

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The Claimant Count increased in January 2025 by 245 to 11,670 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 increased by 85 to 2,110. 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' figures.

January 2025 (Claimants aged 16-64)

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change on last year
Bromsgrove	1,595	2.7%	35	170
Malvern Hills	1,180	2.6%	45	100
Redditch	2,170	4.0%	55	135
Worcester	2,520	3.8%	15	245
Wychavon	2,210	2.8%	45	55
Wyre Forest	1,995	3.4%	55	150
Worcestershire	11,670	3.2%	245	855
West Midlands	206,860	5.6%	2,465	29,245
England	1,515,945	4.3%	24,865	165,050

January 2025 (Claimants aged 18-24)

Area	Claimant Count 18-24	Rate	change on last month	change on last year
Bromsgrove	295	4.8%	10	40
Malvern Hills	195	4.0%	5	15
Redditch	425	7.0%	30	35
Worcester	480	4.7%	20	35
Wychavon	380	4.7%	20	20
Wyre Forest	335	5.1%	0	-5
Worcestershire	2,110	5.0%	85	135
West Midlands	37,890	7.5%	300	3,585
England	259,870	5.5%	3,295	21,250

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.

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