

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The claimant count increased in June 2023 by 160 to 10,870 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 decreased by 10 to 1,855. The Worcestershire rate (Ages 16-64) of 3.0% is lower than that of the West Midlands (4.9%) and England (3.8%).

Comparisons with March 2020, prior to the impact of the pandemic, show that the claimant count has increased by 2,565 or 31% and the number of claimants aged 18-24 has increased by 260 or 16%.

June 2023

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	1,460	2.5%	25	295	25%
Malvern Hills	1,180	2.6%	10	255	28%
Redditch	1,990	3.7%	10	455	30%
Worcester	2,400	3.6%	55	620	35%
Wychavon	1,990	2.5%	10	670	51%
Wyre Forest	1,855	3.1%	55	275	17%
Worcestershire	10,870	3.0%	160	2,565	31%
West Midlands	181,655	4.9%	2,105	37,305	26%
England	1,342,570	3.8%	21,595	279,065	26%

June 2023

Area	Claimant Count 18-24	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	250	4.1%	10	35	16%
Malvern Hills	180	3.7%	0	0	0%
Redditch	375	6.2%	0	65	21%
Worcester	420	4.1%	15	100	31%
Wychavon	325	4.0%	-20	65	25%
Wyre Forest	305	4.6%	-15	-5	-2%
Worcestershire	1,855	4.4%	-10	260	16%
West Midlands	33,070	6.6%	310	5,165	19%
England	227,085	4.8%	1,570	29,355	15%

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-2021 resident population estimates 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.

Research Team: 01905 846800

research@worcestershire.gov.uk