

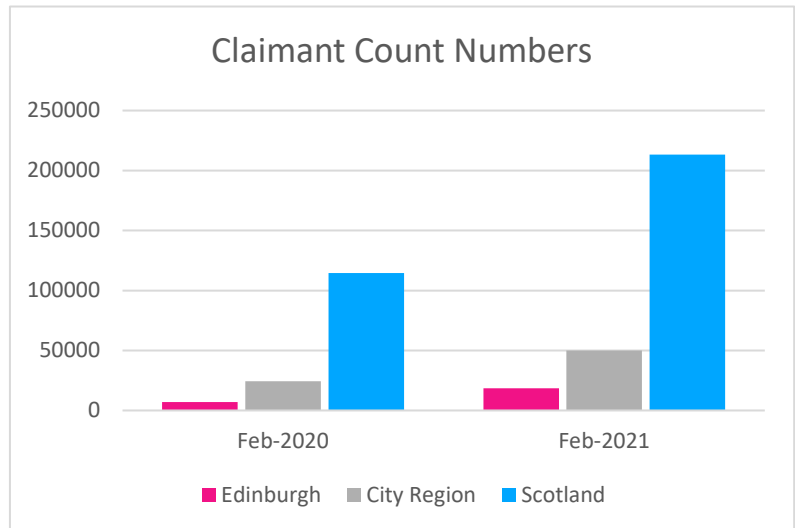
Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count February 2021 Summary Update

Between February 2020 and February 2021:

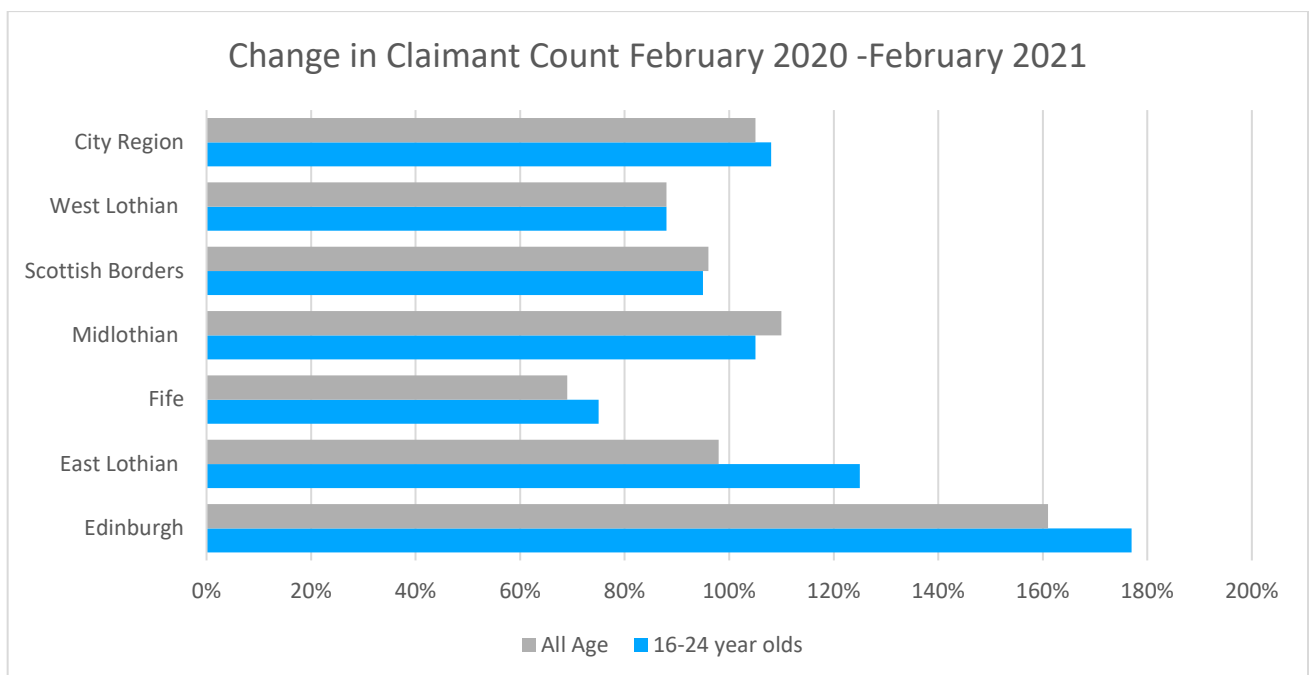
- ↑ Scottish Claimant Count increased by 86%
- ↑ Edinburgh Claimant Count increased by 161%
- ↑ City Region Claimant Count increased by 105%

In the last edition of this update, we could see that the month to month change between December and January tended to reflect falls, albeit relatively small falls, in the claimant count.

When we look at what has happened between January and February, we can see that there has been an increase in the number of claimants of around 5 or 6% across the UK.



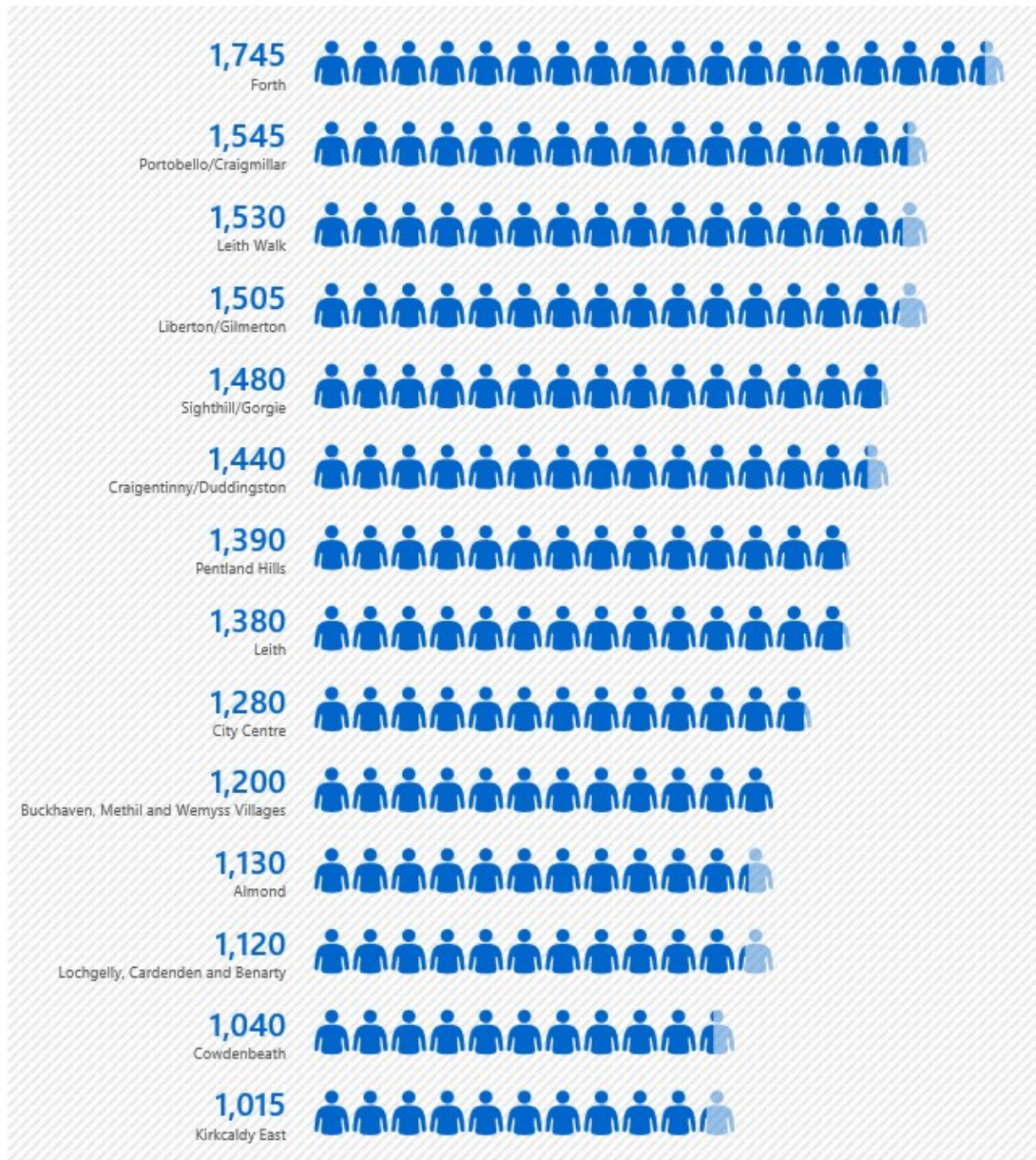
Between February 2020 and February 2021, Edinburgh has recorded the largest percentage increase in claimant count in Scotland so that the count was 161% higher in February 2021 compared to February 2020.



Looking at 16-24 year olds claimants, across the region there has been an increase of 108% in the number of claimants but this ranges from a 75% increase in Fife through to 177% increase in Edinburgh.

Of the wards with over 1000 claimants, 10 are in Edinburgh.

Wards with over 1,000 claimants



Overall, across the region, the proportion of female claimants is much the same in February 2021 as it was in February 2020 at around 39% of claimants.

Across the City Region as a whole the claimant count for the 16-24 year old age group has risen by 108% between February 2020 and February 2021 and by 6% between January 2021 and February 2021. However, there are differences depending on which LA you wish to look at. Of the 6 Local Authorities, half have recorded their greatest percentage increase in claimant numbers for this the 16-24 year old group and those were Edinburgh, East Lothian and Fife. For the other three areas the greatest percentage increase was recorded for claimants in the 50+ category.

In three of the 71 Wards in the City Region 16-24 year olds make up 25% or more of the claimant count made- Hawick and Denholm (Borders), Cupar (Fife) and Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty (Fife).

Across the region participation levels for 16-17 year olds based on SDS data collection varies from 96.4% through to 93.2% and the majority of Local Authorities in the region are above the Scottish Average.

Across the region there has been a 96% increase in the number of people claiming Universal Credit since February 2020

Between February 2020 and January 2021 Edinburgh has seen the number of UC claimants in employment increase by 224%

The number of 16-19 year old UC claimants in the region who are in employment was 1,209 in January 2021 an increase of 194% since February 2020

The number of 16-19 year olds claiming UC and not in employment was 3,183 in January 2021 a rise of 47%

**Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count
February 2021 Full Update**

Overall Claimant Count

The data published on the 23rd March indicates that the claimant count across the UK is still far higher than it was at the start of the pandemic- 115% higher for the UK and 86% higher for Scotland.

Table 1: National Claimant Count Picture

	February 2020		January 2021		February 2021		Percentage Change	
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Feb 20- Feb 21	Jan 21- Feb 21
East	89,890	2.4	199,220	5.3	212,260	5.6	136%	7%
East Midlands	80,915	2.7	157,190	5.3	166,680	5.6	106%	6%
London	184,765	3.1	481,755	8.0	510,820	8.5	176%	6%
North East	75,560	4.6	116,420	7.0	120,395	7.2	59%	3%
North West	167,055	3.7	309,610	6.8	324,815	7.1	94%	5%
South East	119,620	2.1	285,175	5.1	302,355	5.4	153%	6%
South West	75,595	2.2	162,855	4.8	172,520	5.1	128%	6%
West Midlands	141,095	3.9	258,825	7.1	271,430	7.4	92%	5%
Yorkshire and The Humber	116,390	3.4	218,205	6.4	228,350	6.7	96%	5%
Northern Ireland	29,910	2.5	55,410	4.7	58,130	4.9	94%	5%
Scotland	114,605	3.3	205,320	5.9	213,325	6.1	86%	4%
Wales	60,375	3.1	108,560	5.6	113,675	5.9	88%	5%
United Kingdom	1,255,770	3.0	2,558,550	6.1	2,694,760	6.5	115%	5%

Source: NOMIS 23/03/2021

In the last edition of this update, we could see that the month to month change between December and January tended to reflect falls, albeit relatively small falls, in the claimant count. When we look at what has happened between January and February, we can see that there has been an increase in the number of claimants of around 5 or 6% across the UK.

Table 2 below looks at the position across Scotland based on the claimant count data published on the NOMIS site. From this table we can see that between February 2020 and February 2021, Edinburgh has recorded the largest percentage increase in claimant count in Scotland which was 161% higher in February 2021 compared to February 2020. By comparison Inverclyde had recorded the lowest percentage increase, 33% increase, between the same dates. In the City Region whilst Edinburgh has the largest percentage increase, Fife had the lowest at 69%.

The data in Table 2 seems to suggest that the greatest rate of increase in the claimant count has been in the areas that had the lowest number of claimants prior to the pandemic, whilst areas with higher claimant count rates in February 2020 appear to have recorded a less dramatic increase.

Table 2: Claimant Count - Scottish LAs

Area	February 2020		January 2021		February 2021		% Change	
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Feb 20-Feb 21	Jan 21-Feb 21
Aberdeen City	4,150	2.6	9,470	6.0	9,750	6.2	135%	3%
Aberdeenshire	2,975	1.8	6,500	4.0	6,690	4.2	125%	3%
Angus	2,040	2.9	3,720	5.4	3,815	5.5	87%	3%
Argyll and Bute	1,530	3.0	2,775	5.5	2,925	5.8	91%	5%
City of Edinburgh	7,105	1.9	17,475	4.8	18,525	5.1	161%	6%
Clackmannanshire	1,390	4.3	2,030	6.3	2,115	6.6	52%	4%
Dumfries and Galloway	2,950	3.4	4,490	5.2	4,710	5.4	60%	5%
Dundee City	4,530	4.6	6,755	6.8	7,045	7.1	56%	4%
East Ayrshire	3,685	4.8	5,635	7.4	5,790	7.6	57%	3%
E. Dunbartonshire	1,230	1.9	2,455	3.8	2,560	4.0	108%	4%
East Lothian	1,765	2.7	3,285	5.0	3,490	5.3	98%	6%
East Renfrewshire	950	1.7	2,100	3.7	2,145	3.8	126%	2%
Falkirk	3,300	3.2	5,820	5.7	5,980	5.8	81%	3%
Fife	8,765	3.8	14,210	6.1	14,830	6.4	69%	4%
Glasgow City	20,055	4.5	35,615	8.0	36,625	8.2	83%	3%
Highland	3,715	2.6	7,325	5.1	7,820	5.4	110%	7%
Inverclyde	2,255	4.6	2,925	6.0	3,010	6.2	33%	3%
Midlothian	1,470	2.6	2,920	5.1	3,085	5.4	110%	6%
Moray	1,550	2.6	2,835	4.8	3,045	5.2	96%	7%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	465	3.0	730	4.7	775	5.0	67%	6%
North Ayrshire	4,600	5.6	6,605	8.1	6,835	8.4	49%	3%
North Lanarkshire	8,230	3.7	14,060	6.4	14,605	6.7	77%	4%
Orkney Islands	195	1.4	360	2.7	375	2.8	92%	4%
Perth and Kinross	1,865	2.0	4,065	4.4	4,175	4.6	124%	3%
Renfrewshire	4,025	3.5	6,930	6.0	7,220	6.3	79%	4%
Scottish Borders	1,860	2.7	3,500	5.2	3,650	5.4	96%	4%
Shetland Islands	265	1.9	455	3.2	465	3.3	75%	2%
South Ayrshire	2,790	4.2	4,725	7.1	4,725	7.1	69%	0%
South Lanarkshire	7,015	3.5	12,195	6.0	12,700	6.3	81%	4%
Stirling	1,540	2.5	2,660	4.4	2,790	4.6	81%	5%
W. Dunbartonshire	2,930	5.2	4,525	8.0	4,630	8.2	58%	2%
West Lothian	3,425	2.9	6,175	5.3	6,430	5.5	88%	4%
Scotland	114,605	3.3	205,320	5.9	213,325	6.1	86%	4%

Source: NOMIS 23/03/2021

Turning now to look at the gender profile of the claimants in the City Region. What we can see in Table 3 is that overall, across the region, the proportion of female claimants is much the same in February 2021 as it was in February 2020 at around 39% of claimants.

Unsurprisingly, the claimant rate for females has increased over the last 12 months, as it has for males. What we can see in the Table below is that in three of the LA there has been a larger percentage increase in the number of female claimants compared to male claimants. In Edinburgh there has been a 167% increase in the number of female claimants between February 2020 and February 2021

Table 3: Change in Gender Split Across the City Region

Date		February 2020		January 2021		February 2021		% Change Feb 20-Feb 21		% Change Jan 21-Feb 21	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Edinburgh	Count	4,435	2,665	10,700	6,775	11,420	7,105	157%	167%	7%	5%
	Rate	2.5	1.4	5.9	3.6	6.3	3.8	3.8	2.4	0.4	0.2
East Lothian	Count	1,005	760	1,895	1,395	2,025	1,465	101%	93%	7%	5%
	Rate	3.2	2.2	6.0	4.1	6.4	4.3	3.2	2.1	0.4	0.2
Fife	Count	5,475	3,290	8,725	5,485	9,135	5,695	67%	73%	5%	4%
	Rate	4.8	2.8	7.7	4.6	8.1	4.8	3.3	2.0	0.4	0.2
Midlothian	Count	865	605	1,750	1,170	1,850	1,235	114%	104%	6%	6%
	Rate	3.1	2.0	6.4	4.0	6.7	4.2	3.6	2.2	0.3	0.2
Scottish Borders	Count	1,120	740	2,060	1,440	2,140	1,510	91%	104%	4%	5%
	Rate	3.4	2.1	6.2	4.1	6.5	4.4	3.1	2.3	0.3	0.3
West Lothian	Count	1,970	1,455	3,700	2,470	3,860	2,565	96%	76%	4%	4%
	Rate	3.4	2.5	6.4	4.2	6.7	4.3	3.3	1.8	0.3	0.1

Source: NOMIS 23/3/2021

Turning now to look at the age profile of the claimants. What we can see in Table 4 below is that in the City Region as a whole the claimant count for the 16-24 year old age group has risen by 108% between February 2020 and February 2021 and by 6% between January 2021 and February 2021. However, there are differences depending on which LA you wish to look at. At one extreme is the position of Edinburgh where there has been a 177% increase in the number of 16-24 year old claimants year on year at the other is Fife where there has been a 75% increase. Of the 6 LAs half have recorded their greatest percentage increase in claimant numbers for this the 16-24 year old group and those were Edinburgh, East Lothian, and Fife. For the other three areas the greatest percentage increase was recorded for claimants in the 50+ category.

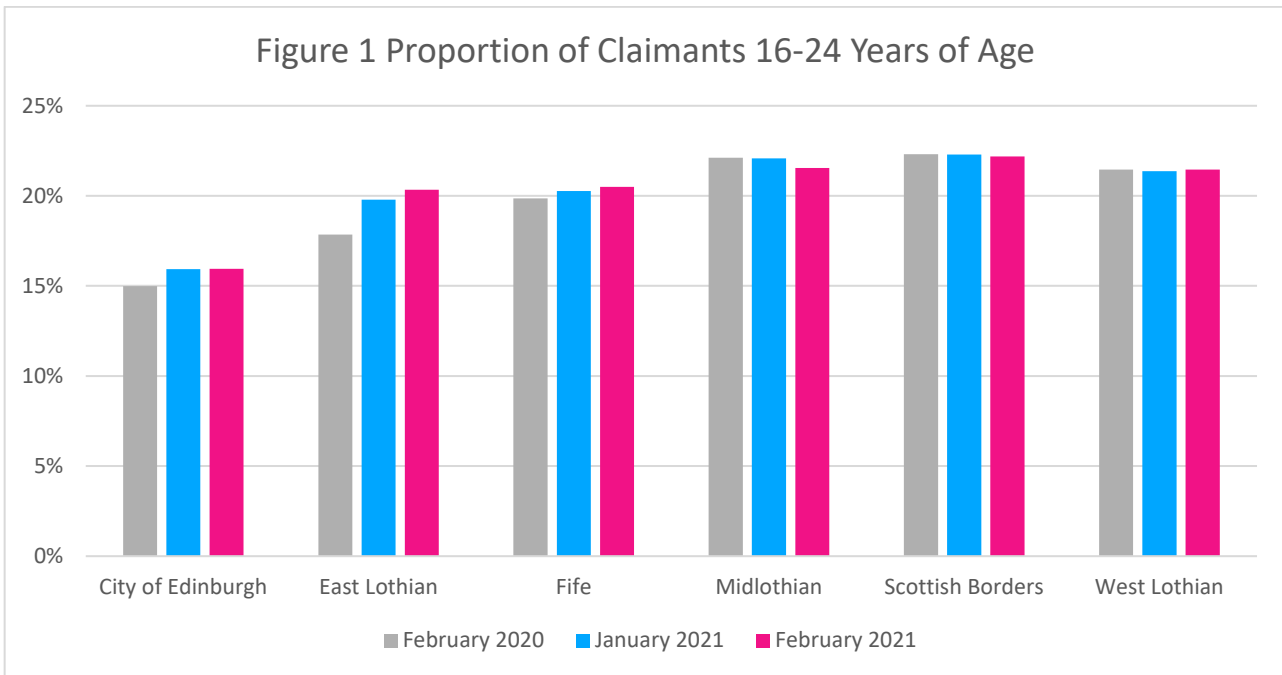
Table 4: Claimant Count Change by Age Across the City Region

		February 2020	January 2021	February 2021	% Change	
					Feb 20-Feb 21	Jan 21- Feb 21
City of Edinburgh	All Age	7,105	17,475	18,525	161%	6%
	16-24	1,065	2,785	2,955	177%	6%
	25-49	4,310	10,800	11,440	165%	6%
	50+	1,730	3,895	4,130	139%	6%
East Lothian	All Ages	1,765	3,285	3,490	98%	6%
	16-24	315	650	710	125%	9%
	25-49	1,020	1,795	1,895	86%	6%
	50+	430	840	885	106%	5%
Fife	All Ages	8,765	14,210	14,830	69%	4%
	16-24	1,740	2,880	3,040	75%	6%
	25-49	4,990	7,915	8,270	66%	4%
	50+	2,030	3,410	3,520	73%	3%
Midlothian	All	1,470	2,920	3,085	110%	6%
	16-24	325	645	665	105%	3%
	25-49	865	1,635	1,745	102%	7%
	50+	280	635	670	139%	6%
Scottish Borders	All Ages	1,860	3,500	3,650	96%	4%
	16-24	415	780	810	95%	4%
	25-49	975	1,780	1,875	92%	5%
	50+	470	945	965	105%	2%
West Lothian	All Ages	3,425	6,175	6,430	88%	4%
	16-24	735	1,320	1,380	88%	5%
	25-49	1,965	3,465	3,645	85%	5%

	50+	725	1,385	1,405	94%	1%
City Region	All Ages	24,390	47,565	50,010	105%	5%
	16-24	4,595	9,060	9,560	108%	6%
	25-49	14,125	27,390	28,870	104%	5%
	50+	5,665	11,110	11,575	104%	4%

Source: NOMIS 23/3/2021

Claimant rates are not produced on NOMIS for age categories. One alternative is to look at the proportion of claimants and how this has changed, essentially do 16-24 year olds now make up a higher proportion of claimants? Figure 1 below indicates that the proportion has risen most rapidly in the areas where the claimant proportion was low to start with. In East Lothian, the claimant count in February 2021 had 20% aged 16-24 years and in Edinburgh it is now 16%.



Source: NOMIS 23/3/2021

Where the claimant count data is more useful than other sources is in its ability to drill down to small areas, such as wards. Table 5 below looks at the 71 wards that make up the City Region. Where this table differs from those that have been presented previously is that the wards are ranked by the proportion of claimants who are aged 16-24.

Table 5: Claimant Count by Ward Ranked by Proportion of 16-24 year old Claimants (February 2021)

	2017 electoral wards	All categories: Age 16+	16-24 Count	16-24 Proportion
Scottish Borders	Hawick and Denholm	410	110	27%
Fife	Cupar	400	105	26%
Fife	Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	1,120	280	25%
Fife	Glenrothes Central and Thornton	615	150	24%
Fife	Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	575	140	24%
Scottish Borders	Mid Berwickshire	290	70	24%
East Lothian	Preston, Seton and Gosford	625	150	24%
West Lothian	Armadale and Blackridge	550	130	24%
Scottish Borders	Hawick and Hermitage	340	80	24%
Midlothian	Dalkeith	600	140	23%
Edinburgh	Morningside	495	115	23%
Scottish Borders	Selkirkshire	280	65	23%
Scottish Borders	Tweeddale East	260	60	23%

Fife	Leven, Kennoway and Largo	740	170	23%
West Lothian	Livingston South	850	195	23%
Fife	Rosyth	545	125	23%
Fife	Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	660	150	23%
West Lothian	Livingston North	685	155	23%
Midlothian	Midlothian South	540	120	22%
Scottish Borders	Galashiels and District	630	140	22%
Midlothian	Midlothian East	550	120	22%
East Lothian	Dunbar and East Linton	390	85	22%
East Lothian	Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	805	175	22%
Midlothian	Bonnyrigg	460	100	22%
West Lothian	Whitburn and Blackburn	990	215	22%
Fife	Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	1,200	260	22%
East Lothian	North Berwick Coastal	255	55	22%
Fife	St Andrews	255	55	22%
West Lothian	Linlithgow	280	60	21%
Scottish Borders	Leaderdale and Melrose	280	60	21%
Edinburgh	Colinton/Fairmilehead	515	110	21%
West Lothian	East Livingston and East Calder	750	160	21%
West Lothian	Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	705	150	21%
Fife	Dunfermline Central	690	145	21%
Scottish Borders	Jedburgh and District	310	65	21%
Fife	Kirkcaldy North	630	130	21%
Midlothian	Midlothian West	465	95	20%
Fife	Tay Bridgehead	320	65	20%
Scottish Borders	East Berwickshire	320	65	20%
Fife	Dunfermline South	825	165	20%
Edinburgh	Corstorphine/Murrayfield	380	75	20%
Edinburgh	Liberton/Gilmerton	1,505	295	20%
West Lothian	Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	715	140	20%
Edinburgh	Southside/Newington	720	140	19%
Fife	West Fife and Coastal Villages	645	125	19%
West Lothian	Bathgate	905	175	19%
Fife	Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western	605	115	19%
Scottish Borders	Kelso and District	265	50	19%
Fife	Cowdenbeath	1,040	195	19%
Fife	Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	400	75	19%
Fife	Dunfermline North	650	120	18%
East Lothian	Haddington and Lammermuir	520	95	18%
Midlothian	Penicuik	470	85	18%
Edinburgh	Drum Brae/Gyle	695	120	17%
Edinburgh	Pentland Hills	1,390	240	17%
Fife	Kirkcaldy Central	985	170	17%
East Lothian	Musselburgh	900	155	17%
Edinburgh	Inverleith	705	120	17%
Fife	Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	505	85	17%
Fife	Kirkcaldy East	1,015	170	17%
Scottish Borders	Tweeddale West	275	45	16%
Edinburgh	Portobello/Craigmillar	1,545	250	16%
Edinburgh	Forth	1,745	280	16%
Edinburgh	Almond	1,130	175	15%
Edinburgh	Sighthill/Gorgie	1,480	225	15%
Edinburgh	Craigentinny/Duddingston	1,440	215	15%
Edinburgh	Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	590	85	14%
Edinburgh	Leith	1,380	185	13%
Edinburgh	City Centre	1,280	165	13%
Fife	East Neuk and Landward	400	50	13%
Edinburgh	Leith Walk	1,530	155	10%
	Column Total	50,010	9,555	19%

Source: NOMIS 23/3/2021

We can see that across the whole City Region the ward of Hawick and Denholm had 27% of its claimants aged 16-24. Overall, in Scottish Borders it was 22%. This could give an indication of where interventions aimed at young people could be targeted. However local knowledge is clearly

necessary to contextualise this. For example, we can see in Edinburgh, Morningside ward has the highest proportion of 16-24 year old claimants of any of the Edinburgh wards. This ward has high concentrations of HMO accommodation catering for students/ recent graduates. That is not to say that these young claimants won't need support to access employment, just to indicate that the support required may be very different to those in others area of the region.

Table 6 below looks at the picture slightly differently, rather than focusing on the proportion of young claimants it lists the wards where 200 or more 16-24 year olds were claiming in February 2021. What we can see in this is that there is a high degree of overlap between this, and the overall claimant count regardless of age.

Table 6: Wards With 200 or more claimants aged 16-24

	2017 electoral wards	All categories: Age 16+	16-24 Count	16-24 Proportion
	Column Total	50,010	9,555	19%
Edinburgh	Liberton/Gilmerton	1,505	295	20%
Fife	Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	1,120	280	25%
Edinburgh	Forth	1,745	280	16%
Fife	Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	1,200	260	22%
Edinburgh	Portobello/Craigmillar	1,545	250	16%
Edinburgh	Pentland Hills	1,390	240	17%
Edinburgh	Sighthill/Gorgie	1,480	225	15%
West Lothian	Whitburn and Blackburn	990	215	22%
Edinburgh	Craigmillar/Duddingston	1,440	215	15%

Source: NOMIS 23/3/2021

Skills Development Scotland provide useful information that reflects young people generally and in particular, the position of 16-17 year olds. Table 7 below looks at the participation measure for 16-17 year olds across the 6 Local Authorities of the city region. This reflects the position as of February 2021 and is based on data sourced from the SDS Customer Support System (CSS) which is directly updated by SDS staff and through data shared by partners (including local authorities/schools, colleges, SAAS, DWP). Participation generally means a positive destination such as a job, college, training etc. Unconfirmed represents those that the SDS teams have been unable to track down and determine what they are doing. We can see that across the region participation levels vary from 96.4% through to 93.2%.

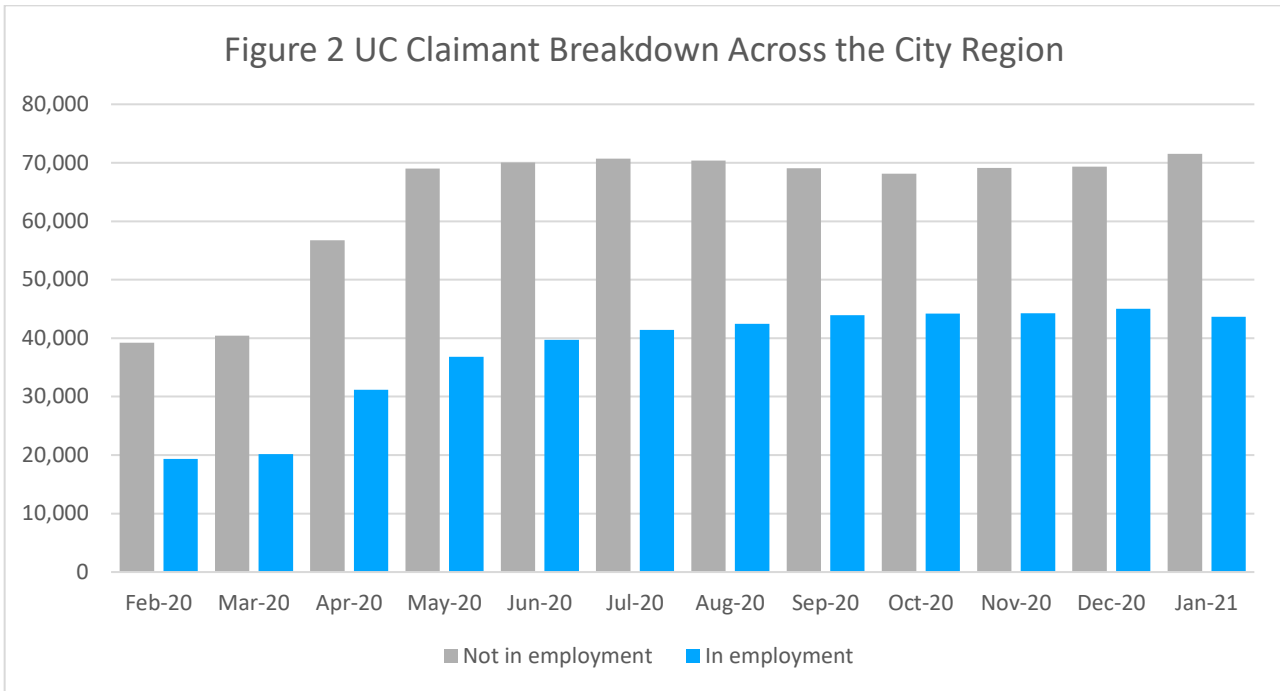
Table 7: 16-17 Year Old Participation Levels as at February 2021

	Participation	Non-Participation	Unconfirmed
Midlothian	96.4	2.8	0.8
East Lothian	96.3	2.1	1.6
Scottish Borders	95.9	2.6	1.5
Edinburgh	95.3	3.0	1.7
Scotland	95.0	2.9	2.1
West Lothian	93.8	4.1	2.2
Fife	93.2	4.1	2.7

Source: <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/publications-statistics/statistics/monthly-participation-snapshot-for-16-and-17-year-olds/>

Universal Credit

Universal Credit makes up part of the claimant count that we have looked at already in this report, however it also includes data on those who are in work but need support as their wages alone don't provide enough income. Figure 3 below looks at the increase across the region in the number of in-work and out of work universal credit claimants since February 2020.



What we can see from this is that the out of work claimants peaked quickly and has been around 70,000 since May. The in-work UC claimants has seen a far more gradual rise and this rise has continued longer. For example, between June (after the initial shock) and January (the most recent data that can be split) the number of not in employment claimants across the city region has increased by 2% whilst the number of in work claimants has increased by just under 10%.

Table 8 below looks at the Universal Credit statistics for each of the 6 LAs from February and compares this to December and January. As with other UC data the February statistics whilst available are not yet split by employment indicator.

Table 8: Universal Credit Claimants

		Feb-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	% Change Feb 20- Jan 21	% Change Dec 20-Jan 21
City of Edinburgh	Not in employment	9,041	21,578	22,205	146%	3%
	In employment	4,650	15,348	15,083	224%	-2%
	Total	13,688	36,927	37,288	172%	-1%
East Lothian	Not in employment	3,725	5,726	5865	57%	2%
	In employment	2,120	3,777	3659	73%	-3%
	Total	5,842	9,504	9524	63%	0%
Scottish Borders	Not in employment	2,874	5,042	5193	81%	5%
	In employment	1,546	3,203	3127	102%	2%
	Total	4,424	8,322	8574	88%	4%
West Lothian	Not in employment	5,608	9,486	9817	75%	3%
	In employment	2,809	6,206	5995	113%	-3%
	Total	8,419	15,696	15812	88%	1%
Midlothian	Not in employment	3,173	5,123	5311	67%	4%

	In employment	1,741	3,372	3260	87%	-3%
	Total	4,921	8,493	8574	74%	1%
Fife	Not in employment	14,794	22,362	23120	56%	3%
	In employment	6,467	13,103	12,515	94%	-4%
	Total	21,262	35,463	35633	68%	0%

Source: StatXplore 23/03/2021

It is clear from Table 8 that the in work receiving support group, has grown faster than those that are out of work. This ranges from a 224% increase in Edinburgh to 73% increase in East Lothian. Perhaps of concern is that the latest figures for January seems to suggest an increase in the number of not in employment claimants and a fall in the number of claimants who were in work. This is reflected across the region and in every area apart from Scottish Borders we can see a month to month increase in the number of claimants out of work and a reduction in the number who are in work. This is only one month's data, but it could be demonstrating that individuals are moving from in work support to out of employment support as they have lost their jobs over the 2021 lockdown.

Table 9: 16-19 Year Olds Claiming Universal Credit by Local Authority

Age and LA	February 2020		December 2020		January 2020		Feb -Jan Change		Dec-Jan Change	
	Not in emp	In emp	Not in emp	In emp	Not in emp	In emp	Not in emp	In emp	Not in emp	In emp
16-19 - Edinburgh	391	90	766	294	766	271	96%	201%	0%	-8%
16-19 - East Lothian	160	30	230	100	237	91	48%	203%	3%	-9%
16-19 - Fife	862	137	1,040	467	1,080	403	25%	194%	4%	-14%
16-19 - Midlothian	177	35	271	85	263	88	49%	151%	-3%	4%
16-19 - Scottish Borders	188	43	277	115	283	110	51%	156%	2%	-4%
16-19 - West Lothian	375	72	547	272	559	239	49%	232%	2%	-12%
16-19 - Total	2,164	411	3,139	1,335	3,183	1,209	47%	194%	1%	-9%
All Age - Edinburgh	9,041	4,650	21,578	15,348	22,205	15,083	146%	224%	3%	-2%
All Age - East Lothian	3,725	2,120	5,726	3,774	5,865	3,659	57%	73%	2%	-3%
All Age - Fife	14,793	6,467	22,361	13,103	23,120	12,515	56%	94%	3%	-4%
All Age - Midlothian	3,173	1,741	5,123	3,372	5,311	3,260	67%	87%	4%	-3%
All Age - Scottish Borders	2,874	1,546	5,042	3,203	5,193	3,127	81%	102%	3%	-2%
All Age - West Lothian	5,608	2,809	9,486	6,206	9,817	5,995	75%	113%	3%	-3%
All Age - Total	39,218	19,338	69,315	45,005	71,512	43,646	82%	126%	3%	-3%

Source: StatXplore 23/03/2021

Table 9 looks at the change over the course of the pandemic in the number of young people claiming UC. We can see that overall, across the region in February 2020 there were 2,164 16-19 year olds claiming UC as they were not in employment and another 411 claiming UC who were in work. In December there were 3,193 16-19 year olds claiming UC who were not in employment and 1,335 who were in employment. This represents a 47% increase in the number of 16-19 year olds looking for work and 194% increase in the number of in work. Between December and January there was a 9% fall in the number of in work 16-19 year old claimants and a 1% increase in the number of out of work claimants in the same age group. We cannot tell from the data if those that are leaving the in work support for UC were doing so as they had increased their hours for example,

and therefore no longer needed the support, or they had got to the point where they had lost the work they had and had moved onto the not in employment category.

Looking at the individual LAs it can be seen that between February 2020 and January 2021 there had been a 232% increase in the number of 16-19 year olds in West Lothian who were in work and claiming UC compared to a 49% increase in those not in employment. When compared to all ages the picture for West Lothian was 113% increase for in work claiming and a 75% increase in the number who were out of work and claiming.

Chris Nicol
Business Information, Capital City Partnership
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07462 432348
chrisnicol@capitalcitypartnership.org