

Midlands Engine Claimant Count – February 2022 Release¹

Key Points:

- There were 302,820 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in January 2022, this is an increase of 295 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 0.1% for the Midlands Engine area, compared to a 0.2% decrease across the UK. Since January 2021, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 101,320 (-25.1% compared to a decrease of 29.2% for the UK). Since March 2020 (221,540 claimants), the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 81,280 (+36.7% compared to +42.9% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.6% compared to 3.3% for the UK in January 2022.
- There were 51,045 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in January 2022, a decrease of 885 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 1.7% with the UK decreasing by 2.3%. Since January 2021, the number of youth claimants has decreased by 29,595 (-36.7% compared to -41.9% for the UK). Since March 2020 (44,195 claimants), the number of youth claimants has increased by 6,850 (+15.5% compared to +18.7% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.4% compared to 4.1% for the UK proportion in January 2022.

In Detail:

Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

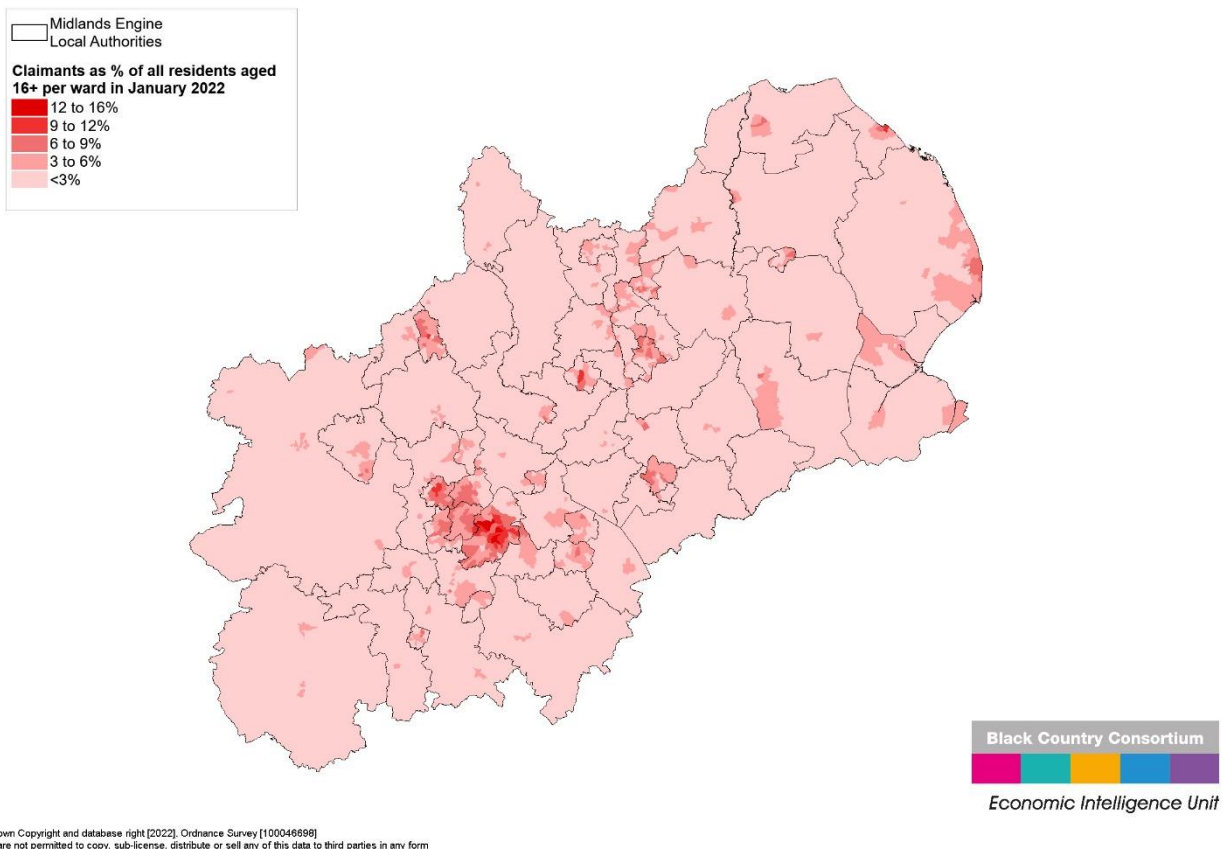
- There were 302,820 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in January 2022, this is an increase of 295 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 0.1% for the Midlands Engine area, compared to a 0.2% decrease across the UK. Out of the 65 local authorities within the Midlands Engine, 31 experienced an increase and a further 1 remained the same level. The largest number increases were in East Lindsey (+290), Leicester (+130) and Tamworth (+90).
- Since January 2021, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 101,320 (-25.1% compared to a decrease of 29.2% for the UK).
- Since March 2020 (221,540 claimants), the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 81,280 (+36.7% compared to +42.9% for the UK). East Lindsey had the smallest percentage increase at 8.9% more claimants than in March 2020, whereas Stratford-on-Avon with saw the largest increase at 93.3%.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.6% compared to 3.3% for the UK in January 2022.

Ward Analysis – Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 425 were at or above the UK average of 3.3% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 years and over in January 2022.
- The wards with the highest the number of claimants as a percentage of the population were based in Birmingham, with Birchfield the highest with 15.0%. This is followed by Handsworth at 14.7% and then Lozells at 14.0%.
- In contrast, within the Midlands Engine the wards with the lowest number of claimants as a percentage of the population were in Keele (Newcastle-under-Lyme) and Ashby Castle (North West Leicestershire), both at 0.2% and Hlland at 0.3% (Derbyshire Dales).

¹ Office for National Statistics (ONS)/Department for Work and Pensions (DWP): Claimant Count – released February 2022

The following map shows claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in January 2022 across the Midlands Engine:



Youth Claimants (Aged 16 – 24 Years Old)

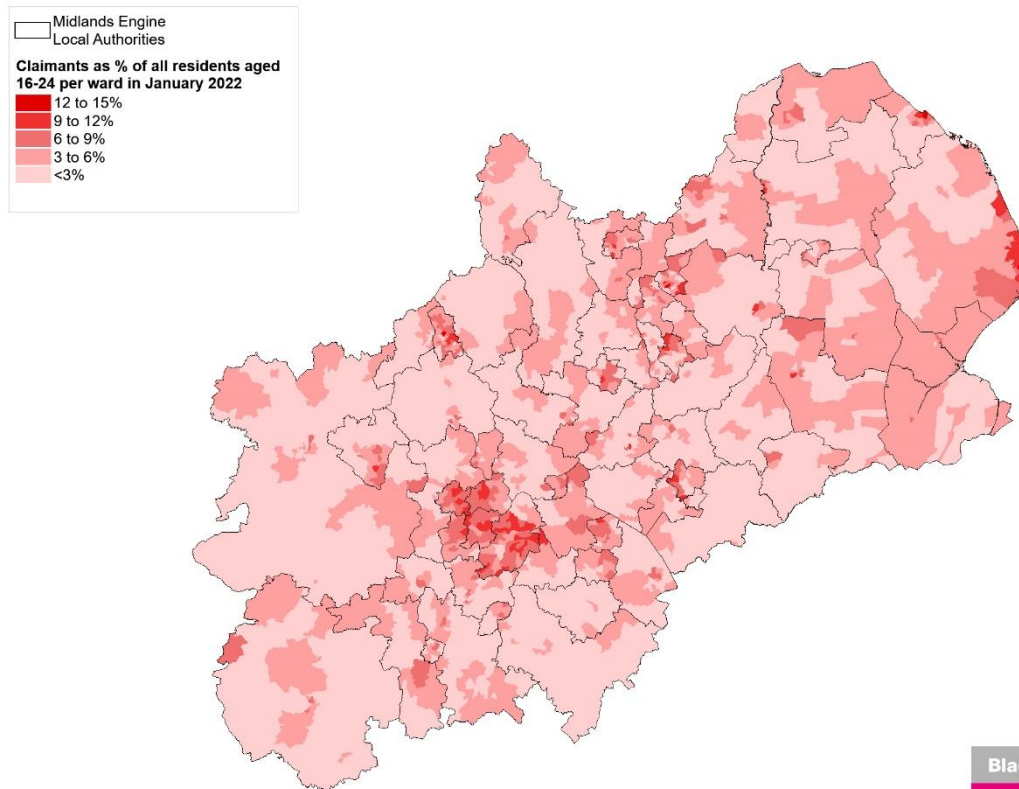
- There were 51,045 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in January 2022, a decrease of 885 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 1.7% with the UK decreasing by 2.3%. Ten of the local authorities within the Midlands Engine experienced an increase in youth claimants with the highest number increase seen in East Lindsey (+55), Walsall (+20) and Malvern Hills (+15). A further ten local authorities remained at the same level when compared to December 2021.
- Since January 2021, the number of youth claimants has decreased by 29,595 (-36.7% compared to -41.9% for the UK).
- Since March 2020 (44,195 claimants), the number of youth claimants has increased by 6,850 (+15.5% compared to +18.7% for the UK). Within the Midlands Engine, nine local authorities in January 2022 were below the March 2020 youth claimant number and further three local authorities were at the same level.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.4% compared to 4.1% for the UK proportion in January 2022.

Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 605 were at or above the UK average of 4.1% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 – 24 years and over in January 2022.
- The ward with the highest the number of claimants as a percentage of the population was based in Portland (Mansfield) at 14.9%. This is followed East Marsh (North East Lincolnshire) at 13.2% and then Winthorpe (East Lindsey) at 12.6%.

- In contrast, within the Midlands Engine there were 93 wards with no youth claimants in January 2022.

The following map shows youth claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old in January 2022 across the Midlands Engine:



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