

# London Activity Monitor

July 2021

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### Summary



#### **London Activity Monitor July 2021**

A review of high frequency data impacting the London economy.

- Continued strong recovery in the London economy.
- FTSE has fallen slightly in recent weeks.
- Gradual recovery in Underground journeys but still below 2019 levels.
- Journeys to work remain low.
- Air traffic recovers around the globe but not in London.
- Road congestion above pre-pandemic levels.
- Luxury hotel occupancy and room revenues remain low but highest since March 2020.

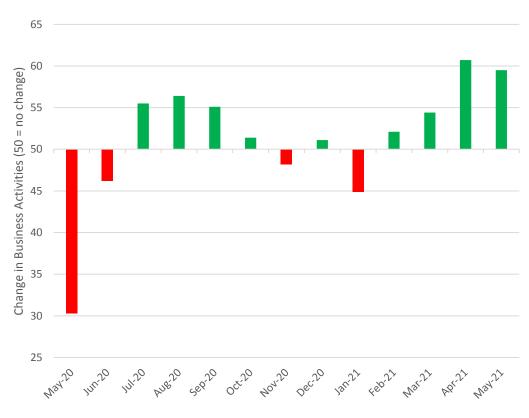
#### **Key London Indicators**

	Trendline	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Monthly-on-month change	Year-on-year change
Monthly UK GDP Index		78.8	86	92.2	94.3	95.5	96.3	94.2	95.1	92.7	93.3	95.3	97.5	98.1	0.6%	24.5%
London PMI		30.3	46.2	55.5	56.4	55.1	51.4	48.2	51.1	44.9	52.1	54.4	60.7	59.5	-1.2	29.2
London Unemployment		5.1%	4.6%	5.0%	5.3%	6.0%	6.3%	6.9%	7.0%	7.2%	7.2%	6.8%	6.5%	6.5%	0.0%	1.9%
UK Consumer Confidence	Illinillini	-34	-34	-30	-27	-25	-31	-33	-26	-28	-23	-16	-15	-9	6.0	25.0
London House Price Index		116.8	118.9	119.9	121.3	122.4	121.0	123.1	123.6	124.7	122.6	124.6	122.1	123.6	1.3%	5.9%

# Strong growth in London's economy continues



### **London Purchasing Managers Index**



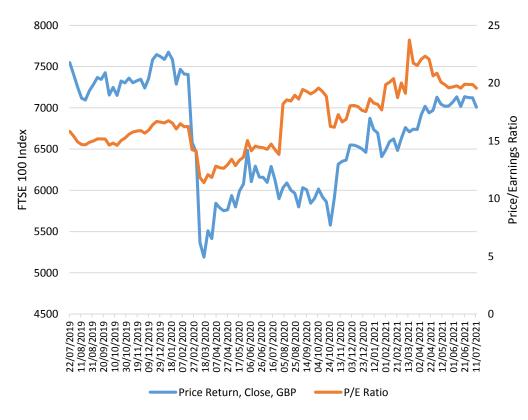
- Growth in London's economy eases slightly but remains at elevated levels.
- Cost pressures and staff shortages persist as main problems for Businesses in London.

Source: NatWest

### FTSE has fallen slightly in recent weeks



#### FTSE 100 Index



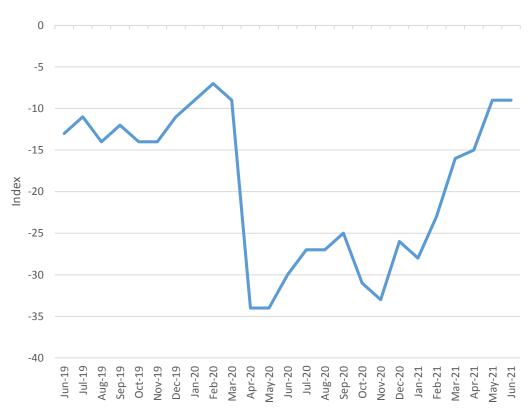
Source: Macrobond

- In recent weeks the FTSE100 has fallen slightly due to concerns regarding the increase in Covid infections because of the Delta variant.
- Despite the recent weakness the stock market has risen considerably this year.
- The FTSE price earnings ratio (PE Ratio) suggests stocks are marginally more expensive than the long-run average although they are not as expensive as the peak in March 2021.
- Adjusting this measure for variations in the cycle and trends in inflation then the PE Ratio is close to its long-term average suggesting that stocks are fairly valued.

# Consumer confidence unchanged

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#### **GfK Consumer Confidence**



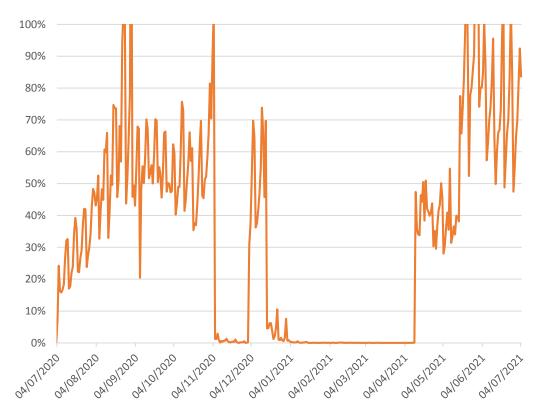
- UK Consumer confidence stabilised last month.
- Confidence still above pre-pandemic levels.

Source: GfK

### Restaurant reservations slightly impacted by social distancing



#### OpenTable Reservations Relative to 2019

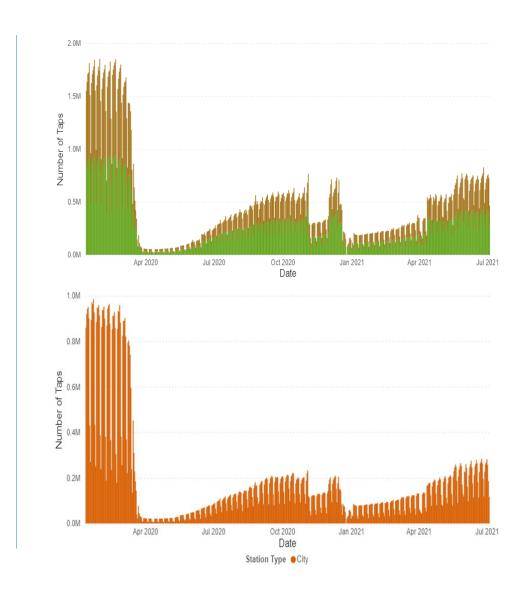


- OpenTable data shows that restaurant table bookings have returned to prepandemic levels.
- Despite a spike in reservations after lockdown lifting, the number of bookings has decreased slightly in July.
- Current social distancing measures restrict restaurants operating at full capacity.

Source: OpenTable

### Underground journeys to Central London below 2019 levels





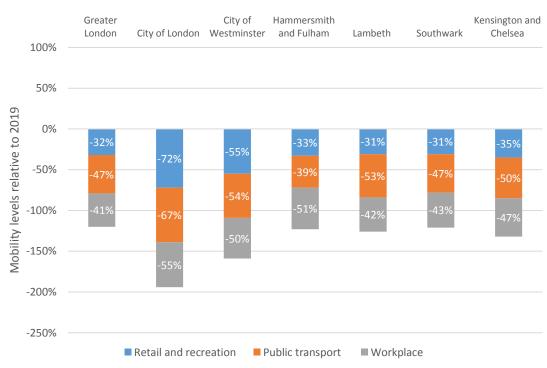
- Tube data shows tube journeys are significantly below pre-pandemic levels.
- The number of 'taps' at West End (top chart) stations is higher than the City (bottom chart) because of the increase in retail footfall.

Source: Transport for London

### Journeys to work remain low



#### Covid-19 Google Mobility Report



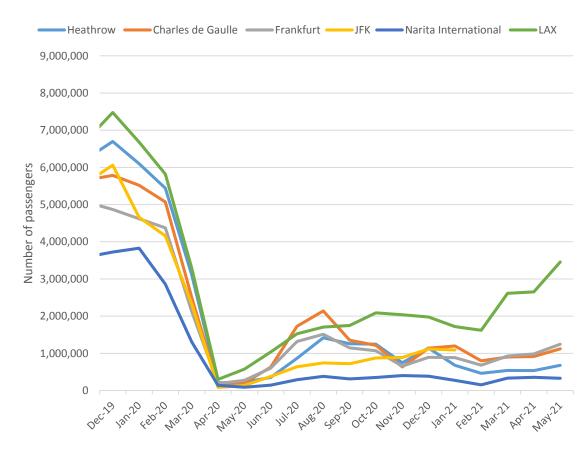
Source: Transport for London

- No. of journeys to the workplace in Greater London are c.41% lower than before the pandemic.
- A similar pattern has been observed since the beginning of the pandemic across all Central London boroughs.
- City of London and City of Westminster continue to have amongst the lowest mobility to the workplace of Central London boroughs.

### International visits to London remain low



### **Airport Traffic Statistics**



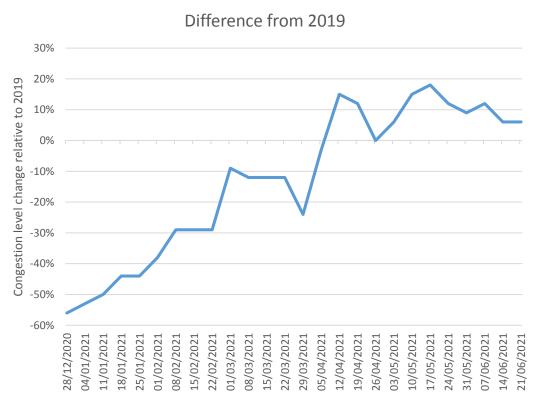
Sources: Heathrow Airport, JFK Airport, Charles de Gaulle Airport, Frankfurt Airport, Narita International Airport, Los Angeles International Airport

- Journeys to Heathrow remain at a low level due to strict border controls.
- Other global airports including New York (JFK), Paris (Charles de Gaulle) and Frankfurt airports have seen small increases in international visits.
- Los Angeles (LAX) has seen a strong rise in Airport traffic.

## Road congestion above pre-pandemic levels



#### TomTom Congestion Levels



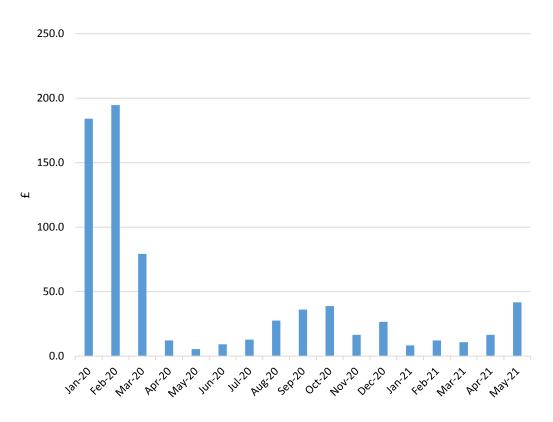
- Congestion has been gradually decreasing since May.
- But congestion levels across London are currently above 2019 pre-pandemic levels.

Source: TomTom

### Hotel occupancy and room revenues remain low



London Hotels - Total Revenue per Available Room (TRevPar)



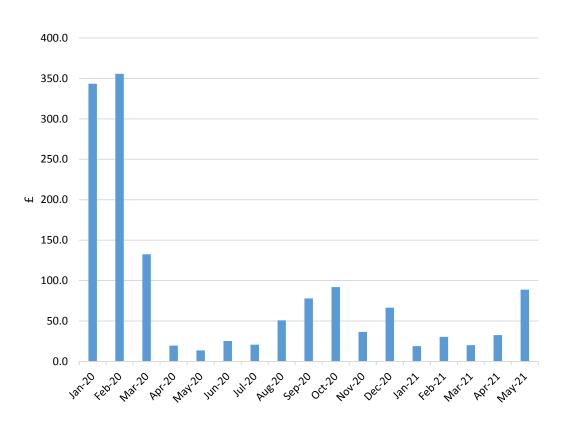
- Hotel occupancy slightly recovered in May but is still significantly below prepandemic levels.
- Total revenue per available room remains low c. £50 but is at the highest level since March 2020.

Source: Knight Frank, HotStats

## Luxury hotel occupancy and room revenues remain low



London Luxury Hotels - Total Revenue per Available Room (TRevPar)



- Luxury Hotels follow the same pattern of recovery.
- Total revenue per available room has been rising throughout 2021 and is currently £100 – the highest level since March 2020.

Source: Knight Frank, HotStats



# We like questions

**GFT IN TOUCH** 

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#### **FURTHER READING**





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