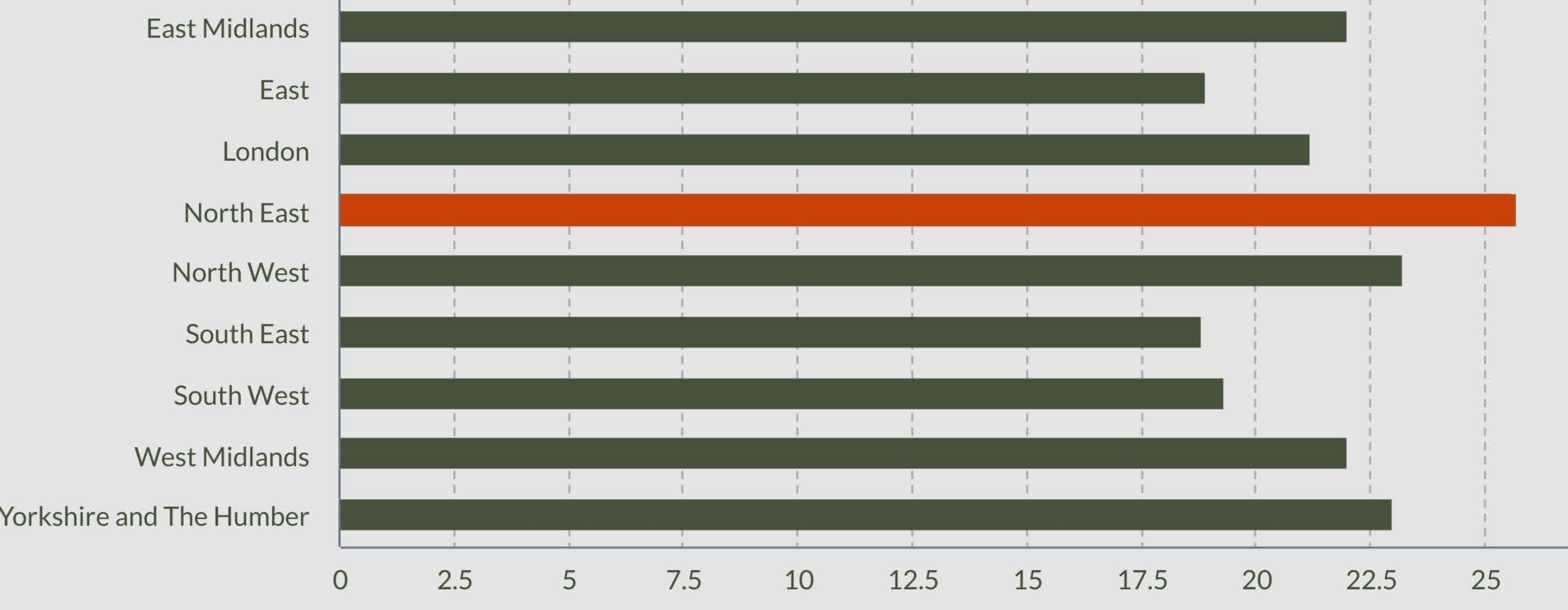


# Economic Inactivity and the State of Mental Health in Tees Valley


In 2023, the North-East ranked highest in Economic Inactivity in the UK



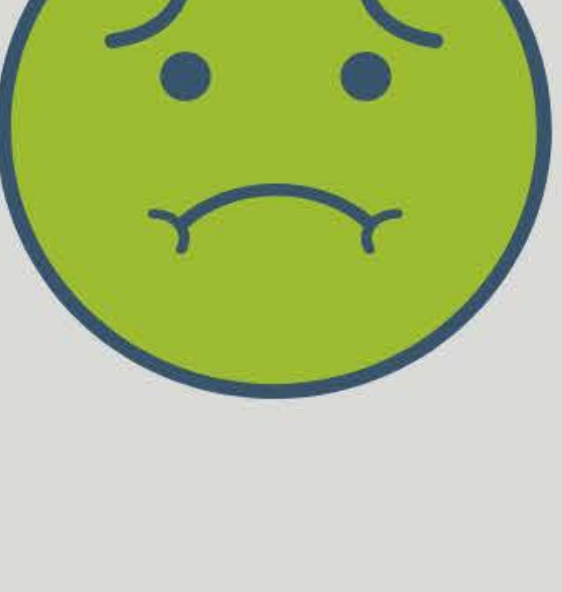
**25.6%** of people in the North east are economically inactive which is the highest in the UK.

**Economic inactivity** is a situation in which individuals of working age (16 - 64) are not actively participating in the labour market.


## Reasons for Economic Inactivity




**Student:** high school students and students in the university or any form of training courses.




**Long-Term Sick**  
People medically deemed unfit to carry out labour or full time employment




**Discouraged**  
People that are discouraged to work or involve in full time employment because they believe that there are no available jobs.



**Temporary Sickness**  
people who are economically inactive due to short-term sicknesses.



**Retired**  
Economically inactive people due to reaching retirement age or other retirement circumstances.

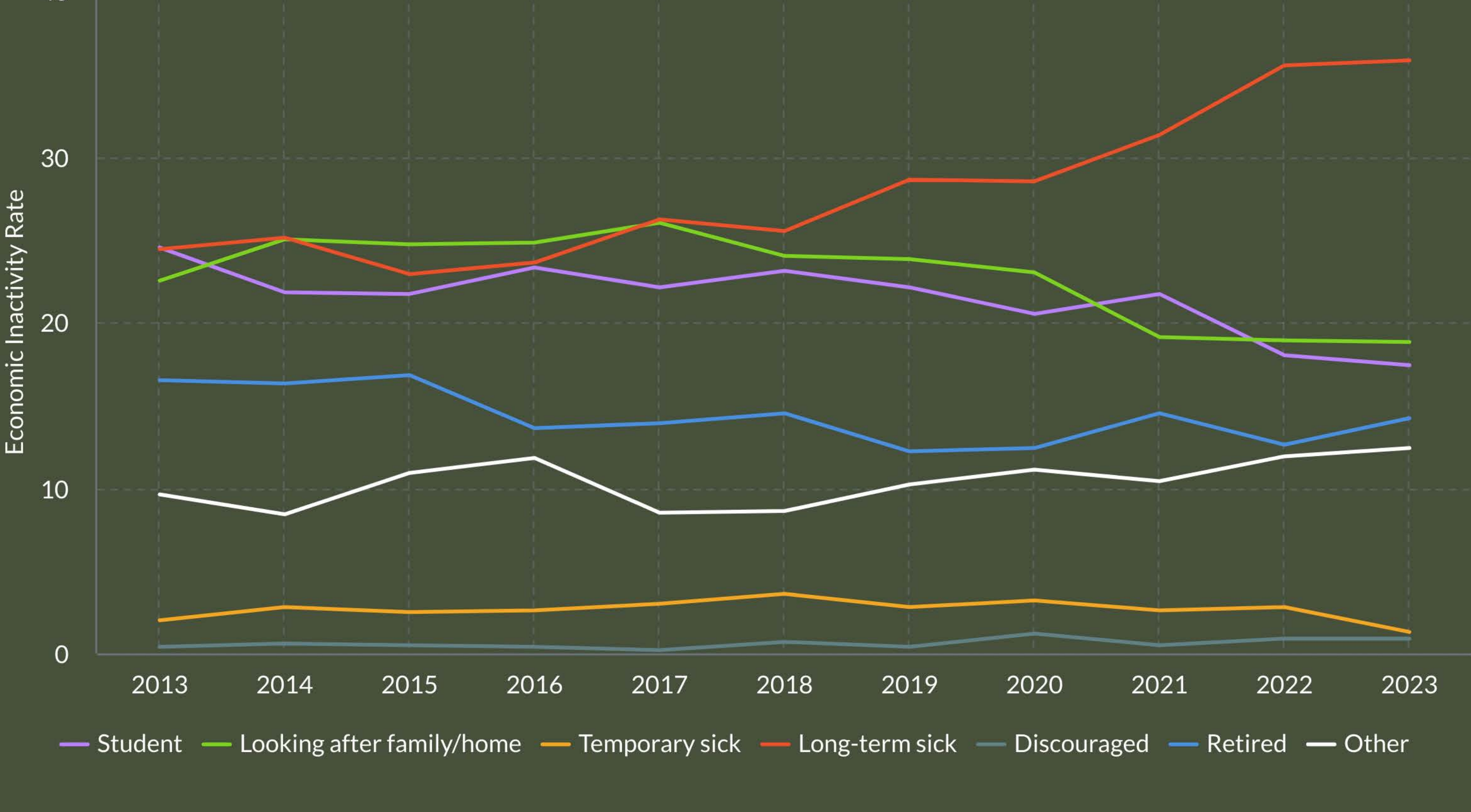


**Looking After Family/Home**  
People that stay at home to care for family members of their family.

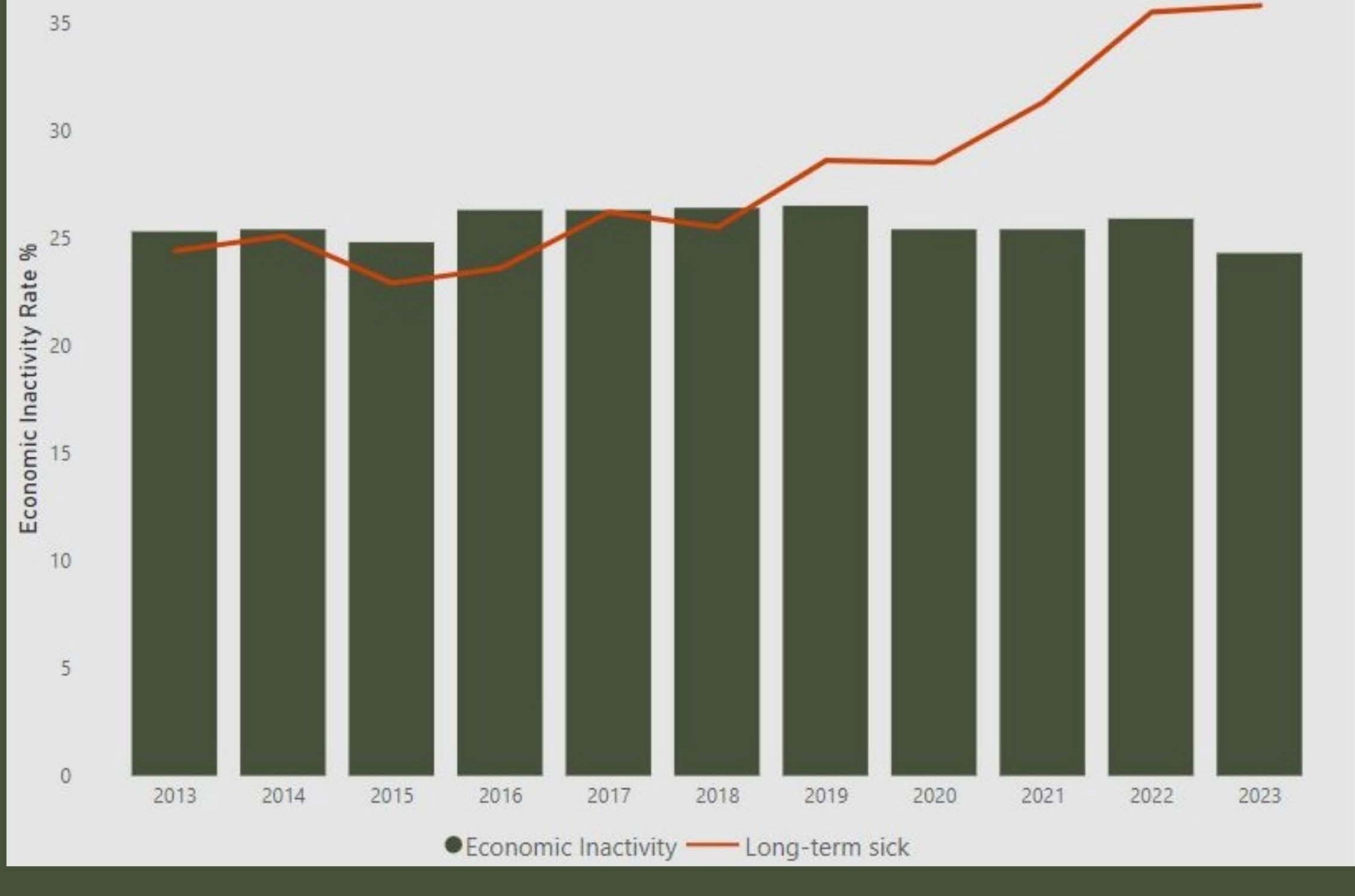
• • • **Others:** includes people looking for work, waiting for outcomes of interview, or no real reason for being economically inactive.


Long-Term Sickness has risen significantly over the last three years in Tees Valley

In the year ending June 2023, long-term sickness accounts for **35%** of the economic inactivity in Tees Valley

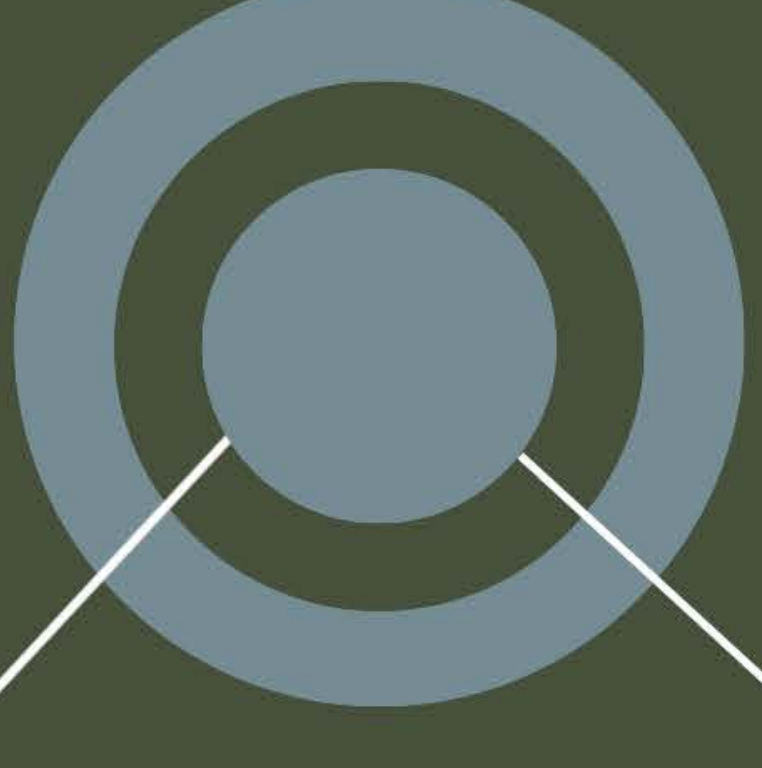


Although economic inactivity in Tees Valley region gradually reduces over the years, economic inactivity due to long term sickness continues to rise significantly.



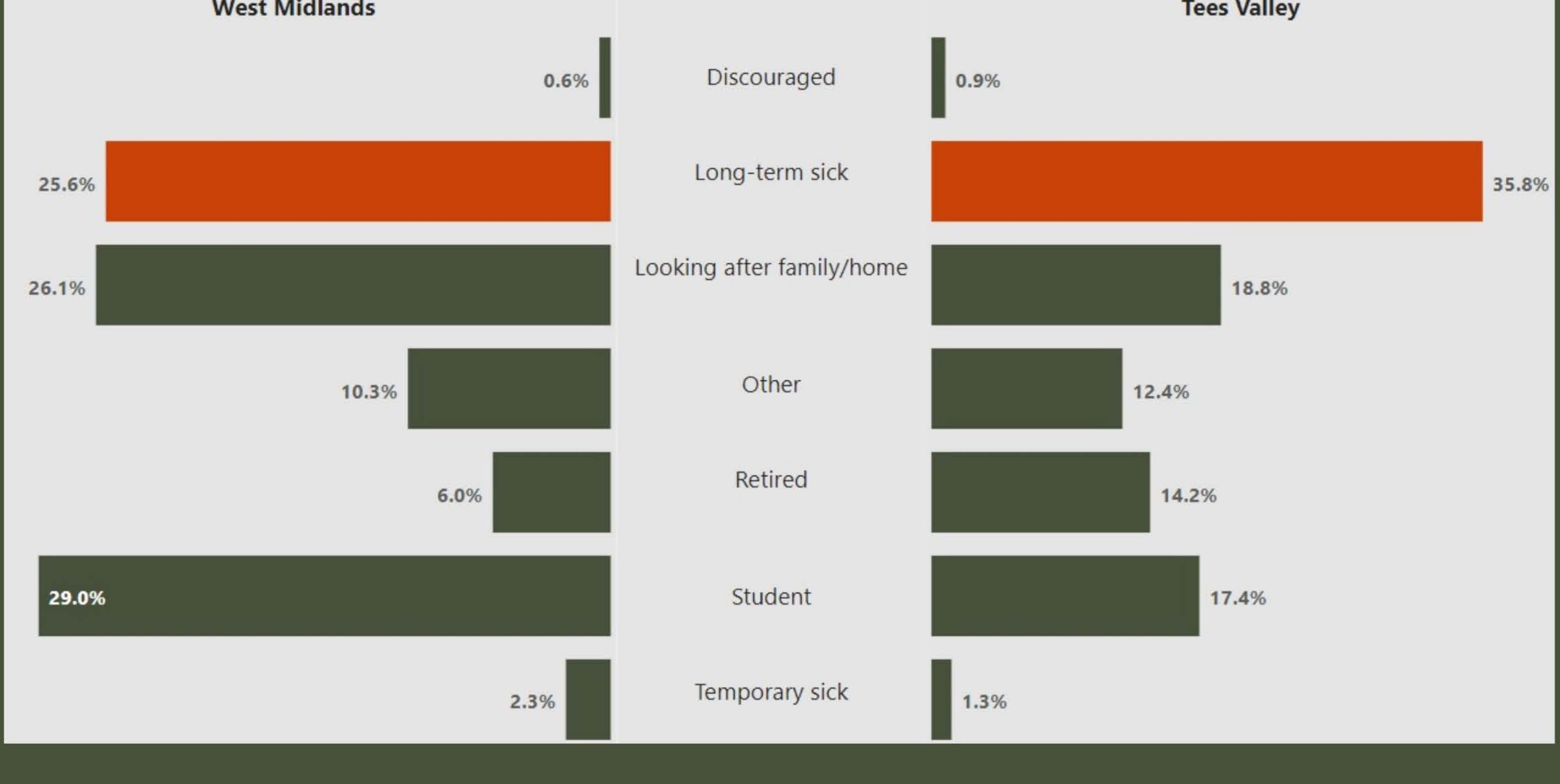


**38% of people** economically inactive due to long-term sickness reported having five or more health conditions -ONS

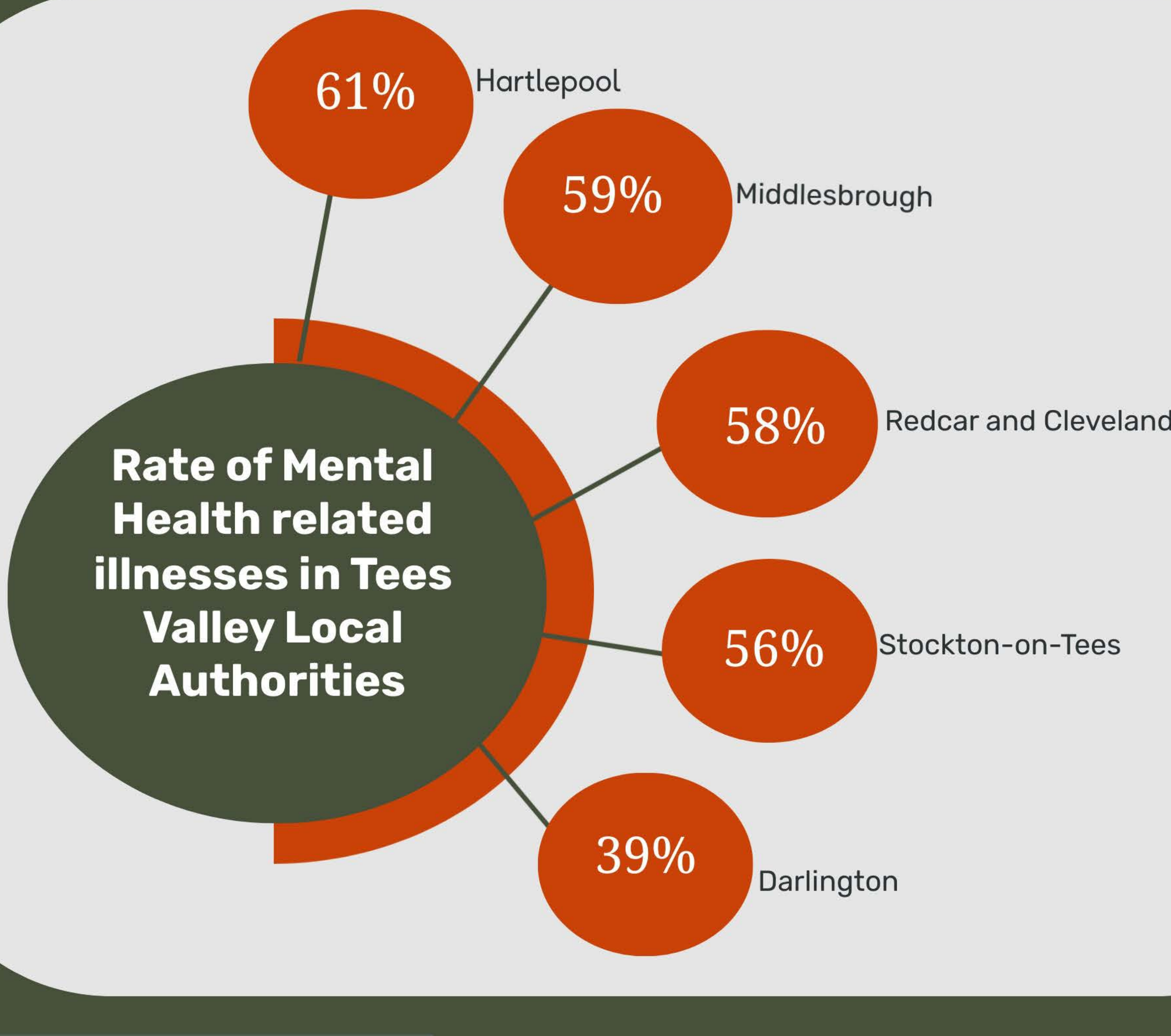



There has been a rise in the number of people economically inactive due to long-term sick since the start of COVID from **400K to 2.5M** -ONS

Tees Valley Combined Authority shows a higher percentage of economic inactivity due to long-term sickness compared to the West Midlands Combined Authority.




A closer look into the different local authorities in Tees Valley





**5 in 10 persons** economically inactive due to long-term sickness had mental health related conditions in the year ending June 2023.

**12%** UK working-age population reported depression, bad nerves or anxiety in 2023. - totalling over 5 million people -ONS



**CALL TO ACTION**

- Create more accessible support programs
- Attention to age of people living with mental health conditions to provide more specialized solutions
- Create career counselling programs