

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The claimant count decreased in July 2021 by 125 to 15,220 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 decreased by 100 to 2,770. Comparisons with March 2020, prior to the impact of the pandemic, show that the claimant count has increased by 6,915 or 83% and the number of claimants aged 18-24 has increased by 1,175 or 74%. Enhancements to Universal Credit as part of the UK government's response to the coronavirus mean that an increasing number of people became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still in work. Consequently, changes in the Claimant Count will not be wholly because of changes in the number of people who are not in work.

Area	Claimant Count	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	2,185	3.7%	-5	1,020	88%
Malvern Hills	1,645	3.7%	-40	720	78%
Redditch	2,720	5.2%	-0	1,185	77%
Worcester	3,105	4.8%	-90	1,325	74%
Wychavon	2,750	3.6%	30	1,430	108%
Wyre Forest	2,810	4.8%	-25	1,230	78%
Worcestershire	15,220	4.3%	-125	6,915	83%
West Midlands	237,380	6.5%	-1,440	93,030	64%
England	1,946,790	5.5%	-14,510	883,325	83%

Area	Claimant Count (18-24)	Rate (18-24)	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	420	7.0%	-5	205	95%
Malvern Hills	280	6.4%	-10	100	56%
Redditch	500	8.4%	-20	190	61%
Worcester	565	5.6%	-40	245	77%
Wychavon	495	6.3%	-15	235	90%
Wyre Forest	505	7.7%	-15	195	63%
Worcestershire	2,770	6.8%	-100	1,175	74%
West Midlands	44,420	8.5%	-1,320	16,515	59%
England	343,035	7.3%	-14,700	145,305	73%

About these statistics

1. The Claimant Count includes all Universal Credit claimants who are required to seek work and be available for work, as well as all Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) claimants. Under Universal Credit a broader span of claimants are required to look for work than under JSA. As Universal Credit Full Service is rolled out in particular areas, the number of people recorded as being on the Claimant Count is therefore likely to rise.
2. Enhancements to Universal Credit as part of the UK government's response to the coronavirus mean that an increasing number of people became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still employed. Consequently, changes in the Claimant Count will not be due wholly to changes in the number of people who are unemployed. It is not possible to identify to what extent people who are employed or unemployed have affected the numbers.
3. Claimant count rates or proportions express the number of claimants in an area/group as a percentage of the mid-2019 resident population in that area/group.
4. Individual figures are rounded to the nearest 5, and as a result may not sum to the rounded totals.
5. All data has been downloaded from [NOMIS](#). Links to other economic indicators can be found on the [Information on the Worcestershire Economy page](#) on the Worcestershire County Council website.

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