

Get Worcestershire Working Strategy



worcestershire
county council

Get Worcestershire Working

Summary

- Worcestershire has a strong labour market with high employment and relatively low unemployment and inactivity. Although PAYE real time information suggests a small reduction in employees since October 2024, online vacancies show signs of recovery in the first months of 2025.
- Despite relatively high proportions of those in employment being in professional occupations earnings are below average.
- There are variations between districts, with each district categorised as a different labour market type and also pockets of disadvantage within districts, with particularly high claimant count rates in Tardebigge, Gorse Hill and Warndon.
- The largest numbers of inactive people were amongst those aged 50-64 (26,800), those receiving out of work disability and health benefits (28,000) and those with no qualifications (18,300). (There will be overlap between these groups).
- Those at highest risk of being inactive was amongst those with bad or very bad health (75%), no qualifications (44%) or providing 50 or more hours of unpaid care (51%).
- The most common conditions amongst those unable to work due to sickness or disability were mental and behavioural disorders followed by diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue.
- Wards with high inactivity rates not explained by the student population are The Littletons, Tardebigge and Pickersleigh. Combined there are 2,600 economically inactive people living in these wards.

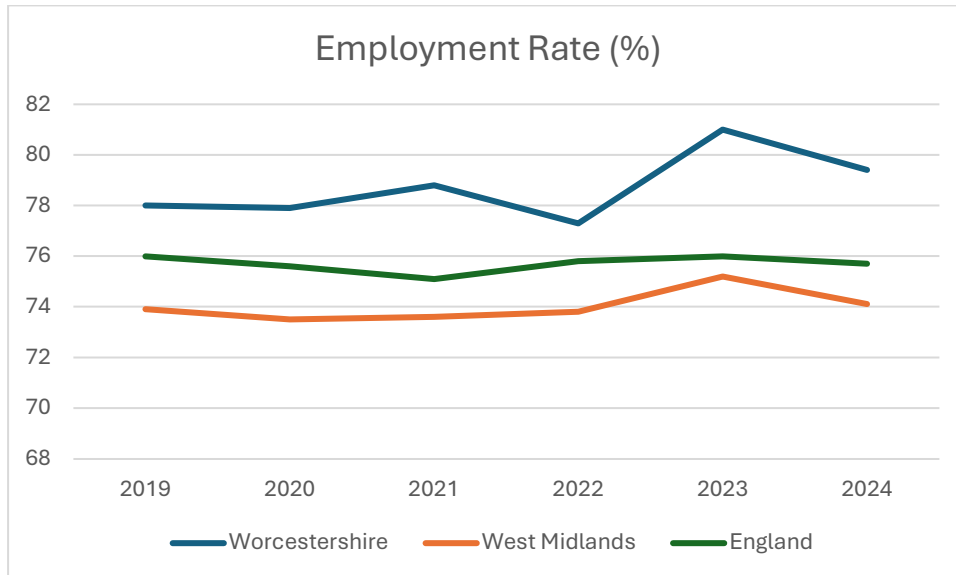
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Labour Market Analysis

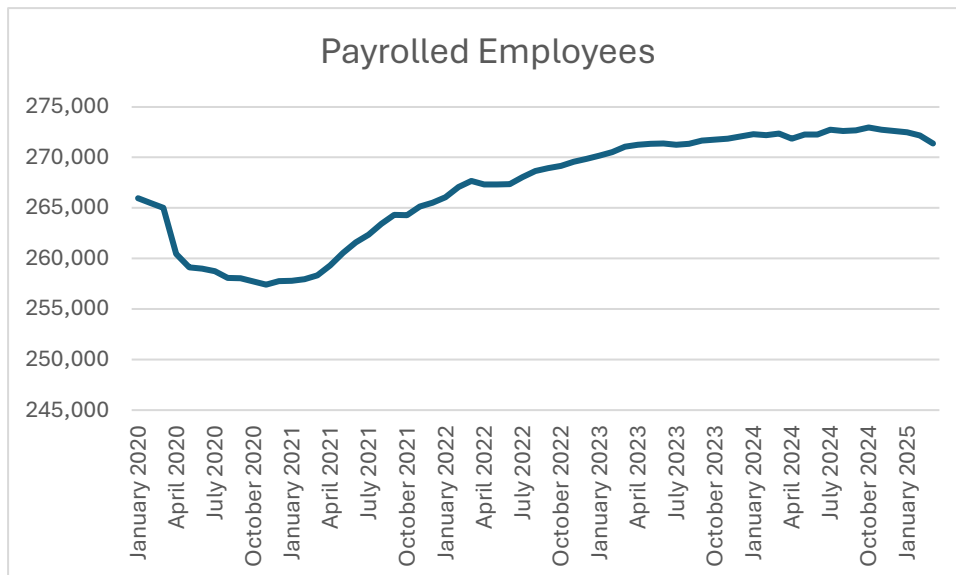
Employment

Although subject to sampling fluctuations, at 79.4% the employment rate in Worcestershire is above the regional and national average.



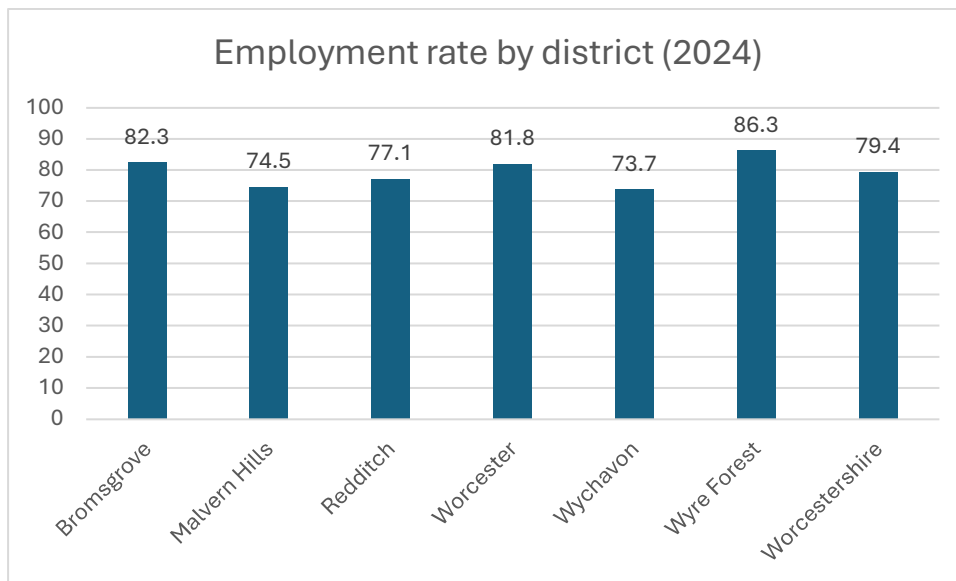
Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

PAYE real time information on employees living in Worcestershire shows small reductions in employees since October 2024, which may reflect a reluctance by employers to hire new employees.



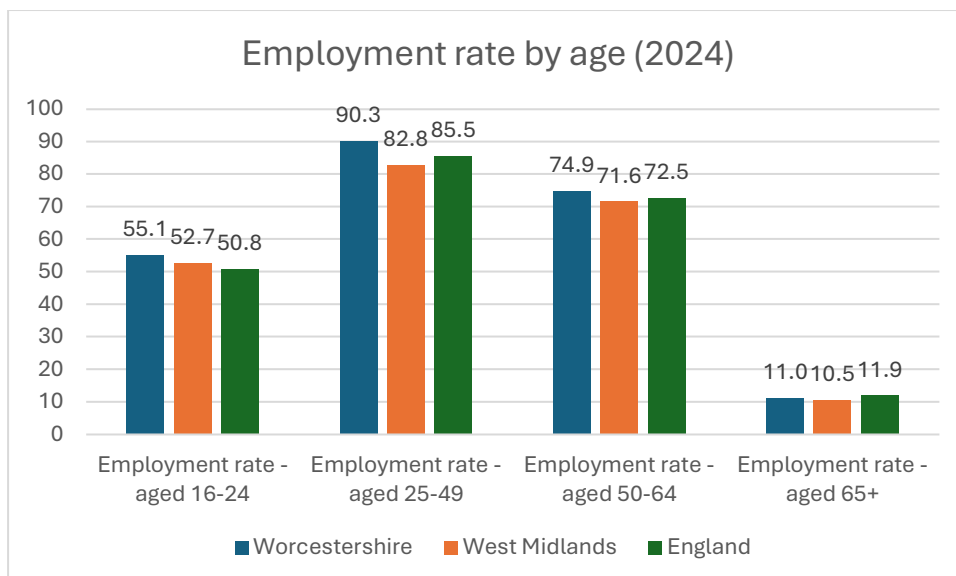
Source: [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, UK: April 2025 - Office for National Statistics](#)

Employment rates are estimated to be highest in Wyre Forest and lowest in Wychavon, although these differences are not statistically significant.



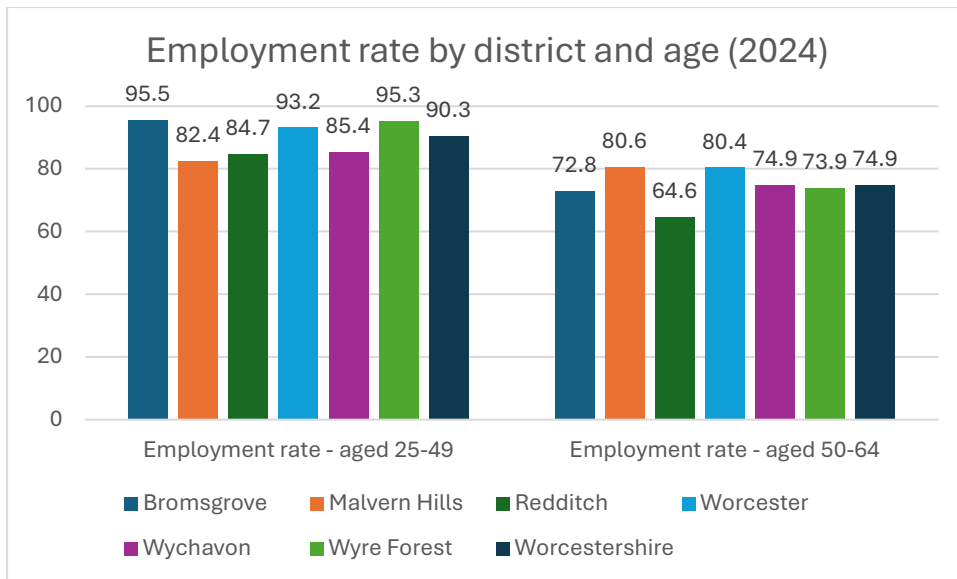
Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

Employment rates are highest for the 25-49 age group and are lower for older age groups.



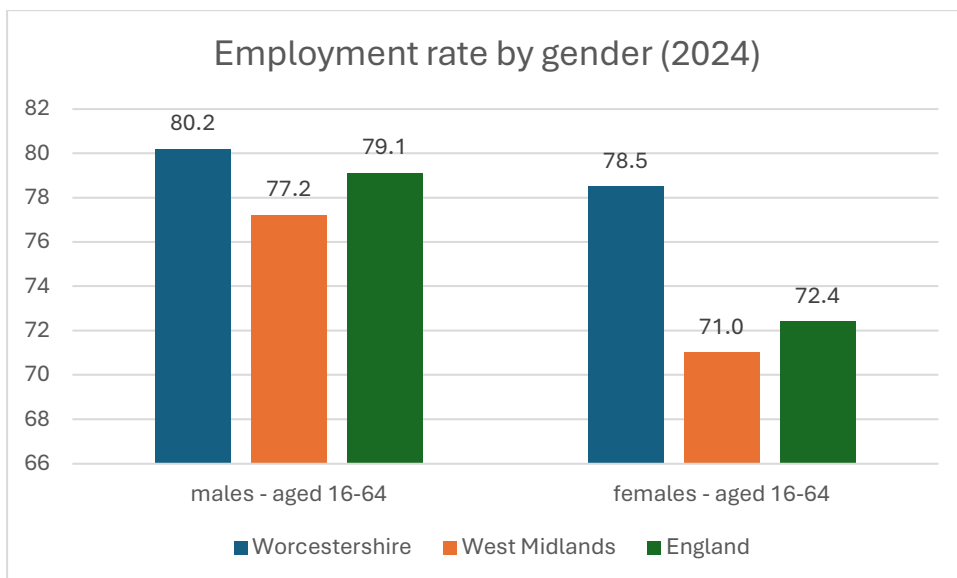
Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

Estimates of employment rate by district and age are not reliable for 16-24 and 65+ age groups and for Wyre Forest for 50-64 year olds due to small sample size. Malvern Hills has the lowest employment rate for the 25-49 year olds and Redditch has the lowest employment rate for the 50-64 year olds, although these differences are not statistically significant.



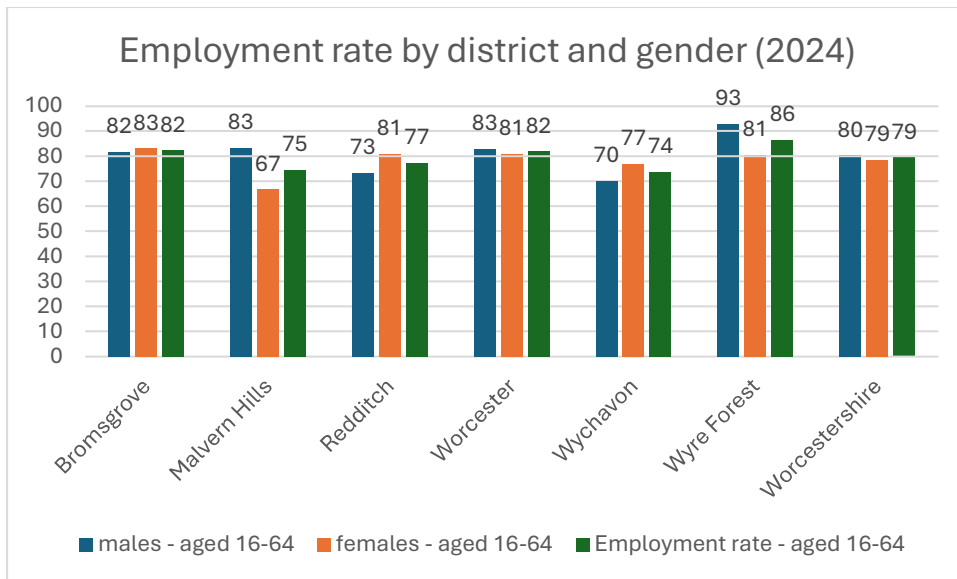
Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

Employment rates are higher for men than women, likely to reflect that more women undertake caring responsibilities.



Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

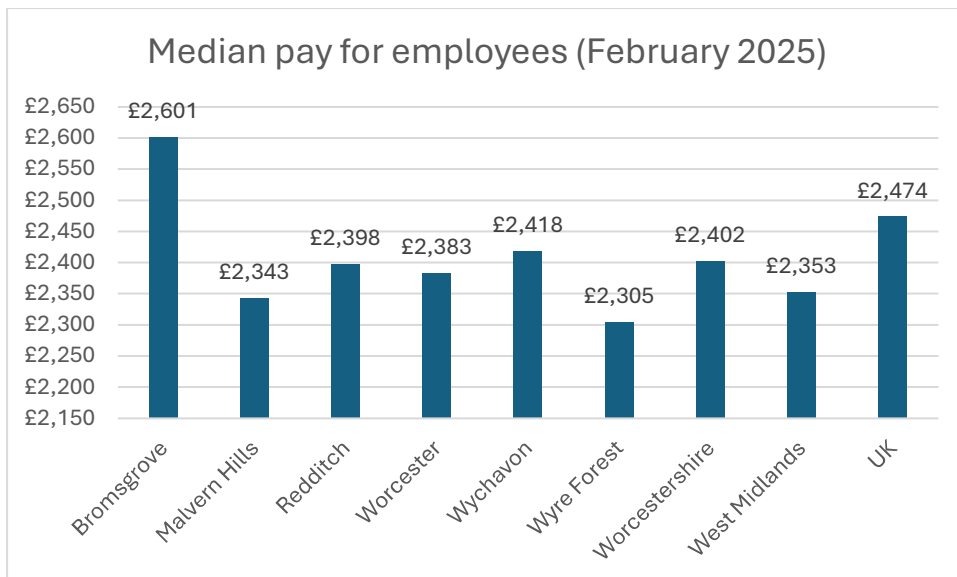
Malvern Hills District has the largest difference between male and female employment rates and Bromsgrove, Redditch, and Wychavon Districts have higher female than male employment rates – again none of these differences are statistically significant.



Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

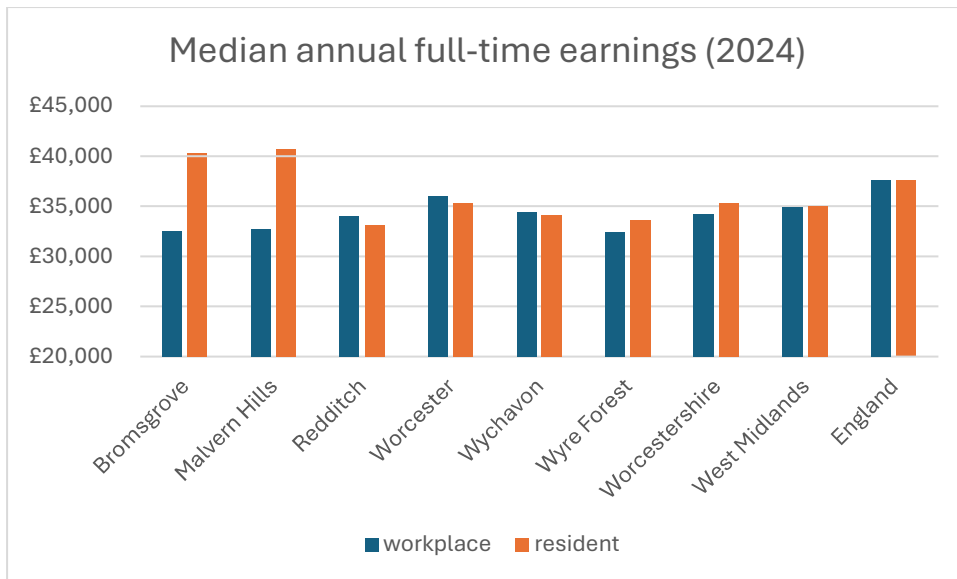
Earnings

Median pay for employees living in Worcestershire is highest in Bromsgrove and lowest in Wyre Forest.



Source: [Earnings and employment from Pay As You Earn Real Time Information, UK: April 2025 - Office for National Statistics](#)

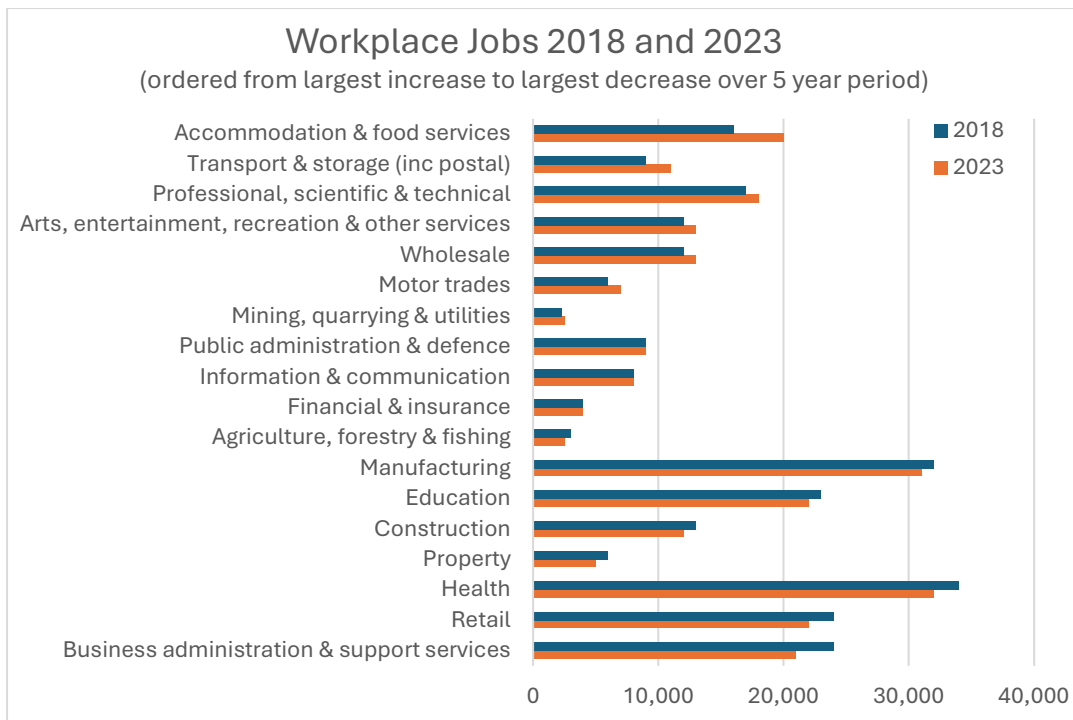
Data on workplace earnings suggests that although resident earnings are high in Bromsgrove and Malvern Hills, workplace earnings are below the Worcestershire average.



Source: Annual survey of hours and earnings (ONS)

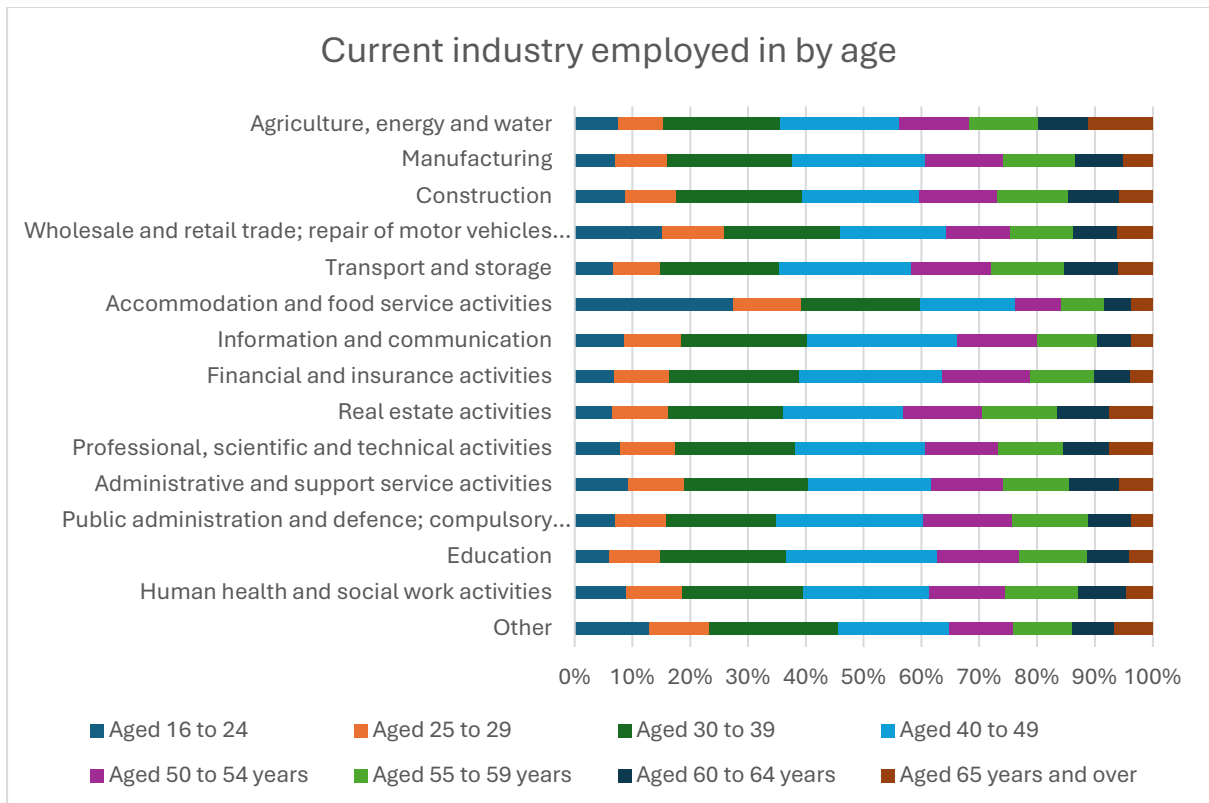
Sector

The highest number of workplace jobs are in Health and Manufacturing with the largest fall in jobs over the last 5 years in Business administration & support services.



Source: Business Register and Employment Survey (ONS)

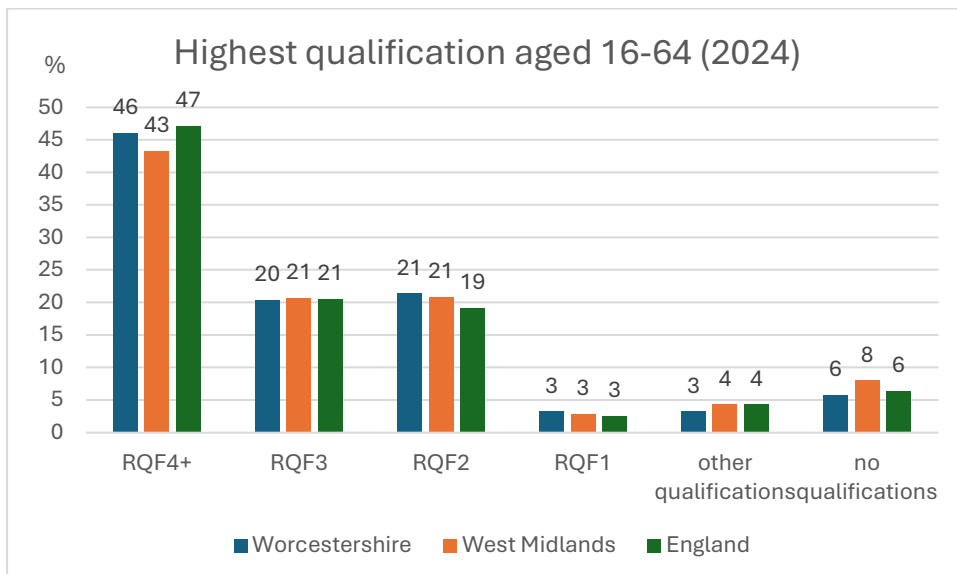
The industries with the highest proportion of workers aged 50 and over are Agriculture, energy and water and Real estate. The industries with the highest numbers of workers aged 50 and over are Wholesale, retail and repair of motor vehicles and Health and social care.



Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

Qualifications

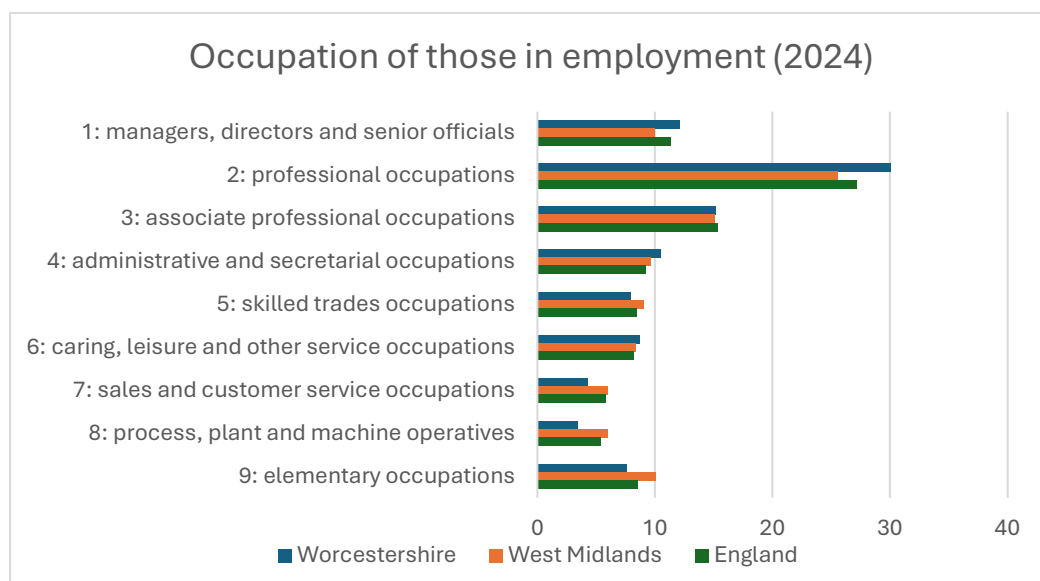
The proportion of the population with different levels of qualifications is similar to nationally.



Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

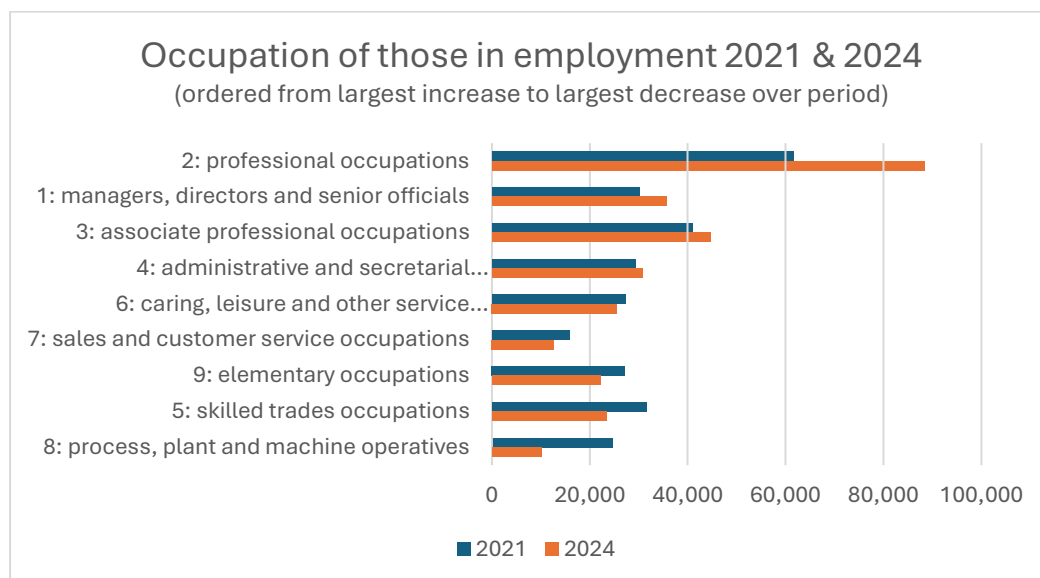
Occupation

Over half of those in employment in Worcestershire are in professional or associate professional occupations or are managers, directors, and senior officials.



Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

The largest increase in employment has been in professional occupations and the largest fall has been in process, plant, and machine operatives.



Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

Labour market types

Cluster analysis has been used by DWP to categorise local authorities into different labour market types based on key labour market variables. This cluster method creates groups

of LAs such that the difference between each cluster group member within each cluster is minimised in terms of the 6 variables, yet the difference between cluster groups of local authorities is maximised. This is intended to create coherent groups of LAs that are distinct from each other. The RAG ratings in the table below reflect whether the cluster as a whole was rated as below average, average or above average based on 2022/23 data and may not reflect the latest position of a particular district in the cluster. Each district in Worcestershire has been categorised as a different labour market type.

District	Labour Market Type	Claimant Count	Employment Rate	Work-limiting disability rate	Level 4+ qualification	Musculoskeletal condition rate	Mental health condition
Worcester	Small cities & large towns	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Red
Redditch	Rural industrial legacy	Green	Green	Red	Red	Red	Yellow
Wychavon	Representative agent	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green
Malvern Hills	Traditional affluent	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	Green
Bromsgrove	Affluent commuter belt	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Wyre Forest	Trade towns	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Green	Yellow	Yellow

Source: [Get Britain Working White Paper: Analytical Annex - GOV.UK](#)

Worcester - Small cities & large towns. This cluster tends to be urban areas with young populations that do not have as high levels of high skilled jobs as compared to other major cities. The claimant count is high as is the rate of mental health conditions.

Redditch - Rural industrial legacy. These areas tend to be more remote rural areas with healthy economies, but with a lack of connectivity to major employment centres and/or high skilled industry. They tend to have high employment rates, but lower skill levels and higher rates of MSK conditions. They are likely to have an older than average population.

Wychavon - Representative agent. Areas in this cluster score in the middle of the range on most measures. The cluster is a mix mainly of rural areas and smaller towns.

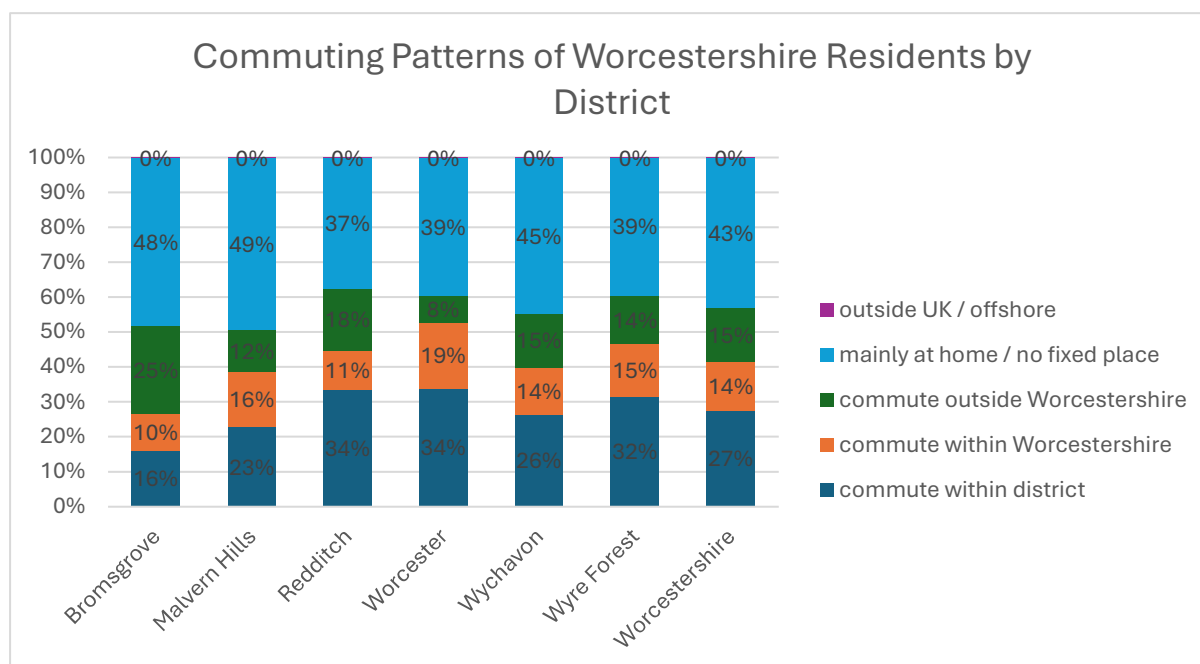
Malvern Hills - Traditional affluent. These areas have a highly skilled workforce, with low rates of health conditions, unemployment is low. These areas tend to be semi-rural or towns on the fringes of urban centres with strong economies.

Bromsgrove - Affluent commuter belt. This cluster is made up of areas that have strong indicators of labour demand, skills, and health - these tend to be areas that are mainly rural but with good connectivity to strong economic centres, particularly London.

Wyre Forest - Trade towns. Areas in this cluster have lower levels of skills in the workforce, with average levels of unemployment, MSK and mental health conditions with low rates of disability. These areas tend to be towns or areas on the periphery of big cities with medium skill economies.

Commuting Patterns

Commuting patterns on the 2021 Census were affected by the lockdown and more people working from home than usually. Bromsgrove had the lowest proportion of residents commuting within the district and the highest proportion commuting to workplaces outside of Worcestershire with Birmingham the most common destination.



Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

Worcestershire is a net exporter of workers, particularly in Wyre Forest due to low numbers of workers commuting-in.

Area	In-commuting	Out-commuting	Net commuting
Bromsgrove	15,705	16,828	-1,123
Malvern Hills	8,543	9,931	-1,388
Redditch	10,081	12,308	-2,227
Worcester	14,341	13,715	626
Wychavon	16,737	18,334	-1,597
Wyre Forest	7,107	13,246	-6,139
Worcestershire	72,514	84,362	-11,848

Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

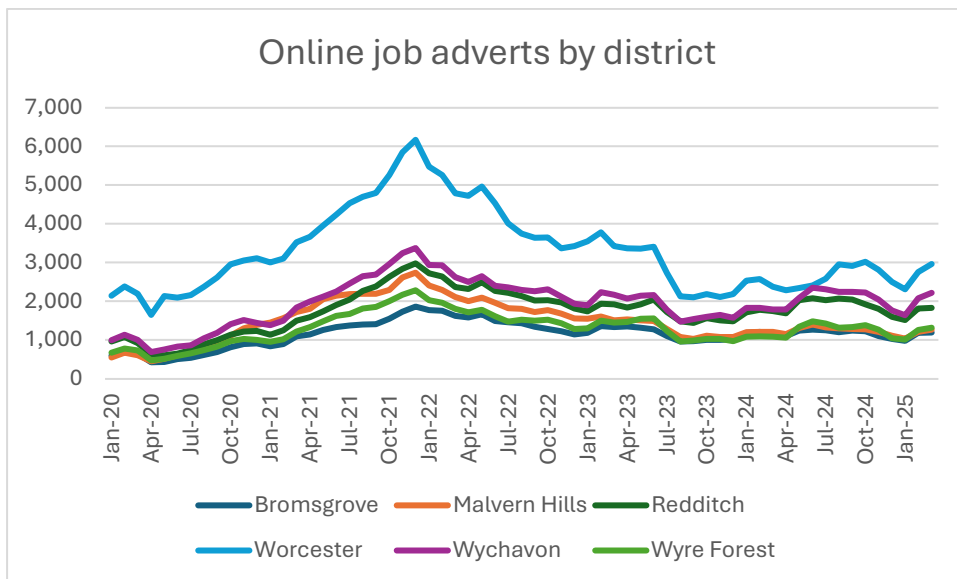
Online vacancies

The number of online job adverts in Worcestershire fell at the end of 2024 but has shown signs of recovery in the first months of 2025.



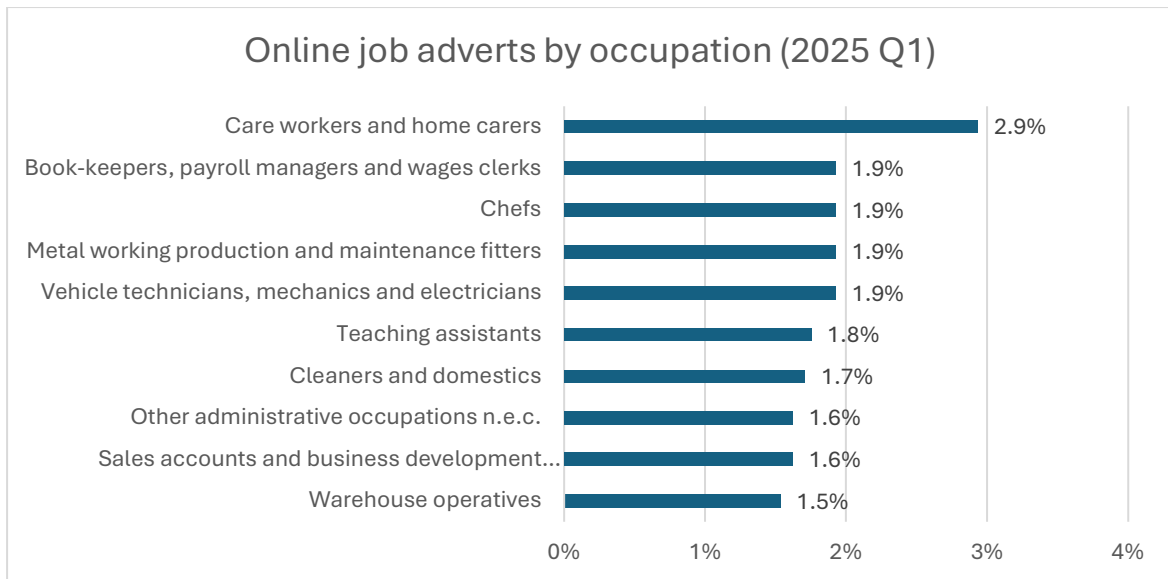
Source: [Labour demand volumes by Standard Occupation Classification \(SOC 2020\), UK - Office for National Statistics](#)

The highest number of online job adverts were in Worcester followed by Wychavon and Redditch.



Source: [Labour demand volumes by Standard Occupation Classification \(SOC 2020\), UK - Office for National Statistics](#)

The occupation with the largest number of online job adverts in Oct-Dec 2024 in Worcestershire was care workers and home carers.



Source: [Labour demand volumes by Standard Occupation Classification \(SOC 2020\), UK - Office for National Statistics](#)

Employment Forecasts

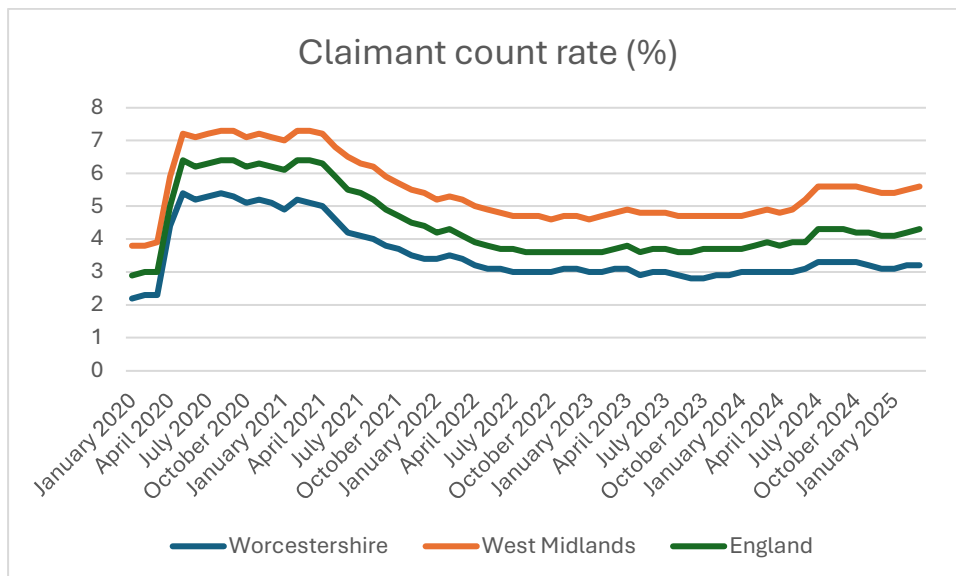
The largest forecast increase in the number of people employed is in Human health & social work and the largest forecast decrease is in Manufacturing.

Sector	Change in employment 2025-2030
A: Agriculture	50
B: Mining & quarrying	-10
C: Manufacturing	-2,790
D: Utilities	0
E: Water supply	-20
F: Construction	1,200
G: Wholesale & retail trade	1,170
H: Transportation & storage	290
I: Accommodation & food services	1,060
J: Information & communication	500
K: Financial & insurance activities	40
L: Real estate activities	140
M: Professional, scientific & technical	1,770
N: Administrative & support services	1,730
O: Public administration & defence	-90
P: Education	460
Q: Human health & social work	2,490
R: Arts, entertainment & recreation	650
S: Other service activities	570
Total	9,190

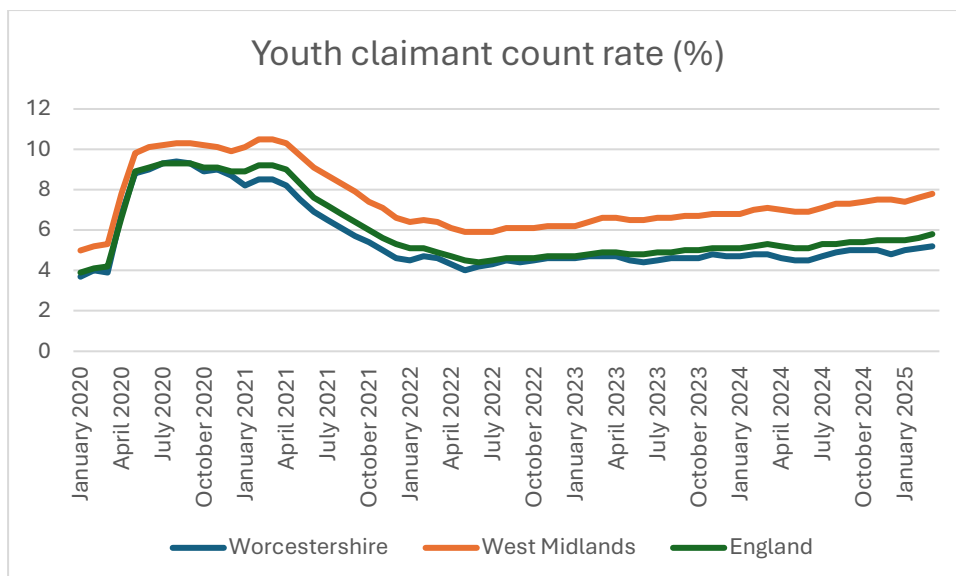
Source: Oxford Economics and the Midlands Engine Observatory

Unemployment

The claimant count and youth claimant count have been increasing in recent months. Both rates are below national levels, although the youth rate is closer to the national average.

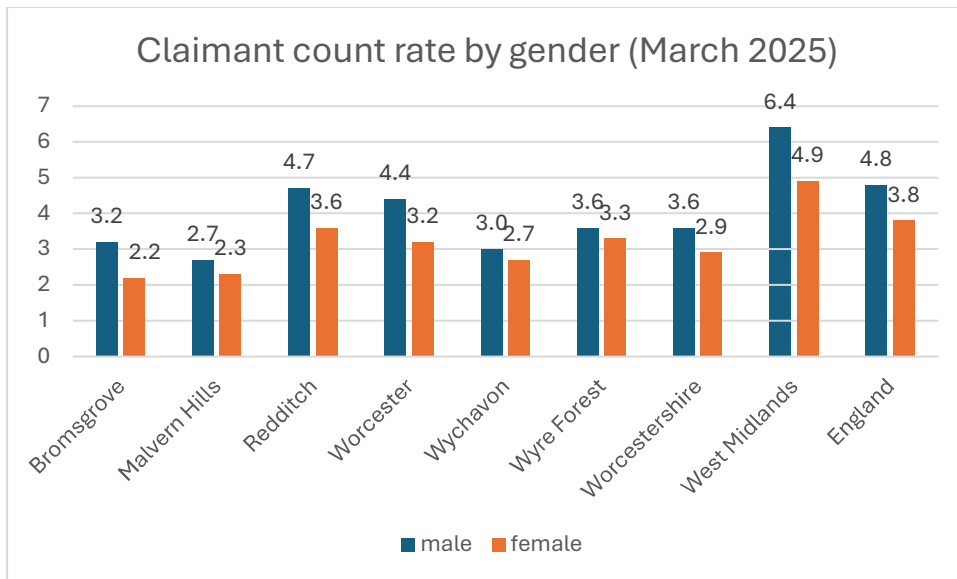


Source: Claimant Count (ONS)



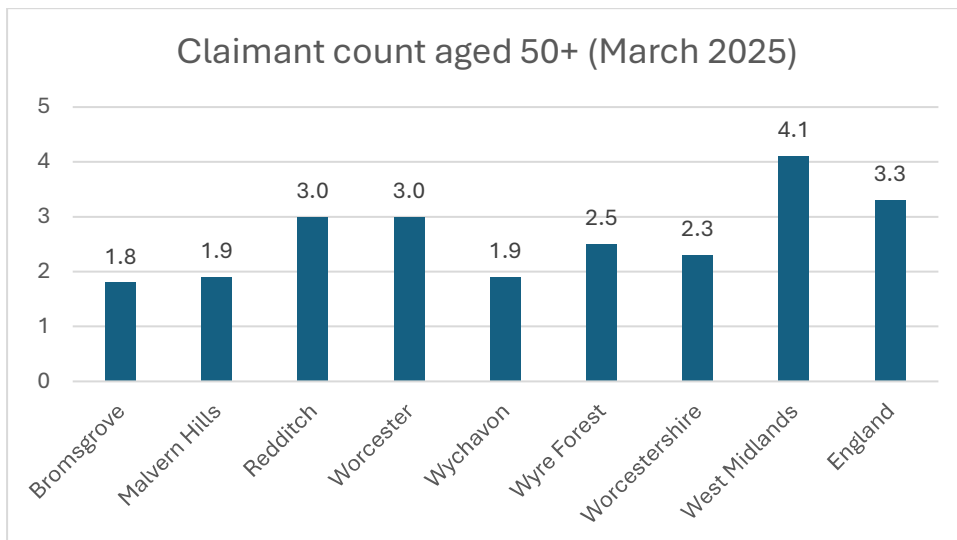
Source: Claimant Count (ONS)

The claimant count rate is higher for men than women in all areas. Relatively low claimant count rates for women in Bromsgrove and Malvern Hills are likely to reflect high employment rates in Bromsgrove and high inactivity rates in Malvern Hills.



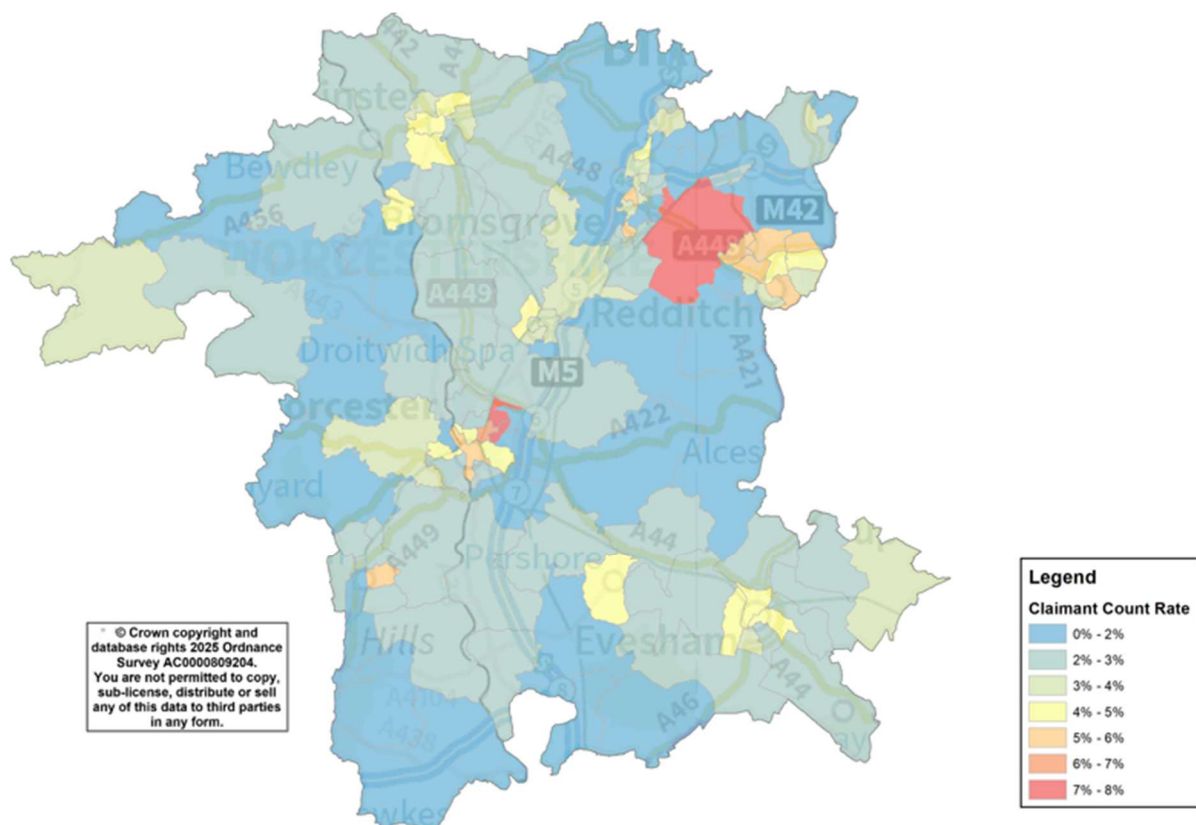
Source: Claimant Count (ONS)

Redditch and Worcester are the districts with the highest claimant count rate for those aged 50+. The claimant count for those aged 50+ is highest in Worcester (595) and Wychavon (580).



Source: Claimant Count (ONS)

Wards with higher claimant count rates are generally found in urban areas. An exception to this is Tardebigge which has a claimant count rate of 7.4%. Other wards with high claimant count rates are Gorse Hill (7.4%) and Warndon (7.3%) both in Worcester. The claimant count numbers with age and gender splits for these wards are detailed in the table below the map.

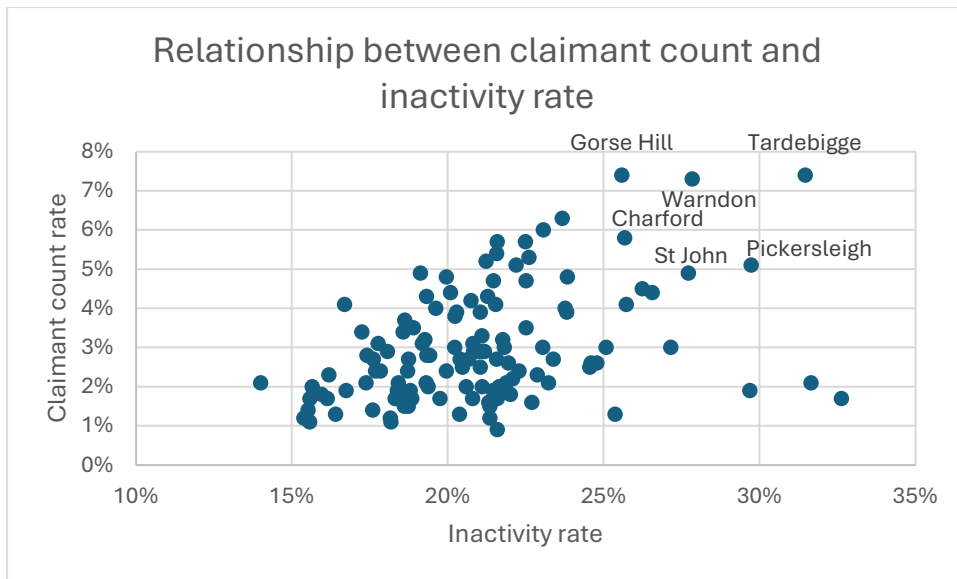


Source: Claimant Count (ONS)

Claimant Count	Tardebigge	Gorse Hill	Warndon
Total	165	250	255
18-24	20	60	55
50+	30	45	60
Male	145	140	125
Female	20	110	125

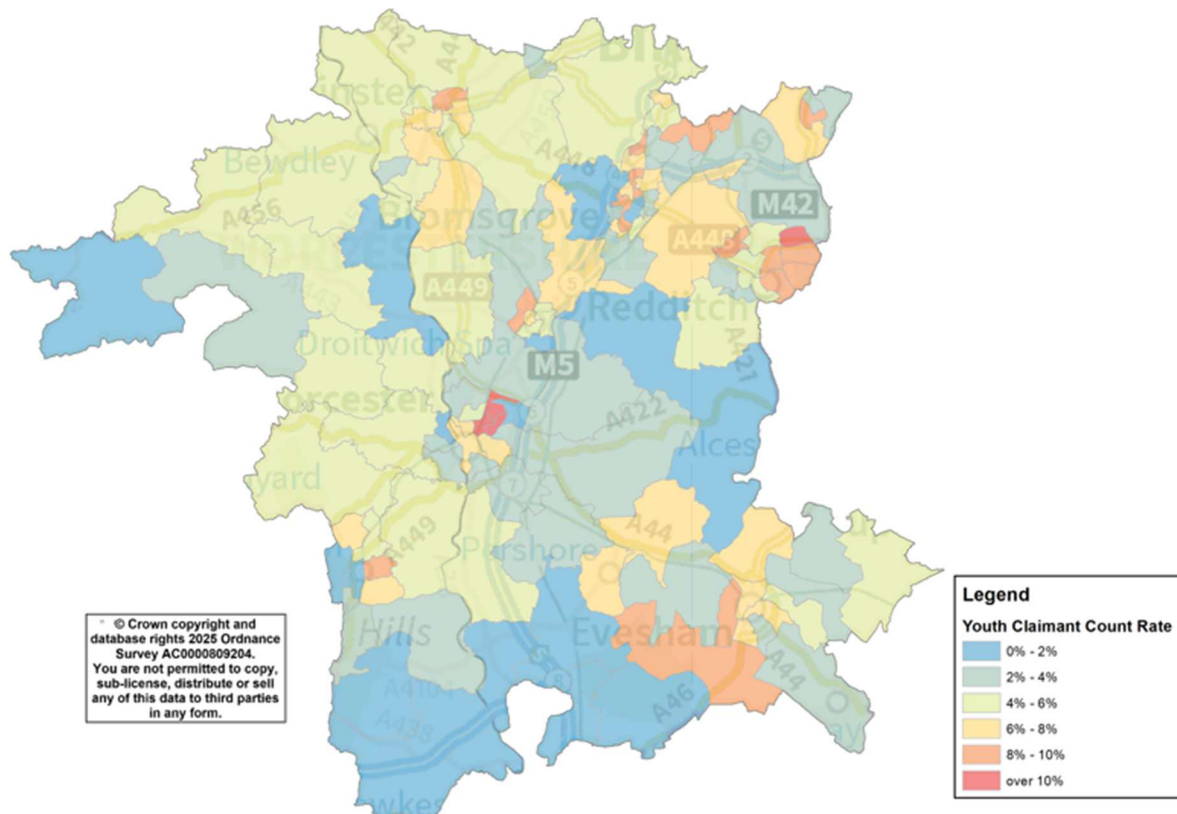
Source: Claimant Count (ONS)

There is some association between the claimant count rate and inactivity rate. Tardebigge, Warndon and Gorse Hill all have high claimant count and inactivity rates with a combined total of 3,800 unemployed or inactive in these wards.



Source: Claimant Count and Annual Population Survey (ONS)

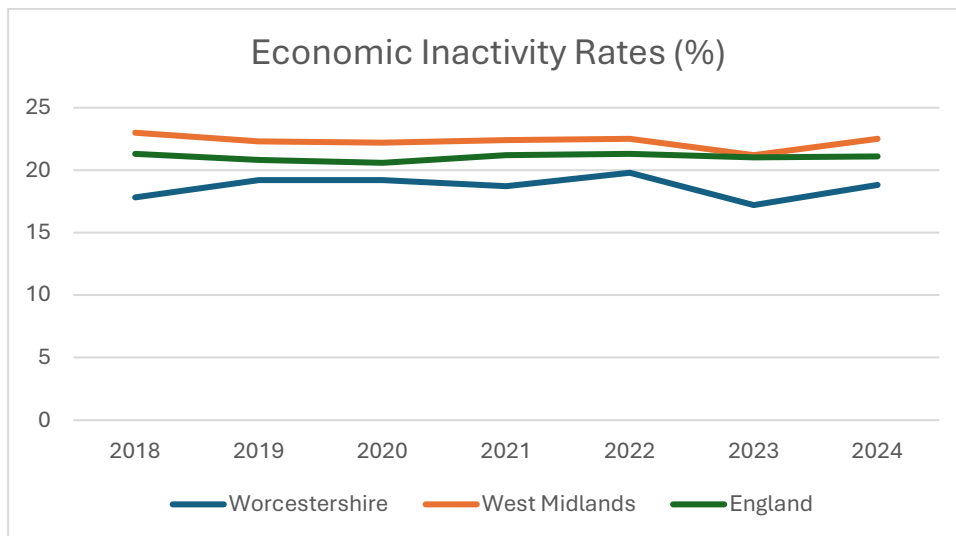
Claimant count rates for those aged 18-24 also tend to be higher in urban areas, although there are more rural areas with higher rates than for all age groups. Wards with the highest rates are Gorse Hill (14.7%) and Warndon (12.5%).



Source: Claimant Count (ONS)

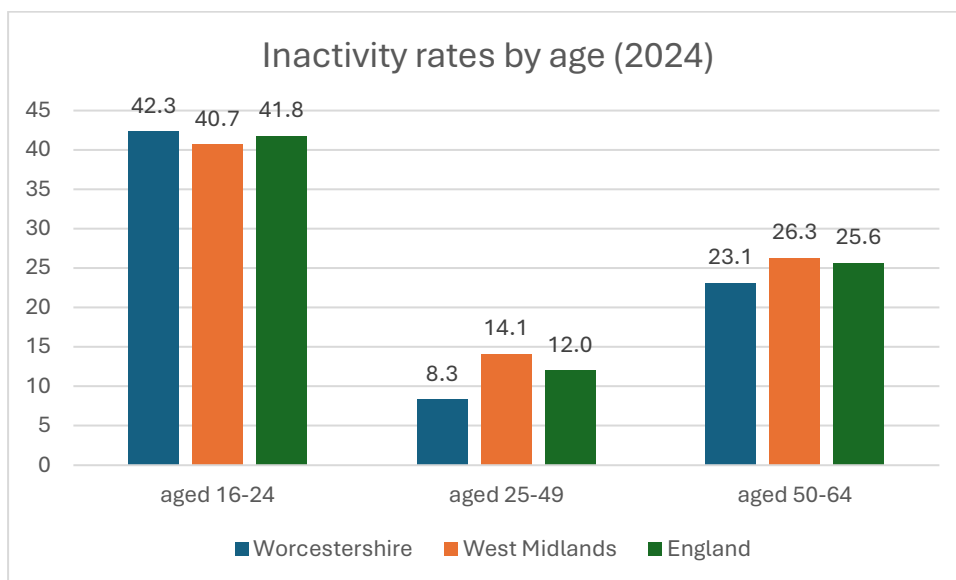
Inactivity

Although subject to greater sampling variability, at 18.8% inactivity in Worcestershire is below regional and national rates.



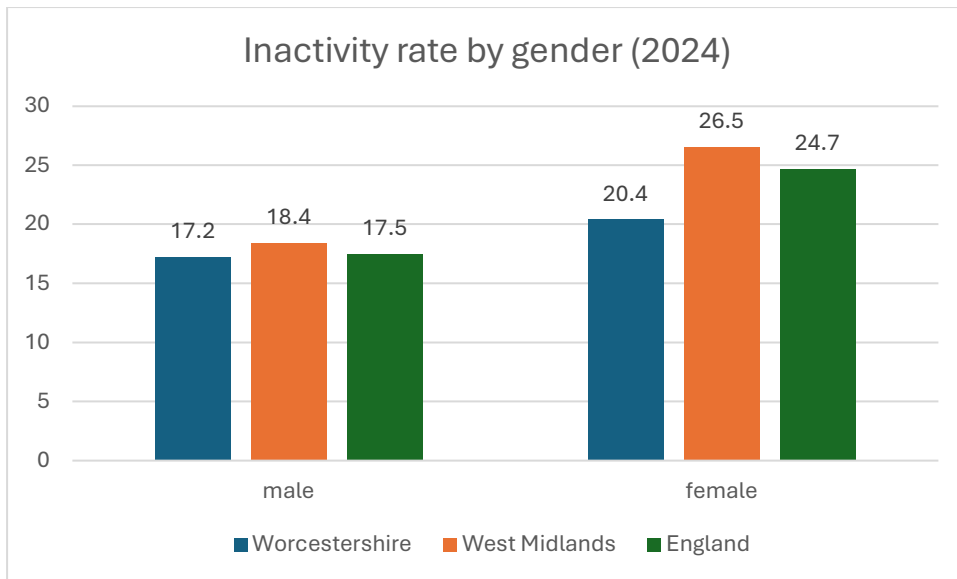
Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

Although inactivity rates are highest for those aged 16-24 in Worcestershire, the largest number of inactive people are those aged 50-64 (26,800).



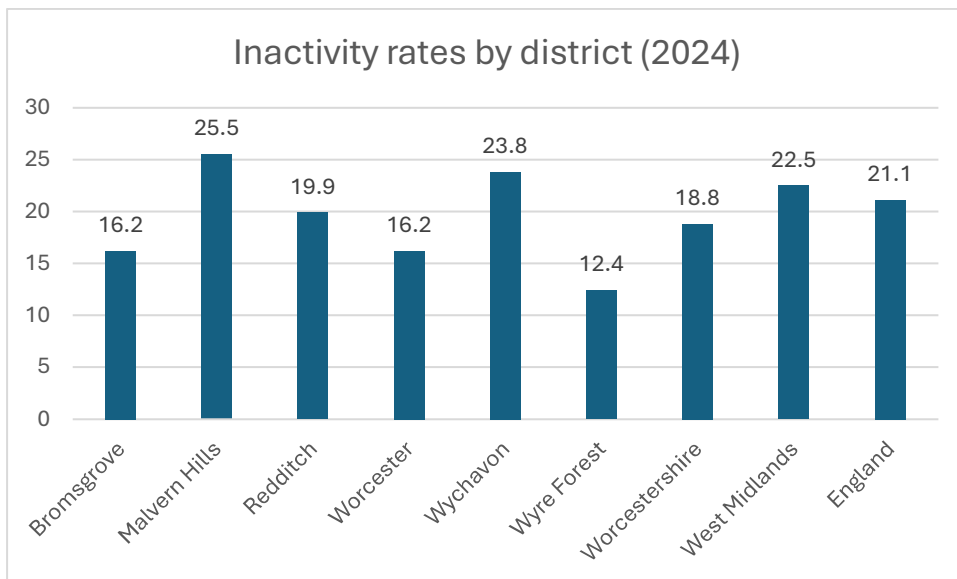
Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

Women have higher inactivity rates than men, which is likely to reflect caring responsibilities.



Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

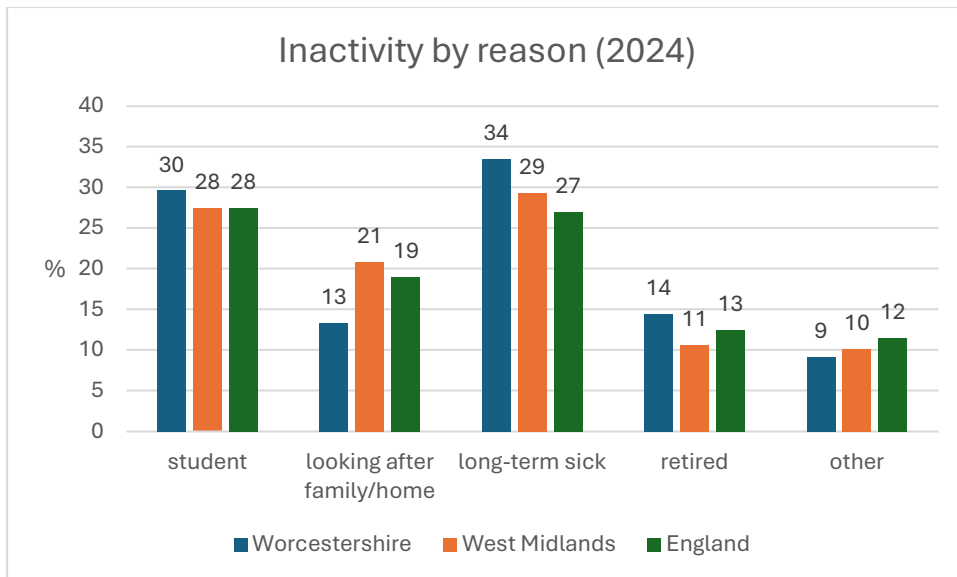
Inactivity rates are highest in Malvern Hills and Wychavon and lowest in Wyre Forest, although it should be noted that confidence intervals for district estimates are large and the Wyre Forest estimate is unreliable due to small sample size.



Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

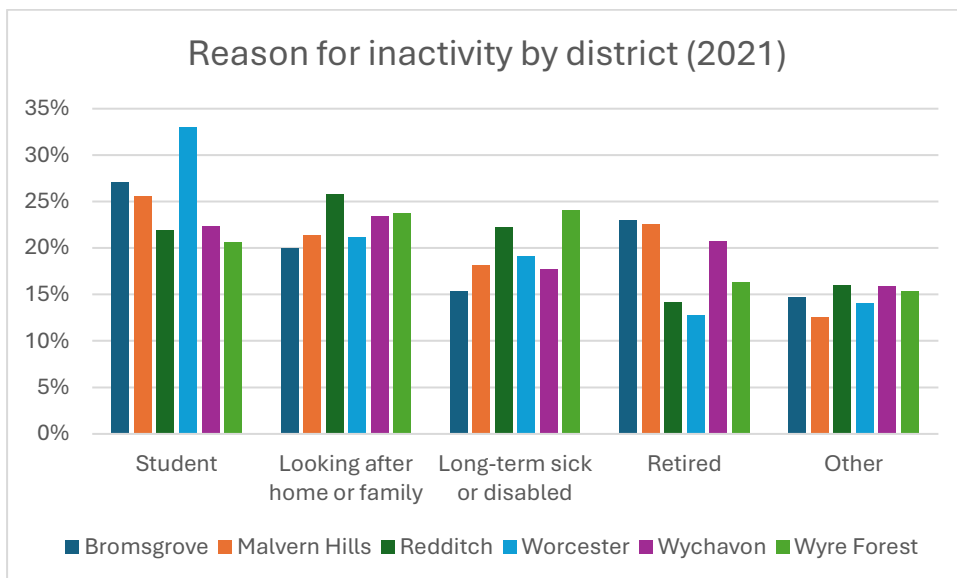
Reason for inactivity

The most common reason given for inactivity in Worcestershire is long-term sick followed by student.



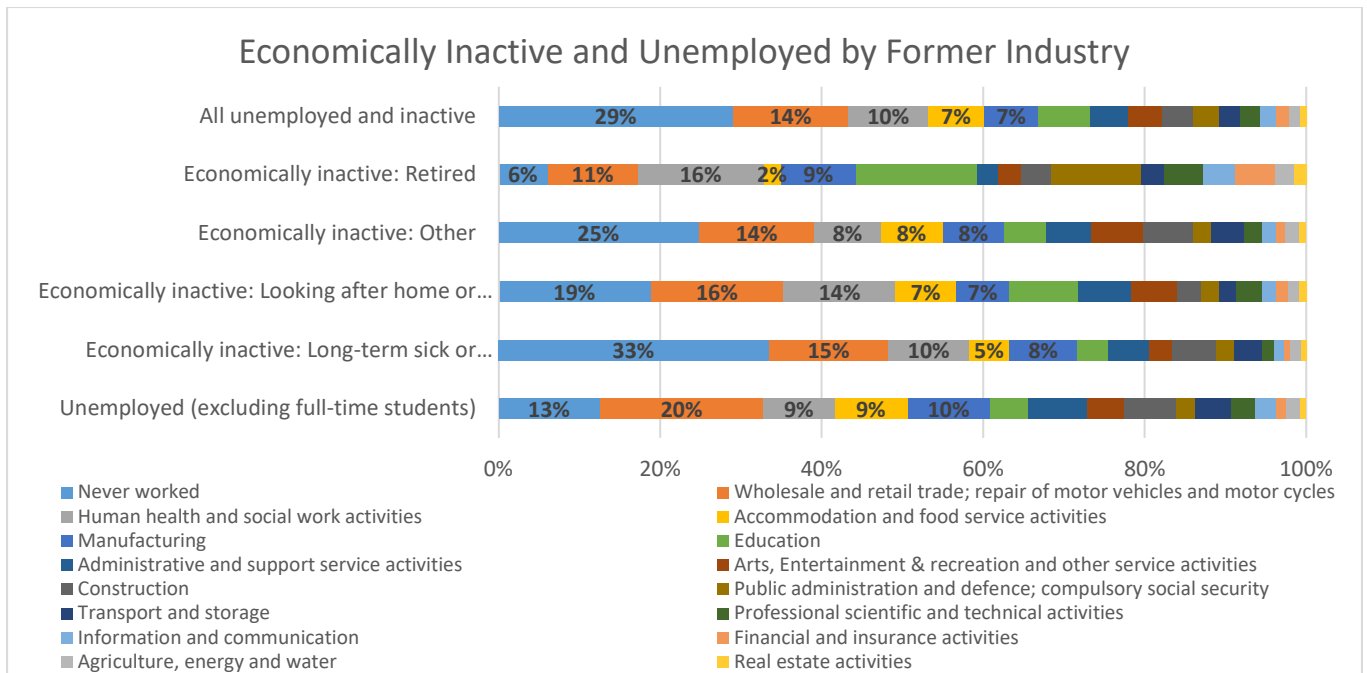
Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

At the time of the 2021 Census study was one of the most common reasons given for inactivity. This may reflect higher numbers continuing in education during the pandemic and in Worcester will also be due to university students. Looking after home or family is more important in Redditch, Wychavon, and Wyre Forest and long-term sick or disabled is a more common reason in Redditch and Wyre Forest. Retirement is an important reason in Bromsgrove, Malvern Hills and Wychavon and may reflect that these areas are more affluent and have older populations.



Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](https://www.ons.gov.uk/census)

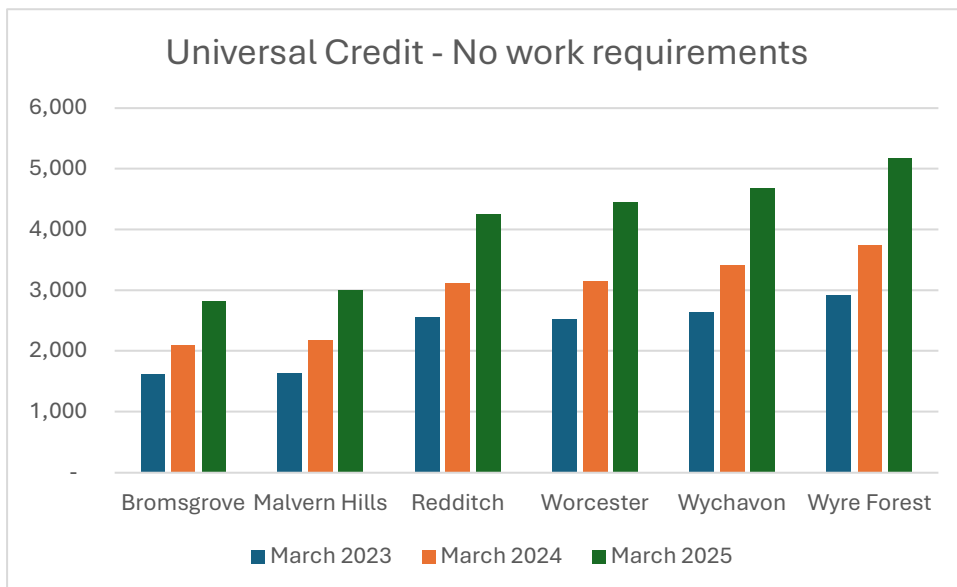
29% of inactive and unemployed residents have never worked. For those who have worked the most common former industry was Wholesale and retail followed by Health and social care.



Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

Universal Credit

The number of people receiving Universal Credit in Worcestershire with no work requirements has increased rapidly in every district over recent years.



Source: [Stat-Xplore - Home](#)

43% of people receiving Universal Credit in March 2025 in Worcestershire had no work requirements.

Conditionality Regime	Bromsgrove	Malvern Hills	Redditch	Worcester	Wychavon	Wyre Forest	Total
Searching for work	1,462	1,086	2,077	2,422	2,111	1,948	11,101
Working - with requirements	665	781	1,204	1,467	1,417	1,216	6,752
No work requirements	2,818	3,004	4,257	4,453	4,672	5,172	24,373
Working - no requirements	1,296	1,166	2,011	2,133	2,447	1,942	11,000
Planning for work	98	72	168	168	156	126	773
Preparing for work	370	335	675	580	546	674	3,182
Total	6,704	6,450	10,395	11,219	11,340	11,071	57,176

Source: [Stat-Xplore - Home](#)

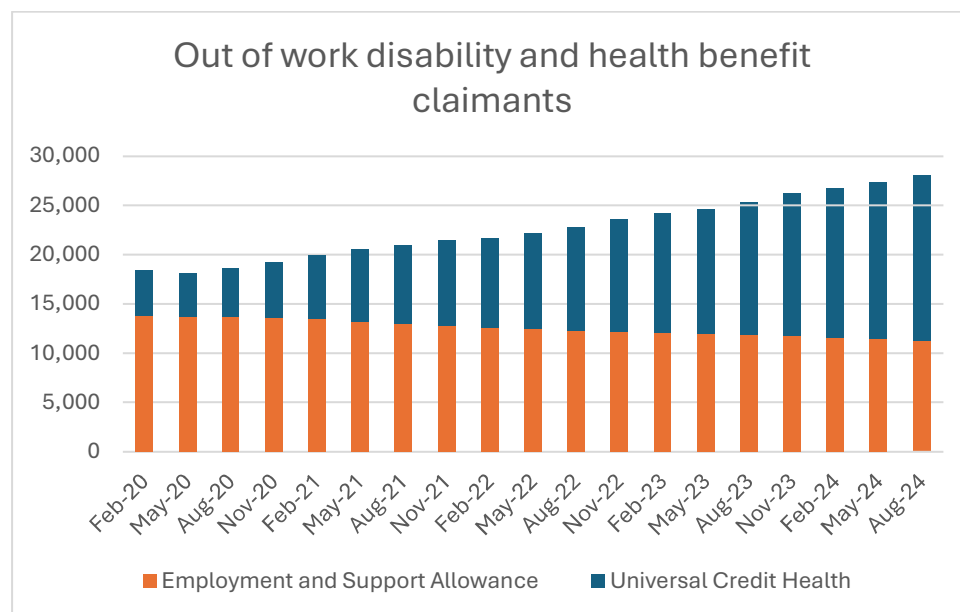
The number of people receiving Universal Credit with no work requirements has increased for all age groups.

	March 2019	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025
16-19	136	212	277	288	301	358	397
20-24	350	718	1,050	1,327	1,474	1,750	1,938
25-29	360	851	1,153	1,403	1,684	1,956	2,336
30-34	254	703	1,186	1,567	1,972	2,410	3,030
35-39	165	533	900	1,213	1,645	2,203	3,303
40-44	142	382	716	980	1,369	1,853	2,969
45-49	128	429	659	858	1,170	1,564	2,581
50-54	130	385	711	938	1,300	1,616	2,530
55-59	121	368	662	918	1,277	1,723	2,240
60-65	108	403	736	1,009	1,495	1,914	2,643
Over 65	-	34	133	162	216	343	396
Total	1,894	5,020	8,177	10,664	13,899	17,694	24,373

Source: [Stat-Xplore - Home](#)

Health benefits

The number of people on out of work benefits due to disability or health conditions in Worcestershire has increased since the pandemic to 28,000.



Source: [Stat-Xplore - Home](#)

Information on medical condition is available for Employment and Support Allowance claimants (contributory benefit paid for up to a year). This doesn't include those claiming Universal Credit for health reasons (income related benefit for those not /no longer entitled to ESA). Employment and Support Allowance claimants should provide some indication of conditions for Universal Credit Health claimants, but it's possible that short-term conditions are over-represented and long-term conditions under-represented. Nearly half of people receiving Employment and Support Allowance in Worcestershire in August 2024 have mental and behavioural disorders.

Medical Condition	% ESA claimants
Mental and Behavioural disorders	46.5%
Disease of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue	12.3%
Diseases of the Nervous System	9.9%
Symptoms, signs, and abnormal Clinical and Laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	8.7%
Neoplasms	4.0%
Diseases of the Circulatory System	3.3%
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	2.7%
Factors influencing Health Status and contact with Health Services	2.4%
Diseases of the Respiratory System	2.0%
Congenital Malformations, Deformations and Chromosomal Abnormalities	1.9%
Diseases of the Digestive System	1.5%
Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic diseases	1.2%

Medical Condition	% ESA claimants
Diseases of the Eye and Adnexa	0.9%
Diseases of the Genito-urinary System	0.5%
Diseases of the Ear and Mastoid Process	0.4%
Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous System	0.4%
Codes for special purposes	0.4%
Certain Infectious and Parasitic diseases	0.3%
External causes of morbidity and mortality	0.2%
Diseases of the Blood and Blood forming organs and certain diseases involving the immune mechanism	0.2%
Pregnancy, Childbirth, and the Puerperium	0.1%

Source: [Stat-Xplore - Home](#)

Information on the diagnosis on electronic fit notes issued by GP practices is available for Herefordshire and Worcestershire. Fit notes are issued to show to an employer for sick pay purposes or to claim sickness related benefits from DWP and so will be issued to those both employed and out of work. Although a diagnosis was not provided for just over 50% of fit notes, the most common diagnosis was mental and behavioural disorders followed by diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue. Fewer fit notes were issued during the pandemic as they were not required for people who were shielding, in self-isolation due to coronavirus or furloughed. Fit notes for both conditions therefore increased significantly in 2021 but have fallen in recent years.

Diagnosis	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total	83,224	140,702	148,425	150,847	147,863
Not Provided	40,299	69,502	76,961	81,926	82,687
Mental and behavioural disorders	14,965	24,113	22,889	22,009	20,206
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue	6,226	10,287	10,396	9,584	9,191
NIS Retired Codes	3,615	5,560	5,966	6,155	5,951
Symptoms, signs and abnormal clinical and laboratory findings, NEC	2,460	3,905	4,162	4,168	4,244
Factors influencing health status and contact with health services	2,543	3,743	3,371	3,370	3,533
Diseases of the respiratory system	1,289	2,229	2,592	2,929	3,250
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	2,057	3,297	3,477	3,522	3,047
Unknown	1,855	4,717	5,159	3,516	2,972
Diseases of the nervous system	1,405	2,417	2,388	2,474	2,114
Diseases of the circulatory system	1,041	1,891	2,034	2,027	1,736
Diseases of the digestive system	955	1,608	1,531	1,631	1,466
Neoplasms	878	1,275	1,371	1,525	1,431
Diseases of the genitourinary system	581	1,107	1,002	1,143	1,110
Certain infectious and parasitic diseases	590	932	902	950	984
Certain conditions originating in the perinatal period	635	1,089	1,062	854	911
Pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperium	472	853	810	736	747
Diseases of the skin and subcutaneous tissue	353	580	646	602	660
Diseases of the ear and mastoid process	252	417	431	496	520
Congenital malformations, deformations, and chromosomal abnormalities	152	282	285	229	271
Endocrine, nutritional, and metabolic diseases	120	267	244	258	269
Diseases of the eye and adnexa	205	270	303	323	258
Diseases of the blood and blood-forming organs and certain disorders involving the immune mechanism	113	160	222	205	166

Diagnosis	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
External causes of morbidity and mortality	163	201	221	215	139

Source: [Fit Notes Issued by GP Practices, England, December 2024 - NHS England Digital](#)

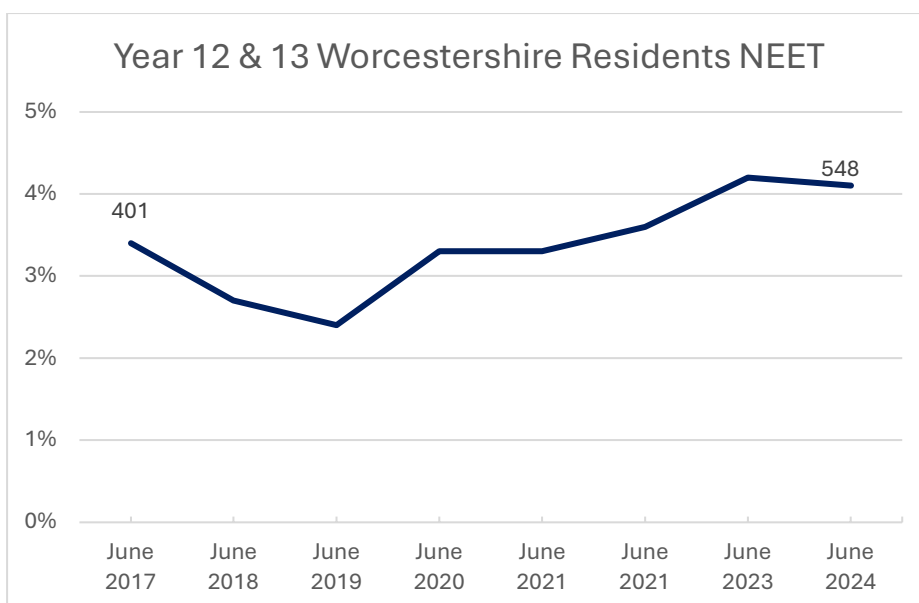
The Global Burden of Disease Study suggests that in 2021 the most common causes of disability in those under 70 in Worcestershire were low back pain and major depressive disorder.

Top 10 Causes	% of total Years of Life lived with Disability
Low back pain	10.4%
Major depressive disorder	7.6%
Migraine	5.7%
Anxiety disorders	5.6%
Diabetes mellitus type 2	4.9%
Other musculoskeletal disorders	4.1%
Falls	3.8%
Neck pain	3.4%
Asthma	3.2%
Other gynaecological diseases	2.7%

Source: [VizHub - GBD Results](#)

Not in Education, Employment of Training (NEET)

There has been an increase in the number and proportion of 16- and 17-year-olds not in education, employment, or training since the pandemic, although this has stabilised in the last year.

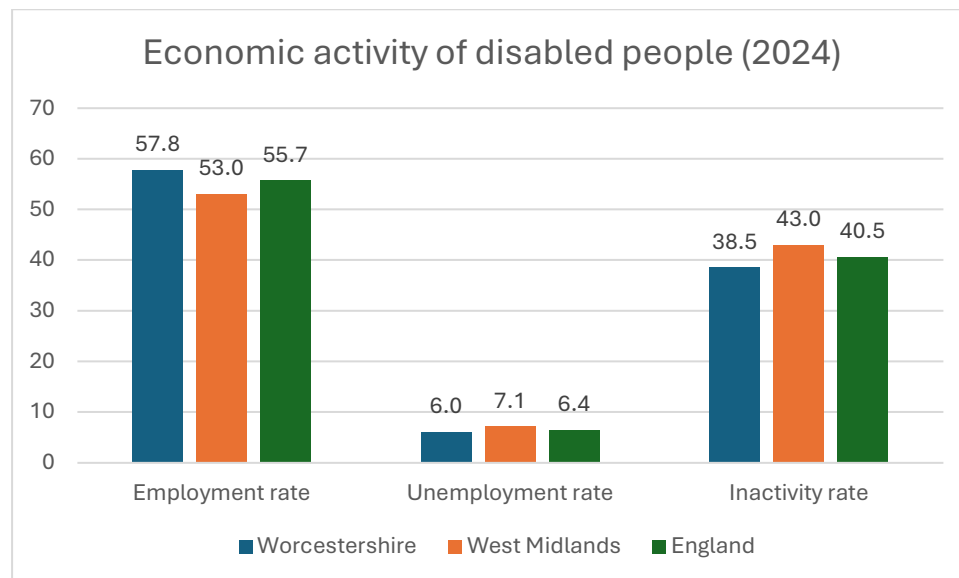


Source: Worcestershire County Council

Disadvantaged Groups

Disabled people

Disabled people are less likely to be in employment and more likely to be inactive. There were estimated to be around 34,600 inactive disabled people in Worcestershire in 2024.



Source: Annual Population Survey (ONS)

Ethnicity

Worcestershire residents from ethnic minorities are more likely to be inactive than white residents, with inactivity rates highest for Asian and mixed ethnicities. There were around 6,800 inactive people from ethnic minorities in Worcestershire in 2021.

Ethnicity	In employment	Unemployed	Inactive
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	66%	4%	30%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	68%	7%	25%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	65%	6%	29%
Other ethnic groups	70%	4%	26%
White	76%	4%	21%
All aged 16-64	75%	4%	21%

Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

Looking at the reason for inactivity by ethnicity indicates that inactive residents from ethnic minorities are more likely to be students (which may reflect that they tend to be younger than white residents) and that inactive residents with an Asian or Other ethnicity are more likely to be looking after home or family. White inactive residents are more likely to be inactive due to being long-term sick or disabled and retired.

Ethnicity	Student	Looking after home or family	Long-term sick or disabled	Retired	Other
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	35%	36%	8%	5%	16%
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	40%	16%	11%	8%	25%
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	47%	17%	15%	5%	16%
Other ethnic groups	32%	28%	10%	5%	25%
White	24%	22%	20%	19%	15%
All aged 16-64	25%	23%	19%	18%	15%

Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

Ethnicity	Student	Looking after home or family	Long-term sick or disabled	Retired	Other
Asian, Asian British or Asian Welsh	1,292	1,348	304	203	595
Black, Black British, Black Welsh, Caribbean or African	308	124	81	63	190
Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups	775	283	240	80	272
Other ethnic groups	205	177	61	34	155
White	16,749	15,415	14,211	13,521	10,189
All aged 16-64	19,329	17,347	14,897	13,901	11,401

Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

Resident in UK less than 2 years

People who had been resident in the UK for less than 2 years had a lower employment rate (63%) and higher unemployment (8%) and inactivity (29%) rates than for all Worcestershire residents aged 16-64. There were around 1,100 inactive people who had been resident in the UK for less than 2 years in Worcestershire in 2021.

Veterans

The employment rate for those who have previously served in regular, or reserve UK armed forces is higher (82%) and unemployment (3%) and inactivity (15%) rates are lower than for all Worcestershire residents aged 16-64. There were around 1,400 inactive people who previously served in regular or reserve UK armed forces in Worcestershire in 2021.

Homeless

Main applicants assessed as owed a prevention or relief duty have lower employment rates (38%), and higher unemployment (27%) and inactivity (35%) rates. There were around 1,000 main applicants owed a prevention or relief duty who were inactive in Worcestershire in 2023-24. (Source: [Tables on homelessness - GOV.UK](#))

Alcohol and drug treatment

43% of people in treatment for alcohol or drugs were in employment and 57% or around 400 were unemployed or inactive in Worcestershire in 2022/23.

Drivers and Causes of Economic Inactivity

Qualifications

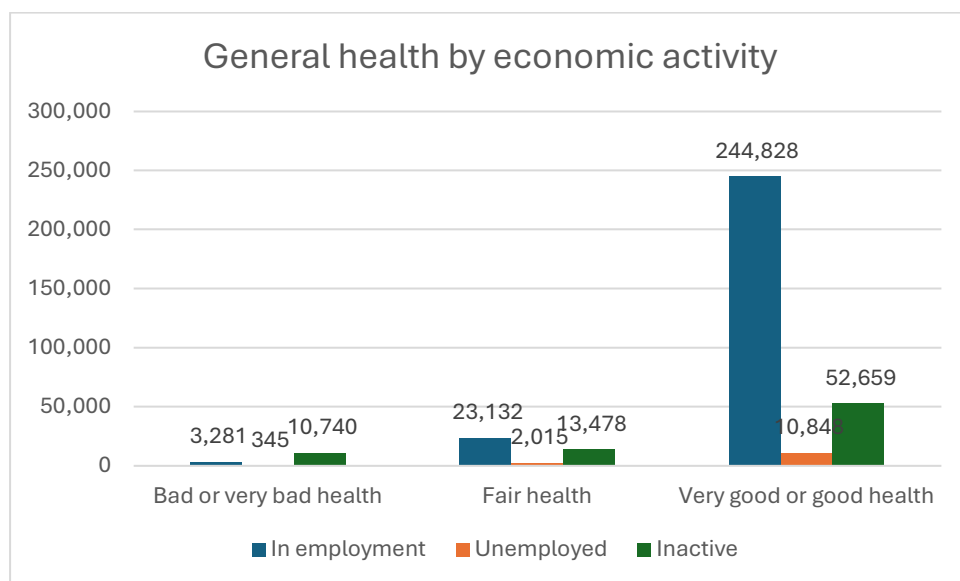
Those with no qualifications or a Level 1 or 2 qualification were more likely to be economically inactive than all those aged 16-64. There were around 18,300 people with no qualifications and 26,100 with Level 1 or 2 qualifications that were inactive in Worcestershire in 2021.

Highest qualification	In employment	Unemployed	Inactive
No qualifications	51%	5%	44%
Level 1	68%	5%	27%
Level 2	68%	5%	27%
Level 3	80%	3%	16%
Level 4	85%	2%	13%
Other	77%	3%	19%
All aged 16-64	75%	4%	21%

Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

Health

Most residents have very good or good health for every economic activity status.



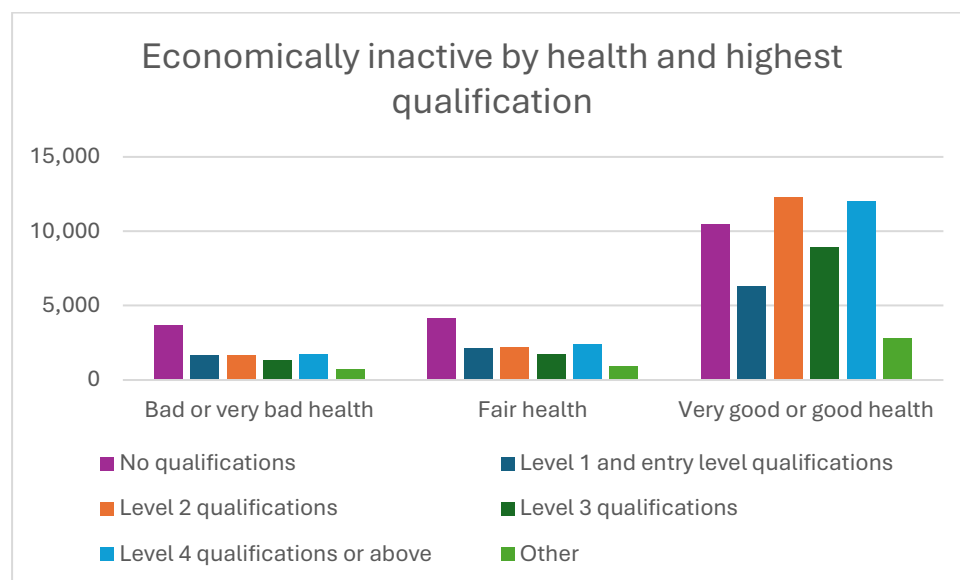
Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

However, those with bad or very bad health were more likely to be inactive with around 10,700 people aged 16-64 with bad or very bad health inactive in Worcestershire in 2021.

General health	In employment	Unemployed	Inactive
Bad or very bad health	23%	2%	75%
Fair health	60%	5%	35%
Very good or good health	79%	4%	17%
All aged 16-64	75%	4%	21%

Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

The economically inactive with bad or fair health are more likely to have no qualifications than those in very good or good health, although it is possible that this also reflects age with older people holding slightly lower qualifications on average.



Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

Unpaid Care

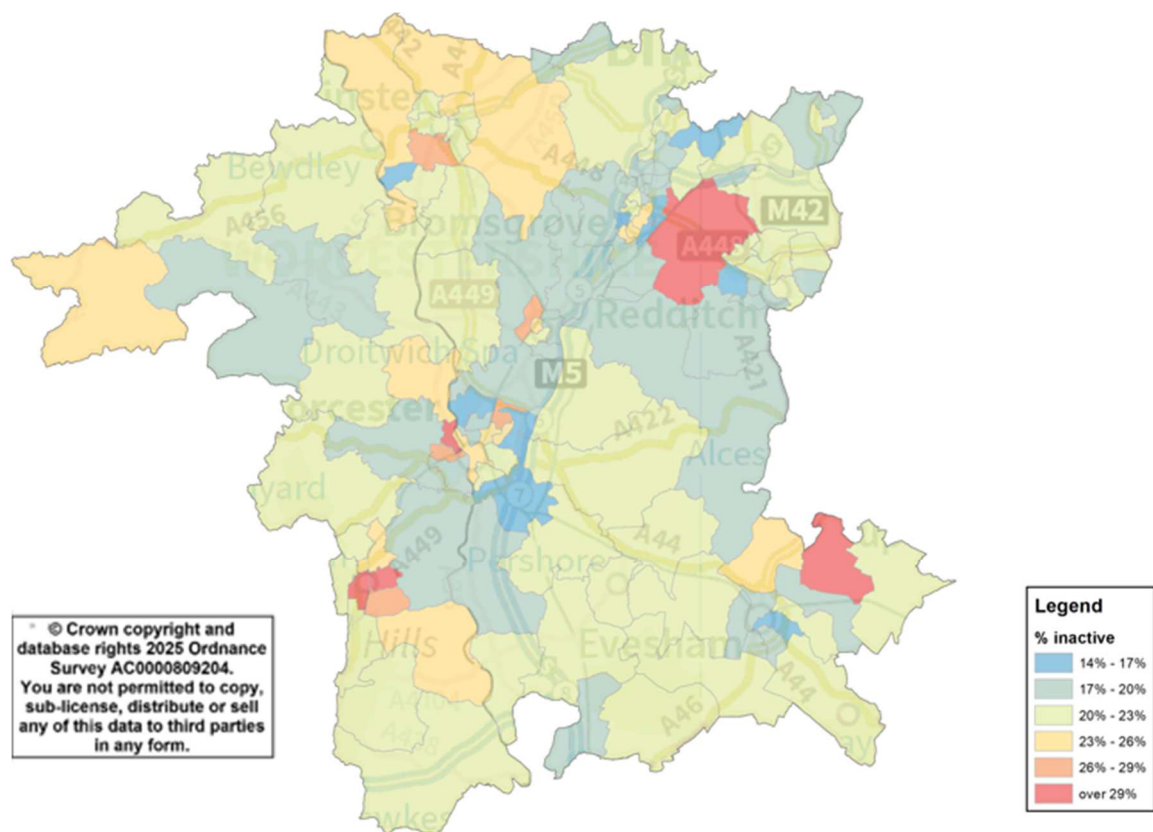
Worcestershire residents aged 16-64 are more likely to be inactive if they provide 20 or more hours of unpaid care a week. There were around 7,200 inactive people providing 20 or more hours of unpaid care in Worcestershire in 2021.

Unpaid Care	In employment	Unemployed	Inactive
Provides no unpaid care	76%	4%	20%
Provides 19 or less hours unpaid care a week	78%	3%	19%
Provides 20 to 49 hours unpaid care a week	61%	4%	35%
Provides 50 or more hours unpaid care a week	46%	2%	51%
All aged 16-64	75%	4%	21%

Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

Geographical Location

The ward with the highest inactivity rate in 2021 includes the University of Worcester and reflects the student population in the area. The Littletons (32%) and Tardebigge (31%) are the wards with the next highest inactivity rates. Both are relatively rural with 'other' given as the most common reason for inactivity. Pickersleigh (30%) and Priory (30%) wards both in Malvern have the next highest inactivity rates. In Pickersleigh the main reasons for inactivity are long-term sick or disabled and looking after family or home. In Priory the main reason is student which may reflect boarders aged 16+ in private schools in the ward.



Source: [Census - Office for National Statistics](#)

