

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The Claimant Count increased in February 2025 by 540 to 11,960 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 increased by 85 to 2,160. The Worcestershire rate (Ages 16-64) of 3.3% 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.

February 2025 (Claimants aged 16-64)

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change on last year
Bromsgrove	1,595	2.7%	50	155
Malvern Hills	1,190	2.6%	35	70
Redditch	2,260	4.2%	135	180
Worcester	2,545	3.8%	75	215
Wychavon	2,295	2.9%	140	120
Wyre Forest	2,075	3.4%	110	195
Worcestershire	11,960	3.3%	540	930
West Midlands	212,075	5.6%	9,125	29,960
England	1,562,960	4.3%	75,510	174,355

February 2025 (Claimants aged 18-24)

Area	Claimant Count 18-24	Rate	change on last month	change on last year
Bromsgrove	310	5.0%	20	70
Malvern Hills	200	4.1%	10	10
Redditch	430	7.1%	15	35
Worcester	465	4.6%	-10	10
Wychavon	390	4.8%	20	5
Wyre Forest	370	5.6%	40	35
Worcestershire	2,160	5.2%	85	160
West Midlands	38,825	7.7%	1,470	3,515
England	267,870	5.7%	11,860	23,435

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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