



Black Country Claimant Count - Released June 2022

In Summary:

- The Black Country had 46,185 claimants in May 2022, a decrease of 535 claimants (-1.1%) since April 2022; the UK decreased by 1.5% over this period. Compared to May 2021, Black Country claimants decreased by 16,740 (-26.6%); the UK decreased by 34.7% over this period. The Black Country has 7,910 more claimants since March 2020. This is an increase for the Black Country by 20.7%, while the UK increased by 26.7%.
- Overall, for the Black Country the number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 4.9% compared to 3.0% for the UK in May 2022.
- In May 2022, there were 7,965 youth (aged 16-24) claimants in the Black Country, a decrease of 115 (-1.4%), while for the UK there was a decrease of 2.5% since April 2022. When compared to May 2021, the number of youth claimants decreased by 4,795 (-37.6%) in the Black Country, while UK-wide decreased by 45.5%. The Black Country had 215 more youth claimants when compared to March 2020. This is an increase of 2.8%, while the UK increased by 4.3%.
- Notably, when compared to pre-Coronavirus levels (March 2020), Dudley had 25 less youth claimants and Walsall had 35 less youth claimants.
- Overall, for the Black Country the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 6.5% compared to 3.6% for the UK in May 2022.

In Full:

Claimant count for people aged 16 years and over¹

- The Black Country had 46,185 claimants in May 2022, a decrease of 535 claimants (-1.1%) since April 2022; the UK decreased by 1.5% over this period. Compared to May 2021, Black Country claimants decreased by 16,740 (-26.6%); the UK decreased by 34.7% over this period. The Black Country has 7,910 more claimants since March 2020. This is an increase for the Black Country by 20.7%, while the UK increased by 26.7%.
- Dudley had 9,845 claimants aged 16 years and over in May 2022, a decrease of 155 (-1.6%) claimants from the previous month. Compared to May 2021, claimants in Dudley decreased by 3,460 (-26.0%). When compared to March 2020, the number of claimants has increased by 1,330 (+15.6%).
- Sandwell had 13,885 claimants aged 16 years and over in May 2022, a decrease of 90 (-0.6%) claimants from the previous month. Compared to May 2021, claimants in Sandwell decreased by 4,900 (-26.1%). When compared to March 2020, the number of claimants has increased by 3,105 (+28.8%).
- Walsall had 10,075 claimants aged 16 years and over in May 2022, a decrease of 190 (-1.9%) claimants from the previous month. Compared to May 2021, claimants in Walsall decreased by 4,235 (-29.6%). When compared to March 2020, the number of claimants has increased by 1,470 (+17.1%).
- Wolverhampton had 12,385 claimants aged 16 years and over in May 2022, a decrease of 95 (-0.8%) claimants from the previous month. Compared to May 2021, claimants in Wolverhampton decreased by 4,145 (-25.1%). When compared to March 2020, the number of claimants has increased by 2,005 (+19.3%).

¹ Source: ONS based off Department of Work and Pensions, Claimant Count, June 2022. Please note, the previous month figures have been revised.



The following table shows across the Black Country and for the UK the number of claimants for a selection of months and also the change when compared to May 2022:

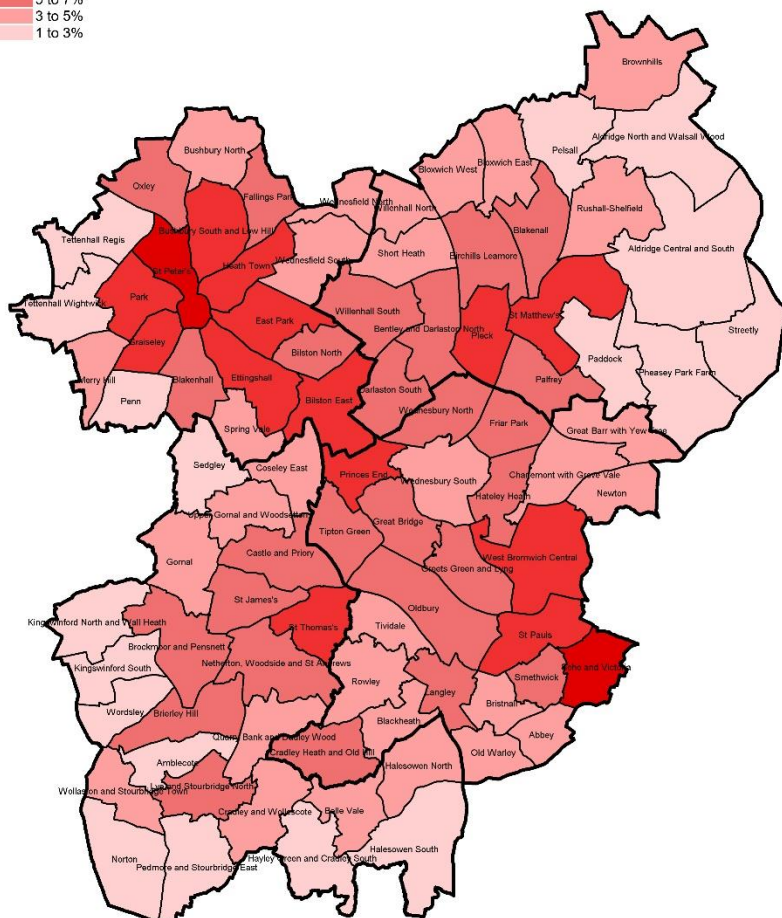
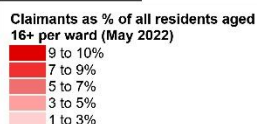
	March 2020	May 2021	April 2022	May 2022	% change Since March 20	% change 1 year	% change 1 month
Dudley	8,515	13,305	10,000	9,845	15.6%	-26.0%	-1.6%
Sandwell	10,780	18,785	13,975	13,885	28.8%	-26.1%	-0.6%
Walsall	8,605	14,310	10,265	10,075	17.1%	-29.6%	-1.9%
Wolverhampton	10,380	16,530	12,480	12,385	19.3%	-25.1%	-0.8%
Black Country	38,275	62,925	46,720	46,185	20.7%	-26.6%	-1.1%
United Kingdom	1,268,620	2,462,865	1,632,180	1,607,485	26.7%	-34.7%	-1.5%

- Overall, for the Black Country the number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 4.9% compared to 3.0% for the UK in May 2022. The number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over varies across the four local authorities with Wolverhampton at 6.0%, Sandwell at 5.5%, Walsall at 4.5% and Dudley at 3.8%.

Ward Analysis

The map to the right shows at a ward level in the Black Country, claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in May 2022.

CLAIMANTS



- Out of the 88 wards within the Black Country, 70 were above the UK overall proportion of 3.0% for the number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in May 2022.
- The wards with the highest number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in May 2022 were St Peter's (Wolverhampton) at 10.0%, Soho and Victoria (Sandwell) at 9.3% and Ettingshall (Wolverhampton) at 8.2%. In contrast, the lowest number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in April 2022 were in Streetly (Walsall) at 1.1%, Kingswinford North and Wall Heath (Dudley) at 1.5% and Halesowen South (Dudley) at 1.6%.



Youth Claimants (Aged 16-24):

- In May 2022, there were 7,965 youth (aged 16-24) claimants in the Black Country, a decrease of 115 (-1.4%), while for the UK there was a decrease of 2.5% since April 2022. When compared to May 2021, the number of youth claimants decreased by 4,795 (-37.6%) in the Black Country, while UK-wide decreased by 45.5%. The Black Country had 215 more youth claimants when compared to March 2020. This is an increase of 2.8%, while the UK increased by 4.3%.
- Dudley had 1,710 youth claimants in May 2022, a decrease of 5 (-0.3%) youth claimants since April 2022. When compared to May 2021, the number of youth claimants decreased by 1,075 (-38.6%). When compared to pre-Coronavirus levels (March 2020), Dudley had 45 less claimants (-2.6%).
- Sandwell had 2,375 youth claimants in May 2022, this is a decrease of 75 claimants (-3.1%) since April 2022. When compared to May 2021, the number of youth claimants decreased by 1,395 (-37.0%). When compared to March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 245 (+11.5%).
- Walsall had 1,890 youth claimants in May 2022, a decrease of 35 (-1.8%) claimants since April 2022. When compared to May 2021, the number of youth claimants decreased by 1,195 (-38.7%). When compared to pre-Coronavirus levels (March 2020), Walsall had 35 less claimants (-2.6%).
- Wolverhampton had 1,990 youth claimants in May 2022, remaining the same since April 2022. When compared to May 2021, the number of youth claimants decreased by 1,130 (-36.2%). When compared to March 2020, the number of youth claimants has increased by 65 (+3.4%).

The following table shows across the Black Country and for the UK the number of claimants aged 16-24 years old for a selection of months and also the change when compared to May 2022:

	March 2020	May 2021	April 2022	May 2022	% change Since March 20	% change 1 year	% change 1 month
Dudley	1,755	2,785	1,715	1,710	-2.6%	-38.6%	-0.3%
Sandwell	2,130	3,770	2,450	2,375	11.5%	-37.0%	-3.1%
Walsall	1,940	3,085	1,925	1,890	-2.6%	-38.7%	-1.8%
Wolverhampton	1,925	3,120	1,990	1,990	3.4%	-36.2%	0.0%
Black Country	7,750	12,760	8,080	7,965	2.8%	-37.6%	-1.4%
United Kingdom	241,760	462,240	258,510	252,050	4.3%	-45.5%	-2.5%

- Overall, for the Black Country the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 6.5% compared to 3.6% for the UK in May 2022. 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 7.4%, Sandwell at 6.9%, Walsall at 6.3% and Dudley at 5.5%.

Ward Analysis

- Out of the 88 wards within the Black Country, 81 were above the UK-wide rate of 3.6% for the number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old in May 2022.
- The wards that had the highest number of youth claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old in May 2022 was East Park (Wolverhampton) at 10.8%, Princes End (Sandwell) at 10.3% and Bushbury South and Low Hill (Wolverhampton) at 10.1%. In contrast, the lowest number of claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in May 2022 were in Streetly (Walsall) at 1.8%, Norton (Dudley) at 2.0% and Halesowen South (Dudley) at 2.4%.



The following map shows at a ward level in the Black Country, claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16-24 years old in May 2022:

YOUTH CLAIMANTS

Claimants as % of all residents aged 16-24 per ward (May 2022)

- 9 to 11
- 7 to 9
- 5 to 7
- 3 to 5
- 1 to 3

