

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The claimant count decreased in July 2022 by 90 to 11,000 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 increased by 45 to 1,795. Comparisons with March 2020, prior to the impact of the pandemic, show that the claimant count has increased by 2,695 or 32% and the number of claimants aged 18-24 has increased by 200 or 13%. Enhancements to Universal Credit as part of the UK government's response to the Coronavirus meant that an increasing number of people became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still in work. Consequently, changes in the Claimant Count from April 2020 until October 2021 would not be wholly because of changes in the number of people who were not in work.

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	1,555	2.6%	30	390	33%
Malvern Hills	1,175	2.6%	-5	250	27%
Redditch	2,015	3.9%	0	480	31%
Worcester	2,315	3.6%	-50	535	30%
Wychavon	2,030	2.7%	-55	710	54%
Wyre Forest	1,915	3.3%	-5	335	21%
Worcestershire	11,000	3.1%	-90	2,695	32%
West Midlands	177,925	4.8%	-320	33,575	23%
England	1,328,175	3.8%	-7,585	264,670	25%

Area	Claimant Count 18-24	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	240	4.0%	15	25	12%
Malvern Hills	190	4.3%	-5	10	6%
Redditch	340	5.7%	0	30	10%
Worcester	380	3.7%	10	60	19%
Wychavon	325	4.1%	5	65	25%
Wyre Forest	325	5.0%	25	15	5%
Worcestershire	1,795	4.4%	45	200	13%
West Midlands	30,195	5.7%	625	2,290	8%
England	210,945	4.5%	4,120	13,215	7%

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 meant that an increasing number of people became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still employed. Consequently, changes in the Claimant Count between April 2020 and October 2021 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-2020 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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