

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The Claimant Count decreased in December 2024 by 125 to 11,590 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 decreased by 40 to 2,070. The Worcestershire rate (Ages 16-64) of 3.2% is lower than that of the West Midlands (5.6%) and England (4.3%).

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' figure.

December 2024 (Claimants aged 16-64)

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change on last year
Bromsgrove	1,585	2.7%	-20	190
Malvern Hills	1,160	2.6%	-15	80
Redditch	2,150	4.0%	-5	175
Worcester	2,530	3.8%	-65	260
Wychavon	2,195	2.8%	-50	45
Wyre Forest	1,970	3.3%	35	135
Worcestershire	11,590	3.2%	-125	885
West Midlands	207,945	5.6%	365	30,965
England	1,517,155	4.3%	5,710	176,005

December 2024 (Claimants aged 18-24)

Area	Claimant Count 18-24	Rate	change on last month	change on last year
Bromsgrove	290	4.7%	-5	40
Malvern Hills	195	4.0%	-10	15
Redditch	405	6.7%	-5	15
Worcester	465	4.6%	-5	25
Wychavon	370	4.6%	-10	0
Wyre Forest	340	5.2%	-10	10
Worcestershire	2,070	4.9%	-40	110
West Midlands	38,200	7.6%	260	4,050
England	260,475	5.6%	2,855	23,055

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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