Wales	63%

Blackpool	North West	63%
Gwent Valleys	Wales	63%
Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees	North East	63%
East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland	Scotland	63%
Plymouth	South West	63%
Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot	Wales	63%
West Sussex (South West)	South East	63%
Mid Lancashire	North West	62%
Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire	South West	62%
Isle of Wight	South East	62%
Devon CC	South West	62%
Chorley and West Lancashire	North West	62%
Tyneside	North East	62%
Clackmannanshire and Fife	Scotland	62%
Inverness & Nairn and Moray, Badenoch & Strathspey	Scotland	62%
East Lothian and Midlothian	Scotland	62%
Herefordshire, County of	West Midlands	62%
Scottish Borders	Scotland	61%
Shropshire CC	West Midlands	61%
Darlington	North East	61%
East Riding of Yorkshire	Yorkshire & the Humber	61%
Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire	Scotland	61%
Shetland Islands	Scotland	61%
South Teesside	North East	61%
Dorset CC	South West	60%
Wirral	North West	60%
East Dunbartonshire, West Dunbartonshire and Helensburgh & Lomond	Scotland	60%
Dumfries & Galloway	Scotland	60%
Angus and Dundee City	Scotland	60%
Central Valleys	Wales	60%
Lancaster and Wyre	North West	59%
Caithness & Sutherland and Ross & Cromarty	Scotland	59%
South West Wales	Wales	59%
West Cumbria	North West	59%
Lochaber, Skye & Lochalsh, Arran & Cumbrae and Argyll & Bute	Scotland	59%
Powys	Wales	58%
Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire	Scotland	58%
Na h-Eileanan Siar (Western Isles)	Scotland	58%
Gwynedd	Wales	58%
Conwy and Denbighshire	Wales	57%
South Ayrshire	Scotland	57%
Isle of Anglesey	Wales	54%