

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The claimant count decreased in August 2021 by 290 to 14,730 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 decreased by 95 to 2,640. Comparisons with March 2020, prior to the impact of the pandemic, show that the claimant count has increased by 6,425 or 77% and the number of claimants aged 18-24 has increased by 1,045 or 66%. Enhancements to Universal Credit as part of the UK government's response to the coronavirus mean that an increasing number of people became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still in work. Consequently, changes in the Claimant Count will not be wholly because of changes in the number of people who are not in work.

Area	Claimant Count	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	2,155	3.6%	5	990	85%
Malvern Hills	1,610	3.6%	-25	685	74%
Redditch	2,620	5.0%	-60	1,085	71%
Worcester	3,020	4.7%	-40	1,240	70%
Wychavon	2,640	3.5%	-75	1,320	100%
Wyre Forest	2,685	4.6%	-100	1,105	70%
Worcestershire	14,730	4.2%	-290	6,425	77%
West Midlands	230,735	6.3%	-3,250	86,385	60%
England	1,874,550	5.3%	-40,810	811,045	76%

Area	Claimant Count (18-24)	Rate (18-24)	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	405	6.7%	-10	190	88%
Malvern Hills	285	6.5%	10	105	58%
Redditch	480	8.1%	-15	170	55%
Worcester	540	5.3%	-15	220	69%
Wychavon	465	5.9%	-25	205	79%
Wyre Forest	470	7.2%	-30	160	52%
Worcestershire	2,640	6.5%	-95	1,045	66%
West Midlands	42,795	8.1%	-930	14,890	53%
England	325,505	6.9%	-11,710	127,775	65%

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. As Universal Credit Full Service is rolled out in particular areas, the number of people recorded as being on the Claimant Count is therefore likely to rise.
2. Enhancements to Universal Credit as part of the UK government's response to the coronavirus mean that an increasing number of people became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still employed. Consequently, changes in the Claimant Count will not be due wholly to changes in the number of people who are unemployed. It is not possible to identify to what extent people who are employed or unemployed have affected the numbers.
3. Claimant count rates or proportions express the number of claimants in an area/group as a percentage of the mid-2019 resident population 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. 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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