

## Midlands Engine Claimant Count – July 2023 Release<sup>1</sup>

### Key Points:

- There were 274,895 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in June 2023, an increase of 3,430 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 1.3% for the Midlands Engine area, the UK increased by 1.5%. Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 53,355 (+24.1% compared to +22.3% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.3% compared to 2.8% for the UK in June 2023.
- There were 50,695 youth claimants (16–24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in June 2023, an increase of 365 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 0.7% with the UK increasing by 0.5%. Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 6,500 (+14.7% compared to +10.5% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.5% compared to 3.8% for the UK in June 2023.

### In Detail:

#### Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

- There were 274,895 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in June 2023, an increase of 3,430 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 1.3% for the Midlands Engine area, the UK increased by 1.5%.
- The latest monthly change shows a mixed picture within the Midlands Engine as 50 local authorities increased, 10 decreased (Lichfield, North Warwickshire, South Staffordshire, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick, North East Lincolnshire, Amber Valley, Broxtowe, Derbyshire Dales and East Lindsey) and 5 remained at the same level (Staffordshire Moorlands, Hinckley & Bosworth, Mansfield, Melton and North Kesteven).
- Since June 2022, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 5,960 (+2.2% compared to an increase of 0.2% for the UK).
- Change over the year shows that within the Midlands Engine, 38 local authorities increased, 3 remained the same (Malvern Hills, Staffordshire Moorlands and Tamworth) and 24 decreased.
- Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 53,355 (+24.1% compared to +22.3% for the UK).
- Notably, East Lindsey, North East Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire and West Lindsey all had lower levels of claimants than March 2020 (-1,155, -280, -125 and -25 respectively).

The following table shows the number of claimants aged 16+ and change on selected months for the overall Midlands Engine area and the UK:

	Mar 2020	Jun 2022	May 2023	Jun 2023	% Change Since Mar 20	% Change Since Jun 22	% Change Since May 23
Midlands Engine	221,540	268,935	271,465	274,895	24.1%	2.2%	1.3%
UK	1,268,620	1,548,500	1,529,090	1,551,895	22.3%	0.2%	1.5%

- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.3% compared to 2.8% for the UK in June 2023.

<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS)/Department for Work and Pensions (DWP): Claimant Count – released July 2023

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

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 454 were at or above the UK average of 2.8% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 years and over in June 2023.
- The wards with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of the population were based in Birmingham, with Handsworth the highest at 15.6%. This was followed by Lozells at 15.4% and then Birchfield at 15.0%.
- In contrast, the lowest proportion was in Keele (Newcastle-Under-Lyme) at 0.1% in June 2023.

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

- There were 50,695 youth claimants (16–24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in June 2023, an increase of 365 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 0.7% with the UK increasing by 0.5%.
- The latest monthly change shows that within the Midlands Engine, 32 local authorities increased, 13 remained the same level and 20 decreased.
- Since June 2022, the number of youth claimants has increased by 5,465 (+12.1% compared to +9.0% for the UK).
- Change over the year shows that within the Midlands Engine, 59 local authorities increased, 2 remained the same (Lichfield and Wyre Forest) and 4 (Malvern Hills, Solihull, Telford & Wrekin and Harborough) decreased.
- Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 6,500 (+14.7% compared to +10.5% for the UK). Notably, 16 local authorities are lower and 2 (Malvern Hills and Derbyshire Dales) are the same as March 2020 levels.

The following table shows the number of claimants aged 16-24 and change on selected months for the overall Midlands Engine area and the UK:

	Mar 2020	Jun 2022	May 2023	Jun 2023	% Change Since Mar 20	% Change Since Jun 22	% Change Since May 23
<b>Midlands Engine</b>	<b>44,195</b>	<b>45,230</b>	<b>50,330</b>	<b>50,695</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
UK	241,760	245,090	265,725	267,110	10.5%	9.0%	0.5%

- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.5% compared to 3.8% for the UK in June 2023.

### Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 623 were at or above the UK average of 3.8% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16–24 years and over in June 2023.
- The ward with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of the population was Portland (Mansfield) at 16.8%. This was followed by Handsworth at 15.0%.and Newgate (Mansfield) at 14.1%.
- In contrast, within the Midlands Engine there were 119 wards with no youth claimants in June 2023.