

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The claimant count increased in June 2024 by 455 to 11,440 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 increased by 10 to 1,885. The Worcestershire rate (Ages 16-64) of 3.2% is lower than that of the West Midlands (5.4%) and England (4.1%).

Comparisons with March 2020, prior to the impact of the pandemic, show that the claimant count has increased by 3,135 or 38% and the number of claimants aged 18-24 has increased by 290 or 18%.

June 2024

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	1,490	2.5%	65	325	28%
Malvern Hills	1,140	2.5%	50	215	23%
Redditch	2,120	3.9%	65	585	38%
Worcester	2,620	3.9%	135	840	47%
Wychavon	2,165	2.8%	40	845	64%
Wyre Forest	1,910	3.2%	105	330	21%
Worcestershire	11,440	3.2%	455	3,135	38%
West Midlands	197,285	5.4%	12,710	52,935	37%
England	1,450,835	4.1%	51,710	387,330	36%

June 2024

Area	Claimant Count 18-24	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	235	3.8%	5	20	9%
Malvern Hills	185	3.8%	-5	5	3%
Redditch	350	5.8%	5	40	13%
Worcester	445	4.4%	-5	125	39%
Wychavon	355	4.4%	5	95	37%
Wyre Forest	310	4.7%	0	0	0%
Worcestershire	1,885	4.5%	10	290	18%
West Midlands	35,315	7.0%	345	7,410	27%
England	241,490	5.2%	1,280	43,760	22%

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 out 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.

Economy Business Intelligence Team: EcBI@worcestershire.gov.uk