

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The claimant count decreased in October 2022 by 120 to 10,845 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 decreased by 15 to 1,870. The Worcestershire rate of 3.1% is lower than that of the West Midlands (4.8%) and England (3.7%).

Comparisons with March 2020, prior to the impact of the pandemic, show that the claimant count has increased by 2,540 or 31% and the number of claimants aged 18-24 has increased by 275 or 17%.

October 2022

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	1,495	2.5%	0	330	28%
Malvern Hills	1,130	2.5%	-15	205	22%
Redditch	2,000	3.8%	35	465	30%
Worcester	2,280	3.6%	-10	500	28%
Wychavon	2,015	2.7%	-30	695	53%
Wyre Forest	1,925	3.3%	40	345	22%
Worcestershire	10,845	3.1%	15	2,540	31%
West Midlands	175,005	4.8%	560	30,655	21%
England	1,303,055	3.7%	645	239,550	23%

October 2022

Area	Claimant Count 18-24	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	255	4.2%	5	40	19%
Malvern Hills	200	4.5%	-10	20	11%
Redditch	360	6.1%	15	50	16%
Worcester	375	3.7%	-10	55	17%
Wychavon	320	4.1%	-5	60	23%
Wyre Forest	360	5.5%	25	50	16%
Worcestershire	1,870	4.6%	20	275	17%
West Midlands	31,190	5.9%	610	3,285	12%
England	219,585	4.7%	5,135	21,855	11%

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.
2. The Universal Credit Full Service is now fully rolled in most areas of the UK for the majority of **new** claims. The pilot programme to accommodate existing tax credit and other legacy benefit claimants (those claiming housing benefit, income support, income-related Jobseeker's Allowance and income related employment and support allowance) was begun in July 2019 but was suspended due to pandemic. The pilot programme recommenced in May 2022.
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. The claimant count data is calculated on a monthly basis and is released in the first half of the following month. The data release shows the provisional figures for the latest full month's data and revised figures for the previous month. For example: the data release for August would show provisional claimant count figures for July and revised figures for June.
6. 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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