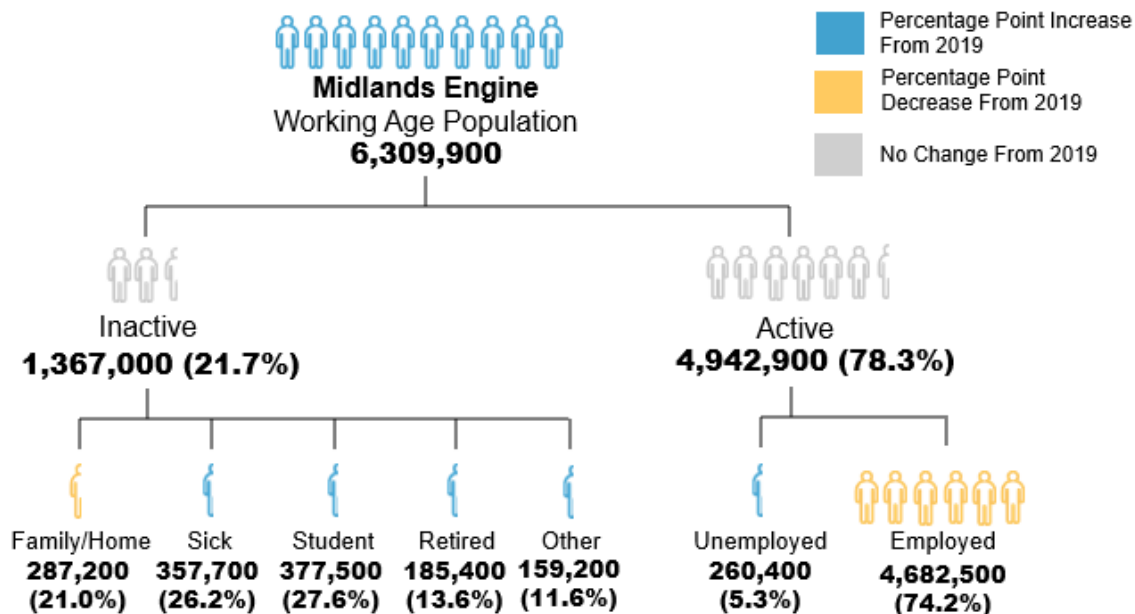


Annual Population Survey: Employment Activity: January 2020 – December 2020

Key Points:

- In 2020, the employment rate in the Midlands Engine area was 74.2%, compared to 75.3% for the UK overall. When compared to 2019, the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 0.5 percentage points (pp). The UK employment rate decreased by 0.3pp over the same time period.
- The unemployment rate for the Midlands Engine was 5.3% compared to 4.6% for the UK in 2020. For the Midlands Engine, this is an increase of 0.8pp, with the UK increasing by 0.6pp since 2019.
- The economic activity rate for the Midlands Engine area was 78.3% in 2020, compared to 78.9% for the UK. For the Midlands Engine area, the economic activity rate has remained the same while the UK increased since 2019.
- For economic inactivity, the Midlands Engine rate was 21.7% for 2020, compared to 21.1% in the UK overall. For the Midlands Engine area, this has remained the same while the UK decreased by 0.1pp when compared to 2019.



Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey (For 2020) - Released April 2021

In Detail:

The Midlands Engine Working Age Population Breakdown for 2020 and compared to 2019

Employment

- In 2020, the employment rate in the Midlands Engine area was 74.2%, compared to 75.3% for the UK overall. When compared to 2019, the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 0.5 percentage points (pp). The UK employment rate decreased by 0.3pp over the same time period.
- Within the Midlands Engine, 34 local authority areas have employment rates that are at or above the UK average (75.3%). Erewash recorded the highest rate at 85.6% (60,300 people), down to Bolsover with the lowest at 64.1% (31,500 people).

Unemployment

- The unemployment rate for the Midlands Engine was 5.3% compared to 4.6% for the UK in 2020. For the Midlands Engine, this is an increase of 0.8pp, with the UK increasing by 0.6pp since 2019.

- Bolsover recorded the highest unemployment rate at 11.4% (4,100 people), down to Amber Valley at 2.1% (1,400 people) in 2020¹.

Economic Activity

- The economic activity rate for the Midlands Engine area was 78.3% in 2020, compared to 78.9% for the UK. For the Midlands Engine area, the economic activity rate has remained the same while the UK increased since 2019.
- Economic activity varies from 88.0% (56,300 people) in Cannock Chase to 71.4% (46,400 people) in Lincoln in 2020.

Economic Inactivity

- For economic inactivity, the Midlands Engine rate was 21.7% for 2020, compared to 21.1% in the UK overall. For the Midlands Engine area, this has remained the same while the UK decreased by 0.1pp when compared to 2019.
- The Midlands Engine had a lower percentage of people that are inactive due those classed as other (11.6% vs 13.5%) in 2020. Also, for the Midlands Engine area, students account for 27.6% for those economically inactive, which is above the UK average of 26.8%.

Midlands Engine and UK Economic Inactivity by reason, 2020:

	Midlands Engine Economically Inactive Num. 2020	% of Midlands Engine Total Economically Inactive 2020	UK Economically Inactive Num. 2020	UK Economically Inactive % 2020
% of economically inactive student	377,500	27.6%	2,345,100	26.8%
% of economically inactive looking after family/home	287,200	21.0%	1,758,000	20.1%
% of economically inactive sick	357,700	26.2%	2,273,000	26.0%
% of economically inactive retired	185,400	13.6%	1,180,300	13.5%
% of economically inactive other	159,200	11.6%	1,179,000	13.5%

Employment by Occupation

- The following table shows employment by occupation across the Midlands Engine and the UK for 2020. The Midlands Engine have a higher than the UK average percentage of people employed in 4 of the 9 occupations, these include: elementary occupations (11.0% vs 9.2%), process, plant and machine operatives (7.3% vs 5.5%) and skilled trades occupations (10.1% vs 9.2%) and caring, leisure and other service occupations (9.1% vs 8.9%). The Midlands Engine and the UK have the same proportion (6.9%) for sales and customer service occupation.

Midlands Engine and UK Occupations, 2020

	Midlands Engine 2020	Midlands Engine % 2020	UK % 2020
1: managers, directors and senior officials	533,000	11.0%	11.4%
2: professional occupations	997,300	20.5%	22.8%
3: associate prof & tech occupations	690,800	14.2%	15.7%
4: administrative and secretarial occupations	472,500	9.7%	10.1%
5: skilled trades occupations	492,300	10.1%	9.2%
6: caring, leisure and other service occupations	442,300	9.1%	8.9%
7: sales and customer service occupations	333,800	6.9%	6.9%
8: process, plant and machine operatives	355,400	7.3%	5.5%
9: elementary occupations	533,800	11.0%	9.2%

¹ Please note, some estimates within the Midlands Engine are not available since the group sample size is zero or disclosive (0-2).