

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The claimant count decreased in November 2021 by 265 to 13,025 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 decreased by 105 to 2,145. Comparisons with March 2020, prior to the impact of the pandemic, show that the claimant count has increased by 4,720 or 57% and the number of claimants aged 18-24 has increased by 550 or 34%. 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	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	1,900	3.2%	-50	735	63%
Malvern Hills	1,455	3.3%	-10	530	57%
Redditch	2,300	4.4%	-10	765	50%
Worcester	2,685	4.2%	-45	905	51%
Wychavon	2,340	3.1%	-75	1,020	77%
Wyre Forest	2,340	4.0%	-80	760	48%
Worcestershire	13,025	3.7%	-265	4,720	57%
West Midlands	207,985	5.7%	-3,370	63,635	44%
England	1,650,840	4.7%	-32,150	587,335	55%

Area	Claimant Count (18-24)	Rate (18-24)	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	325	5.4%	-20	110	51%
Malvern Hills	205	4.7%	-30	25	14%
Redditch	380	6.4%	-15	70	23%
Worcester	460	4.5%	-15	140	44%
Wychavon	380	4.8%	-25	120	46%
Wyre Forest	390	5.9%	-5	80	26%
Worcestershire	2,145	5.2%	-105	550	34%
West Midlands	36,400	6.9%	-1,075	8,495	30%
England	270,850	5.8%	-8,810	73,120	37%

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 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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