

Unadjusted Unemployment

Total Claimant Count

In March 2024, unadjusted claimant count numbers in the city increased by 1,970 to 66,875. The unadjusted claimant rate (% of the economically active population) increased to 12.3%, with the claimant proportion (% of the whole working age population) also increasing to 9.1%. Claimant numbers also increased in the WMCA (Met area) and the UK last month.



66,875
+1,970

Claimant Rate

12.3%

+0.4% Points



Claimant Proportion

9.1%

+0.3% Points



Youth Claimant Count

In Birmingham, the unadjusted youth (18-24) claimant count increased by 320 in March to 12,865. The unadjusted youth unemployment rate increased to 14.0%, with the youth claimant proportion also increasing to 9.9%. Unadjusted youth unemployment rates increased in the WMCA (13.4%) and for the UK as a whole (7.9%) in March.

**Youth
18-24**

12,865
+320

Claimant Rate

14.0%

+0.3% Points



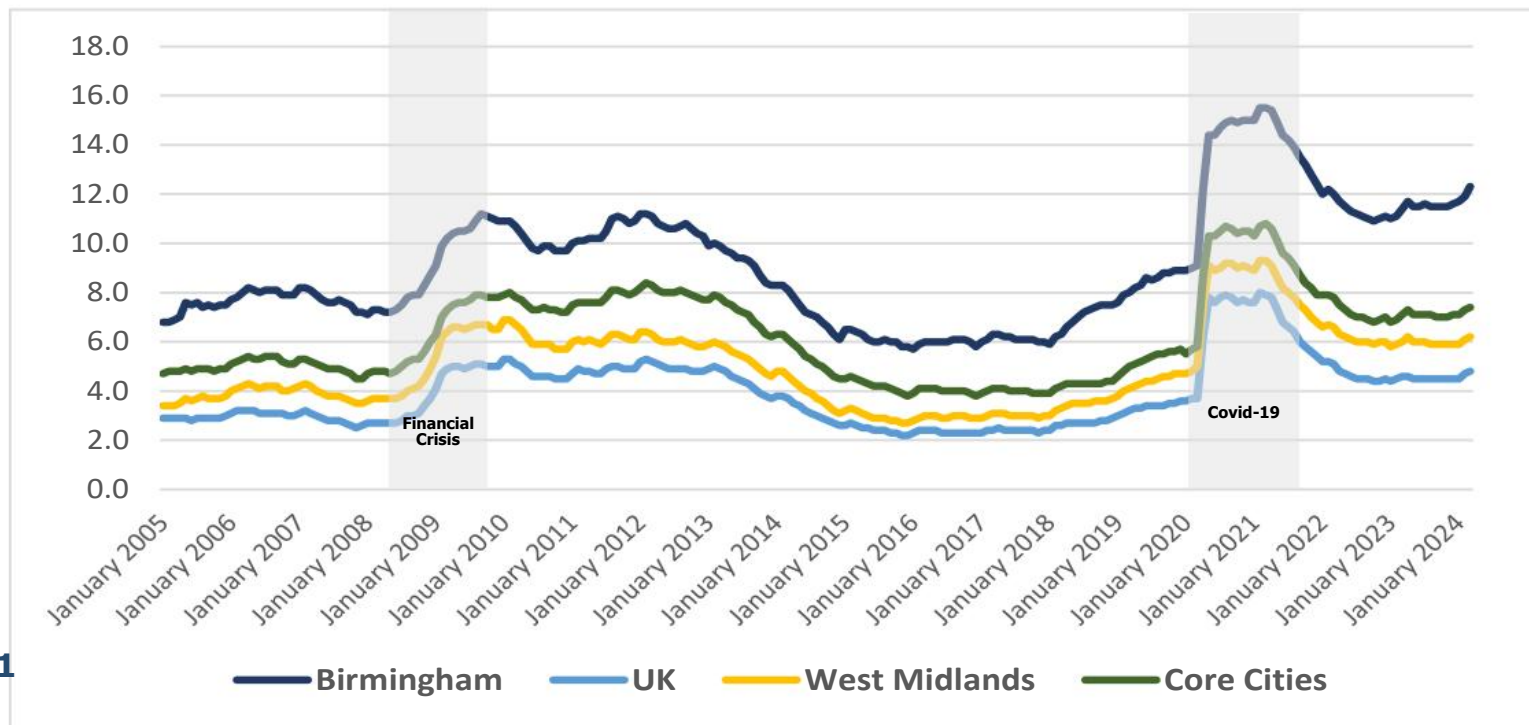
Claimant Proportion

9.9%

+0.2% Points



Chart 1: Claimant Count Rate (16-64) Time Series



Unadjusted Unemployment

Core Cities

Table 1 below shows the unadjusted claimant count unemployment data for March 2024 for the core cities. Birmingham has the highest claimant unemployment rate (12.3%) amongst the core cities and is well above the UK average (4.8%). Eight of ten core cities saw claimant numbers increase last month.

Table 1: Core City Claimant Count March 2024

Area	March 2024		Monthly Change	
	Number	Rate %	Number	Rate %
Birmingham	66,875	12.3	1,970	0.4
Nottingham	13,310	8.2	355	0.3
Manchester	24,800	8.2	555	0.1
Liverpool	18,955	7.5	190	0.1
Glasgow	21,750	6.6	765	0.2
Leeds	24,320	6.0	560	0.1
Newcastle	8,595	5.6	155	0.1
Sheffield	15,900	5.3	-190	0.0
Cardiff	9,725	4.8	160	0.1
Bristol	11,725	4.5	-30	0.0
UK	1,626,235	4.8	30,880	0.1
London	312,775	6.2	5,875	0.1

West Midlands Region

Table 2 displays the latest claimant count data for the region. Birmingham along with Wolverhampton, and Sandwell have the highest unemployment rates locally, with Dudley and Solihull having lower rates, closer to or below the UK average. All of the seven Met areas saw an increase in unemployment in March, as did the West Midlands region.

Table 2: West Midlands Claimant Count March 2024

Area	March 2024		Monthly Change	
	Number	Rate %	Number	Rate %
Birmingham	66,875	12.3	1,970	0.4
Wolverhampton	12,305	9.6	365	0.3
Sandwell	13,540	8.4	340	0.2
Walsall	9,780	6.7	180	0.1
Coventry	12,645	6.3	125	0.1
Dudley	9,205	5.6	125	0.1
Solihull	4,275	4.0	95	0.1
WMCA Met Area	128,625	8.9	3,200	0.3
West Midlands	186,525	6.2	4,410	0.1
UK	1,626,235	4.8	30,880	0.1

Unadjusted Unemployment

Birmingham Constituencies

Table 3 below shows the unadjusted claimant count unemployment data for March 2024 for the 10 parliamentary constituencies in the city. Ladywood constituency has the highest claimant count unemployment rate at 22.8% and Sutton Coldfield the lowest at 2.7%. All of the ten constituencies saw an increase in claimant numbers last month. The largest increase in claimant count numbers in March occurred in Ladywood (+435).

Table 3: Birmingham Constituency Claimant Count March 2024

Area	March 2024		Monthly Change	
	Number	Rate %	Number	Rate %
Edgbaston	4,890	10.5	115	0.2
Erdington	6,805	9.1	100	0.2
Hall Green	7,585	17.5	290	0.6
Hodge Hill	9,215	21.8	325	0.7
Ladywood	13,230	22.8	435	0.7
Northfield	4,665	7.9	90	0.2
Perry Barr	8,265	12.8	280	0.5
Selly Oak	4,345	7.5	150	0.3
Sutton Coldfield	1,410	2.7	75	0.2
Yardley	6,465	14.6	110	0.3
Birmingham	66,875	12.3	1,970	0.4

Birmingham Wards

Tables containing ward claimant count unemployment data and ward youth unemployment data are shown on the following pages.

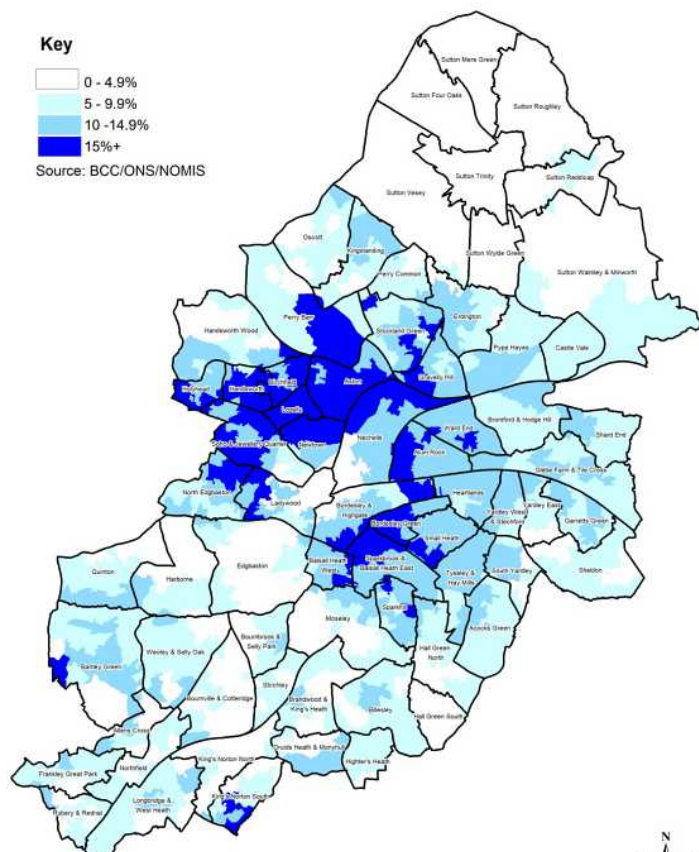
Lozells (18.8%) and Handsworth (18.6%) have the highest claimant proportions. The Sutton wards (Sutton Reddicaap aside) have the lowest claimant proportions, all 3% or under.

62 of the 69 wards in the city saw unemployment increase last month. The largest increase in total claimant numbers at a ward level occurred in Aston (+130) and Small Heath (+100).

The map opposite highlights that the highest levels of claimant unemployment are concentrated in the inner city and in areas to the north west of the city centre.

In terms of ward youth unemployment Handsworth (21.8%) and Stockland Green (18.2%) have the highest youth claimant proportions. 39 of the city's wards saw youth claimant numbers increase last month.

Map 1 Birmingham Claimant Count Unemployment Proportions February 2024



Key
 0 - 4.9%
 5 - 9.9%
 10 - 14.9%
 15%+
 Source: BCC/ONS/NOMIS



Birmingham Wards

Table 4 - Ward Claimant Unemployment March 2024

Ward	Total Claimant Unemployed		Monthly Change	
	Number	Claimant Proportion %	Number	Claimant Proportion %
Acocks Green	1,410	9.2	15	0.1
Allens Cross	515	8.0	15	0.1
Alum Rock	2,415	14.4	55	0.3
Aston	2,810	18.3	130	0.9
Balsall Heath West	905	11.5	35	0.5
Bartley Green	1,255	9.1	15	0.1
Billesley	960	8.0	35	0.3
Birchfield	1,470	17.6	55	0.7
Bordesley & Highgate	1,355	11.9	50	0.4
Bordesley Green	1,240	15.7	85	1.1
Bournbrook & Selly Park	735	3.3	20	0.1
Bournville & Cotteridge	550	5.0	35	0.3
Brandwood & King's Heath	755	6.4	20	0.2
Bromford & Hodge Hill	1,180	8.9	40	0.3
Castle Vale	520	8.7	10	0.1
Druids Heath & Monyhull	640	8.9	15	0.2
Edgbaston	660	4.0	30	0.2
Erdington	1,160	9.0	25	0.1
Frankley Great Park	635	8.8	20	0.2
Garretts Green	640	9.7	10	0.1
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	1,420	9.8	25	0.1
Gravelly Hill	930	12.8	-5	-0.1
Hall Green North	1,085	7.5	75	0.5
Hall Green South	205	3.3	0	0.0
Handsworth	1,545	18.6	0	0.0
Handsworth Wood	1,125	8.3	25	0.2
Harborne	955	5.9	40	0.2
Heartlands	935	11.6	55	0.7
Highter's Heath	410	6.1	15	0.2
Holyhead	1,095	13.5	25	0.3
King's Norton North	390	5.7	25	0.4
King's Norton South	610	9.3	20	0.3
Kingstanding	1,245	9.7	50	0.4
Ladywood	1,795	7.2	65	0.2
Longbridge & West Heath	895	7.2	5	0.1
Lozells	1,170	18.8	40	0.7
Moseley	1,110	7.7	30	0.3
Nechells	1,205	9.9	40	0.3
Newtown	1,630	15.3	70	0.7
North Edgbaston	2,085	12.0	20	0.1

Table 4 - Ward Claimant Unemployment March 2024 Continued

Ward	Total Claimant Unemployed		Monthly Change	
	Number	Claimant Proportion %	Number	Claimant Proportion %
Northfield	360	5.8	10	0.1
Oscott	740	5.9	15	0.1
Perry Barr	1,020	7.9	85	0.6
Perry Common	610	8.4	5	0.0
Pype Hayes	525	7.9	5	0.0
Quinton	820	6.5	0	0.0
Rubery & Rednal	460	6.9	15	0.3
Shard End	660	9.1	10	0.1
Sheldon	750	6.2	30	0.2
Small Heath	1,660	12.9	100	0.8
Soho & Jewellery Quarter	2,490	11.9	60	0.2
South Yardley	520	7.8	5	0.1
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	2,520	15.3	95	0.6
Sparkhill	1,710	12.4	30	0.3
Stirchley	440	6.6	25	0.4
Stockland Green	2,010	12.6	25	0.1
Sutton Four Oaks	95	1.9	10	0.2
Sutton Mere Green	110	2.1	15	0.3
Sutton Reddicap	255	4.2	0	-0.1
Sutton Roughley	135	2.0	5	0.1
Sutton Trinity	130	2.4	10	0.1
Sutton Vesey	310	2.6	15	0.1
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	255	2.8	25	0.3
Sutton Wylde Green	125	2.6	5	0.1
Tyseley & Hay Mills	915	11.9	0	0.0
Ward End	1,130	13.3	30	0.3
Weoley & Selly Oak	1,205	8.0	0	0.0
Yardley East	410	6.6	10	0.1
Yardley West & Stechford	865	11.0	5	0.1
Birmingham	66,875	9.1	1,970	0.3

Birmingham Wards 18-24 Claimants

Table 5 - Unadjusted 18-24 Claimant Count Unemployment by Ward March 2024

Ward	18-24 Claimant Unemployed		Monthly Change	
	Number	Claimant Proportion %	Number	Claimant Proportion %
Acocks Green	265	11.2	10	0.4
Allens Cross	110	11.8	10	1.1
Alum Rock	505	14.8	0	0.0
Aston	485	16.9	15	0.5
Balsall Heath West	175	9.3	20	1.1
Bartley Green	250	11.7	-5	-0.2
Billesley	195	11.5	5	0.3
Birchfield	245	15.7	5	0.3
Bordesley & Highgate	270	10.3	15	0.6
Bordesley Green	250	16.4	30	2.0
Bournbrook & Selly Park	170	1.1	15	0.1
Bournville & Cotteridge	105	6.0	0	0.0
Brandwood & King's Heath	135	9.2	-10	-0.7
Bromford & Hodge Hill	255	10.5	-5	-0.2
Castle Vale	120	13.2	5	0.5
Druids Heath & Monyhull	130	12.9	10	1.0
Edgbaston	80	1.2	5	0.1
Erdington	220	13.7	15	0.9
Frankley Great Park	140	14.0	-10	-1.0
Garretts Green	165	15.2	25	2.3
Glebe Farm & Tile Cross	305	14.2	10	0.5
Gravelly Hill	175	14.2	-15	-1.2
Hall Green North	190	7.9	-5	-0.2
Hall Green South	45	5.6	0	0.0
Handsworth	300	21.8	5	0.4
Handsworth Wood	225	10.3	0	0.0
Harborne	140	5.4	5	0.2
Heartlands	190	11.8	5	0.3
Highter's Heath	85	10.4	5	0.6
Holyhead	210	15.3	15	1.1
King's Norton North	85	9.2	5	0.5
King's Norton South	125	13.3	-5	-0.5
Kingstanding	295	14.6	20	1.0
Ladywood	250	4.0	0	0.0
Longbridge & West Heath	180	11.0	5	0.3
Lozells	205	16.1	5	0.4
Moseley	185	9.8	0	0.0
Nechells	225	4.5	15	0.3
Newtown	265	7.4	0	0.0
North Edgbaston	405	12.2	10	0.3

Table 5 - Unadjusted 18-24 Claimant Count Unemployment by Ward March 2024 Continued

Ward	18-24 Claimant Unemployed		Monthly Change	
	Number	Claimant Proportion %	Number	Claimant Proportion %
Northfield	70	8.9	0	0.0
Oscott	150	9.4	5	0.3
Perry Barr	185	9.3	15	0.8
Perry Common	130	13.0	0	0.0
Pype Hayes	95	11.7	0	0.0
Quinton	150	8.9	10	0.6
Rubery & Rednal	105	11.6	-5	-0.6
Shard End	125	13.3	0	0.0
Sheldon	155	9.6	5	0.3
Small Heath	295	11.0	10	0.4
Soho & Jewellery Quarter	410	10.6	10	0.3
South Yardley	110	13.0	-5	-0.6
Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East	495	15.8	20	0.6
Sparkhill	345	12.6	0	0.0
Stirchley	65	8.4	0	0.0
Stockland Green	420	18.2	5	0.2
Sutton Four Oaks	10	1.7	0	0.0
Sutton Mere Green	25	4.0	10	1.6
Sutton Reddicap	50	6.4	0	0.0
Sutton Roughley	25	3.4	-5	-0.7
Sutton Trinity	20	4.0	0	0.0
Sutton Vesey	50	3.2	5	0.3
Sutton Walmley & Minworth	50	4.9	5	0.5
Sutton Wylde Green	30	5.0	0	0.0
Tyseley & Hay Mills	190	15.5	0	0.0
Ward End	250	14.8	20	1.2
Weoley & Selly Oak	260	9.5	5	0.2
Yardley East	80	8.6	0	0.0
Yardley West & Stechford	175	13.4	-15	-1.1
Birmingham	12,865	9.9	320	0.2

Employment & Skills

Latest Resident Employment



Birmingham Q4 2023

16-64 Employed

493,000
-6,700

Employment Rate

65.9%
-1.0pp

West Midlands Dec to Feb 2024

16-64 Employed

2.74m
-20,900

Employment Rate

73.8%
-0.7pp

UK

16-64 Employed

31.6m
-178,800

Employment Rate

74.5.0%
-0.5pp

The latest Annual Population Survey employment data for Birmingham (Q4 2023) shows working age employment levels decreasing by 6,700 in the last quarter to stand at 493,000. The employment rate also decreased, falling from 66.9% in Q3 to 65.9% in Q4 2023.

Economic inactivity (those not in work or seeking work) in the city stood at 211,700 in Q4, 28.3% of the 16-64 population.

The latest Labour Force Survey figures for the West Midlands region for the three month period December to February 2024 shows that the number of working age people employed has decreased by 20,900 compared with the previous quarter (September to November 2023). The employment rate regionally decreased by 0.7% points compared to the previous quarter. Nationally the employment rate decreased to 74.5%, the employment rate nationally is still below pre pandemic levels.

Skill Levels

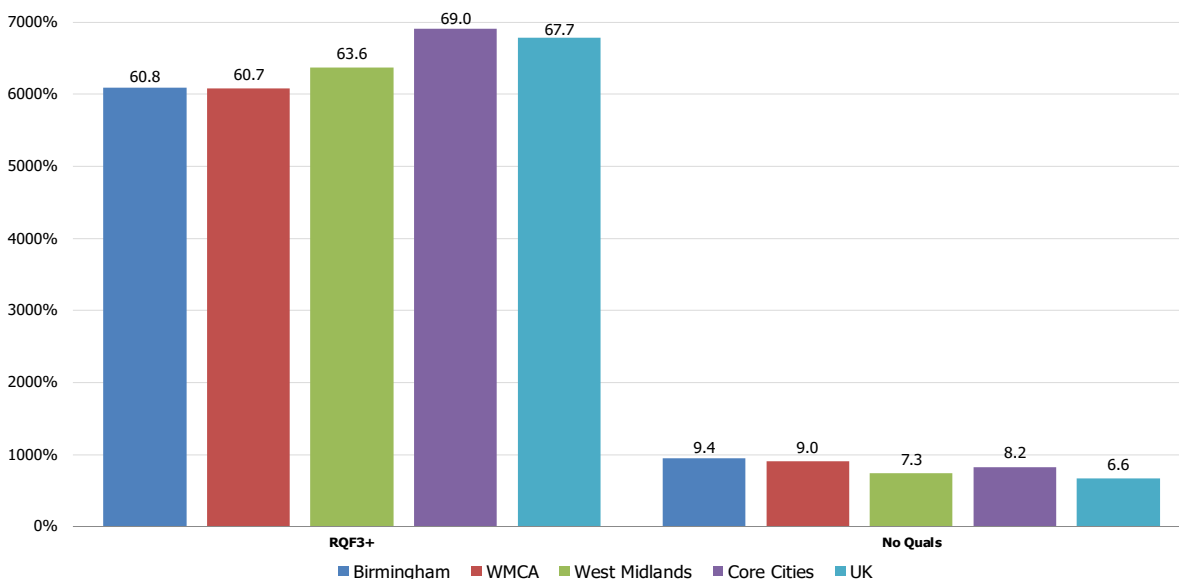
On the supply side comparatively high unemployment and low employment rates in the city are linked to the skills gap that exists locally with residents having lower skills and qualification levels than the national average.

The chart below highlights this showing how Birmingham (9.4%) has a greater proportion of

working age residents with no qualifications compared to the UK (6.6%) and the core city average (8.2%).

The city (60.8%) also has a correspondingly lower proportion of residents with RQF3+ qualifications than the UK (67.7%) and core city average (69.0%).

8000%
Chart 2: RQF Qualification Levels 2023



Development Policy
Place, Prosperity, Sustainability

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