

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The Claimant Count reduced in May 2025 by 10 to 11,295 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 increased by 5 to 2,105. The Worcestershire rate (Ages 16-64) of 3.1% is lower than that of the West Midlands (5.5%) and England (4.2%).

In May 2024, the Department for Work and Pensions increased the administrative earnings threshold for full work search conditionality. This change increased the Claimant Count at the time of the change. This will impact the 'change on last year' figures.

May 2025 (Claimants aged 16-64)

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change on last year
Bromsgrove	1,495	2.5%	-35	70
Malvern Hills	1,110	2.4%	20	20
Redditch	2,115	3.9%	-5	60
Worcester	2,500	3.7%	25	15
Wychavon	2,110	2.7%	-45	-15
Wyre Forest	1,960	3.3%	25	155
Worcestershire	11,295	3.1%	-10	310
West Midlands	207,710	5.5%	2,655	23,135
England	1,524,415	4.2%	24,200	125,290

May 2025 (Claimants aged 18-24)

Area	Claimant Count 18-24	Rate	change on last month	change on last year
Bromsgrove	270	4.4%	-5	40
Malvern Hills	185	3.8%	5	-5
Redditch	425	7.0%	5	80
Worcester	495	4.9%	15	45
Wychavon	370	4.6%	-5	20
Wyre Forest	355	5.4%	-10	45
Worcestershire	2,105	5.0%	5	230
West Midlands	38,895	7.7%	210	3,925
England	265,665	5.7%	360	25,455

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. In May 2024, the Department for Work and Pensions increased the administrative earnings threshold for full work search conditionality. This change affected around 180,000 claimants nationally, increasing the Claimant Count at the time of the change. This policy change, along with two previous increases to the administrative earnings threshold in September 2022 and January 2023, represents discontinuities in the Claimant Count series.
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.

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