

# Worcestershire County Economic Summary

**Comment:** The claimant count increased in July 2024 by 830 to 12,245 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 increased by 110 to 1,980. The Worcestershire rate (Ages 16-64) of 3.4% is lower than that of the West Midlands (5.8%) and England (4.4%).

Commencing in May 2024, the Department for Work and Pensions are rolling out an increase in the administrative earnings threshold for full work search conditionality. This change is likely to increase the claimant count over a period of around 6 months.

## July 2024 (Claimants aged 16-64)

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	1,640	2.8%	150	475	41%
Malvern Hills	1,265	2.8%	110	340	37%
Redditch	2,240	4.2%	145	705	46%
Worcester	2,805	4.2%	225	1,025	58%
Wychavon	2,265	2.9%	55	945	72%
Wyre Forest	2,030	3.4%	145	450	28%
Worcestershire	12,245	3.4%	830	3,940	47%
West Midlands	213,475	5.8%	19,340	69,125	48%
England	1,574,645	4.4%	145,085	511,140	48%

## July 2024 (Claimants aged 18-24)

Area	Claimant Count 18-24	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	260	4.2%	25	45	21%
Malvern Hills	210	4.3%	15	30	17%
Redditch	365	6.0%	25	55	18%
Worcester	455	4.5%	15	135	42%
Wychavon	360	4.5%	10	100	38%
Wyre Forest	330	5.0%	20	20	6%
Worcestershire	1,980	4.7%	110	385	24%
West Midlands	36,570	7.3%	1,655	8,665	31%
England	249,400	5.3%	10,485	51,670	26%

## 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. Commencing in May 2024, the Department for Work and Pensions are rolling out an increase in the administrative earnings threshold for full work search conditionality. This change is likely to affect around 180,000 claimants nationally over a period of around 6 months, increasing the Claimant Count over that time.
4. 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.
5. Individual figures are rounded to the nearest 5, and as a result may not sum to the rounded totals.
6. 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.
7. 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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