

## Midlands Engine Claimant Count – May 2024 Release<sup>1</sup>

For an interactive version click [here](#).

### Key Points:

- There were 283,205 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in April 2024, an increase of 660 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 0.2% for the Midlands Engine area, while the UK increased by 0.4%.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.4% compared to 3.0% for the UK in April 2024.
- There were 54,890 youth claimants (16–24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in April 2024, a decrease of 270 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 0.5% for the Midlands Engine area, while the UK decreased by 0.6%.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.8% compared to 4.1% for the UK in April 2024.

### In Detail:

#### Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

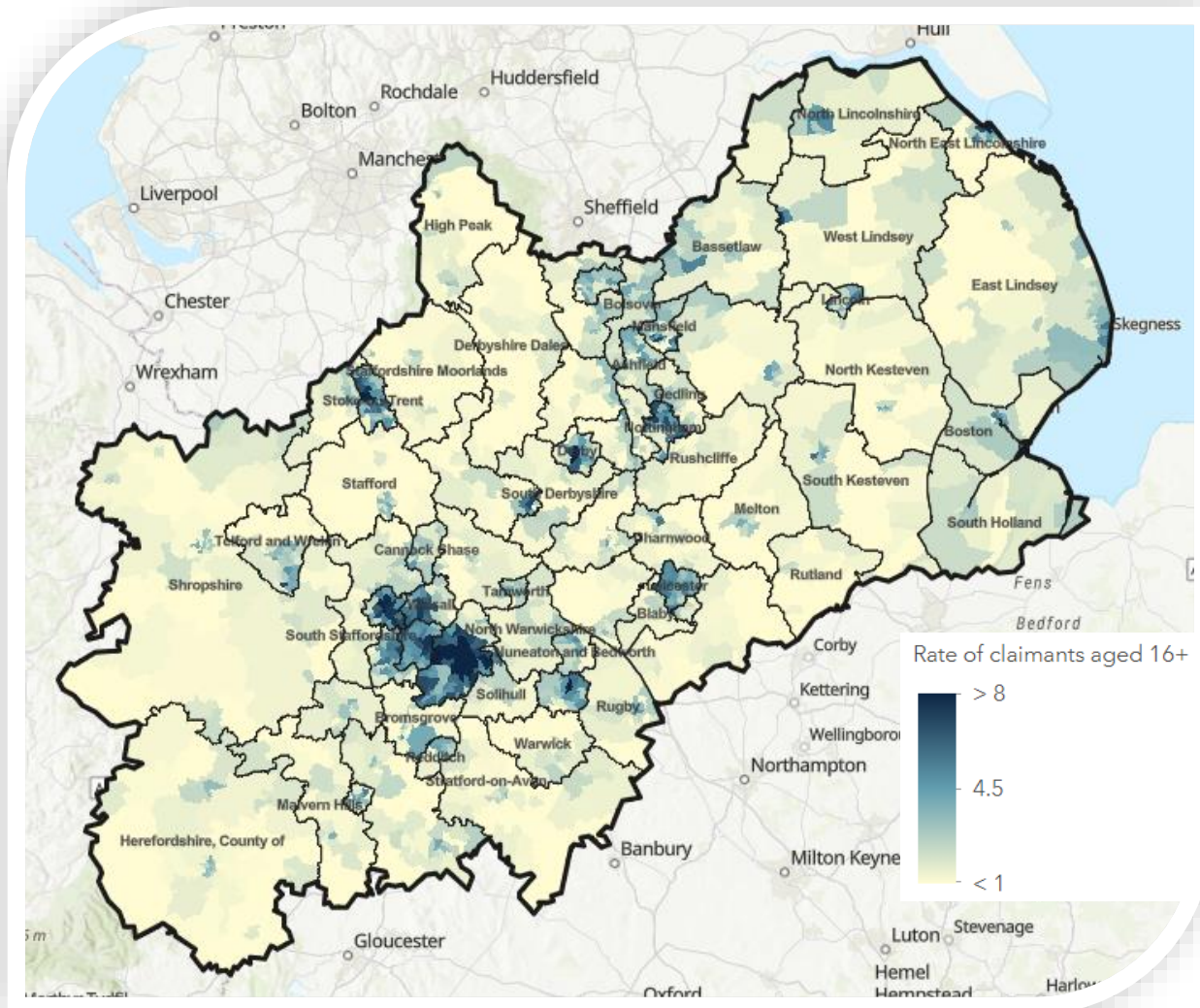
- There were 283,205 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in April 2024, an increase of 660 claimants since the previous month. This equates to an increase of 0.2% for the Midlands Engine area, while the UK increased by 0.4%.
- The latest monthly change shows that, across the Midlands Engine geography, 34 local authorities decreased, 2 remained the same (Amber Valley and Cannock Chase) and 29 increased in the number of claimants aged 16 and over.
- Since April 2023, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 2,720 (+1.0% compared to an increase of 1.9% for the UK). Within the Midlands Engine, 31 local authorities increased and 34 decreased.
- Since March 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 61,665 (+27.8% compared to +27.3% for the UK). East Lindsey and North East Lincolnshire have lower levels of claimants now than in March 2020 (-735 and -170 respectively).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.4% compared to 3.0% for the UK in April 2024.

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

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 419 were at or above the UK average of 3.0% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 years and over in April 2024.
- The wards with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of the population were based in Birmingham, with Lozells and Handsworth highest at 17.2% and 16.5% respectively. This was followed by Aston at 16.2% and then Birchfield at 15.7%. In contrast, Ashby Castle (North West Leicestershire) had no claimants, the ward with the second lowest number of claimants as a percentage of the population was Keele (Newcastle-Under-Lyme) at 0.1%.

<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS)/Department for Work and Pensions (DWP): Claimant Count – released May 2024

The following map shows claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in April 2024 across the Midlands Engine:



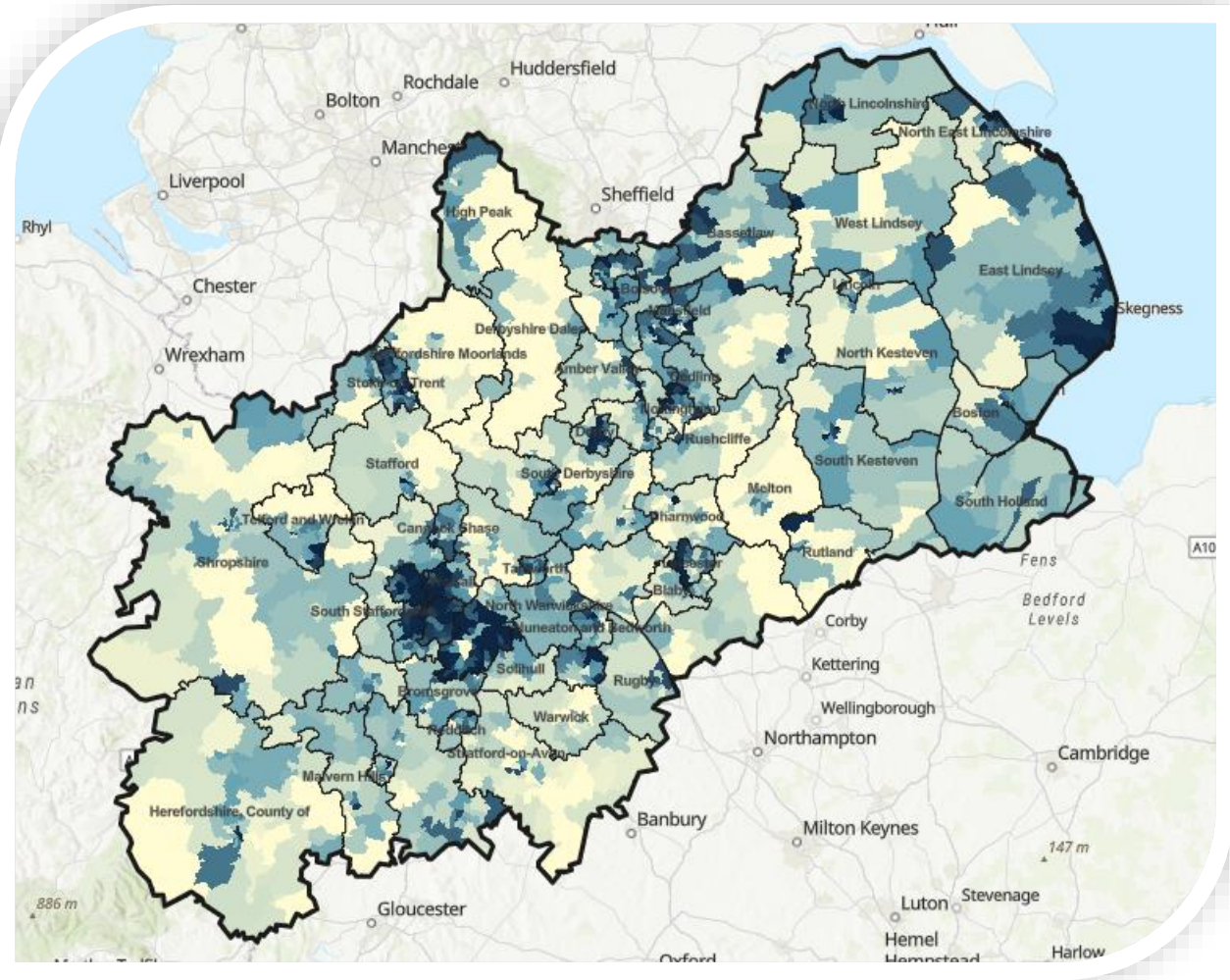
### Youth Claimants (Aged 16–24 Years Old)

- There were 54,890 youth claimants (16–24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in April 2024, a decrease of 270 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 0.5% for the Midlands Engine area, while the UK decreased by 0.6%.
- The latest monthly change shows that within the Midlands Engine, 19 local authorities increased, 31 decreased and 15 remained at the same levels.
- Since April 2023, the number of youth claimants has increased by 3,525 (+6.9% compared to +4.9% for the UK). Within the Midlands Engine, 45 local authorities increased, 18 decreased and 2 remained the same level (Boston and Melton).
- Since March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 10,695 (+24.2% compared to +18.4% for the UK). There were 7 local authorities that were lower than March 2020 levels, 2 that remained the same level (Mansfield and Derbyshire Dales) and 56 that were higher.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.8% compared to 4.1% for the UK in April 2024.

### Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 600 were at or above the UK average of 4.1% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16–24 years and over in April 2024.
- The ward with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of the population was Handsworth (Birmingham) at 17.3%, followed by Joiner’s Square (Stoke-on-Trent) at 17.1%. In contrast, within the Midlands Engine there were 96 wards with no youth claimants in April 2024.

The following map shows claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16–24 years old in April 2024 across the Midlands Engine:



Ward claimant rate per population for 16-24

