

Midlands Engine Claimant Count – October 2023 Release¹

For the interactive report please click [here](#).

Key Points:

- There were 272,145 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in September 2023, an increase of 2,755 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 1.0% for the Midlands Engine area, while the UK increased by 0.9%. Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 50,605 (+22.8% compared to +21.7% 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 2.8% for the UK in September 2023.
- There were 52,665 youth claimants (16–24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in September 2023, an increase of 1,000 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 1.9% with the UK increasing by 1.3%. Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 8,470 (+19.2% compared to +14.2% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.6% compared to 3.9% for the UK in September 2023.

In Detail:

Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

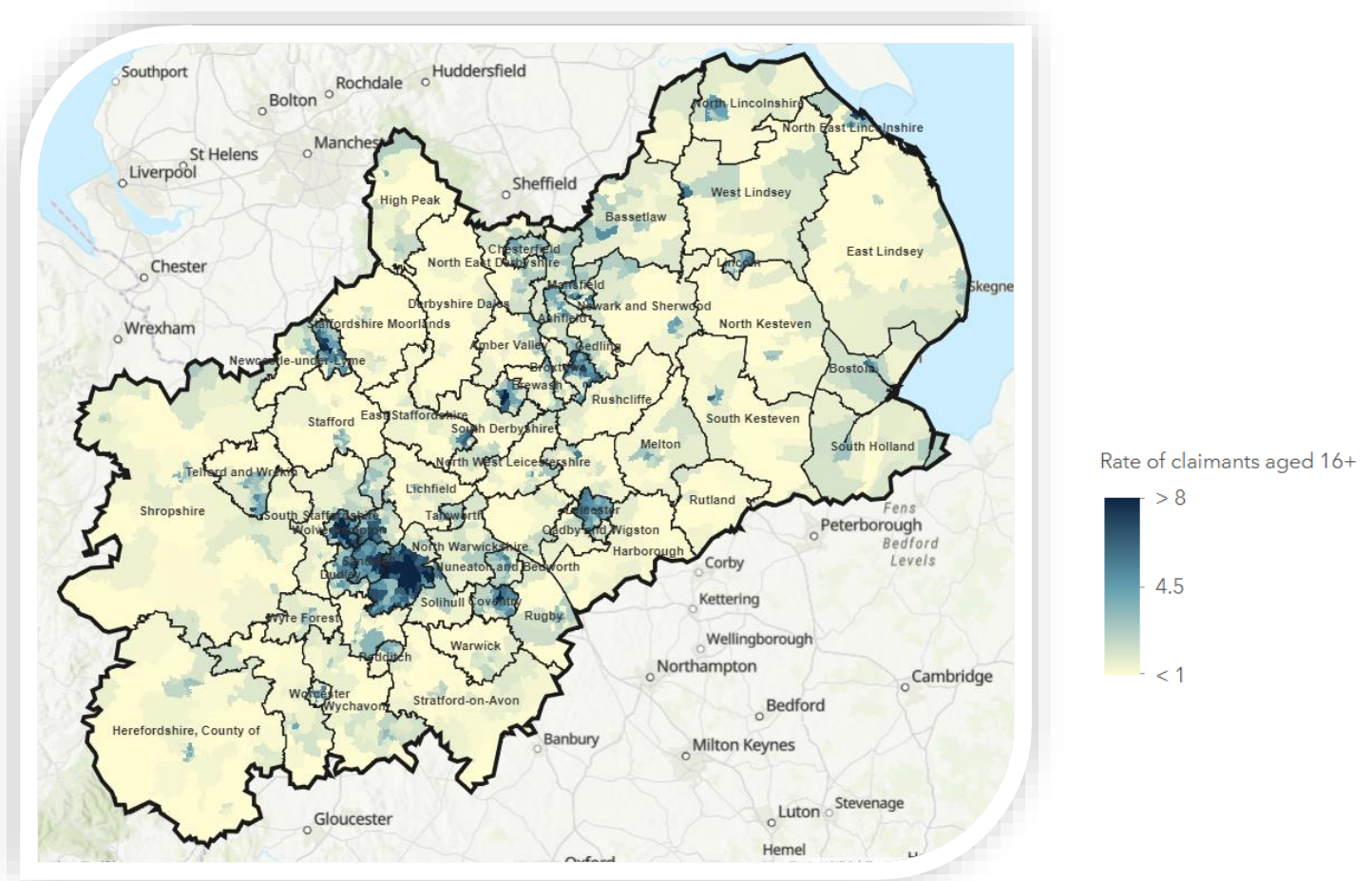
- There were 272,145 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in September 2023, an increase of 2,755 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 1.0% for the Midlands Engine area, while the UK increased by 0.9%.
- The latest monthly change shows across the Midlands Engine geography that 37 local authorities decreased, 23 increased and 5 remained at the same level.
- Since September 2022, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 9,100 (+3.5% compared to an increase of 2.2% for the UK). Within the Midlands Engine, 41 local authorities increased and 24 decreased.
- Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 50,605 (+22.8% compared to +21.7% for the UK). Notably, East Lindsey, North East Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire and West Lindsey all have lower levels of claimants now than in March 2020 (-1,240, -420, -155 and -5 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 2.8% for the UK in September 2023.

Ward Analysis – Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 453 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 September 2023.
- The wards with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of the population were based in Birmingham, with Handsworth the highest at 16.5%. This was followed by Lozells at 15.8% and then Aston at 15.1%.
- In contrast, the lowest proportions were in Keele (Newcastle-Under-Lyme) with 0.1% and Ashby Castle (North West Leicestershire) with 0.2%.

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

The following map shows claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in September 2023 across the Midlands Engine:



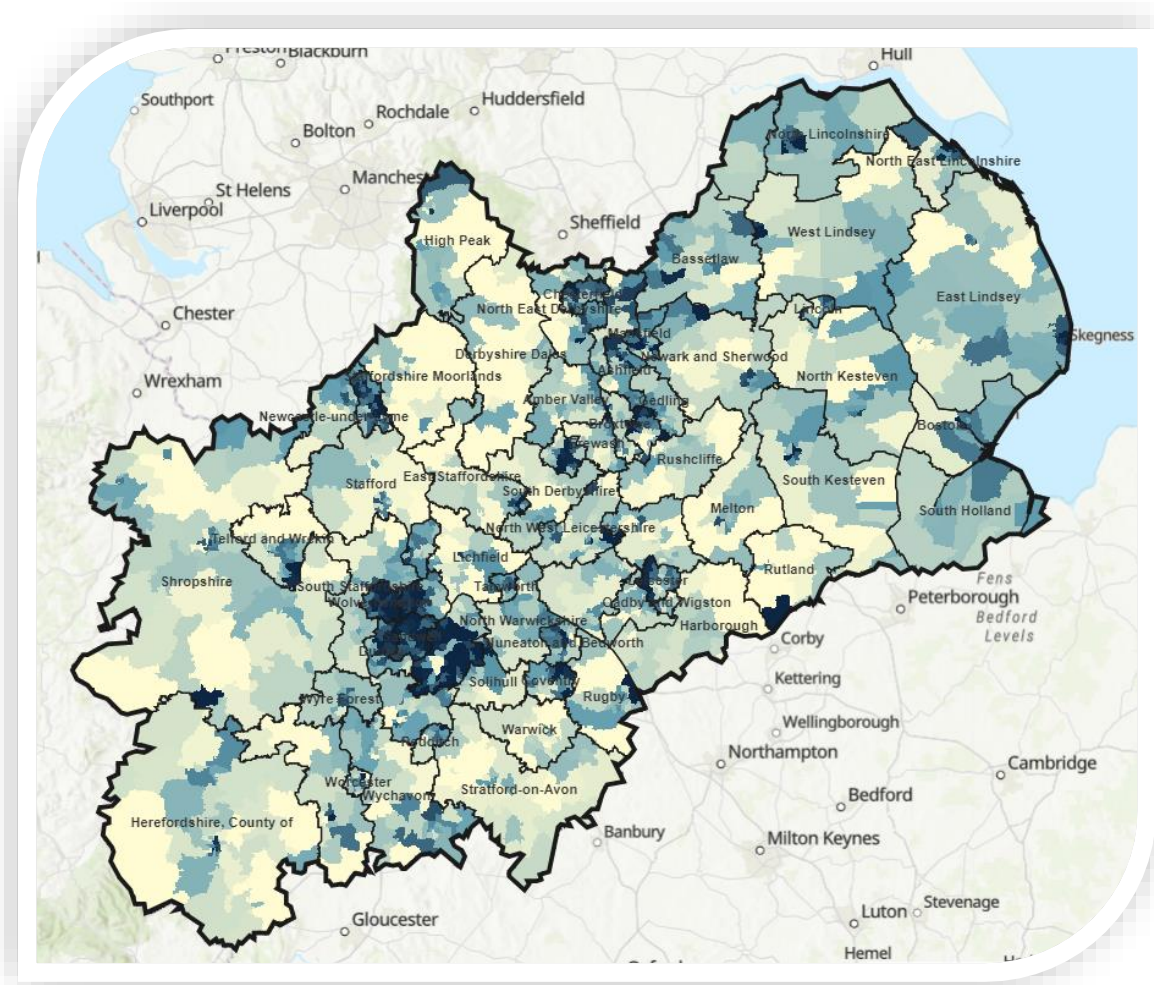
Youth Claimants (Aged 16–24 Years Old)

- There were 52,665 youth claimants (16–24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in September 2023, an increase of 1,000 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 1.9% with the UK increasing by 1.3%.
- The latest monthly change shows that within the Midlands Engine, 37 local authorities increased, 12 remained the same level and 16 decreased.
- Since September 2022, the number of youth claimants has increased by 5,695 (+12.1% compared to +8.7% for the UK). Within the Midlands Engine, 58 local authorities increased, 5 remained the same and 2 decreased (Malvern Hills and Telford & Wrekin).
- Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 8,470 (+19.2% compared to +14.2% for the UK). Notably, 11 local authorities are lower than March 2020 levels.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.6% compared to 3.9% for the UK in September 2023.

Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 635 were at or above the UK average of 3.9% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16–24 years and over in September 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 (Birmingham) at 16.5% and Joiner’s Square (Stoke-on-Trent) at 14.4%.
- In contrast, within the Midlands Engine there were 107 wards with no youth claimants in September 2023.

The following map shows claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16–24 years old in September 2023 across the Midlands Engine:



Ward claimant rate per population for 16-24

