

# Worcestershire County Economic Summary

**Comment:** The claimant count decreased in November 2021 by 265 to 13,025 and the number of claimants aged 18-24 decreased by 105 to 2,145. Comparisons with March 2020, prior to the impact of the pandemic, show that the claimant count has increased by 4,720 or 57% and the number of claimants aged 18-24 has increased by 550 or 34%. Enhancements to Universal Credit as part of the UK government's response to the Coronavirus meant that an increasing number of people became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still in work. Consequently, changes in the Claimant Count from April 2020 until October 2021 would not be wholly because of changes in the number of people who were not in work.

Area	Claimant Count	Rate	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	1,900	3.2%	-50	735	63%
Malvern Hills	1,455	3.3%	-10	530	57%
Redditch	2,300	4.4%	-10	765	50%
Worcester	2,685	4.2%	-45	905	51%
Wychavon	2,340	3.1%	-75	1,020	77%
Wyre Forest	2,340	4.0%	-80	760	48%
Worcestershire	13,025	3.7%	-265	4,720	57%
West Midlands	207,985	5.7%	-3,370	63,635	44%
England	1,650,840	4.7%	-32,150	587,335	55%

Area	Claimant Count (18-24)	Rate (18-24)	change on last month	change since March 2020	% change since March 2020
Bromsgrove	325	5.4%	-20	110	51%
Malvern Hills	205	4.7%	-30	25	14%
Redditch	380	6.4%	-15	70	23%
Worcester	460	4.5%	-15	140	44%
Wychavon	380	4.8%	-25	120	46%
Wyre Forest	390	5.9%			

