

## Midlands Engine: Annual Population Survey: Labour Market 2021<sup>1</sup>

### In Summary:

- In 2021, the employment rate in the Midlands Engine area was 73.6%, compared to 74.7% for the UK overall. When compared to 2020, the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 0.4 percentage points (pp) which matched the UK decline rate.
- The unemployment rate for the Midlands Engine was approximately 4.6% compared to 4.5% for the UK in 2021. For the Midlands Engine, this is a decrease of approximately 0.5pp compared to the UK decrease of 0.2pp since 2020.
- The economic activity rate for the Midlands Engine area was 77.3% compared to 78.2% for the UK in 2021. For the Midlands Engine area, the economic activity rate has decreased by 0.8pp since 2020. The UK has decreased by 0.6pp in the same period.
- For economic inactivity, the Midlands Engine rate was 22.7% for compared to 21.8% for the UK overall in 2021. Since 2020, for the Midlands Engine area, this has increased by 0.8pp while the UK increased by 0.6pp.

### In Detail:

**In the appendix is a table containing Midlands Engine local authority data for employment rate, unemployment rate, economic activity rate and economically inactive for 2021 and also the change from 2020.**

#### Employment Rate

- In 2021, the employment rate in the Midlands Engine area was 73.6%, compared to 74.7% for the UK overall. When compared to 2020, the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 0.4 percentage points (pp) which matched the UK decline rate.
- Within the Midlands Engine, 37 local authority areas have employment rates that are at or above the UK average (74.7%). North Warwickshire recorded the highest rate at 84.7%, down to East Lindsey with the lowest at 57.3%.
- Since 2020, the employment rate in 27 of the Midlands Engine local authorities increased a further 2 local authorities have remained at the same level (Coventry at 71.2% and High Peak at 75.3%). The highest percentage point increase in the employment rate was in Lincoln by 14.9pp (to 79.8%), in contrast the highest percentage point decrease in the employment rate was in Tamworth by 14.7pp (to 71.1%).

#### Unemployment Rate

- The unemployment rate for the Midlands Engine was approximately 4.6% compared to 4.5% for the UK in 2021. For the Midlands Engine, this is a decrease of approximately 0.5pp compared to the UK decrease of 0.2pp since 2020.
- Where data is available across the Midlands Engine area, the unemployment rate varies from Wychavon which recorded the lowest unemployment rate at 1.4% to Boston at 12.2%<sup>2</sup>.
- Where data is available, the highest percentage point increase in the unemployment rate was in Blaby by 6.1pp (to 12%), in contrast the highest percentage point decrease in the unemployment rate was in Chesterfield by 6.1pp (to 4.1%).

#### Economic Activity Rate

- The economic activity rate for the Midlands Engine area was 77.3% compared to 78.2% for the UK in 2021. For the Midlands Engine area, the economic activity rate has decreased by 0.8pp since 2020. The UK has decreased by 0.6pp in the same period.

<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS): Annual Population Survey, released January 2022

<sup>2</sup> Please note, some estimates within the Midlands Engine are not available since the group sample size is zero or disclosive (0-2).

- Within the Midlands Engine, 34 local authority areas have economically active rates that are at or above the UK average (78.2%). Charnwood and Ashfield recorded the highest rates both at 86.3%, down to East Lindsey with the lowest at 63.1%.
- Since 2020, the economic activity rate in 30 of the Midlands Engine local authorities increased and a further 2 local authorities remained the same (Coventry at 75.8% and Harborough at 85.4%). The highest percentage point increase in the economic activity rate was in Lincoln by 10.1pp (to 81.2%), in contrast the highest percentage point decrease in the economic activity rate was in Tamworth by 14.1pp (to 72.3%).

### Economic Inactivity<sup>2</sup>

- For economic inactivity, the Midlands Engine rate was 22.7% for compared to 21.8% for the UK overall in 2021. Since 2020, for the Midlands Engine area, this has increased by 0.8pp while the UK increased by 0.6pp.
- Economic inactivity can be broken down further into reasons of inactivity. For 2021, the Midlands Engine had a higher percentage of people that were inactive when compared to the UK in one category; student (28.3% vs 28.1%).

### Midlands Engine and UK Economic Inactivity by reason, 2021:

	Midlands Engine	UK
Student	28.3%	28.1%
Looking after family/home	19.0%	19.1%
Temporary Sick	0.9%	2.0%
Long-Term Sick	24.0%	24.8%
Discouraged	0%	0.5%
Retired	13.4%	13.8%
Other	10.3%	11.7%

Table may not equal 100% due to data gaps.

### Employment by Occupation

- The following table shows employment proportions by occupation for the Midlands Engine and the UK for 2021. The Midlands Engine have a higher than the UK average percentage of people employed in four of the nine occupations, these include: skilled trades occupations (9.7% vs 8.8%), caring, leisure and other service occupations (10.1% vs 9.2%), process, plant and machine operatives (7.3% vs 5.5%) and elementary occupations (11.0% vs 9.5%).

### Midlands Engine and UK Employment by Occupation Proportions, 2021:

	Midlands Engine	UK
1: Managers, directors and senior officials	9.9%	10.5%
2: Professional occupations	21.6%	23.7%
3: Associate prof & tech occupations	13.4%	15.3%
4: Administrative and secretarial occupations	9.8%	10.2%
5: Skilled trades occupations	9.7%	8.8%
6: Caring, leisure and other service occupations	10.1%	9.2%
7: Sales and customer service occupations	6.7%	7.0%
8: Process, plant and machine operatives	7.3%	5.5%
9: Elementary occupations	11.0%	9.5%

Table may not equal 100% due to data gaps

## Appendix

Employment activity (for those aged 16-64) across the Midlands Engine local authorities for 2021 and percentage point change since 2020:

	Economic activity rate		Employment rate		Unemployment rate		Economically inactive	
	2021	PP change 2020	2021	PP change 2020	2021	PP change 2020	2021	PP change 2020
Birmingham	71.3%	-0.5pp	64.4%	-1.0pp	9.7%	0.8pp	28.7%	0.5pp
Bromsgrove	86.1%	4.4pp	83.0%	2.5pp	3.5%	-	13.9%	-4.4pp
Cannock Chase	83.9%	-4.2pp	75.9%	-7.6pp	9.5%	4.2pp	16.1%	4.2pp
Coventry	75.8%	0pp	71.2%	0pp	6.0%	-0.1pp	24.2%	0pp
Dudley	82.2%	5.4pp	78.6%	7.0pp	4.4%	-2.3pp	17.8%	-5.4pp
East Staffordshire	83.0%	2.5pp	80.1%	3.7pp	3.4%	-1.7pp	17.0%	-2.5pp
Herefordshire, County of	81.4%	0.7pp	78.1%	-0.2pp	4.1%	1.1pp	18.6%	-0.7pp
Lichfield	70.8%	-12.3pp	67.3%	-9.5pp	5.0%	-2.6pp	29.2%	12.3pp
Malvern Hills	80.5%	4.2pp	74.3%	0.5pp	7.7%	-	19.5%	-4.2pp
Newcastle-under-Lyme	79.7%	1.6pp	75.8%	5.8pp	4.8%	-5.6pp	20.3%	-1.6pp
North Warwickshire	85.8%	8.9pp	84.7%	8.9pp	-	-	14.2%	-8.9pp
Nuneaton and Bedworth	83.3%	1.7pp	82.4%	3.5pp	-	-	16.7%	-1.7pp
Redditch	77.4%	-8.1pp	75.5%	-3.6pp	2.5%	-5.0pp	22.6%	8.1pp
Rugby	80.2%	-2.6pp	78.8%	-0.7pp	-	-	19.8%	2.6pp
Sandwell	77.2%	2.0pp	73.2%	2.1pp	5.2%	-0.3pp	22.8%	-2.0pp
Shropshire	76.8%	-4.0pp	75.1%	-2.3pp	2.2%	-2.1pp	23.2%	4.0pp
Solihull	80.4%	-1.0pp	77.4%	-0.4pp	3.7%	-0.8pp	19.6%	1.0pp
South Staffordshire	82.5%	4.8pp	82.5%	9.6pp	-	-	17.5%	-4.8pp
Stafford	80.6%	2.6pp	79.2%	3.9pp	1.7%	-1.7pp	19.4%	-2.6pp
Staffordshire Moorlands	86.0%	1.6pp	83.8%	0.7pp	-	-	14.0%	-1.6pp
Stoke-on-Trent	79.9%	2.0pp	76.7%	1.1pp	3.9%	1.0pp	20.1%	-2.0pp
Stratford-on-Avon	79.8%	-4.5pp	76.8%	-5.2pp	3.8%	1.1pp	20.2%	4.5pp
Tamworth	72.3%	-14.1pp	71.1%	-14.7pp	-	-	27.7%	14.1pp
Telford and Wrekin	76.2%	-2.4pp	73.2%	-0.5pp	3.9%	-2.3pp	23.8%	2.4pp
Walsall	75.6%	-1.0pp	70.1%	-2.4pp	7.3%	2.0pp	24.4%	1.0pp
Warwick	82.7%	-1.1pp	79.4%	-1.2pp	3.9%	0.1pp	17.3%	1.1pp
Wolverhampton	76.1%	-0.8pp	71.1%	-2.0pp	6.5%	1.6pp	23.9%	0.8pp
Worcester	85.3%	8.4pp	83.9%	10.5pp	-	-	14.7%	-8.4pp
Wychavon	82.1%	2.2pp	80.9%	1.7pp	1.4%	-	17.9%	-2.2pp
Wyre Forest	76.0%	-8.0pp	73.4%	-6.9pp	3.4%	-1.0pp	24.0%	8.0pp
Amber Valley	74.7%	-8.1pp	74.0%	-6.0pp	-	-	25.3%	8.1pp
Ashfield	86.3%	8.8pp	82.7%	7.9pp	4.1%	0.6pp	13.7%	-8.8pp
Bassetlaw	70.7%	-8.1pp	70.1%	-5.9pp	-	-	29.3%	8.1pp
Blaby	86.0%	1.9pp	75.7%	-3.4pp	12.0%	6.1pp	14.0%	-1.9pp
Bolsover	75.0%	0.7pp	72.7%	5.8pp	-	-	25.0%	-0.7pp
Boston	83.2%	4.3pp	73.1%	-1.9pp	12.2%	-	16.8%	-4.3pp
Broxtowe	80.3%	0.9pp	77.1%	0.4pp	4.0%	0.6pp	19.7%	-0.9pp
Charnwood	86.3%	1.4pp	81.9%	-2.2pp	5.2%	-	13.7%	-1.4pp
Chesterfield	76.3%	-3.7pp	73.2%	1.3pp	4.1%	-6.1pp	23.7%	3.7pp
Derby	76.6%	-2.4pp	73.6%	-1.4pp	3.9%	-1.1pp	23.4%	2.4pp
Derbyshire Dales	71.3%	-6.9pp	68.9%	-8.1pp	-	-	28.7%	6.9pp
East Lindsey	63.1%	-12.1pp	57.3%	-12.4pp	9.2%	1.9pp	36.9%	12.1pp
Erewash	75.2%	-10.4pp	74.7%	-9.2pp	-	-	24.8%	10.4pp
Gedling	78.4%	-0.8pp	70.3%	-4.8pp	10.3%	5.1pp	21.6%	0.8pp

	Economic activity rate		Employment rate		Unemployment rate		Economically inactive	
	2021	PP change 2020	2021	PP change 2020	2021	PP change 2020	2021	PP change 2020
Harborough	85.4%	0pp	80.1%	-2.2pp	6.2%	2.5pp	14.6%	0pp
High Peak	80.3%	-2.0pp	75.3%	0pp	6.3%	-2.2pp	19.7%	2.0pp
Hinckley and Bosworth	82.4%	-1.4pp	78.3%	-2.1pp	5.0%	0.9pp	17.6%	1.4pp
Leicester	68.3%	-8.5pp	63.8%	-8.4pp	6.6%	0.6pp	31.7%	8.5pp
Lincoln	81.2%	10.1pp	79.8%	14.9pp	-	-	18.8%	-10.1pp
Mansfield	64.0%	-12.0pp	61.8%	-7.2pp	3.3%	-5.9pp	36.0%	12.0pp
Melton	73.3%	-9.5pp	70.1%	-9.5pp	-	-	26.7%	9.5pp
Newark and Sherwood	72.7%	-6.0pp	67.5%	-7.6pp	7.2%	-	27.3%	6.0pp
North East Derbyshire	84.9%	7.1pp	84.0%	8.0pp	-	-	15.1%	-7.1pp
North Kesteven	84.0%	4.7pp	81.3%	4.9pp	3.2%	-0.5pp	16.0%	-4.7pp
North West Leicestershire	82.4%	7.1pp	78.7%	8.1pp	4.5%	-1.7pp	17.6%	-7.1pp
Nottingham	75.6%	-1.2pp	71.7%	-0.2pp	5.2%	-1.2pp	24.4%	1.2pp
Oadby and Wigston	76.2%	-1.0pp	76.2%	-1.0pp	-	-	23.8%	1.0pp
Rushcliffe	83.5%	5.3pp	81.0%	7.2pp	3.0%	-2.6pp	16.5%	-5.3pp
Rutland	77.5%	1.8pp	75.4%	4.1pp	2.6%	-3.1pp	22.5%	-1.8pp
South Derbyshire	85.0%	3.2pp	80.4%	2.3pp	5.4%	0.8pp	15.0%	-3.2pp
South Holland	76.2%	-2.6pp	73.8%	-0.5pp	-	-	23.8%	2.6pp
South Kesteven	78.0%	2.3pp	77.3%	5.8pp	-	-	22.0%	-2.3pp
West Lindsey	73.6%	1.1pp	73.6%	4.7pp	-	-	26.4%	-1.1pp
North East Lincolnshire	74.7%	-2.1pp	72.4%	-0.4pp	3.1%	-2.1pp	25.3%	2.1pp
North Lincolnshire	73.7%	-4.2pp	72.3%	-0.8pp	1.9%	-4.3pp	26.3%	4.2pp
<b>Midlands Engine</b>	<b>77.3%</b>	<b>-0.8pp</b>	<b>73.6%</b>	<b>-0.4pp</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>-0.5pp</b>	<b>22.7%</b>	<b>0.8pp</b>
UK	78.2%	-0.6pp	74.7%	-0.4pp	4.5%	-0.2pp	21.8%	0.6pp

- Denotes missing data