

Midlands Engine Claimant Count - June 2021 Release¹

Key Points:

- The Midlands Engine area had 397,170 claimants in May 2021, a decrease of 16,485 claimants (-4.0%) from April 2021; the UK decreased by 4.8% over this period. When compared to May 2020, the proportion of claimants decreased by 5.6% (-23,410) in the Midlands Engine area, while UK-wide decreased by 5.9%. The Midlands Engine area now has 175,630 more claimants since March 2020. This is an increase of 79.3%, while the UK overall figure has increased by 97.3%.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 4.7% compared to 4.6% for UK in May 2021.
- In May 2021, there were 78,285 youth claimants in the Midlands Engine area, a decrease of 5.2% (-4,325) from April 2021, while for the UK there was a decrease of 6.0%. When compared to May 2020, the proportion of youth claimants decreased by 7.0% (-5,860) in the Midlands Engine area, while UK-wide decreased by 6.8%. The Midlands Engine area has 34,090 more youth claimants compared to March 2020. This is an increase of 77.1%, while the UK increased by 94.4%.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 -24 years old is 6.8% compared to 6.6% for the UK in May 2021.

In Detail:

Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

- There were 397,170 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in May 2021, this is a decrease of 16,485 claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 4.0% for the Midlands Engine area while the UK decreased by 4.8%. Excluding Boston (which increased by 80 claimants to 2,855), all local authorities within the Midlands Engine experienced a decrease of claimants when compared to April 2021.
- Since May 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 23,410 (-5.6% compared to a decrease of 5.9% for the UK).
- Since March 2020 (221,540 claimants), the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 175,630 (+79.3% compared to +97.3% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 4.7% compared to 4.6% for the UK in May 2021.

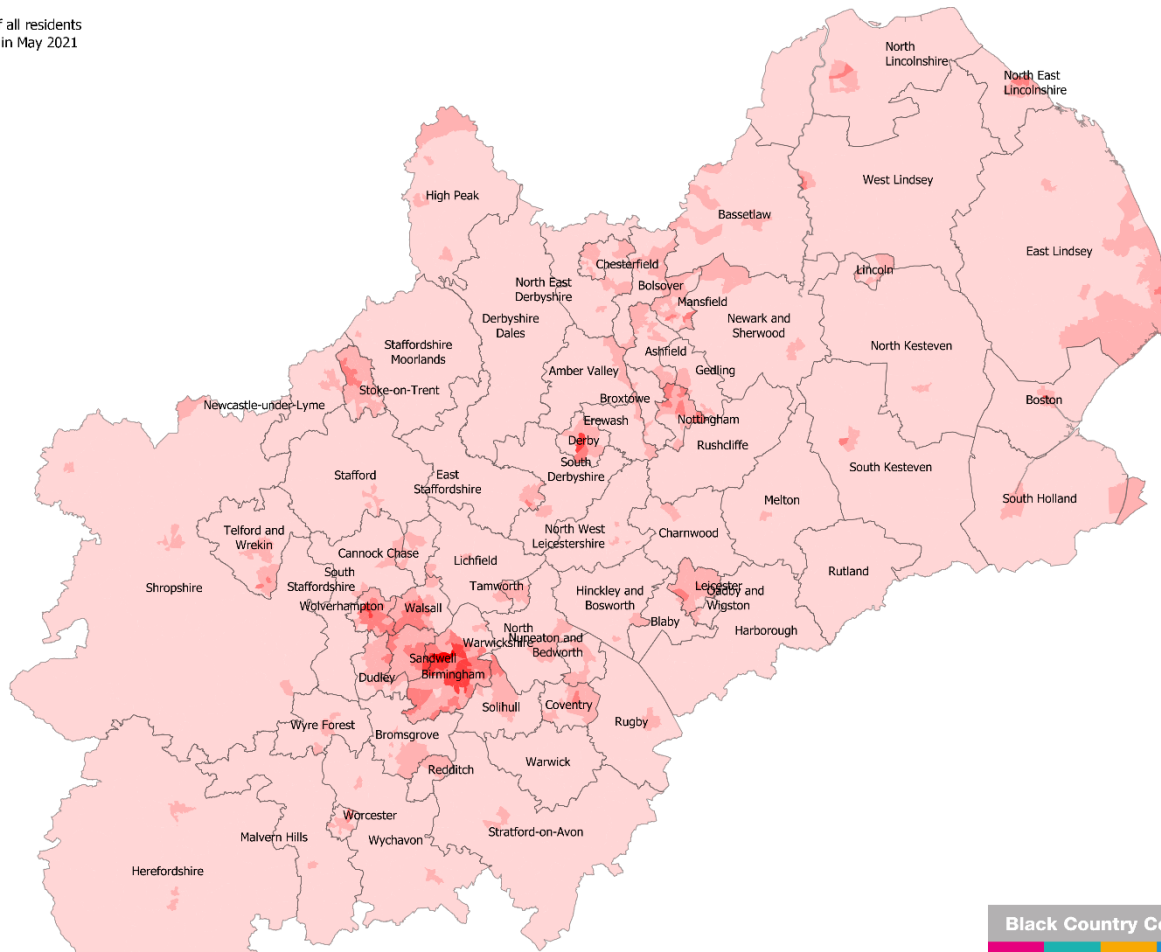
Ward Analysis – Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 411 were at or above the UK average of 4.6% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 years and over in May 2021.
- The wards with the highest the number of claimants as a percentage of the population were based in Birmingham, with Lozells the highest with 17.9%. This is followed by Handsworth at 17.5% and then Birchfield at 16.8%.

¹ ONS/Department for Work and Pensions: Claimant Count – released June 2021

The following map shows claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in May 2021 across the Midlands Engine:

Claimants as a % of all residents aged 16+ per ward in May 2021



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Youth Claimant (Aged 16-24 Years Old)

- There were 78,285 youth claimants (16-24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in May 2021, a decrease of 4,325 claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 5.2% with the UK decreasing by 6.0%. All of the local authorities within the Midlands Engine experienced a decrease in youth claimants when compared to April 2021.
- Since May 2020, the number of youth claimants has decreased by 5,860 (-5.2% compared to -6.0% for the UK).
- Since March 2020 (44,195 claimants), the number of youth claimants has increased by 34,090 (+77.1% compared to +94.4% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16-24 years old was 6.8% compared to 6.6% for the UK average in May 2021.

Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 604 were at or above the UK average of 6.6% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged between 16-24 years old in May 2021.
- The wards with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of the population were; East Park (17.3%), Handsworth (16.6%), Bushbury South and Low Hill, Mablethorpe and Winthorpe (all at 16.3%).

The following map shows claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16-24 years old in May 2021:

Claimants as a % of all residents aged 16-24 per ward in May 2021

- <4%
- 4 to 8%
- 8 to 12 %
- 12 to 16%
- 16 to 20%

