

## Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count November 2022 Summary Update

Claimant Count Change Between February 2020 and October 2022:	Claimant Count Change Between October 2021 and October 2022:	Claimant Count Change Between September 2022 and October 2022:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↑ UK increased by 20.1%</li> <li>↓ Scottish decreased by 6.2%</li> <li>↑ Edinburgh increased by 20.1%</li> <li>↓ City Region decreased by 1.7%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↓ UK decreased by 23%</li> <li>↓ Scottish decreased by 27.2%</li> <li>↓ Edinburgh decreased by 29.3%</li> <li>↓ City Region decreased by 28.5%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↓ UK decreased by 0.1%</li> <li>↓ Scottish decreased by 1.6%</li> <li>↓ Edinburgh decreased by 0.6%</li> <li>↓ City Region decreased by 1.2%</li> </ul>

### City Region Summary

1. In October 2022 the claimant count for the City Region was 23,975. Of these
  - a. 4,065 were 16-24 year olds
  - b. 14,380 were 25-49 year olds
  - c. 5,525 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in the Region is now 1.7% **lower** than it was in February 2020.
3. In September 2022 there were 43,533 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in the Region.

### Edinburgh Summary

1. In October 2022 the claimant count for Edinburgh was 8,530. Of these
  - a. 1,125 were 16-24 year olds
  - b. 5,405 were 25-49 year olds
  - c. 2,005 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in Edinburgh is now 20.1% **higher** than it was in February 2020.
3. In September 2022 there were 14,038 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Edinburgh

### East Lothian Summary

1. In October 2022 the claimant count for East Lothian was 1,450. Of these
  - a. 265 were 16-24 year olds
  - b. 870 were 25-49 year olds
  - c. 315 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in East Lothian is now 17.8% **lower** than it was in February 2020.
3. In September 2022 there were 3,540 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in East Lothian.

### Fife Summary

1. In October 2022 the claimant count for Fife was 7,795. Of these
  - a. 1,435 were 16-24 year olds
  - b. 4,525 were 25-49 year olds
  - c. 1,830 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in Fife is now 11.1% **lower** than it was in February 2020.
3. In September 2022 there were 13,103 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Fife.

## Midlothian Summary

1. In October 2022 the claimant count for Midlothian was 1,235. Of these
  - a. 250 were 16-24 year olds
  - b. 730 were 25-49 year olds
  - c. 255 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in Midlothian is now 16% **lower** than it was in February 2020.
3. In September 2022 there were 3,163 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Midlothian.

## Scottish Borders Summary

1. In October 2022 the claimant count for Scottish Borders was 1,910. Of these
  - a. 330 were 16-24 year olds
  - b. 1,030 were 25-49 year olds
  - c. 550 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in Scottish Borders is now 2.7% **higher** than it was in February 2020.
3. In September 2022 there were 3,457 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders.

## West Lothian Summary

1. In October 2022 the claimant count for West Lothian was 3,055. Of these
  - a. 660 were 16-24 year olds
  - b. 1,820 were 25-49 year olds
  - c. 570 were 50 or older
2. The overall claimant count in West Lothian is now 10.8% **lower** than it was in February 2020.
3. In September 2022 there were 6,230 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in West Lothian

## Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count November 2022 Full Update

On the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022 NOMIS released claimant count data that reflected the situation in October 2022. On the same day DWP published data on StatXplore for employed Universal Credit claimants from September 2022. This data, along with data from the Annual Population Survey/Labour Force Survey is examined in this paper.

### Claimant Count by Nation and Region

Table 1 looks at the 12 regions and countries of the UK and indicates

- the claimant count from February 2020
- the percentage increase between February 2020 and the 'peak claimant count'
- the claimant count in October 2021
- the claimant count in September and October 2022
- the percentage fall between 'peak claimant count' and October 2022
- the percentage fall between September and October 2022.
- The percentage fall between October 2021 and October 2022

From Table 1 it can be seen 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 35% in the West Midlands to 54% in the South West England. Scotland recorded a fall of 52% since it peaked in August 2020. We can also see that year on year there have been falls so that in Scotland the claimant count is now 27% lower than it was in October 2021.

**Table 1: National Claimant Count Picture**

	February 2020	October 2021	September 2022	October 2022	Percentage Change		
					Feb20 to Oct 22	Oct21 to Oct22	Sep22 to Oct22
UK	1,255,770	1,957,735	1,509,885	1,508,395	20%	-23%	-0.1%
East	89,890	148,325	110,940	110,830	23%	-25%	-0.1%
East Midlands	80,915	122,485	96,195	95,385	18%	-22%	-0.8%
London	184,765	372,890	280,875	285,035	54%	-24%	1.5%
North East	75,560	89,975	68,490	67,520	-11%	-25%	-1.4%
North West	167,055	240,750	191,665	190,260	14%	-21%	-0.7%
N. Ireland	29,910	45,785	35,840	36,395	22%	-21%	1.5%
Scotland	114,605	147,615	109,195	107,450	-6%	-27%	-1.6%
South East	119,620	208,830	159,990	161,125	35%	-23%	0.7%
South West	75,595	115,545	84,035	83,135	10%	-28%	-1.1%
Wales	60,375	81,350	62,440	61,490	2%	-24%	-1.5%
West Midlands	141,095	211,355	174,445	175,005	24%	-17%	0.3%
Yorks & Humb	116,390	172,835	135,770	134,765	16%	-22%	-0.7%

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**

Looking more specifically at what has been recorded between September 2022 and October 2022 it can be seen that in 4 regions and countries of the UK there had been an increase in the number of claimants. This ranged from an increase of 1.5% in London and Northern Ireland to a 0.3% increase in the West Midlands. In the North East the claimant count fell by 1.4% between September and October. In Scotland it fell by 1.6% from 109,195 in September to 107,450 in October.

### Claimant Count by Scottish Local Authority

Table 2 looks specifically at the situation in Scotland and focuses on Scottish Local Authorities (LAs).

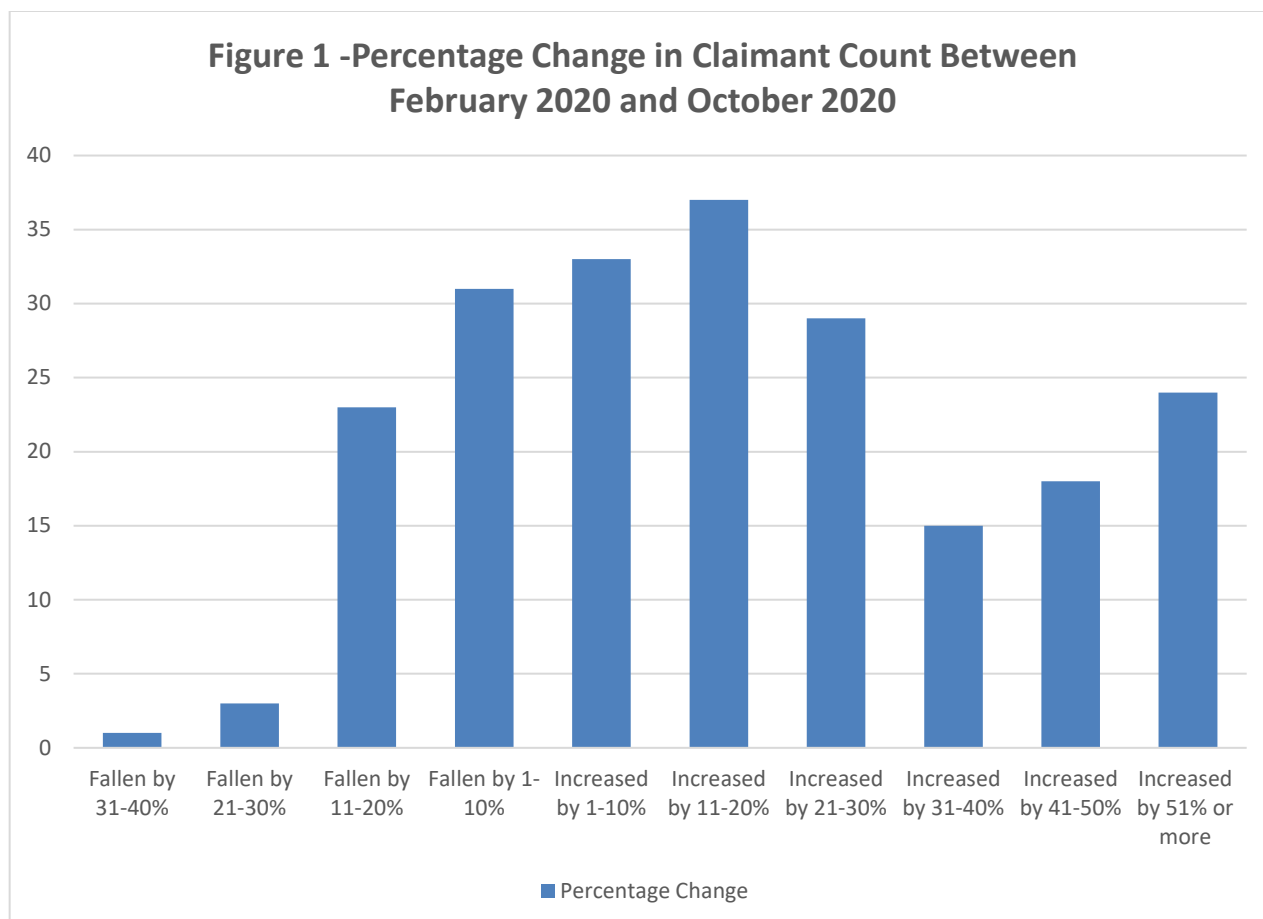
**Table 2: Claimant Count - Scottish LAs**

	Feb-20	Oct 2021	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Feb 20 Oct 22	Oct 21-Oct 22	Sep22-Oct22
Aberdeen City	4,150	6,760	5,155	5,205	25.4%	-23.0%	1.0%
Aberdeenshire	2,975	4,395	2,935	2,910	-2.2%	-33.8%	-0.9%
Angus	2,040	2,605	1,870	1,905	-6.6%	-26.9%	1.9%
Argyll and Bute	1,530	1,845	1,310	1,290	-15.7%	-30.1%	-1.5%
<b>Edinburgh</b>	<b>7,105</b>	<b>12,065</b>	<b>8,580</b>	<b>8,530</b>	<b>20.1%</b>	<b>-29.3%</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>
Clackmannanshire	1,390	1,510	1,130	1,125	-19.1%	-25.5%	-0.4%
Dumfries & Galloway	2,950	3,295	2,455	2,375	-19.5%	-27.9%	-3.3%
Dundee City	4,530	5,240	4,145	4,070	-10.2%	-22.3%	-1.8%
East Ayrshire	3,685	4,275	3,030	2,930	-20.5%	-31.5%	-3.3%
E.Dunbartonshire	1,230	1,745	1,255	1,220	-0.8%	-30.1%	-2.8%
<b>East Lothian</b>	<b>1,765</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>-17.8%</b>	<b>-36.7%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
East Renfrewshire	950	1,340	955	940	-1.1%	-29.9%	-1.6%
Falkirk	3,300	4,190	3,040	2,925	-11.4%	-30.2%	-3.8%
<b>Fife</b>	<b>8,765</b>	<b>10,525</b>	<b>7,770</b>	<b>7,795</b>	<b>-11.1%</b>	<b>-25.9%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
Glasgow City	20,055	27,450	21,220	20,935	4.4%	-23.7%	-1.3%
Highland	3,715	4,295	3,205	3,190	-14.1%	-25.7%	-0.5%
Inverclyde	2,255	2,390	1,810	1,750	-22.4%	-26.8%	-3.3%
<b>Midlothian</b>	<b>1,470</b>	<b>1,910</b>	<b>1,310</b>	<b>1,235</b>	<b>-16.0%</b>	<b>-35.3%</b>	<b>-5.7%</b>
Moray	1,550	1,980	1,345	1,330	-14.2%	-32.8%	-1.1%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	465	485	315	295	-36.6%	-39.2%	-6.3%
North Ayrshire	4,600	4,795	3,655	3,580	-22.2%	-25.3%	-2.1%
North Lanarkshire	8,230	10,295	7,525	7,405	-10.0%	-28.1%	-1.6%
Orkney Islands	195	240	185	200	2.6%	-16.7%	8.1%
Perth and Kinross	1,865	2,815	2,045	2,030	8.8%	-27.9%	-0.7%
Renfrewshire	4,025	4,725	3,600	3,470	-13.8%	-26.6%	-3.6%
<b>Scottish Borders</b>	<b>1,860</b>	<b>2,510</b>	<b>1,955</b>	<b>1,910</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>-23.9%</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>
Shetland Islands	265	320	230	240	-9.4%	-25.0%	4.3%
South Ayrshire	2,790	3,235	2,430	2,290	-17.9%	-29.2%	-5.8%
South Lanarkshire	7,015	8,880	6,290	6,205	-11.5%	-30.1%	-1.4%
Stirling	1,540	1,775	1,365	1,355	-12.0%	-23.7%	-0.7%
W.Dunbartonshire	2,930	3,230	2,430	2,310	-21.2%	-28.5%	-4.9%
<b>West Lothian</b>	<b>3,425</b>	<b>4,215</b>	<b>3,195</b>	<b>3,055</b>	<b>-10.8%</b>	<b>-27.5%</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>
Scotland	114,605	<b>147,615</b>	109,195	107,450	-6.2%	-27.2%	-1.6%
<b>City Region</b>	<b>24,390</b>	<b>33,515</b>	<b>24,260</b>	<b>23,975</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>-28.5%</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**

From the peak in 2020/21 all LAs have seen a fall in the claimant number and this has ranged from 45% in Glasgow to 66% in Na h Eileanan Siar. Whilst the majority of Scottish LAs now have a claimant count lower than it was in February 2020 in some areas the claimant count is still higher

than it was in February 2020. These areas include: Aberdeen City (1,055 higher), City of Edinburgh (1,425 higher), Glasgow (880), Perth and Kinross (165) and Scottish Borders (50 higher). Looking outside Scotland we can see that more LAs have a claimant count higher than it was before the pandemic than have the reverse. Figure 1 below looks at all LAs in the UK and whether or not their claimant count now is lower or higher than it was in February 2020. What we can see from this is that Edinburgh is about average with the claimant count 20% higher now than in 2020.



Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022

The cohort that Edinburgh is sitting with include some large cities (Nottingham and Liverpool) some metropolitan boroughs (Kirklees, Solihull, Stockport) and some rural counties (Ards and North Down and Rutland). On the face of it, there appears to be nothing to connect all of the LAs that feature in this cohort.

Table 3: Claimant Count - Scottish LAs

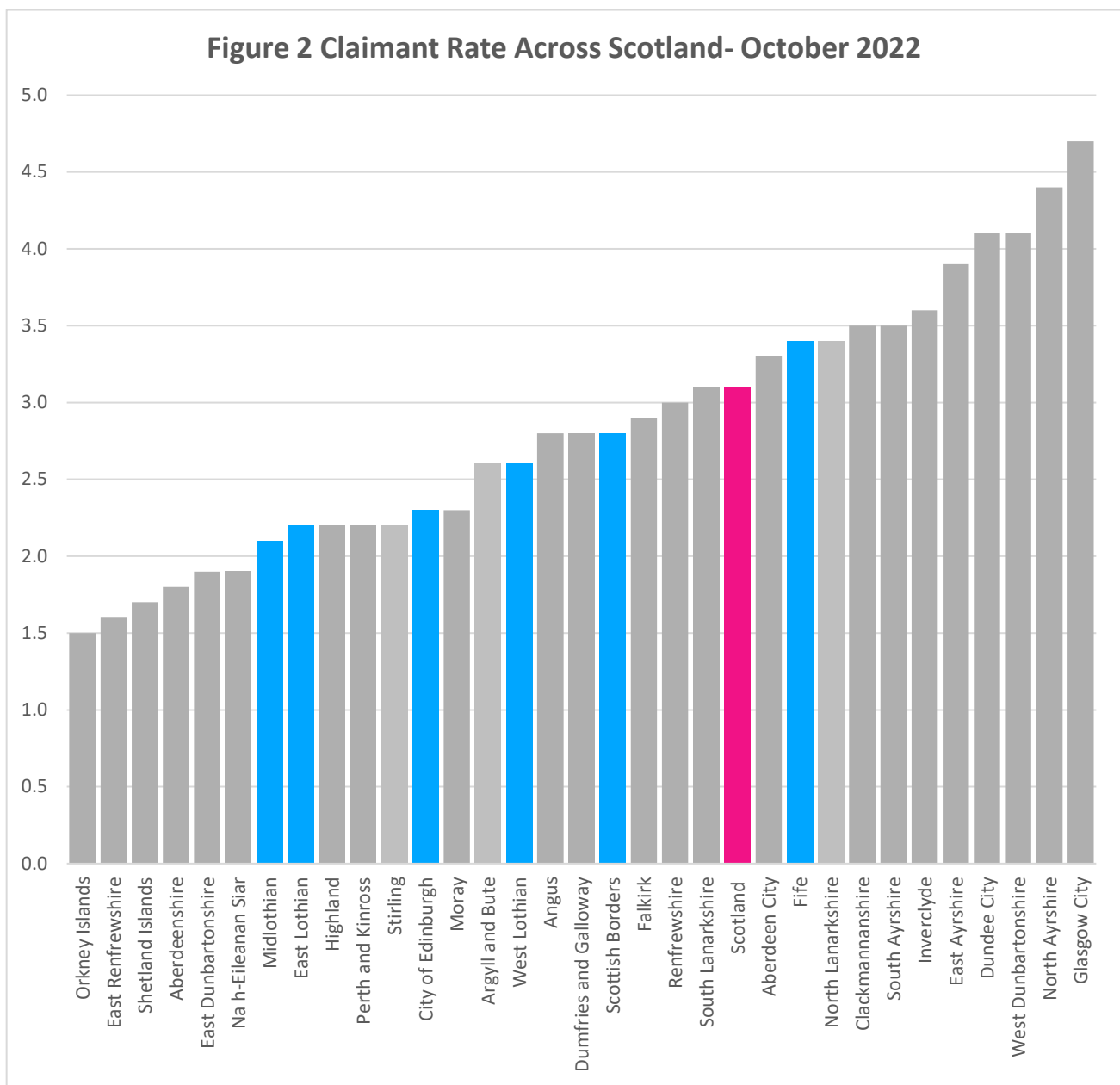
	February 2020	October 2022	Change Feb 2020-Oct 2022	
			Additional Claimants	% Change
Cardiff	8,260	9,275	1,015	12%
City of Edinburgh	7,105	8,530	1,425	20%
Leeds	17,695	22,500	4,805	27%
Bristol, City of	8,345	10,645	2,300	28%
Belfast	7,175	9,240	2,065	29%
York	1,790	2,425	635	35%
Oxfordshire	6,645	9,535	2,890	43%
Cambridgeshire	6,550	9,420	2,870	44%

Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022

Another way to look at it is to examine what has happened in cities that might be comparable to Edinburgh. Cities such as York, Bristol, Oxford for example. Table 3 above looks at 7 comparator cities. These have been chosen as they are university towns with a strong tourism economy. Cardiff and Belfast are also included as they are seats of devolved administrations. When we compare Edinburgh to these cities the fact that the claimant count is still 20% above what it was in February 2020 is not unusual.

In Scotland therefore Edinburgh (and Aberdeen, Glasgow, Scottish Borders, Orkney Islands and Perth and Kinross) are atypical recording a claimant count higher than it was in 2020. However, in a UK perspective this position is more normal.

Figure 2 below looks at the claimant rate for all the Scottish Local Authorities. From this it can be seen that with the exception of Fife all the City Region Local Authorities had a claimant rate below the Scottish average.



Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022

## City Region Position

Looking in more detail at the position in the City Region. It can be seen in Table 4 that across the region the claimant count recorded in October 2022 is lower than it was in February 2020 (-1.7% lower). However, in 4 of the 6 Local Authorities the count is lower than it was in February 2020 whilst in Scottish Borders and Edinburgh the claimant count is still higher now than it was before the pandemic. For Edinburgh it is 20.1% higher and for Scottish Borders 2.7% higher. As discussed, whilst this is unusual in Scotland, in a UK perspective these sorts of levels are more normal.

**Table 4: Claimant Count – City Region LAs**

	Feb-20	Oct-21	Sep-22	Oct-22	Percentage Change		
					Feb 20- Oct 22	Oct 21- Oct 22	Sep22- Oct-22
Edinburgh	7,105	12,065	8,580	8,530	20.1%	-29.3%	-0.6%
East Lothian	1,765	2,290	1,450	1,450	-17.8%	-36.7%	0.0%
Fife	8,765	10,525	7,770	7,795	-11.1%	-25.9%	0.3%
Midlothian	1,470	1,910	1,310	1,235	-16.0%	-35.3%	-5.7%
Scottish Borders	1,860	2,510	1,955	1,910	2.7%	-23.9%	-2.3%
West Lothian	3,425	4,215	3,195	3,055	-10.8%	-27.5%	-4.4%
City Region	24,390	33,515	24,260	23,975	-1.7%	-28.5%	-1.2%

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**

Table 4 also highlights that the month to month change between September and October ranges from a 5.7% fall in Midlothian to a 0.3% *increase* in Fife. The claimant count in the region in October 2022 is 23,975 a 1.2% fall from what was recorded in September. In terms of actual numerical change, the differences between the claimant count in October to that recorded in September are small and across the region there were 285 fewer claimants in October than in September. Table 5 looks at the number of UC claimants across the region reflecting both in and out of work claimants.

**Table 5 Universal Credit Claimants**

		Feb-20	Sep-21	Aug-22	Sep - 22	% Change Aug 22-Sep 22
Edinburgh	Not in employment	9,041	19,940	19,213	19,532	1.7%
	In employment	4,650	14,689	13,893	14,038	1.0%
	Total	13,688	34,627	33,107	33,571	1.4%
Fife	Not in employment	14,794	22,064	21,769	21,676	-0.4%
	In employment	6,467	12,812	13,006	13,103	0.7%
	Total	21,262	34,879	34,773	34,781	0.0%
East Lothian	Not in employment	3,725	5,352	5,046	5,035	-0.2%
	In employment	2,120	3,679	3,533	3,540	0.2%
	Total	5,842	9,030	8,577	8,575	0.0%
Midlothian	Not in employment	3,173	4,841	4,735	4,698	-0.8%
	In employment	1,741	3,318	3,147	3,163	0.5%
	Total	4,921	8,158	7,878	7,860	-0.2%
Scottish Borders	Not in employment	2,874	4,785	4,820	4,824	0.1%
	In employment	1,546	3,328	3,390	3,457	2.0%
	Total	4,424	8,112	8,204	8,281	0.9%
West Lothian	Not in employment	5,608	9,305	9,422	9,418	0.0%
	In employment	2,809	6,115	6,129	6,230	1.6%
	Total	8,419	15,418	15,553	15,650	0.6%
City Region	Not in employment	39,224	66,275	64,992	65,189	0.3%
	In employment	19,338	43,946	43,100	43,533	1.0%
	Total	58,554	110,226	108,093	108,721	0.6%

**Source: StatXplore 15/11/2022**

This indicates that across the region in February 2020 there were 19,338 claimants of universal credit who were in work. In September 2022 (the most recent data available) there were 43,533. Overall, 40% of claimants in September 2022 were in work, in February 2020 it was 33% of claimants. What we can also see in this table is that between August and September the number of people claiming UC and working increased by 1% across the City Region.

## Gender Profile

Turning now to look at the gender profile of the claimants in the Region. Tables 6 and 7 look at the number of claimants of each gender as of February 2020, and compares this with the situation in October 2021, September 2022 and October 2022.

From Table 6 we can see that the male claimant count in Edinburgh remains 17.1% higher than it was in February 2020. In the other LAs the male claimant count is lower than it was in 2020. The month-to-month movements for male claimants between September and October 2022 has ranged from a 1.4% *increase* in Fife to an 8.2% *fall* in Midlothian. Across the region there are now around 6,000 fewer male claimants than in October 2021.

**Table 6: Change in Male Claimant Count Across the City Region**

	Feb 20	Oct 21	Sep 22	Oct 22	Feb 20- Oct 22	Oct 21- Oct 22	Sep 22 - Oct 22
Edinburgh	4435	7,535	5,235	5,195	17.1%	-31.1%	-0.8%
East Lothian	1005	1,350	860	850	-15.4%	-37.0%	-1.2%
Fife	5475	6,435	4,750	4,815	-12.1%	-25.2%	1.4%
Midlothian	865	1,155	790	725	-16.2%	-37.2%	-8.2%
Scottish Borders	1120	1,475	1,125	1,110	-0.9%	-24.7%	-1.3%
West Lothian	1970	2,495	1,920	1,850	-6.1%	-25.9%	-3.6%
Scotland	71975	91,230	67,520	66,580	-7.5%	-27.0%	-1.4%
City Region	14870	20,445	14,680	14,545	-2.2%	-28.9%	-0.9%

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**

Table 7 looks at the situation for female claimants. Edinburgh and Scottish Borders have a claimant count that remains higher than it was pre-pandemic. This suggest that it is this, female claimant numbers that are keeping the claimant count higher than pre-pandemic in Edinburgh and Scottish Borders. For example, whilst the male claimant count in October in Edinburgh was 17.1% higher than in February 2020, for Females it was 25.3%. In addition, over the last year the male claimant count in Edinburgh has fallen by 31.1% for females it has fallen by 26.4%.

**Table 7: Change in Female Claimant Count Across the City Region**

	Feb -20	Oct -21	Sep -22	Oct -22	Feb 20- Oct 22	Oct 21- Oct 22	Sep 22 - Oct 22
Edinburgh	2,665	4,535	3,345	3,340	25.3%	-26.4%	-0.1%
East Lothian	760	945	595	600	-21.1%	-36.5%	0.8%
Fife	3,290	4,090	3,020	2,980	-9.4%	-27.1%	-1.3%
Midlothian	605	760	515	510	-15.7%	-32.9%	-1.0%
Scottish Borders	740	1,035	830	800	8.1%	-22.7%	-3.6%
West Lothian	1,455	1,720	1,275	1,205	-17.2%	-29.9%	-5.5%
Scotland	42,635	56,390	41,680	40,875	-4.1%	-27.5%	-1.9%
City Region	9,515	13,085	9,580	9,435	-0.8%	-27.9%	-1.5%

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**



The most recent data also illustrates that the female count in Edinburgh is falling at a slower rate than for males. However, this isn't universal throughout the Region, in East Lothian and West Lothian the female count is far lower than it was in February 2020 when compared to the count for males.

Table 8 below looks at the gender split of those who are in work and claiming Universal Credit. The data suggest that across the City Region in February 2020 there were 12,492 females in work and claiming UC and this has increased so that in September 2022 26,979 female claimants were recorded. For both genders the number of people who are in work and claiming has continued to increase year to year and month to month. Currently we can see that across the region females make up 59% of in work UC claimants. In February 2020 they made up 64% of claimants.

**Table 8: In Work Universal Credit Claimants**

	Feb-20		Sep-21		Aug-22		Sep-22	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Edinburgh	1,875	2,769	6,641	8,048	5,809	8,082	5,881	8,158
Fife	2,283	4,182	5,183	7,632	4,874	8,133	4,893	8,212
East Lothian	674	1,441	1,356	2,324	1,195	2,345	1,181	2,362
Midlothian	506	1,237	1,264	2,055	1,060	2,090	1,074	2,091
Scottish Borders	524	1,019	1,367	1,962	1,314	2,072	1,298	2,158
West Lothian	966	1,844	2,455	3,657	2,172	3,956	2,226	4,000
Total	6,834	12,492	18,266	25,685	16,422	26,678	16,555	26,979

**Source: StatXplore 15/11/2022**

## Age Profile

Table 9 below looks at the age profile of claimants in each of the 6 Local Authorities and 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 62.3% fall ranging from 66.7% in East Lothian through to 58% in West Lothian. There are still however, 4,065 16-24 year olds claiming in the city region.

In terms of the latest month to month figures the table indicates that whilst the number of 16-24 years olds claiming across the region is the same in October as it was in September this varies across the region – an 8.2% month to month increase in East Lothian through to a 5.7% fall in Midlothian.

In the context of Edinburgh and Scottish Borders having a claimant count in October higher than in February 2020, we can see from the table that for 16-24 year olds the claimant count in Edinburgh is 5.6% higher and in Scottish Borders is 20.5% lower than in February 2020. This suggests that it is unlikely to be higher number of claimants in this age category that are inflating the 2022 figures.

The table also allows us to look at the other age groups and see what has been happening in terms of 25-49 year olds and also those over the age of 50. In October there were 14,380 claimants across the region who were between 25 and 49 years of age and 5,525 who were over the age of 50.

Overall, between September and October the claimant count for those over the age of 50 fell by 1.4% across the region and for 25-49 year olds it fell by 1.5%.

For the 25-49 age group the largest fall was recorded in West Lothian whilst Edinburgh and Fife recorded a fall that was so small to almost be negligible (0.3% for Edinburgh and 0.2% for Fife). In the case of claimants over the age of 50, Midlothian and West Lothian recorded quite substantial month to month falls and Fife recorded a month to month increase.

**Table 9: 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
Sep-22		1,125	245	1,440	265	335	655	4,065
Oct-22		1,125	265	1,435	250	330	660	4,065
% Change	Feb 20 to Peak	203.0%	152.0%	104.0%	114.0%	113.0%	114.0%	134.0%
	Peak to Oct 22	-65.8%	-66.7%	-59.6%	-64.0%	-62.7%	-58.0%	-62.3%
	Sep 22 to Oct 22	0.0%	8.2%	-0.3%	-5.7%	-1.5%	0.8%	0.0%
	Feb 20 to Oct 22	5.6%	-15.9%	-17.5%	-23.1%	-20.5%	-10.2%	-11.5%
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
Sep-22		5,420	885	4,535	765	1,060	1,930	14,595
Oct-22		5,405	870	4,525	730	1,030	1,820	14,380
% Change	Feb 20 to Peak	172.0%	106.0%	76.0%	116.0%	101.0%	101.0%	114.0%
	Peak to Oct 22	-53.9%	-58.6%	-48.4%	-60.9%	-47.4%	-53.8%	-52.4%
	Sep 22 to Oct 22	-0.3%	-1.7%	-0.2%	-4.6%	-2.8%	-5.7%	-1.5%
	Feb 20 to Oct 22	25.4%	-14.7%	-9.3%	-15.6%	5.6%	-7.4%	1.8%
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
Sep-22		2,030	325	1,795	280	560	615	5,605
Oct-22		2,005	315	1,830	255	550	570	5,525
% Change	Feb 20 to Peak	138.0%	106.0%	76.0%	141.0%	117.0%	106.0%	104.0%
	Peak to Oct 22	-51.3%	-64.4%	-48.7%	-62.2%	-46.1%	-61.9%	-52.1%
	Sep 22 to Oct 22	-1.2%	-3.1%	1.9%	-8.9%	-1.8%	-7.3%	-1.4%
	Feb 20 to Oct 22	16%	-27%	-10%	-9%	17%	-21%	-2%

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**

Table 9 also illustrates that in terms of the claimant count in February 2020 compared to October 2022 whilst the city region had seen a fall for 16-24 years olds of 11.5% this varies by LA. In Midlothian a fall of 23.1% was recorded whilst in Edinburgh the claimant count for 16-24-year-olds remains 5.6% higher than it was in February 2020.

For those over the age of 50 the claimant in the region for this age group is 2% lower than in February 2020 and this ranges from 27% lower in East Lothian through to 17% higher in Scottish Borders. In terms of Edinburgh, it would appear that the 25–49-year-old category is the one that is proving the most difficult to reduce and it remains 25.4% higher than it was in February 2020. Elsewhere in the region it has either fallen or in the case of Scottish Borders whilst it remains higher than pre-pandemic levels it is *only* 5.6% higher. This age category accounts for more than half of all claimants across the region.

## Ward Profile

Whilst a Local Authority focus is useful it can hide large differences in the claimant count within the local authority and possibly result in services not being targeted as they should. This section looks at the ward position for each LA in turn.

### Edinburgh

Table 10 gives the current situation in the 17 Edinburgh Wards and the percentage change since the start of the pandemic and since last month. Looking at the change from September to October 2022 7 wards recorded a fall in the claimant count of between 1.5% and 6.4%. Six wards saw the claimant count increase month to month – Southside/Newington saw it increase by 9.0% so that there are now 365 claimants in that ward of which 32.9% are female and 11% are aged 16-24.

**Table 10 Edinburgh Claimant Count by Ward October 2022**

Wards	Oct 2022	% Change		Proportion of Claimants October 2022				
		Feb20-Oct22	Sep22-Oct22	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Almond	495	0.0%	-2.9%	62.6%	38.4%	13.1%	66.7%	21.2%
City Centre	665	35.7%	-3.6%	64.7%	35.3%	15.0%	63.2%	21.8%
Colinton/ Fairmilehead	220	25.7%	0.0%	54.5%	45.5%	15.9%	56.8%	25.0%
Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	180	50.0%	0.0%	52.8%	44.4%	5.6%	66.7%	25.0%
Craightinny/ Duddingston	565	2.7%	-1.7%	63.7%	36.3%	8.8%	67.3%	23.9%
Drum Brae/ Gyle	285	26.7%	5.6%	57.9%	42.1%	14.0%	61.4%	24.6%
Forth	790	9.7%	-3.7%	58.9%	41.1%	13.9%	63.3%	22.8%
Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	280	36.6%	0.0%	60.7%	37.5%	12.5%	60.7%	26.8%
Inverleith	330	50.0%	3.1%	62.1%	37.9%	15.2%	56.1%	27.3%
Leith	820	30.2%	5.8%	57.3%	42.7%	11.0%	68.9%	20.1%
Leith Walk	655	19.1%	-1.5%	61.1%	38.9%	8.4%	67.2%	24.4%
Liberton/ Gilmerton	695	28.7%	-2.8%	62.6%	38.1%	18.7%	58.3%	23.0%
Morningside	200	33.3%	2.6%	60.0%	40.0%	10.0%	67.5%	22.5%
Pentland Hills	660	5.6%	-6.4%	61.4%	38.6%	15.2%	63.6%	21.2%
Portobello/Craigmillar	690	10.4%	0.7%	58.0%	42.0%	13.8%	62.3%	24.6%
Sighthill/ Gorgie	640	16.4%	0.0%	63.3%	36.7%	14.8%	61.7%	22.7%
Southside/Newington	365	58.7%	9.0%	65.8%	32.9%	11.0%	54.8%	32.9%
Edinburgh	8,530	20.1%	-0.6%	60.9%	39.2%	13.2%	63.4%	23.5%

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**

Overall, in Edinburgh in October 2022, 60.9% of claimants were male (slightly lower than September) and 13.2% are aged 16-24, the same proportion as last month. Southside and Newington had the highest percentage of claimants over the age of 50 whilst Liberton and Gilmerton had the highest percentage of 16-24 year old claimants.

Table 11 below looks at the in-work claimant count for the Edinburgh wards. There are nearly 1,500 in Forth Ward who are working but their earnings are low enough that they can receive UC. This has fallen by 2% compared to September 2021 but is up 2 % compared to August 2022. What is also interesting is that in **every** ward in the city there are 300 or more people who need the support of UC and in only 6 of the 17 wards has the number of in work claimants fallen between August 2022 and September 2022

**Table 11 In Work UC Claimant Count by Edinburgh Ward September 2022**

	Feb-20	Sep-21	Aug-22	Sep- 22	Sep21-Sep22	Aug 22-Sep 22
Almond	360	959	977	997	4%	2%
City Centre	178	775	661	672	-13%	2%
Colinton/Fairmilehead	164	439	436	441	0%	1%
Corstorphine/Murrayfield	83	281	293	299	6%	2%
Craigtinny/Duddingston	321	1,089	1,026	1,005	-8%	-2%
Drum Brae/Gyle	176	560	540	532	-5%	-1%
Forth	470	1,527	1,471	1,495	-2%	2%
Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	131	447	403	390	-13%	-3%
Inverleith	138	512	489	479	-6%	-2%
Leith	344	1,055	941	1,006	-5%	7%
Leith Walk	307	1,218	993	975	-20%	-2%
Liberton/Gilmerton	458	1,241	1,291	1,306	5%	1%
Morningside	66	410	302	299	-27%	-1%
Pentland Hills	502	1,192	1,160	1,192	0%	3%
Portobello/Craigmillar	449	1,252	1,295	1,313	5%	1%
Sighthill/Gorgie	385	1,282	1,189	1,207	-6%	2%
Southside/Newington	113	460	414	421	-8%	2%
Total	4,650	14,689	13,893	14,038	-4%	1%

**Source: StatXplore 16/11/2022**

### *East Lothian*

Table 12 below looks at the situation in the East Lothian Wards. Overall, the county has a claimant count 18% lower than it was in February 2020 but the October count is the same as it was in September. North Berwick Coastal saw the claimant count fall by 5.6% between September and October 2022 and at the other end of the scale Dunbar and East Linton saw the count increase by 13.8% between September and October. To put this in context that was from a145 claimants in September to 165 in October, illustrating that relatively small changes can create a significant percentage change.

Across the county 59% of claimants are male and this varies from 54% in Preston, Seton and Gosford to 64% in Musselburgh. Musselburgh also has the highest proportion of 16-24 year olds and Haddington and Lammermuir has the highest proportion of over 50 year olds.

One other point to make is that the two wards with the highest number of claimants are also the two wards that are closer to Edinburgh and the job opportunities that the city offers.

**Table 12 East Lothian Claimant Count by Ward October 2022**

	Oct-22	% Change		Proportion of claimants October 2022				
		Feb 20- Oct 22	Sep 22- Oct 22	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Dunbar and East Linton	165	-18%	13.8%	58%	42%	12%	64%	24%
Haddington and Lammermuir	235	-10%	-2.1%	55%	45%	15%	60%	26%
Musselburgh	365	-20%	-1.4%	64%	36%	22%	60%	19%
North Berwick Coastal	85	0%	-5.6%	59%	41%	18%	59%	24%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	240	-23%	-4.0%	54%	46%	19%	58%	23%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	355	-21%	-1.4%	59%	42%	20%	61%	20%
East Lothian	1,450	-18%	0.0%	59%	41%	18%	60%	22%

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**

Table 13 looks at those claiming UC in East Lothian who are in work and presents the results by ward. Overall, there has been a fall between September 2021 and September 2022 in every ward bar Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry where it remained the same. Comparing September to August in two wards there was no real change, in one ward there was a fall and in the other 3 there was a month to month increase recorded. As with Edinburgh, it is clear that in every ward there are substantial numbers of working individuals supported by UC.

**Table 13 In Work UC Claimant Count by East Lothian Ward September 2022**

	Feb-20	Sep-21	Aug-22	Sep -22	Sep21-Sep22	Aug 22-Sep 22
Dunbar and East Linton	285	480	453	454	-5%	0%
Haddington and Lammermuir	288	559	551	555	-1%	1%
Musselburgh	499	799	759	756	-5%	0%
North Berwick Coastal	146	288	265	267	-7%	1%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	349	646	608	598	-7%	-2%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	547	913	898	914	0%	2%
Total	2,120	3,679	3,533	3,540	-4%	0%

**Source: StatXplore 16/11/2022**

### *Fife*

Turning now to look at Fife. From Table 14 it is apparent that 3 of the 22 wards have a claimant count higher than it was in February 2020 and in two wards it's the same. Worth considering is the fact that in 9 wards there was an increase in the claimant count between September and October.

The ward with the single highest claimant count is Buckhaven, Methill and Wemyss Villages where 730 individuals were looking for work and claiming in October. This is almost identical to where it was in September. Also worth highlighting is Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay which saw a fall in the claimant count of 10.2% between September and October.

In terms of gender the average across the Kingdom is that 38% of claimants are female and 62% are male. Glenrothes West and Kinglassie has the highest proportions of young claimants – 23% of the 350 claimants were 16-24 years of age. Compare this to East Neuk and landward where only 9% of the 165 individuals claiming in August were 16-24 years of age.

What we can also see in the Fife statistics is that in several wards around 1/5<sup>th</sup> of all claimants were 16-24 years of age, reflected in the fact that 18% of claimants in Fife overall in October were 16-24 years of age.

**Table 14 Fife Claimant Count by Ward October 2022**

	Oct-22	% Change		Proportion of claimants October 2022				
		Feb 20-Oct 22	Sep 22-Oct 22	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	730	-18.9%	0.0%	65%	35%	21%	57%	22%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	330	-13.2%	4.8%	62%	38%	17%	56%	27%
Cowdenbeath	530	-13.1%	1.9%	60%	40%	21%	58%	22%
Cupar	190	-9.5%	2.7%	68%	34%	18%	55%	26%
Dunfermline Central	350	-11.4%	-5.4%	57%	41%	16%	64%	20%
Dunfermline North	335	-19.3%	6.3%	64%	37%	21%	61%	18%
Dunfermline South	395	-12.2%	-7.1%	59%	39%	18%	61%	22%
East Neuk and Landward	165	-10.8%	0.0%	64%	36%	9%	52%	36%
Glenrothes Central and Thornton	335	-9.5%	0.0%	63%	37%	21%	57%	22%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	295	-16.9%	5.4%	59%	41%	20%	63%	17%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	350	0.0%	6.1%	56%	44%	23%	56%	21%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	175	0.0%	0.0%	60%	43%	14%	51%	34%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	220	-4.3%	-10.2%	59%	39%	18%	50%	32%
Kirkcaldy Central	610	5.2%	0.8%	65%	35%	16%	60%	25%
Kirkcaldy East	645	0.8%	2.4%	65%	35%	17%	58%	25%
Kirkcaldy North	350	-10.3%	0.0%	59%	41%	17%	63%	19%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	400	-19.2%	0.0%	65%	36%	19%	55%	26%
Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	545	-20.4%	0.0%	61%	39%	20%	60%	21%
Rosyth	255	-16.4%	-7.3%	59%	41%	14%	61%	25%
St Andrews	110	4.8%	4.8%	59%	41%	18%	50%	32%
Tay Bridgehead	160	-15.8%	0.0%	63%	41%	16%	56%	28%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	305	-14.1%	-1.6%	61%	39%	18%	57%	25%
Fife	7,795	-11.1%	0.3%	62%	38%	18%	58%	23%

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**

Table 15 looks at the in work UC claimant numbers for the wards in Fife. Overall, there were just over 13,000 Fife residents working and claiming UC support in September 2022. Again, there are people needing this support across the Kingdom with every ward (with the exception of St Andrews) recording over 300 claimants. Not only does Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss villages have the highest number of out of work claimants it has the highest number of in work claimants.

**Table 15 In Work UC Claimant Count by Fife Ward September 2022**

	Feb-20	Sep-21	Aug-22	Sept 22	Sep21-Sep22	Aug 22-Sep 22
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	527	969	1,039	1,035	7%	0%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	206	414	432	409	-1%	-5%

Cowdenbeath	494	923	901	895	-3%	-1%
Cupar	187	408	369	369	-10%	0%
Dunfermline Central	328	617	618	616	0%	0%
Dunfermline North	271	499	505	517	4%	2%
Dunfermline South	359	735	732	772	5%	5%
East Neuk and Landward	142	311	327	331	6%	1%
Glenrothes Central and Thornton	355	685	682	682	0%	0%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	321	582	564	580	0%	3%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	350	694	730	746	7%	2%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	114	306	315	318	4%	1%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	164	364	379	394	8%	4%
Kirkcaldy Central	372	734	729	746	2%	2%
Kirkcaldy East	384	784	796	784	0%	-2%
Kirkcaldy North	277	580	571	570	-2%	0%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	323	662	654	650	-2%	-1%
Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	502	899	993	1,005	12%	1%
Rosyth	288	593	612	618	4%	1%
St. Andrews	86	187	170	168	-10%	-1%
Tay Bridgehead	161	314	327	332	6%	2%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	259	564	553	567	1%	3%
Total	6,467	12,812	13,006	13,103	2%	1%

Source: StatXplore 16/11/2022

### Midlothian

The Midlothian position is presented in Table 16 below. Looking at the change between September and October every ward recorded a fall except for Midlothian South and Bonnyrigg. Overall numbers are relatively low with no one ward recording over 250 claimants and the claimant count in Midlothian is 16% lower than it was in February 2020. Bonnyrigg recorded the highest proportions of female claimants in Midlothian in October and at 24% of claimants, Dalkeith ward has the highest proportion of young people claiming in Midlothian.

**Table 16 Midlothian Claimant Count by Ward October 2022**

	Oct-22	% Change		Proportion of claimants October 2022				
		Feb 20- Oct 22	Sep 22 – Oct 22	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Bonnyrigg	195	8.3%	5.4%	51%	46%	21%	56%	21%
Dalkeith	230	-22.0%	-6.1%	61%	39%	24%	59%	17%
Midlothian East	230	-9.8%	-11.5%	57%	43%	20%	63%	17%
Midlothian South	220	-26.7%	7.3%	61%	39%	20%	61%	18%
Midlothian West	190	-9.5%	-9.5%	63%	37%	18%	53%	29%
Penicuik	175	-22.2%	-14.6%	60%	40%	17%	60%	23%
<b>Midlothian</b>	<b>1,235</b>	<b>-16.0%</b>	<b>-5.7%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>21%</b>

Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022

Table 17 looks at the number of in work UC claimants in the 6 Midlothian wards. On average there are 526 working individuals needing UC support in every ward in Midlothian, with Midlothian South having the most at 633. Whilst the number of in work claimants has fallen year on year, it is more mixed when the change from August to September is looked at.

**Table 17 In Work UC Claimant Count by Midlothian Ward September 2022**

	Feb-20	Sep-21	Aug-22	Sep22	Sep21-Sep22	Aug 22-Sep 22
Bonnyrigg	262	532	477	478	-10%	0%
Dalkeith	332	613	571	572	-7%	0%
Midlothian East	339	592	568	572	-3%	1%
Midlothian South	332	650	619	633	-3%	2%
Midlothian West	205	433	438	430	-1%	-2%
Penicuik	274	497	476	473	-5%	-1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,741</b>	<b>3,318</b>	<b>3,147</b>	<b>3,163</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>1%</b>

**Source: StatXplore 16/11/2022**

### West Lothian

West Lothian is looked at in Table 18 below. The October claimant count ranged from 125 in Linlithgow to 545 in Whitburn and Blackburn. All but one of the wards in West Lothian recorded a month to month decrease between September and October (Armadale and Blackridge recorded an increase of 3.6%). Compared to February 2020 *no* ward in West Lothian recorded a higher claimant count than pre-pandemic.

**Table 18 West Lothian Claimant Count by Ward October 2022**

	Oct-22	% Change		Proportion of claimants October 2022				
		Feb 20-Oct 22	Sep 22-Oct 22	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Armadale & Blackridge	285	-8.1%	3.6%	60%	39%	25%	58%	18%
Bathgate	440	-6.4%	-3.3%	65%	35%	24%	59%	18%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	340	-6.8%	-9.3%	59%	43%	21%	54%	25%
East Livingston & E. Calder	315	-17.1%	-1.6%	59%	41%	22%	59%	19%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	335	-17.3%	-4.3%	67%	33%	19%	69%	12%
Linlithgow	125	-7.4%	-3.8%	56%	44%	16%	60%	24%
Livingston North	280	-13.8%	-11.1%	59%	41%	20%	61%	18%
Livingston South	385	-14.4%	-4.9%	57%	44%	19%	61%	21%
Whitburn & Blackburn	545	-6.8%	-3.5%	61%	39%	24%	59%	17%
<b>West Lothian</b>	<b>3,055</b>	<b>-10.8%</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>19%</b>

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**

As with other areas there are more male claimants in every ward than female and this ranges from 67% in Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley down to 56% in Linlithgow. In terms of the age profile 25% of claimants in Armadale and Blackridge are 16-24 years of age. Compare this to Linlithgow where only 16% of claimants are from that age group. Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh recorded that 25% of the claimants in that ward are aged over 50.

**Table 19 In Work UC Claimant Count by West Lothian Ward September 2022**

	Feb-20	Sep-21	Aug-22	September 2022 r	Sep21-Sep22	Aug 22-Sep 22
Armadale and Blackridge	247	520	563	560	8%	-1%
Bathgate	360	773	801	813	5%	1%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	282	639	641	639	0%	0%



East Livingston and East Calder	354	746	730	743	0%	2%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	302	622	628	650	5%	4%
Linlithgow	103	247	235	245	-1%	4%
Livingston North	299	714	668	671	-6%	0%
Livingston South	399	872	844	860	-1%	2%
Whitburn and Blackburn	460	981	1,012	1,054	7%	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,809</b>	<b>6,115</b>	<b>6,129</b>	<b>6,230</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>

**Source: StatXplore 16/11/2022**

As with other areas the out of work claimant numbers are only part of the picture and there are other individuals who are in work but need support from UC. Table 19 indicates that across West Lothian in September there were 6,230 such individuals. And this ranged from 1,054 in Whitburn and Black burn to 245 in Linlithgow.

### *Scottish Borders*

Table 20 below looks at the position in the Scottish Borders wards. From this table we can see that in 6 wards the claimant count in October 2022 is still higher (in some instances significantly higher) than it was in February 2020. Tweeddale West has recorded that its claimant count is 57% higher than it was in February 2020, however it is relatively small numbers, and this percentage is based on an increase of 60 claimants. We can see that in 2 of the Scottish Borders wards there was no change in the claimant count between September and October. Seven recorded a month-to-month fall and 2 recorded an increase in the claimant count.

**Table 20 Scottish Borders Claimant Count by Ward October 2022**

	Oct-22	% Change		Proportion of claimants October 2022				
		Feb 20- Oct 22	Sep 22 - Oct 22	Male	Female	Aged 16- 24	Aged 25- 49	Aged 50+
East Berwickshire	170	6.3%	-2.9%	53%	47%	15%	53%	32%
Galashiels and District	360	-6.5%	-5.3%	60%	40%	15%	58%	26%
Hawick and Denholm	220	-6.4%	2.3%	61%	39%	30%	52%	18%
Hawick and Hermitage	165	-8.3%	-2.9%	61%	39%	21%	52%	27%
Jedburgh and District	130	0.0%	-7.1%	54%	46%	19%	54%	23%
Kelso and District	145	3.6%	3.6%	55%	41%	17%	48%	34%
Leaderdale & Melrose	135	17.4%	0.0%	56%	44%	15%	56%	33%
Mid Berwickshire	145	3.6%	-3.3%	59%	41%	14%	48%	38%
Selkirkshire	150	-9.1%	0.0%	63%	40%	20%	57%	27%
Tweeddale East	125	19.0%	-3.8%	60%	40%	12%	56%	32%
Tweeddale West	165	57.1%	-2.9%	58%	42%	9%	58%	33%
<b>Scottish Borders</b>	<b>1,910</b>	<b>2.7%</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>29%</b>

**Source: NOMIS 15/11/2022**

The Scottish Borders have a higher proportion of female claimants than other Authorities in the City Region whilst Hawick and Denholm recorded 30% of claimants in October as being 16-24 years of age which is the highest in the city region.

Table 21 looks at the number of people in work and claiming in the Borders and in September 2022 there were 3,457 people working who needed the support of universal credit. This is 4% higher than it was in September 2021 and 2% higher than it was last month.

**Table 21 In Work UC Claimant Count by Scottish Borders Ward September 2022**

	Feb-20	Sep-21	Aug-22	Sep-22	Sep21-Sep22	Aug 22-Sep 22
East Berwickshire	165	370	382	383	4%	0%
Galashiels and District	286	564	587	597	6%	2%
Hawick and Denholm	185	372	404	405	9%	0%
Hawick and Hermitage	140	279	257	273	-2%	6%
Jedburgh and District	103	267	246	251	-6%	2%
Kelso and District	121	249	279	280	12%	0%
Leaderdale and Melrose	130	268	269	276	3%	3%
Mid Berwickshire	114	306	298	317	4%	6%
Selkirkshire	108	242	263	274	13%	4%
Tweeddale East	91	216	209	212	-2%	1%
Tweeddale West	95	196	196	198	1%	1%
Total	1,546	3,328	3,390	3,457	4%	2%

**Source: StatXplore 16/11/2022**

## Economic Activity

The following section is based on economic activity rather than claimant count. This data is derived from surveys rather than recorded through actual claimants, as a result it can have margins of error that can be considerable, particularly at a local level or when used to report on specific demographic groups.

Table 22 below looks at the most recent data that has been published on NOMIS from the Annual Population Survey/Labour Force Survey (APS/LFS). This looks at the position in September 2022 based on the survey that had been carried out over the previous twelve months. From this we can see that the economically active population of Scotland has increased by around 21,000 over the last three survey cycles. The total in employment has increased by nearly 50,000 in the same time frame and the number economically inactive has fallen by around 13,000.

**Table 22 Economic Activity**

Scotland	Jul 2020-Sep 2020	Jul 2021-Sep 2021	Jul 2022-Sep 2022
Total economically active - aged 16 to 64	2,670,850	2,675,683	2,691,578
Total in employment - aged 16 to 64	2,544,307	2,564,774	2,593,826
Total unemployed - aged 16 to 64	126,543	110,909	97,753
Total economically inactive - aged 16 to 64	766,242	756,540	753,176

**Source: NOMIS 16/11/2022**

Table 23 looks at the most recent data that can be broken down by LA areas. It is based on 12 months survey data so reflects the position in 2022 as at June and compares this with what the situation was in previous surveys.

One point to note is that as this is a survey there are confidence figures provided with the data. This indicates the number which the statisticians are 95% confident would be correct if the survey had spoken to every eligible individual. For example, whilst the economic activity rate for Edinburgh is

82.7% they are 95% confident that the real figure, based on the whole population, would be between 79.4% and 85.9% - the confidence levels recorded. This is because a survey can never be totally accurate – this would only be possible by speaking to everyone in a given population.

What can be seen from this is that across the region the Economic Activity rate is the same as it was in the last full pre-pandemic survey. However, there are differences with three LA recording economic activity levels higher than they were before the pandemic and the other three having lower rates.

**Table 23 Economic activity rate - aged 16-64**

	Jul2018-June2018	Jul 2019-Jun 2020	Jul 2020-Jun 2021	Jul 2021-Jun 2022
City of Edinburgh	80.6	78.0	77.3	82.7
East Lothian	80.1	79.5	81.0	79.0
Fife	76.2	76.1	76.5	73.1
Midlothian	82.1	81.8	80.9	83.7
Scottish Borders	78.5	77.7	75.6	81.0
West Lothian	79.6	79.4	73.3	78.3
<b>City Region</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>78.0</b>	<b>77.0</b>	<b>79.3</b>

**Source: NOMIS 16/11/2022**

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