

Black Country Claimant Count: October 2021 - Released November 2021

In Summary:

- The Black Country had 54,025 claimants in October 2021, a decrease of 525 claimants (-1.0%) from September 2021; the UK decreased by 1.8% over this period. Compared to the same month in 2020, Black Country claimants decreased by 10,410 (-16.2%); the UK decreased by 22.2% over this period. The Black Country now has 15,750 more claimants since March 2020. This is an increase for the Black Country by 41.5%, while the UK increased by 57.4%.
- Overall, for the Black Country the number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 5.7% compared to 3.7% for UK in October 2021.
- In October 2021, there were 10,095 youth claimants in the Black Country, a decrease of 295 (-2.8%) from September 2021, while for the UK there was a decrease of 4.3%. When compared to October 2020, the number of youth claimants decreased by 3,555 (-26.0%) in the Black Country, while UK-wide decreased by 33.7%. The Black Country had 2,345 more youth claimants when compared to March 2020. This is an increase of 30.3%, while the UK increased by 40.04%.
- Overall, for the Black Country the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old is 8.3% compared to 4.8% for the UK in October 2021.

In Full:

Claimant count for people aged 16 years and over¹

- The Black Country had 54,025 claimants in October 2021, a decrease of 525 claimants (-1.0%) from September 2021; the UK decreased by 1.8% over this period. Compared to the same month in 2020, Black Country claimants decreased by 10,410 (-16.2%); the UK decreased by 22.2% over this period. The Black Country now has 15,750 more claimants since March 2020. This is an increase for the Black Country by 41.5%, while the UK increased by 57.4%.
- Dudley had 11,505 claimants aged 16 years and over in October 2021, a decrease of 65 (-0.6%) claimants from the previous month. Compared to the same month in 2020, claimants in Dudley decreased by 2,545 (-18.1%). When compared to March 2020, the number of claimants has increased by 2,990 (+35.1%).
- Sandwell had 16,040 claimants aged 16 years and over in October 2021, a decrease of 85 (-0.5%) claimants from the previous month. Compared to the same month in 2020, claimants in Sandwell decreased by 2,925 (-15.4%). When compared to March 2020, the number of claimants has increased by 5,260 (+48.8%).
- Walsall had 12,200 claimants aged 16 years and over in October 2021, a decrease of 175 (-1.4%) claimants from the previous month. Compared to the same month in 2020, claimants in Walsall decreased by 2,535 (-17.2%). When compared to March 2020, the number of claimants has increased by 3,595 (+41.8%).
- Wolverhampton had 14,280 claimants aged 16 years and over in October 2021, a decrease of 195 (-1.3%) claimants from the previous month. Compared to the same month in 2020, claimants in

¹ Source: ONS based off Department of Work and Pensions, Claimant Count, November 2021. Please note, last months figures have been revised.



Wolverhampton decreased by 2,405 (-14.4%). When compared to March 2020, the number of claimants has increased by 3,900 (+37.6%).

The following table shows across the Black Country and for the UK for selected months the number of claimants and change for selected months:

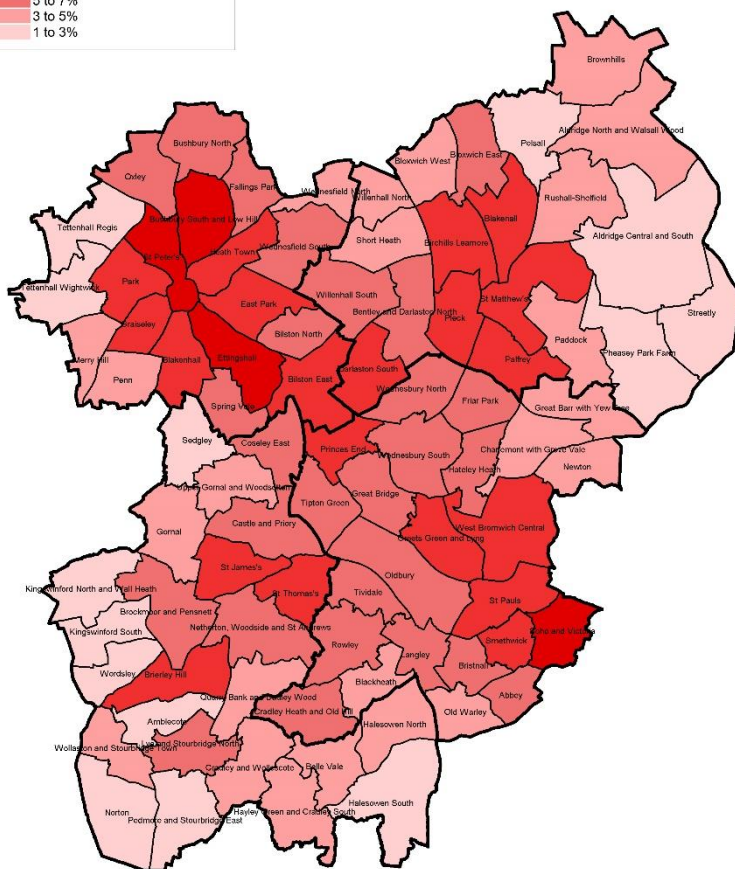
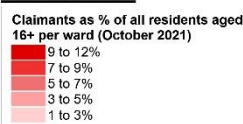
Area					% Change since		
	March 2020	October 2020	September 2021	October 2021	March 2020	1 year	1 month
Dudley	8,515	14,050	11,570	11,505	35.1%	-18.1%	-0.6%
Sandwell	10,780	18,965	16,125	16,040	48.8%	-15.4%	-0.5%
Walsall	8,605	14,735	12,375	12,200	41.8%	-17.2%	-1.4%
Wolverhampton	10,380	16,685	14,475	14,280	37.6%	-14.4%	-1.3%
Black Country LEP	38,275	64,435	54,550	54,025	41.1%	-16.2%	-1.0%
United Kingdom	1,268,620	2,565,320	2,032,690	1,996,830	57.4%	-22.2%	-1.8%

- Overall, for the Black Country the number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 5.7% compared to 3.7% for UK in October 2021. The number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over varies across the four local authorities with Wolverhampton at 6.9%, Sandwell at 6.3%, Walsall at 5.4% and Dudley at 4.4%.

Ward Analysis

The map to shows at a ward level in the Black Country, claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in October 2021.

CLAIMANTS



- Out of the 88 wards within the Black Country, 68 were above the UK overall proportion of 3.7% for the number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in October 2021.
- The wards with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in October 2021 were St Peter's (Wolverhampton) at 11.6%, Soho and Victoria (Sandwell) at 10.7% and Bushbury South and Low Hill (Wolverhampton) at 9.6%.

Youth Claimants (Aged 16-24):

- In October 2021, there were 10,095 youth claimants in the Black Country, a decrease of 295 (-2.8%) from September 2021, while for the UK there was a decrease of 4.3%. When compared to October 2020, the number of youth claimants decreased by 3,555 (-26.0%) in the Black Country, while UK-wide decreased by 33.7%. The Black Country had 2,345 more youth claimants when compared to March 2020. This is an increase of 30.3%, while the UK increased by 40.04%.
- Dudley had 2,200 youth claimants in October 2021, a decrease of 70 (-3.1%) youth claimants since September 2021. When compared to October 2020, the number of youth claimants decreased by 895 (-28.9%). When compared to March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 445 (+25.4%).
- Sandwell had 2,910 youth claimants in October 2021, this is a decrease of 105 claimants (-3.5%) from the previous month. When compared to October 2020, the number of youth claimants decreased by 1,040 (-26.3%). When compared to March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 780 (+36.6%).
- Walsall had 2,455 youth claimants in October 2021, a decrease of 40 (-1.6%) claimants from the previous month. When compared to October 2020, the number of youth claimants decreased by 825 (-25.2%). When compared to March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 515 (+26.5%).
- Wolverhampton had 2,530 youth claimants in October 2021, this is a decrease of 80 (-3.1%) claimants from the previous month. When compared to October 2020, the number of youth claimants decreased by 795 (-23.9%). When compared to March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 605 (+31.4%).

The following table shows across the Black Country and for the UK for selected months the number of youth claimants and change for selected months:

Area					% Change since		
	March 2020	October 2020	September 2021	October 2021	March 2020	1 year	1 month
Dudley	1,755	3,095	2,270	2,200	25.4%	-28.9%	-3.1%
Sandwell	2,130	3,950	3,015	2,910	36.6%	-26.3%	-3.5%
Walsall	1,940	3,280	2,495	2,455	26.5%	-25.2%	-1.6%
Wolverhampton	1,925	3,325	2,610	2,530	31.4%	-23.9%	-3.1%
Black Country LEP	7,750	13,650	10,390	10,095	30.3%	-26.0%	-2.8%
United Kingdom	241,760	511,535	354,755	339,325	40.4%	-33.7%	-4.3%

- Overall, for the Black Country the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old is 8.3% compared to 4.8% for the UK in October 2021. The number of youth claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 to 24 years old varies across the four local authorities with Wolverhampton at 9.5%, Sandwell at 8.4%, Walsall at 8.2% and Dudley at 7.2%.

Ward Analysis

- Out of the 88 wards within the Black Country, 83 were at or above the UK-wide rate of 4.8% for the number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old in October 2021.



The following map shows at a ward level in the Black Country, claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16-24 years old in October 2021:

- The wards that had the highest number of youth claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16–24 years old in October 2021 was Fallings Park (Wolverhampton) at 13.3%, Bushbury South and Low Hill (Wolverhampton) at 13.2%, Blakenall (Walsall) at 12.9%, and East Park (Wolverhampton) at 12.8%.

YOUTH CLAIMANTS

Claimants as % of all residents aged 16-24 per ward (October 2021)

