

## Midlands Engine Claimant Count – July 2022 Release<sup>1</sup>

### Key Points:

- There were 271,575 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in June 2022, this is a decrease of 1,890 claimants since the previous month. This equated to a decrease of 0.7% for the Midlands Engine area, compared to a 1.2% decrease across the UK. Since June 2021, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 97,500 (-26.4% compared to a decrease of 31.6% for the UK). Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 50,035 (+22.6% compared to +23.2% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.2% compared to 2.9% for the UK in June 2022.
- There were 45,480 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in June 2022, a decrease of 270 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 0.6% with the UK decreasing by 0.7%. Since May 2021, the number of youth claimants has decreased by 26,385 (-36.7% compared to -42.0% for the UK). Since March 2020 (44,195 claimants), the number of youth claimants has increased by 1,285 (+2.9% compared to +2.0% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 3.9% compared to 3.5% for the UK proportion in May 2022.

### In Detail:

#### Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

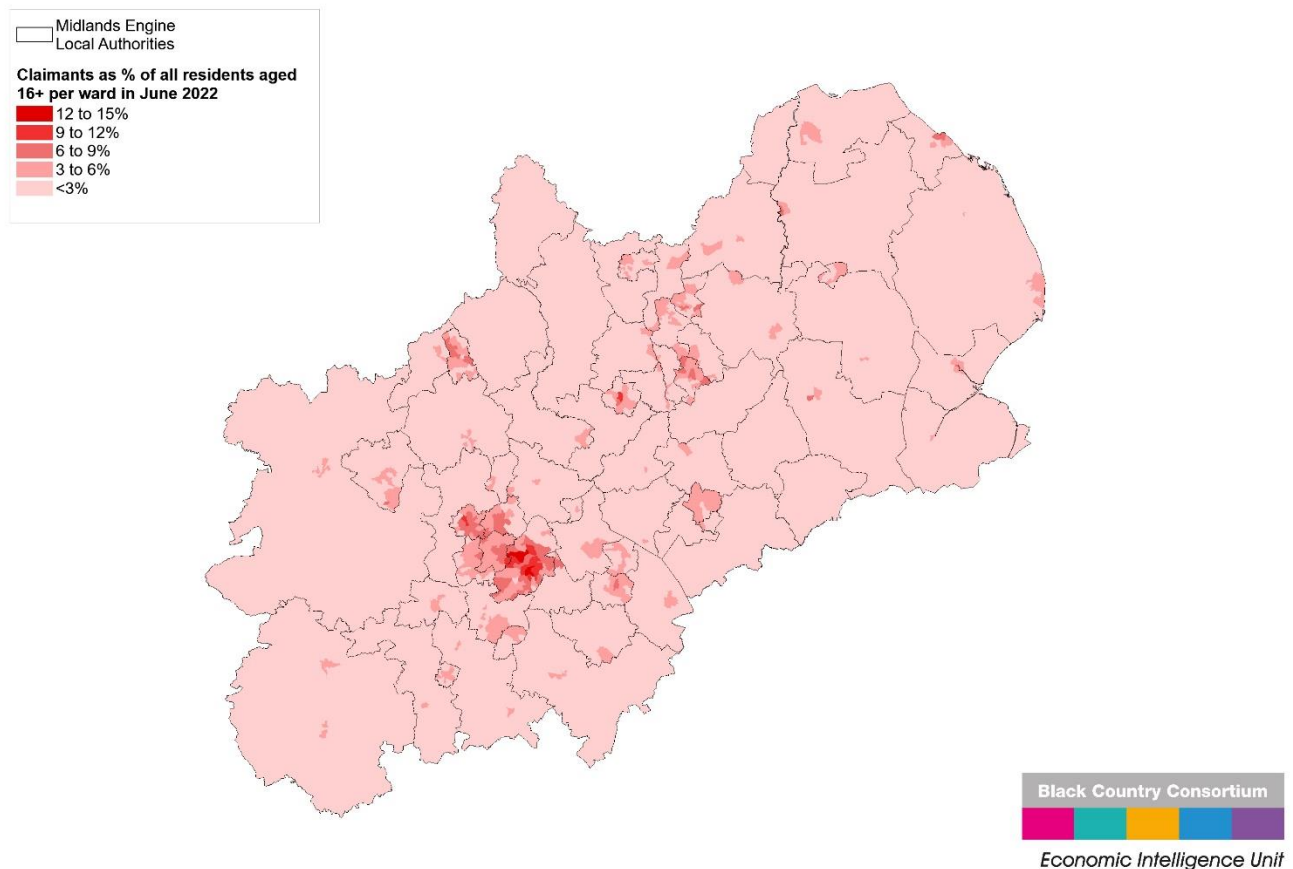
- There were 271,575 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in June 2022, this is a decrease of 1,890 claimants since the previous month. This equated to a decrease of 0.7% for the Midlands Engine area, compared to a 1.2% decrease across the UK. Within the Midlands Engine, fourteen local authorities increased and four remained at the same level since May 2022.
- Since June 2021, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 97,500 (-26.4% compared to a decrease of 31.6% for the UK).
- Since March 2020 (221,540 claimants), the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 50,035 (+22.6% compared to +23.2% for the UK). Notably, East Lindsey, North East Lincolnshire and North Lincolnshire had lower levels than March 2020 (-820, -315 and -25 respectively).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.2% compared to 2.9% for the UK in June 2022.

#### Ward Analysis – Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 422 were at or above the UK average of 2.9% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 years and over in June 2022.
- The wards with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of the population were based in Birmingham, Handsworth the highest with 14.6%. This is followed by Birchfield at 14.4% and then Lozells at 14.2%.
- 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) Ashby Castle (North West Leicestershire), both at 0.2%.

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

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



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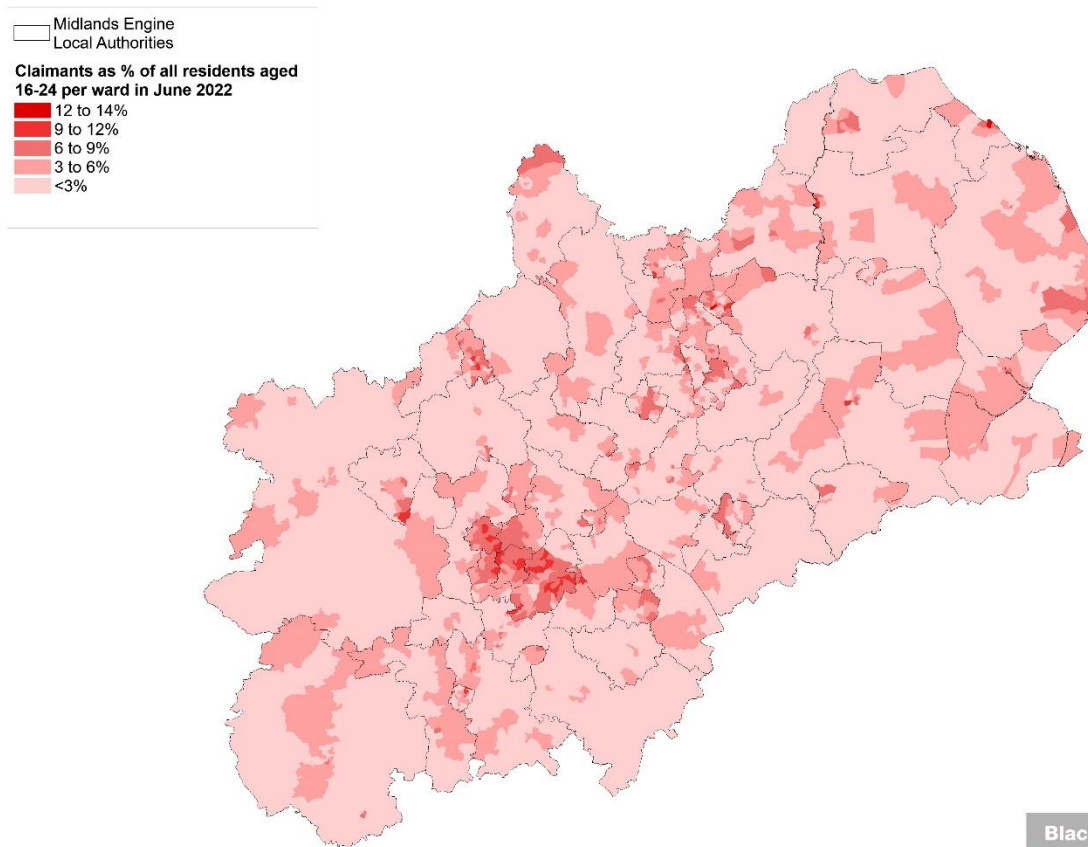
### Youth Claimants (Aged 16 – 24 Years Old)

- There were 45,480 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in June 2022, a decrease of 270 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 0.6% with the UK decreasing by 0.7%. Within the Midlands Engine, 33 local authorities decreased, 9 local authorities remained the same and 23 increased.
- Since May 2021, the number of youth claimants has decreased by 26,385 (-36.7% compared to -42.0% for the UK).
- Since March 2020 (44,195 claimants), the number of youth claimants has increased by 1,285 (+2.9% compared to +2.0% for the UK). Notably, 32 local authorities were lower than March 2020 levels and a further 3 was 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 3.9% compared to 3.5% for the UK proportion in May 2022.

### Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 594 were at or above the UK average of 3.5% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 – 24 years and over in June 2022.
- The ward with the highest the number of claimants as a percentage of the population was based in Portland (Mansfield) at 13.1%. This is by followed East Marsh (North East Lincolnshire) at 12.8%, then Oak Tree (Mansfield) and Handsworth both at 11.4%.
- In contrast, within the Midlands Engine there were 136 wards with no youth claimants in June 2022.

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



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## Alternative Claimant Count<sup>2</sup>

These statistics measure the number of people claiming unemployment related benefits by modelling what the count would have been if Universal Credit had been fully rolled out since 2013. Trends over time for local areas can be considered using the Claimant Count prior to 2013, and the Alternative Claimant Count from 2013. The figures cannot be directly compared as they are defined differently.

### All Ages

- The alternative claimant count data estimated 259,970 claimants in the Midlands Engine area in May 2022, a decrease of 32.4% (-124,341) when compared to May 2021. Over the same period the UK decreased by 36.9%. The May 2022 all ages alternative claimant count remained above the May 2017 figures for both the Midlands Engine and the UK.

The following table shows the all-ages alternative claimant count, May 2017 – May 2022:

	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-21	May-22	% Change Since May 21	Num. Change Since May 21
<b>Midlands Engine</b>	<b>219,775</b>	<b>219,421</b>	<b>221,369</b>	<b>440,105</b>	<b>384,311</b>	<b>259,970</b>	<b>-32.4%</b>	<b>-124,341</b>
UK	1,308,741	1,284,646	1,282,120	2,764,673	2,423,108	1,529,480	-36.9%	-893,628

### 16-24 years old

- The alternative claimant count data estimated 41,849 claimants aged 16-24 in the Midlands Engine area in May 2022, a decrease of 42.4% (-30,839) when compared to May 2021. Over the same period the UK decreased by 47.8%. The May 2022 youth alternative claimant count remained above the May 2017 figures for both the Midlands Engine and the UK.

The following table shows the 16–24-year-olds alternative claimant count, May 2017 – May 2022:

	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-21	May-22	% Change Since May 21	Num. Change Since May 21
<b>Midlands Engine</b>	<b>34,878</b>	<b>34,581</b>	<b>36,531</b>	<b>82,458</b>	<b>72,688</b>	<b>41,849</b>	<b>-42.4%</b>	<b>-30,839</b>
UK	198,505	191,639	203,144	493,745	437,371	228,326	-47.8%	-209,045

<sup>2</sup> Source: Department for Work and Pensions, Alternative claimant statistics, July 2022