

Worcestershire County Economic Summary

Comment: The claimant count decreased in August 2022 by 10 to 10,945 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 increased by 85 to 1,900. The Worcestershire rate of 3.1% is lower than that of the West Midlands (4.8%) and England (3.8%).

Comparisons with March 2020, prior to the impact of the pandemic, show that the claimant count has increased by 2,640 or 32% and the number of claimants aged 18-24 has increased by 305 or 19%.

August 2022

Area	Claimant Count 16-64	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	1,550	2.6%	-25	385	33%
Malvern Hills	1,165	2.6%	-10	240	26%
Redditch	2,015	3.9%	40	480	31%
Worcester	2,265	3.5%	-30	485	27%
Wychavon	2,025	2.7%	-10	705	53%
Wyre Forest	1,930	3.3%	25	350	22%
Worcestershire	10,945	3.1%	-10	2,6484.87 C	

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. The Universal Credit Full Service is now fully rolled in most areas of the UK for the majority of **new** claims. The pilot programme to accommodate existing tax credit and other legacy benefit claimants (those claiming housing benefit, income support, income-related Jobseeker's Allowance and income related employment and support allowance) was begun in July 2019 but was suspended due to pandemic. The pilot programme recommenced in May 2022.
3. Claimant count rates or proportions express the number of claimants in an area/group as a percentage of the mid-2020 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. 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