

# Worcestershire County Economic Summary

**Comment:** The claimant count increased in October 2024 by 150 to 12,250 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 increased by 45 to 2,135. 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.

## October 2024 (Claimants aged 16-64)

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change on last year
Bromsgrove	1,615	2.8%	5	230
Malvern Hills	1,240	2.7%	5	130
Redditch	2,170	4.0%	45	250
Worcester	2,780	4.1%	45	565
Wychavon	2,365	3.0%	5	355
Wyre Forest	2,080	3.5%	40	330
Worcestershire	12,250	3.4%	150	1,855
West Midlands	215,345	5.8%	3,515	38,925
England	1,569,275	4.4%	22,580	245,530

## October 2024 (Claimants aged 18-24)

Area	Claimant Count 18-24	Rate	change on last month	change on last year
Bromsgrove	290	4.7%	-5	25
Malvern Hills	210	4.3%	0	15
Redditch	395	6.5%	5	25
Worcester	485	4.8%	15	70
Wychavon	385	4.8%	10	35
Wyre Forest	370	5.6%	20	30
Worcestershire	2,135	5.1%	45	200
West Midlands	38,330	7.6%	1,270	4,360
England	260,145	5.6%	9,260	25,180

## **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. 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.
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](mailto:EcBI@worcestershire.gov.uk)*