

Claimant Count - May 2021 Release¹

Key Points:

- The Midlands Engine area had 416,405 claimants in April 2021, a decrease of 4,955 claimants (-1.2%) from March 2021; the UK decreased by 1.0% over this period. When compared to April 2020, the proportion of claimants increased by 20.5% (+70,715) in the Midlands Engine area, while UK-wide increased by 25.3%. The Midlands Engine area now has 194,865 more claimants since March 2020. This is an increase of 88.0%, while the UK increased by 108.7%.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 5.0% compared to 4.9% for UK in April 2021.
- In April 2021, there were 83,235 youth claimants in the Midlands Engine area, a decrease of 1.3% (-1,090) from March 2021, while for the UK there was a decrease of 1.6%. When compared to April 2020, the proportion of youth claimants increased by 26.2% (+17,290) in the Midlands Engine area, while UK-wide increased by 31.8%. The Midlands Engine area has 39,040 more youth claimants compared to March 2020. This is an increase of 88.3%, while the UK increased by 108.5%.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 -24 years old is 7.2% compared to 7.1% for the UK in April 2021.

In Detail:

Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

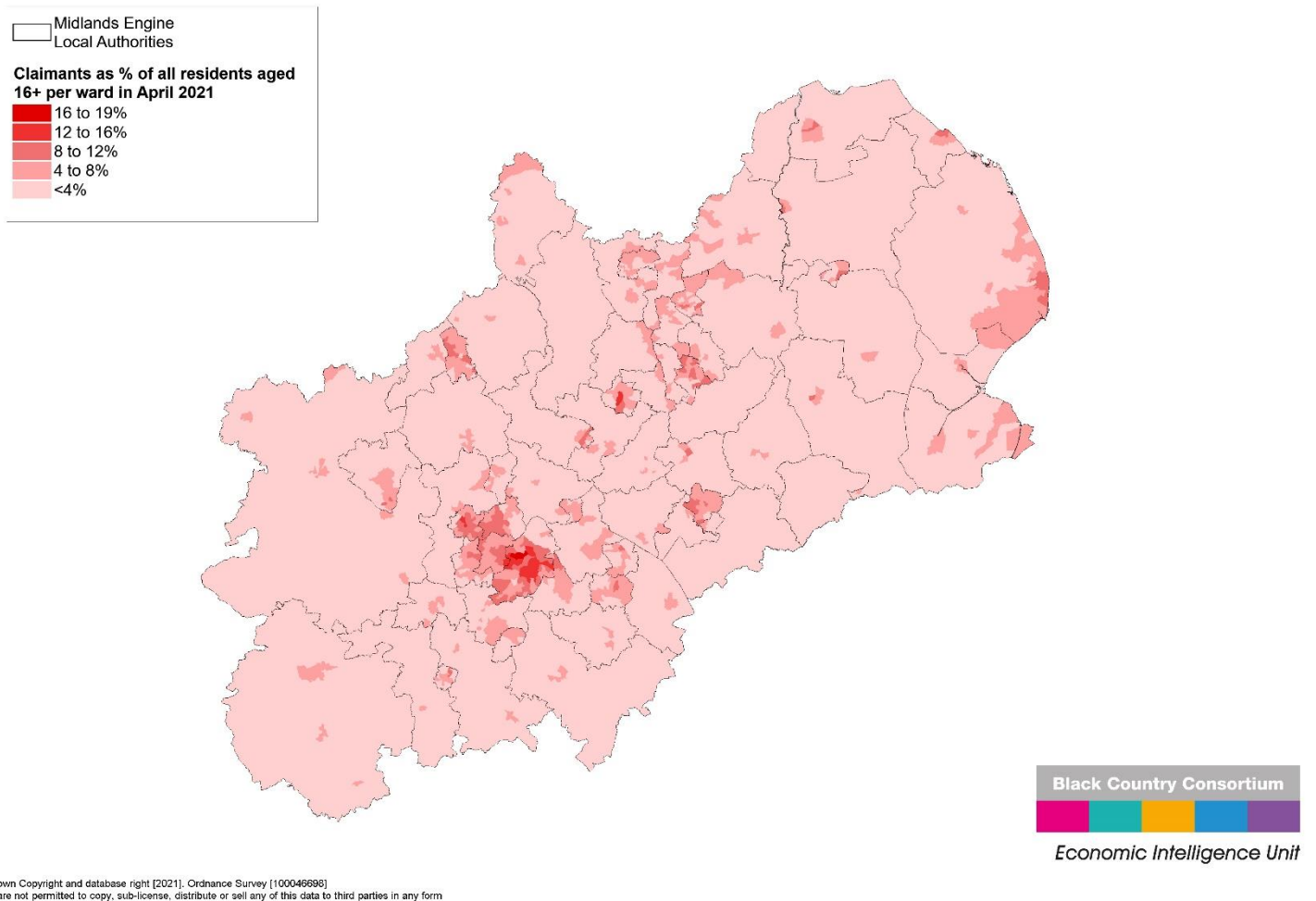
- There were 416,405 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in April 2021, this is a decrease of 4,955 claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 1.2% for the Midlands Engine area while the UK decreased by 1.0%.
- Since April 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 70,715 (+20.5% compared to +25.3% for the UK).
- Since March 2020 (221,540 claimants), the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 194,865 (+88.0% compared to +108.7% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 5.0% compared to 4.9% for the UK in April 2021.

Ward Analysis – Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 408 were at or above the UK average of 4.9% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 years and over in April 2021.
- The top wards for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population were based in Birmingham, with Lozells the highest with 18.1%. This is followed by Handsworth at 17.8% and then Birchfield at 16.7%.

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

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



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Youth Claimant (Aged 16-24 Years Old)

- There were 83,235 youth claimants (16-24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in April 2021, a decrease of 1,090 claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 1.3% with the UK decreasing by 1.6%.
- Since April 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 17,290 (+26.2% compared to +31.8% for the UK).
- Since March 2020 (44,195 claimants), the number of youth claimants has increased by 39,040 (+88.3% compared to +108.5% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16-24 years old was 7.2% compared to 7.1% for the UK average in April 2021.

Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 610 were at or above the UK average of 7.1% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged between 16-24 years old in April 2021.

- The top wards for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population was in Mablethorpe at 19.6%, East Park at 18.1% and then Handsworth at 17.5%.

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

