

Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count June 2022 Summary Update

Claimant Count Change Between February 2020 and May 2022:	Claimant Count Change Between May 2021 and May 2022:	Claimant Count Change Between April 2022 and May 2022:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ UK increased by 28% ↑ Scottish increased by 2% ↑ Edinburgh increased by 27% ↑ City Region increased by 6% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ UK decreased by 35% ↓ Scottish decreased by 40% ↓ Edinburgh decreased by 46% ↓ City Region decreased by 43% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ UK decreased by 2% ↓ Scottish decreased by 4% ↓ Edinburgh decreased by 4% ↓ City Region decreased by 4%

City Region Summary

1. In May 2022 the claimant count for the City Region was 25,805. Of these
 - a. 4,130 were 16-24 year olds
 - b. 15,555 were 25-49 year olds
 - c. 6,115 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in the Region is now 6% higher than it was in February 2020.
3. In April 2022 there were 41,741 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in the Region.

Edinburgh Summary

1. In May 2022 the claimant count for Edinburgh was 9,000. Of these
 - a. 1,175 were 16-24 year olds
 - b. 5,645 were 25-49 year olds
 - c. 2,180 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in Edinburgh is now 27% higher than it was in February 2020.
3. In April 2022 there were 13,368 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Edinburgh
4. The monthly participation level for Edinburgh schools for May was 90.5%

East Lothian Summary

1. In May 2022 the claimant count for East Lothian was 1,610. Of these
 - a. 255 were 16-24 year olds
 - b. 960 were 25-49 year olds
 - c. 390 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in East Lothian is now 9% **lower** than it was in February 2020.
3. In April 2022 there were 3,523 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in East Lothian.
4. The monthly participation level for East Lothian schools for May was 91.9%

Fife Summary

1. In May 2022 the claimant count for Fife was 8,615. Of these
 - a. 1,525 were 16-24 year olds
 - b. 5,055 were 25-49 year olds
 - c. 2,035 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in Fife is now 2% **lower** than it was in February 2020.

3. In April 2022 there were 12,447 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Fife.
4. The monthly participation level for Fife schools for May was 88.4%

Midlothian Summary

1. In May 2022 the claimant count for Midlothian was 1,390. Of these
 - a. 250 were 16-24 year olds
 - b. 840 were 25-49 year olds
 - c. 300 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in Midlothian is now 5% **lower** than it was in February 2020.
3. In April 2022 there were 3,126 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Midlothian.
4. The monthly participation level for Midlothian schools for May was 92.1%

Scottish Borders Summary

1. In May 2022 the claimant count for Scottish Borders was 2,040. Of these
 - a. 335 were 16-24 year olds
 - b. 1,135 were 25-49 year olds
 - c. 570 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in Scottish Borders is now 10% higher than it was in February 2020.
3. In April 2022 there were 3,283 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders.
4. The monthly participation level for Scottish Borders Schools for May was 92.7%

West Lothian Summary

1. In May 2022 the claimant count for West Lothian was 3,150. Of these
 - a. 590 were 16-24 year olds
 - b. 1,920 were 25-49 year olds
 - c. 640 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in West Lothian is now 8% **lower** than it was in February 2020.
3. In April 2022 there were 5,982 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in West Lothian
4. The monthly participation level for West Lothian schools for May was 92.5%

**Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count
March 2022 Full Update**

Overall Claimant Count

On the 14th June NOMIS released claimant count data for May. Table 1 looks at the 12 regions and countries of the UK and indicates

- the claimant count as at February 2020
- the month that the peak claimant count was recorded and what that count was
- the percentage increase between February 2020 and this 'peak claimant count'
- the claimant count in April and May 2022
- the percentage fall between 'peak claimant count' and May 2022
- the percentage fall between April 2022 and May 2022.

From Table 1 we can see that in every nation and region of the UK there has been a fall in the claimant count since the peak and this has ranged from 32% in the West Midlands to 50% in the South West. Scotland recorded a fall of 48% since August 2020. One interesting observation is that the areas that experienced the highest increases in 2020 have not necessarily recorded the highest decreases- London for example.

Table 1: National Claimant Count Picture

Date	Feb-20	Claimant Count Peak		Apr-22	May-22	Percentage Change		
		Count	Month			Feb 20 to Peak	Peak to May 22	Apr 22 to May 22
UK	1,255,770	2,688,110	Aug-20	1,654,230	1,607,485	114%	-40%	-3%
East	89,890	213,715	Aug-20	123,545	119,675	138%	-44%	-3%
East Midlands	80,915	170,220	Aug-20	104,790	102,275	110%	-40%	-2%
London	184,765	478,165	Sep-20	308,030	302,190	159%	-37%	-2%
North East	75,560	123,720	Aug-20	74,305	72,120	64%	-42%	-3%
North West	167,055	326,490	May-20	207,270	203,005	95%	-38%	-2%
N. Ireland	29,910	63,860	May-20	37,505	36,380	114%	-43%	-3%
Scotland	114,605	224,840	Aug-20	122,210	116,665	96%	-48%	-5%
South East	119,620	300,975	Aug-20	175,675	169,645	152%	-44%	-3%
South West	75,595	180,915	Aug-20	95,100	90,425	139%	-50%	-5%
Wales	60,375	118,905	Aug-20	68,565	66,275	97%	-44%	-3%
West Midlands	141,095	269,985	Feb-21	188,295	183,675	91%	-32%	-2%
Yorks & Humb	116,390	219,515	Feb-20	148,950	145,150	89%	-34%	-3%

Source: NOMIS 14/06/2022

Looking more specifically at what has been recorded between April 2022 and May 2022 it can be seen that again all areas have seen the claimant count fall. This has ranged from a 2% fall in 4 regions through to a 5% fall in Scotland and the South West.

Table 2 looks specifically at the situation in Scotland and focuses on Scottish Local Authorities (LAs). From this data it can be seen that since the peak in 2020/21 all LAs have seen a fall and this has ranged from 41% in Glasgow to 58% in East Renfrew. From April 2022 to May 2022 31 Local Authorities have recorded a fall ranging from a 17% month to month fall in Na h Eileanan Siar to 1% fall in Stirling and Angus. One LA, the Shetland Islands. Recorded no change month to month between April and May.

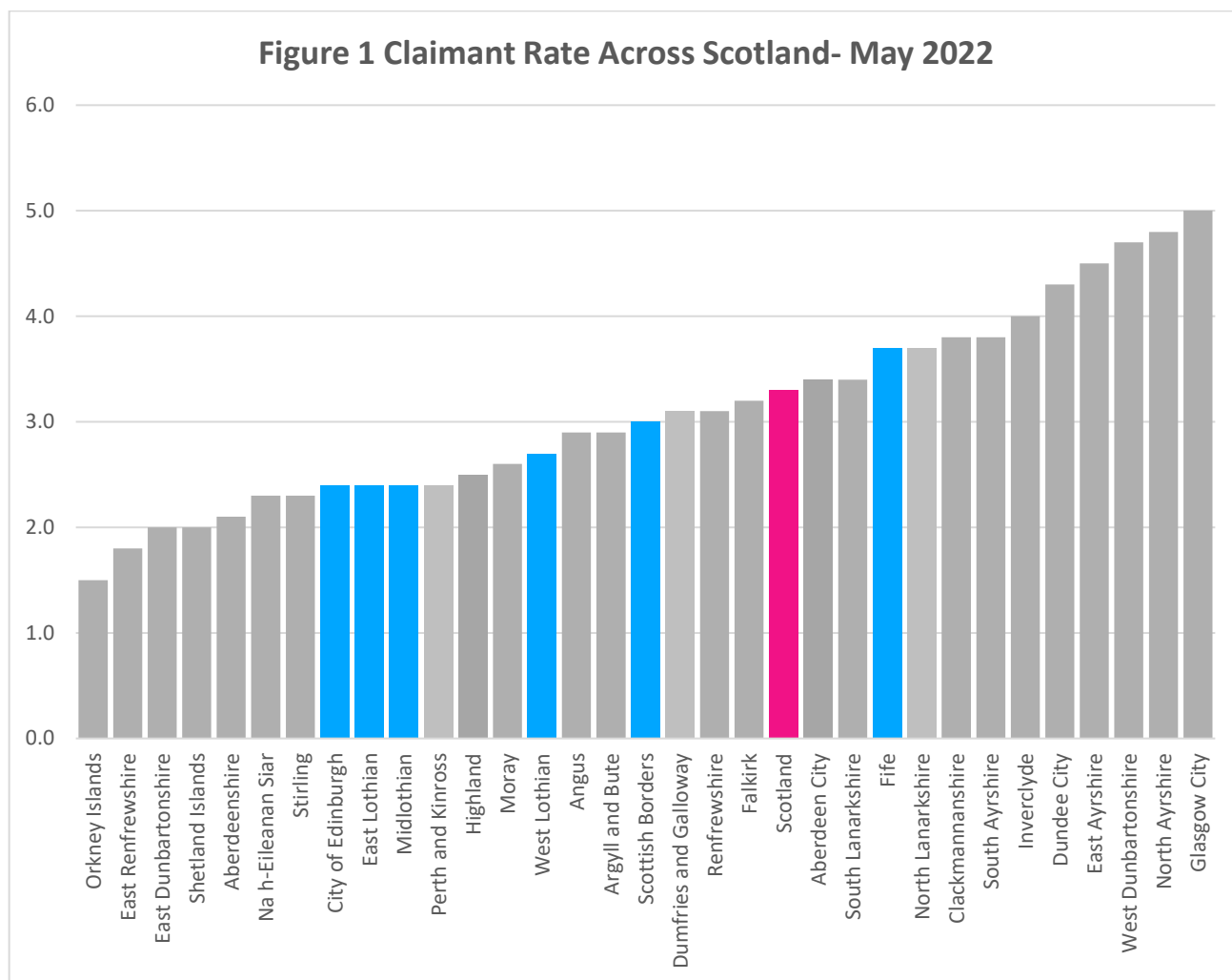
Table 2: Claimant Count - Scottish LAs

	Feb-20	Peak Month and Count	Apr-22	May 2022	Feb 20 to Peak	Peak to May 22	Apr 22 to May 22
Aberdeen City	4,150	Feb-21 9,725	5,590	5,350	134%	-45%	-4%
Aberdeenshire	2,975	Aug-20 6,675	3,580	3,425	124%	-49%	-4%
Angus	2,040	Aug-20 3,985	2,035	2,005	95%	-50%	-1%
Argyll and Bute	1,530	May-20 3,290	1,605	1,485	115%	-55%	-7%
Edinburgh	7,105	Aug-20 18,840	9,425	9,000	165%	-52%	-5%
Clackmannanshire	1,390	Aug-20 2,255	1,250	1,215	62%	-46%	-3%
Dumfries & Galloway	2,950	May-20 5,115	2,795	2,630	73%	-49%	-6%
Dundee City	4,530	Aug-20 7,490	4,385	4,255	65%	-43%	-3%
East Ayrshire	3,685	Aug-20 6,280	3,585	3,365	70%	-46%	-6%
E.Dunbartonshire	1,230	Aug-20 2,985	1,385	1,315	143%	-56%	-5%
East Lothian	1,765	May-20 3,680	1,685	1,610	108%	-56%	-4%
East Renfrewshire	950	Jul-20 2,415	1,060	1,010	154%	-58%	-5%
Falkirk	3,300	Jul-20 6,335	3,365	3,235	92%	-49%	-4%
Fife	8,765	Aug-20 15,840	8,950	8,615	81%	-46%	-4%
Glasgow City	20,055	Aug-20 38,205	23,370	22,660	91%	-41%	-3%
Highland	3,715	Jul-20 8,430	3,760	3,590	127%	-57%	-5%
Inverclyde	2,255	Jul-20 3,275	2,030	1,915	45%	-42%	-6%
Midlothian	1,470	May-20 3,160	1,465	1,390	115%	-56%	-5%
Moray	1,550	Aug-20 3,030	1,630	1,535	95%	-49%	-6%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	465	Aug-20 880	420	350	89%	-60%	-17%
North Ayrshire	4,600	Jul-20 7,290	4,060	3,870	58%	-47%	-5%
North Lanarkshire	8,230	Aug-20 15,870	8,515	8,050	93%	-49%	-5%
Orkney Islands	195	Aug-20 420	230	205	115%	-51%	-11%
Perth and Kinross	1,865	Aug-20 4,595	2,325	2,175	146%	-53%	-6%
Renfrewshire	4,025	Aug-20 7,780	3,850	3,600	93%	-54%	-6%
Scottish Borders	1,860	Jul-20 3,835	2,140	2,040	106%	-47%	-5%
Shetland Islands	265	Sep-20 545	285	285	106%	-48%	0%
South Ayrshire	2,790	Aug-20 4,960	2,685	2,480	78%	-50%	-8%
South Lanarkshire	7,015	Aug-20 13,725	7,250	6,890	96%	-50%	-5%
Stirling	1,540	Jul-20 3,125	1,375	1,360	103%	-56%	-1%
W.Dunbartonshire	2,930	Jul-20 4,865	2,750	2,605	66%	-46%	-5%
West Lothian	3,425	Aug-20 7,005	3,375	3,150	105%	-55%	-7%
Scotland	114,605	Aug-20 224,840	122,210	116,665	96%	-48%	-5%

Source: NOMIS 14/06/2022

Figure 1 below looks at the claimant rate by Local Authority across Scotland as a whole. From this it can be seen that, with the exception of Fife, every Local Authority in the City Region has a rate that is lower than the Scottish average.

Figure 1 Claimant Rate Across Scotland- May 2022



Source: NOMIS 14/6/2022

Looking now at the position in the City Region in more detail as reflected in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Claimant Count – City region LAs

	Feb 2020	May 2021	April 2022	May 2022	Percentage Change		
					Feb 2020- May 2022	April 2022- May 2022	May 2021- May 2022
Edinburgh	7,105	16,700	9,330	9,000	27%	-4%	-46%
East Lothian	1,765	3,100	1,710	1,610	-9%	-6%	-48%
Fife	8,765	13,740	8,840	8,615	-2%	-3%	-37%
Midlothian	1,470	2,770	1,480	1,390	-5%	-6%	-50%
Scottish Borders	1,860	3,320	2,130	2,040	10%	-4%	-39%
West Lothian	3,425	5,915	3,330	3,150	-8%	-5%	-47%
City Region	24,390	45,545	26,820	25,805	6%	-4%	-43%

Source: NOMIS 14/06/2022

It can be seen in Table 3 that across the region the claimant recorded in May 2022 is still 6% higher than in February 2020. However, it is also clear that in 4 of the 6 Local Authorities the count is lower than it was in February 2020. Scottish Borders and Edinburgh are the 2 that have a claimant count in May that is higher than the claimant count recorded in February 2020. Table 3 also highlights that the month to month change between April and May 2022 ranges from a 3% fall in Fife through to a 6% fall in East and Midlothian. The claimant count in the region in May 2022 is 43% lower than it was in May 2021.

Gender Profile

Claimant count data on NOMIS provides a picture of the gender split of claimants. Across the UK, in February 2020 the claimant count was 59% male and 41% female, and this proportion is the same now in May 2022. When the Scottish split is looked at, it's clear that there are proportionally more male claimants in Scotland than in the UK - 63% of claimants in February 2020 were male. This hasn't changed with the increase in the claimant count, so the proportion is much the same in May 2022 as it was in February 2020.

Turning now to look at the gender profile of the claimants in the Region in more detail. Tables 4 and 5 look at the number of claimants of each gender as of February 2020, and compares this with the situation in May 2021, April 2022 and May 2022.

Table 4: Change in Male Claimant Count Split Across the City Region

Male	February 2020	May 2021	April 2022	May 2022	Percentage Change		
					Feb 2020-May 2022	April 2022-May 2022	May 2021-May 2022
City of Edinburgh	4,435	10,370	5,915	5,710	29%	-3%	-45%
East Lothian	1,005	1,810	1,045	990	-1%	-5%	-45%
Fife	5,475	8,415	5,555	5,395	-1%	-3%	-36%
Midlothian	865	1,665	895	855	-1%	-4%	-49%
Scottish Borders	1,120	1,960	1,260	1,195	7%	-5%	-39%
West Lothian	1,970	3,520	2,040	1,960	-1%	-4%	-44%
City Region	14,870	27,740	16,710	16,105	8%	-4%	-42%

Source: NOMIS 14/06/2022

From Table 4 we can see that the male claimant count in Edinburgh remains 29% higher than it was in February 2020 and in Scottish Borders it is still 7% higher. In all 4 other LAs the male claimant count is lower than it was in 2020. The month to month change between April and May has ranged from a 3% fall in Edinburgh and Fife through to a 5% fall in East Lothian and Scottish Borders.

Table 5: Change in Female Claimant Count Split Across the City Region

Female	February 2020	May 2021	April 2022	May 2022	Percentage Change		
					Feb 2020-May 2022	April 2022-May 2022	May 2021-May 2022
City of Edinburgh	2,665	6,325	3,415	3,290	23%	-4%	-48%
East Lothian	760	1,290	665	620	-18%	-7%	-52%
Fife	3,290	5,325	3,290	3,220	-2%	-2%	-40%
Midlothian	605	1,105	580	535	-12%	-8%	-52%
Scottish Borders	740	1,360	870	845	14%	-3%	-38%
West Lothian	1,455	2,395	1,290	1,190	-18%	-8%	-50%
City Region	9,515	17,800	10,110	9,700	2%	-4%	-46%

Source: NOMIS 14/06/2022

Table 5 looks at the situation for female claimants. Again, Edinburgh and Scottish Borders have a claimant count that remains higher than it was pre-pandemic and as a result the region as a whole has a claimant count 2% higher than in February 2020. In terms of month to month change Midlothian and West Lothian recorded 8% falls in the claimant count for females between April and May.

Age Profile

Table 6 below looks at the age profile of claimants in each of the 6 Local Authorities and also in the City Region.

Across the City region there was a 134% increase in the claimant count of 16-24 year olds between February 2020 and the summer of 2020 when it peaked. Since then, there has been a 62% fall ranging from 68% in East Lothian through to 57% in Fife. There are still however, 4,130 16-24 year olds claiming in the region with Fife alone accounting for over 1,525. For the other age groups there was not the same degree of increase nor has there been the same degree of falls.

Table 6: Change in Claimants by Age Across the City Region (All Gender)

16-24 Year Olds		Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	Scottish Borders	West Lothian	City Region
Feb-20		1,065	315	1,740	325	415	735	4,595
Peak Count		3,290	795	3,555	695	885	1,570	10,770
Peak Month		Jul-20	Jul-20	Jul-20	Jul-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Jul-20
Apr-22		1,225	265	1,590	265	340	640	4,325
May-22		1,175	255	1,525	250	335	590	4,130
% Change	Feb 20 to Peak	203%	152%	104%	114%	113%	114%	134%
	Peak to May 22	-64%	-68%	-57%	-64%	-62%	-62%	-62%
	Mar22 to Apr22	-4%	-4%	-4%	-6%	-1%	-8%	-5%
25-49 Year Olds		Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	Scottish Borders	West Lothian	City Region
Feb- 20		4310	1020	4990	865	975	1965	14125
Peak Count		11715	2100	8775	1865	1960	3940	30195
Peak Month		Aug-20	May-20	Aug-20	May-20	May-20	Aug-20	Aug-20
Apr-22		5925	1000	5260	885	1200	2050	16325
May 22		5645	960	5055	840	1135	1920	15555
% Change	Feb 20 to Peak	172%	106%	76%	116%	101%	101%	114%
	Peak to May 22	-52%	-54%	-42%	-55%	-42%	-51%	-48%
	Apr22 to May 22	-5%	-4%	-4%	-5%	-5%	-6%	-5%
50 years and over		Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	Scottish Borders	West Lothian	City Region
Feb-20		1,730	430	2,030	280	470	725	5,665
Peak Count		4,115	885	3,565	675	1,020	1,495	11,540
Peak Month		Feb-21	Feb-21	Aug-20	Feb-21	May-20	Aug-20	Feb-21
Apr-22		2,270	420	2,100	315	600	685	6,390
May-22		2,180	390	2,035	300	570	640	6,115
% Change	Feb 20 to Peak	138%	106%	76%	141%	117%	106%	104%
	Peak to Apr 22	-47%	-56%	-43%	-56%	-44%	-57%	-47%
	Mar22 to Apr22	-4%	-7%	-3%	-5%	-5%	-7%	-4%

Source: NOMIS 14/06/2022

The Monthly Participation Snapshot compiled by SDS provides a useful picture of the situation for 16-19 year olds. In the data published on the SDS website¹ for May 2022 we can see the following Percentage of young adults (16-19 year old) participating in education, training or employment. From this we can see that across Scotland 90.7% of 16-19 year olds are participating. We can also see that Fife and Edinburgh are slightly below this national picture.

¹ <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/publications-statistics/statistics/monthly-participation-snapshot-for-16-19-year-olds/>

Table 7: Monthly Participation Measure (May)

	16-19 years of age	16 years of age	19 years of age
City of Edinburgh	90.5%	98.3%	79.6%
East Lothian	91.9%	98.3%	83.3%
Fife	88.4%	95.6%	79.7%
Midlothian	92.1%	98.1%	86.8%
Scottish Borders	92.7%	97.2%	87.2%
West Lothian	92.5%	97.1%	88.1%
Scotland	90.7%	97.5%	82.6%

Source: <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/publications-statistics/statistics/monthly-participation-snapshot-for-16-19-year-olds/>

What Table 7 demonstrates is that for 16 years olds in Scotland only 2.5% are not participating but for 19 year olds this has increased to 12.4%. One thing to bear in mind is that as young people get older and further away from school it becomes more difficult for the SDS team to track their destination. For example Table 8 below looks at the percentage of the cohort that are marked as 'unconfirmed' as the SDS staff were not able to find out if they were in a positive destination, negative destination or make any contact with them at all.

Table 8: Monthly Participation Measure – Percentage of Unconfirmed (May)

	16-19 years of age	16 years of age	19 years of age
City of Edinburgh	5.0%	0.3%	12.6%
East Lothian	4.7%	0.5%	10.3%
Fife	5.0%	1.1%	10.7%
Midlothian	2.7%	0.2%	4.9%
Scottish Borders	2.9%	0.1%	6.7%
West Lothian	1.8%	0.5%	3.2%
Scotland	4.4%	0.6%	9.5%

Source: <https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/publications-statistics/statistics/monthly-participation-snapshot-for-16-19-year-olds/>

It is interesting in Table 7 to see that the unconfirmed rates differ depending on the age and the LA concerned.

Ward Profile

Whilst a Local Authority focus is useful it can hide large differences in the claimant count within the local authority. This section looks at the ward position for each LA in turn.

In Table 9 we can see the current situation in the 17 Edinburgh Wards and the percentage change since the start of the pandemic and since last month. Overall, we can see that in Edinburgh 68% of claimants are male and 13% are aged 16-24. Southside and Newington has the highest percentage of claimants over the age of 50 whilst Colinton and Farmilehead has the highest percentage of 16-24 year old claimants. Overall, in Edinburgh in May 2022, 13% of claimants were aged 16-24 years of age. From Table 8 we can see that particular wards have very high claimant counts – 3 wards combined have over 2,000 claimants.

Table 9 Edinburgh Claimant Count by Ward May 2022

2019 electoral wards	May 2022 Claimant Count	% Change		Proportion of Claimants May 2022				
		Feb20-May22	Apr22-May22	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Almond	535	8%	0%	65%	35%	13.08%	65.42%	20.56%
City Centre	645	32%	-7%	70%	30%	12.40%	63.57%	24.03%
Colinton/ Fairmilehead	270	54%	-4%	63%	39%	16.67%	57.41%	27.78%
Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	160	33%	-3%	59%	41%	9.38%	65.63%	25.00%
Craigtinny/ Duddingston	655	19%	-4%	61%	38%	12.21%	63.36%	24.43%
Drum Brae/ Gyle	300	33%	-8%	63%	37%	10.00%	61.67%	26.67%
Forth	925	28%	-4%	61%	39%	13.51%	64.32%	22.16%
Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	285	39%	-7%	65%	33%	12.28%	61.40%	26.32%
Inverleith	330	50%	-4%	62%	38%	12.12%	59.09%	28.79%
Leith	700	11%	-1%	64%	35%	10.00%	68.57%	21.43%
Leith Walk	750	36%	-1%	64%	36%	11.33%	64.00%	24.67%
Liberton/ Gilmerton	735	36%	-1%	63%	37%	16.33%	59.18%	24.49%
Morningside	190	27%	-5%	61%	39%	13.16%	60.53%	26.32%
Pentland Hills	750	20%	-3%	63%	37%	16.00%	60.00%	24.00%
Portobello/Craigmillar	720	15%	-6%	60%	40%	13.19%	65.28%	21.53%
Sighthill/ Gorgie	725	32%	-3%	64%	36%	15.17%	60.69%	24.14%
Southside/Newington	335	46%	-1%	72%	30%	8.96%	58.21%	32.84%
Edinburgh	9,010	27%	-3%	63%	36%	13.04%	62.71%	24.20%

Source: NOMIS 16/06/2022

Turning now to look at Fife. From Table 10 it is apparent that 13 of the 22 wards have a claimant count below what it was in February 2020, in one ward it's the same and for the others it is still higher than it was pre-pandemic. Worth considering is that fact that in 5 wards there was an increase in the claimant count between April and May a trend not really apparent anywhere else in the City Region. In terms of gender split two wards have a high proportion of female claimants: Howe of Fife and Tay Coast (46% of claimants are female) and Rosyth (45% of claimants are female). Not only does Buckhaven, Methill and Wemyss Villages have the highest claimant count overall it also has one of the highest proportions of young claimants. What we can also see in the Fife statistics is that in a number of wards around 1/5th of all claimants are 16-24 – reflected in the fact that 18% of claimants in Fife overall in May 2022 were 16-24 years of age.

Table 10 Fife Claimant Count by Ward May 2022

2019 electoral wards	May 2022 Claimant Count	% Change		Proportion of Claimants May 2022				
		Feb20-May22	Apr22-May22	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	820	-9%	-5%	65%	35%	21%	58%	21%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	350	-8%	-5%	60%	40%	17%	56%	29%
Cowdenbeath	590	-3%	-5%	65%	36%	18%	64%	19%
Cupar	205	-2%	-7%	63%	37%	17%	61%	22%
Dunfermline Central	395	0%	1%	63%	35%	18%	62%	20%
Dunfermline North	340	-18%	0%	59%	41%	12%	59%	28%
Dunfermline South	460	2%	1%	58%	42%	20%	60%	21%

East Neuk and Landward	195	5%	-5%	67%	33%	8%	54%	36%
Glenrothes Central and Thornton	385	4%	1%	62%	38%	21%	58%	22%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	325	-8%	-3%	65%	35%	18%	63%	18%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	340	-3%	-4%	57%	43%	19%	57%	24%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	205	17%	-7%	54%	46%	12%	56%	32%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	220	-4%	-2%	59%	41%	11%	55%	32%
Kirkcaldy Central	635	9%	-3%	65%	35%	14%	61%	25%
Kirkcaldy East	720	13%	3%	64%	36%	19%	58%	24%
Kirkcaldy North	390	0%	-4%	60%	40%	18%	63%	21%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	465	-6%	-6%	67%	32%	20%	54%	25%
Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	655	-4%	0%	65%	35%	21%	57%	21%
Rosyth	290	-5%	2%	55%	45%	17%	59%	24%
St Andrews	140	33%	0%	64%	36%	14%	50%	36%
Tay Bridgehead	150	-21%	-9%	63%	37%	17%	60%	23%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	340	-4%	-8%	63%	37%	18%	59%	24%
Fife	8,615	-2%	-3%	63%	37%	18%	59%	24%

Source: NOMIS 16/06/2022

The Midlothian position is presented in Table 11 below. The statistic that stands out in this table is Midlothian South where the May 2022 claimant count is **28%** lower than it was in February 2020.

Table 11 Midlothian Claimant Count by Ward May 2022

2019 electoral wards	May 2022 Claimant Count	% Change		Proportion of claimants May 2022				
		Feb 20-May 22	Apr 22-May 22	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Bonnyrigg	195	8%	-11%	56%	44%	18%	62%	21%
Dalkeith	275	-7%	-4%	64%	36%	20%	58%	22%
Midlothian East	265	4%	-12%	60%	42%	17%	64%	19%
Midlothian South	215	-28%	-7%	60%	40%	19%	63%	19%
Midlothian West	220	5%	2%	64%	36%	18%	57%	27%
Penicuik	220	-2%	-6%	66%	36%	16%	61%	23%
Midlothian	1,390	-5%	-6%	62%	39%	18%	61%	22%

Source: NOMIS 16/06/2022

All wards recorded falls in the claimant count between April 2022 and May 2022 with the exception of Midlothian West where an increase was recorded. Bonnyrigg has one of the highest proportions of female claimants in all city region wards and the Dalkeith ward has as high a proportion of young people claiming as you would see anywhere else in the City Region.

West Lothian is another of the Local Authorities where wards can have very different claimant count levels. This can be seen in Table 12 below where it is clear that the May claimant count ranged from 125 in Linlithgow to 555 in Whitburn and Blackburn. Generally, every ward in West Lothian now has a claimant count lower than it was in February 2020. The one exception is East Livingston and Calder where the claimant count in May 2022 was the same as February 2020. As with other areas there are more male claimants in every ward than female and this ranges from 68% in Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley down to 58% in Livingston North. In terms of the age

profile a quarter of claimants in Armadale and Blackridge are 16-24 years of age. Compare this to Linlithgow where only 12% of claimants are from that age group.

Table 12 West Lothian Claimant Count by Ward May 2022

2019 electoral wards	May-22 Claimant Count	% Change		Proportion of Claimants May 2022				
		Feb20- May22	Apr22- May22	Male	Female	Aged 16- 24	Aged 25- 49	Aged 50+
Armadale & Blackridge	265	-15%	-5%	60%	40%	25%	57%	19%
Bathgate	415	-12%	-5%	61%	39%	18%	60%	23%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	350	-4%	-4%	63%	37%	19%	54%	26%
East Livingston & E. Calder	380	0%	0%	63%	37%	16%	61%	24%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	375	-7%	-3%	68%	32%	16%	72%	12%
Linlithgow	125	-7%	-17%	60%	40%	12%	64%	28%
Livingston North	300	-8%	-8%	58%	40%	20%	65%	15%
Livingston South	385	-14%	-7%	60%	42%	19%	58%	22%
Whitburn & Blackburn	555	-5%	-7%	62%	37%	21%	60%	19%
West Lothian	3,150	-8%	-5%	62%	38%	19%	61%	20%

Source: NOMIS 16/06/2022

Table 13 below looks at the position in the Scottish Borders wards. From this table we can see that for almost every ward the claimant count in May 2022 is still higher (in some instances significantly higher) than it was in February 2020. More positive is that between April and May 2022 every ward recorded either a month to month fall, or the claimant count remaining static. In terms of the age profile of claimants a quarter of all claimants in Hawick and Denholm were 16-24 years of age.

Table 13 Scottish Borders Claimant Count by Ward May 2022

2019 electoral wards	May 2022 Claimant Count	% Change		Proportion of Claimants May 2022				
		Feb 20- May 22	Apr 22-May 22	Male	Female	Aged 16- 24	Aged 25- 49	Aged 50+
East Berwickshire	175	9%	0%	51%	49%	17%	51%	29%
Galashiels and District	415	8%	-1%	64%	36%	14%	60%	25%
Hawick and Denholm	240	2%	-6%	60%	42%	25%	58%	19%
Hawick and Hermitage	185	3%	-3%	59%	41%	22%	49%	27%
Jedburgh and District	135	4%	-10%	56%	48%	19%	56%	26%
Kelso and District	135	-4%	-7%	56%	44%	11%	56%	33%
Leaderdale & Melrose	155	35%	-3%	55%	45%	13%	58%	29%
Mid Berwickshire	150	7%	-6%	60%	40%	17%	53%	33%
Selkirkshire	175	6%	-8%	57%	43%	17%	57%	26%
Tweeddale East	135	29%	-7%	56%	44%	11%	52%	37%
Tweeddale West	135	29%	0%	63%	41%	11%	48%	41%
Scottish Borders	2,035	9%	-4%	59%	42%	16%	55%	28%

Source: NOMIS 16/06/2022

Universal Credit

Universal Credit makes up part of the claimant count looked at already in this report, however the benefit is broader in its reach. Not only does it support those who may be out of work but aren't looking for a job – people with a child under a certain age for example, it also includes data on those who are in work but need support as their wages alone doesn't provide enough income. Given that in-work poverty is a concern for policy makers across the region it is worthwhile digging a little deeper into these statistics.

Table 14 UC Claimants February 2020 Compared with March 2022

	Feb-20				April 2022			
	Not in employment		In employment		Not in employment		In employment	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Edinburgh	9,041	66%	4,650	34%	18,662	58%	13,368	42%
East Lothian	3,725	64%	2,120	36%	5,036	59%	3,523	41%
Fife	14,794	70%	6,467	30%	21,387	63%	12,447	37%
Midlothian	3,173	64%	1,741	35%	4,599	60%	3,126	40%
West Lothian	2,874	65%	1,546	35%	8,969	60%	5,982	40%
Scottish Borders	5,608	67%	2,809	33%	4,712	59%	3,283	41%
Total	39,224	67%	19,338	33%	63,365	60%	41,741	40%

Source: StatXplore 16/06/2022

Table 14 above looks at the universal credit claimants and is split by Local Authority. From the table we can see that in February 2020 in Edinburgh 34% of UC claimants were in employment. Over the 2 year period this has increased so that 42% of all UC claimants in the city were in work and claiming. This is not unique to Edinburgh and can be seen across the region.

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