

## Midlands Engine: Annual Population Survey: Labour Market Year Ending June 2024<sup>1</sup>

### In Summary:

- The economic activity rate for the Midlands Engine area was 78.0% compared to 78.4% for the UK in the year ending June 2024. For the Midlands Engine area, the economic activity rate has increased by 0.4 percentage points (pp) since the year ending June 2023. The UK decreased by 0.1pp in the same period.
- In the year ending June 2024, the employment rate in the Midlands Engine area was 74.8%, compared to 75.4% for the UK overall. When compared to the year ending June 2023, the Midlands Engine area increased by 0.5pp with the UK decreasing by 0.1pp.
- For economic inactivity, the Midlands Engine rate was 22.0% compared to 21.6% for the UK overall in the year ending June 2024. Since the year ending June 2023, for the Midlands Engine area, this has decreased by 0.4pp while the UK increased by 0.1pp.
- The unemployment rate for the Midlands Engine was approximately 4.1% compared to 3.8% for the England in the year ending June 2024. For the Midlands Engine, this is a decrease of approximately 0.2pp while England remained unchanged since year ending June 2023.

### In Detail:

*In the appendix is a table containing Midlands Engine local authority data for economic activity rate, employment rate, economically inactive and modelled unemployment rate for the year ending June 2024 and also the change from the year ending June 2023.*

### Economic Activity Rate

- The economic activity rate for the Midlands Engine area was 78.0% compared to 78.4% for the UK in the year ending June 2024. For the Midlands Engine area, the economic activity rate has increased by 0.4 percentage points (pp) since the year ending June 2023. The UK decreased by 0.1pp in the same period.
- Within the Midlands Engine, 38 local authority areas have economically active rates that were above the UK average (78.4%). Newcastle-under-Lyme recorded the highest economic activity rate at 95.9%, down to East Lindsey, with the lowest at 66.4%.
- Since the year ending June 2023, the economic activity rate in 30 of the Midlands Engine local authorities increased. The highest percentage point increase in the economic activity rate was in Wyre Forest by 18.4pp (to 91.8%) and in contrast the largest percentage point decrease in the economic activity rate was in North Warwickshire by 16.5pp (to 72.5%).

### Employment Rate

- In the year ending June 2024, the employment rate in the Midlands Engine area was 74.8%, compared to 75.4% for the UK overall. When compared to the year ending June 2023, the Midlands Engine area increased by 0.5pp with the UK decreasing by 0.1pp.
- Within the Midlands Engine, 40 local authority areas have employment rates that are at or above the UK average (75.4%). Newcastle-under-Lyme recorded the highest rate at 94.2%, down to Wolverhampton at 62.6%.
- Since the year ending June 2023, the employment rate for 30 of the Midlands Engine local authorities increased. The highest percentage point increase in the employment rate was in Oadby & Wigston by 18.2pp (to 86.2%). In contrast, the highest percentage point decrease in the employment rate was in South Staffordshire by 19.0pp (to 70.5%).

<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS): Annual Population Survey (APS), released October 2024. Please note, following a quality assessment, APS estimates have now been downgraded to "official statistics in development" - [Annual Population Survey: Quality assessment](#).

## Economic Inactivity

- For economic inactivity, the Midlands Engine rate was 22.0% compared to 21.6% for the UK overall in the year ending June 2024. Since the year ending June 2023, for the Midlands Engine area, this has decreased by 0.4pp while the UK increased by 0.1pp.
- Economic inactivity can be broken down by reason, as seen in the following table. For the year ending June 2024, the data available suggests the Midlands Engine had a higher percentage of people that were inactive when compared to the UK in long-term sick (29.4% compared to 28.4%).

### Midlands Engine and UK Economic Inactivity by reason, Year Ending June 2024:

	Midlands Engine	UK
Student	24.6%	26.7%
Looking after family/home	17.5%	18.9%
Temporary Sick	0.5%	2.0%
Long-Term Sick	29.4%	28.4%
Discouraged	0.0%	0.4%
Retired	9.9%	12.8%
Other	7.9%	10.9%

Table may not equal 100% due to data gaps/rounding.

## Modelled Unemployment Rate<sup>2</sup>

- The unemployment rate for the Midlands Engine was approximately 4.1% compared to 3.8% for the England in the year ending June 2024. For the Midlands Engine, this is a decrease of approximately 0.2pp while England remained unchanged since year ending June 2023.
- Within the Midlands Engine area, the unemployment rate varies from 2.2% in Warwick to 7.0% in Leicester.
- The highest percentage point increases in the unemployment rate were in South Kesteven and West Lindsey both by 1.7pp (to 4.3% and 4.9% respectively), in contrast the highest percentage point decrease in the unemployment rate was in Warwick by 1.6pp.

## Employment by Occupation

- The following table shows employment proportions by occupation for the Midlands Engine and the UK for the year ending June 2024. The Midlands Engine have a higher than the UK average percentage of people employed in four of the nine occupations, these include: administrative & secretarial occupations (9.7% vs 9.5%), skilled trades occupations (9.4% vs 8.8%), process, plant & machine operatives (7.0% vs 5.4%) and elementary occupations (10.5% vs 8.9%). The Midlands Engine area also matched the national average in caring, leisure & other service occupations (8.4%).

### Midlands Engine and UK Employment by Occupation Proportions, Year Ending June 2024:

	Midlands Engine	UK
1: Managers, directors and senior officials	9.9%	10.9%
2: Professional occupations	23.9%	26.5%
3: Associate prof & tech occupations	14.0%	15.1%
4: Administrative and secretarial occupations	9.7%	9.5%
5: Skilled trades occupations	9.4%	8.8%
6: Caring, leisure and other service occupations	8.4%	8.4%
7: Sales and customer service occupations	5.5%	6.3%
8: Process, plant and machine operatives	7.0%	5.4%
9: Elementary occupations	10.5%	8.9%

Table may not equal 100% due to data gaps/rounding.

<sup>2</sup> The model-based estimate improves on the APS estimate by borrowing strength from the claimant count to produce an estimate that is more precise, i.e. has a smaller confidence interval. The claimant count is not itself a measure of unemployment but is strongly correlated with unemployment, and, as it is an administrative count, is known without sampling error. The gain in precision is greatest for areas with smaller sample sizes. Modelled unemployment rate is based on all people aged 16+ without a job who were available to start work in the two weeks following their interview and who had either looked for work in the four weeks prior to interview or were waiting to start a job they had already obtained. The unemployment count as a percentage of the economically active population aged 16+.

## Appendix

Labour market activity across the Midlands Engine local authorities for the year June 2024 and percentage point (pp) change since the year ending June 2023:

	Economic Activity Rate		Employment Rate		Economically Inactive		Modelled Unemployment Rate	
	Percent	PP change	Percent	PP change	Percent	PP change	Percent	PP change
Amber Valley	81.1%	3.6pp	76.1%	-1.2pp	18.9%	-3.6pp	4.2%	1.6pp
Ashfield	77.8%	6.3pp	73.6%	6.6pp	22.2%	-6.3pp	4.9%	0.3pp
Bassetlaw	81.6%	5.4pp	80.3%	6.0pp	18.4%	-5.4pp	3.8%	1.1pp
Birmingham	70.8%	-2.1pp	66.1%	-1.2pp	29.2%	2.1pp	6.2%	-1.3pp
Blaby	86.3%	-2.5pp	83.6%	-4.6pp	13.7%	2.5pp	3.1%	1.0pp
Bolsover	82.4%	-2.4pp	77.8%	-1.1pp	17.6%	2.4pp	4.0%	0.6pp
Boston	77.6%	-2.1pp	75.3%	-1.5pp	22.4%	2.1pp	3.9%	-0.2pp
Bromsgrove	82.9%	-2.1pp	81.2%	-2.7pp	17.1%	2.1pp	2.9%	0.2pp
Broxtowe	86.4%	14.4pp	79.6%	9.1pp	13.6%	-14.4pp	4.0%	0.4pp
Cannock Chase	81.2%	-4.2pp	79.9%	-5.5pp	18.8%	4.2pp	2.9%	-0.4pp
Charnwood	81.5%	0.6pp	79.4%	0.6pp	18.5%	-0.6pp	3.0%	0.0pp
Chesterfield	79.0%	8.3pp	79.0%	9.0pp	21.0%	-8.3pp	3.2%	-0.1pp
Coventry	78.2%	2.3pp	73.2%	1.4pp	21.8%	-2.3pp	4.8%	-0.6pp
Derby	78.0%	-1.2pp	74.5%	-0.8pp	22.0%	1.2pp	5.3%	0.7pp
Derbyshire Dales	78.5%	4.7pp	77.0%	3.2pp	21.5%	-4.7pp	3.1%	0.4pp
Dudley	77.9%	-3.3pp	75.9%	-0.6pp	22.1%	3.3pp	3.7%	-0.7pp
East Lindsey	66.4%	-12.0pp	63.3%	-13.5pp	33.6%	12.0pp	4.2%	0.8pp
East Staffordshire	83.6%	3.7pp	83.6%	5.9pp	16.4%	-3.7pp	2.8%	-0.5pp
Erewash	84.7%	4.1pp	82.3%	6.0pp	15.3%	-4.1pp	3.7%	0.5pp
Gedling	84.2%	9.9pp	78.2%	7.9pp	15.8%	-9.9pp	4.0%	0.1pp
Harborough	76.6%	-4.5pp	73.1%	-6.3pp	23.4%	4.5pp	3.4%	1.2pp
Herefordshire, County of	82.8%	3.5pp	81.4%	3.2pp	17.2%	-3.5pp	2.4%	-0.4pp
High Peak	76.5%	-5.1pp	75.0%	-4.8pp	23.5%	5.1pp	3.2%	0.4pp
Hinckley and Bosworth	89.4%	12.3pp	87.2%	11.2pp	10.6%	-12.3pp	2.5%	-0.5pp
Leicester	75.8%	5.1pp	70.8%	6.2pp	24.2%	-5.1pp	7.0%	0.9pp
Lichfield	79.4%	-2.5pp	78.5%	-3.4pp	20.6%	2.5pp	3.4%	0.3pp
Lincoln	76.3%	-7.3pp	73.5%	-10.1pp	23.7%	7.3pp	5.5%	0.9pp
Malvern Hills	84.5%	-6.9pp	81.2%	-2.1pp	15.5%	6.9pp	3.1%	0.2pp
Mansfield	77.1%	2.4pp	72.1%	-2.6pp	22.9%	-2.4pp	4.6%	1.2pp
Melton	79.3%	-1.6pp	79.3%	2.5pp	20.7%	1.6pp	4.0%	0.9pp
Newark and Sherwood	79.2%	-1.0pp	75.1%	-3.6pp	20.8%	1.0pp	3.8%	0.7pp
Newcastle-under-Lyme	95.9%	15.3pp	94.2%	15.2pp	4.1%	-15.3pp	2.5%	-0.8pp
North East Derbyshire	68.2%	-8.5pp	68.2%	-4.0pp	31.8%	8.5pp	4.2%	1.0pp
North East Lincolnshire	75.9%	0.7pp	71.1%	-1.4pp	24.1%	-0.7pp	3.4%	-0.1pp
North Kesteven	88.6%	16.2pp	86.7%	14.3pp	11.4%	-16.2pp	2.4%	-0.7pp
North Lincolnshire	75.5%	-2.3pp	73.0%	-2.4pp	24.5%	2.3pp	2.9%	0.0pp
North Warwickshire	72.5%	-16.5pp	72.5%	-13.4pp	27.5%	16.5pp	2.6%	0.1pp
North West Leicestershire	83.5%	1.9pp	83.5%	4.7pp	16.5%	-1.9pp	3.4%	0.9pp
Nottingham	71.2%	1.3pp	66.5%	1.2pp	28.8%	-1.3pp	6.5%	0.5pp
Nuneaton and Bedworth	79.8%	-0.7pp	79.1%	-0.6pp	20.2%	0.7pp	3.3%	-0.6pp
Oadby and Wigston	91.1%	15.8pp	86.2%	18.2pp	8.9%	-15.8pp	3.3%	-0.9pp
Redditch	89.7%	12.6pp	86.2%	9.1pp	10.3%	-12.6pp	2.5%	-1.4pp
Rugby	83.4%	-1.5pp	82.4%	1.0pp	16.6%	1.5pp	2.5%	-0.5pp
Rushcliffe	81.7%	-2.4pp	79.9%	-3.1pp	18.3%	2.4pp	2.8%	0.3pp
Rutland	79.5%	-2.1pp	71.0%	-8.0pp	20.5%	2.1pp	4.0%	1.5pp
Sandwell	71.5%	1.2pp	67.4%	2.0pp	28.5%	-1.2pp	5.4%	-0.9pp
Shropshire	83.5%	4.1pp	81.9%	5.8pp	16.5%	-4.1pp	2.5%	-0.7pp
Solihull	79.5%	-2.6pp	77.4%	-2.6pp	20.5%	2.6pp	2.9%	-0.4pp
South Derbyshire	84.1%	5.1pp	83.2%	8.8pp	15.9%	-5.1pp	3.4%	-0.2pp
South Holland	76.4%	-9.6pp	75.7%	-10.3pp	23.6%	9.6pp	3.8%	1.3pp
South Kesteven	69.7%	-8.7pp	65.1%	-10.8pp	30.3%	8.7pp	4.3%	1.7pp
South Staffordshire	73.3%	-16.2pp	70.5%	-19.0pp	26.7%	16.2pp	2.7%	-0.2pp
Stafford	80.5%	5.2pp	80.5%	8.5pp	19.5%	-5.2pp	2.4%	-1.2pp

	Economic Activity Rate		Employment Rate		Economically Inactive		Modelled Unemployment Rate	
	Percent	PP change	Percent	PP change	Percent	PP change	Percent	PP change
Staffordshire Moorlands	81.8%	2.0pp	79.8%	2.3pp	18.2%	-2.0pp	2.5%	-1.1pp
Stoke-on-Trent	75.2%	-2.3pp	71.2%	-3.2pp	24.8%	2.3pp	4.4%	0.2pp
Stratford-on-Avon	84.8%	-6.2pp	81.2%	-7.4pp	15.2%	6.2pp	2.5%	-0.2pp
Tamworth	77.0%	-10.3pp	76.1%	-10.3pp	23.0%	10.3pp	3.3%	0.3pp
Telford and Wrekin	76.4%	-3.8pp	74.0%	-3.6pp	23.6%	3.8pp	3.2%	-0.5pp
Walsall	80.0%	2.3pp	76.0%	4.3pp	20.0%	-2.3pp	4.6%	-1.5pp
Warwick	87.5%	7.6pp	86.0%	10.7pp	12.5%	-7.6pp	2.2%	-1.6pp
West Lindsey	75.1%	-2.5pp	63.6%	-11.9pp	24.9%	2.5pp	4.9%	1.7pp
Wolverhampton	68.1%	-3.9pp	62.6%	-3.8pp	31.9%	3.9pp	5.7%	-0.9pp
Worcester	80.1%	-3.3pp	78.7%	0.4pp	19.9%	3.3pp	3.1%	-0.6pp
Wychavon	76.1%	-4.4pp	75.4%	-1.1pp	23.9%	4.4pp	3.0%	0.0pp
Wyre Forest	91.8%	18.4pp	90.5%	17.1pp	8.2%	-18.4pp	2.5%	-1.0pp
<b>Midlands Engine</b>	<b>78.0%</b>	<b>0.4pp</b>	<b>74.8%</b>	<b>0.5pp</b>	<b>22.0%</b>	<b>-0.4pp</b>	<b>4.1%</b>	<b>-0.2pp</b>
United Kingdom	78.4%	-0.1pp	75.4%	-0.1pp	21.6%	0.1pp	-	-
England	78.7%	-0.1pp	75.7%	-0.1pp	21.3%	0.1pp	3.8%	0.0pp