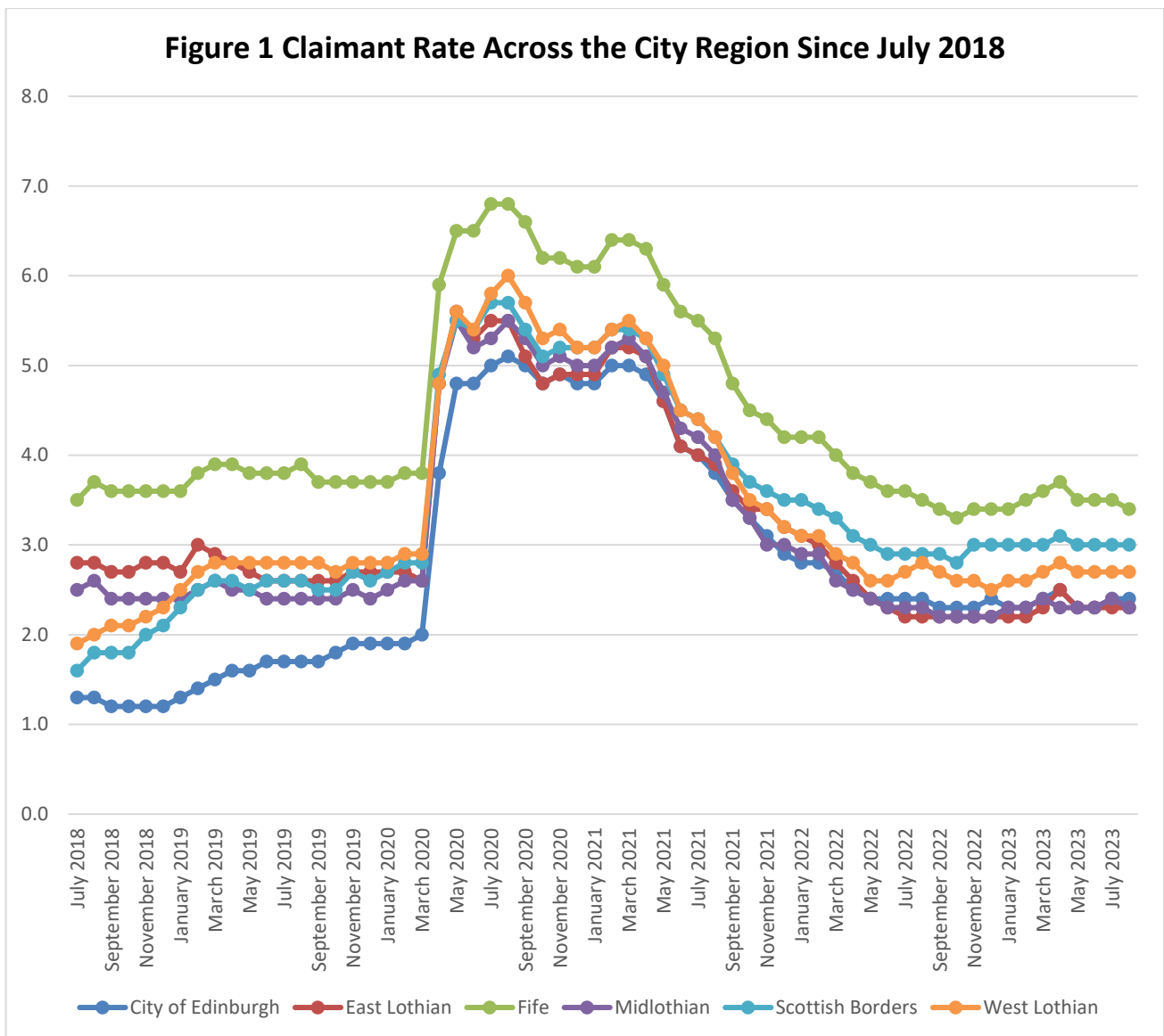


## Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count September 2023 Summary Update

Claimant Count Change Between August 2022 and August 2023:	Claimant Count Change Between July 2023 and August 2023:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↑ UK increased by 1.9%</li> <li>↓ Scotland decreased by 1.9%</li> <li>↓ Edinburgh decreased by 0.7%</li> <li>↓ City Region decreased by 1.2%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↑ UK increased by 0.2%</li> <li>↓ Scotland decreased by 1.1%</li> <li>↓ Edinburgh decreased by 1.2%</li> <li>↓ City Region decreased by 1.5%</li> </ul>



Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023

## City Region Summary

1. In August 2023 the claimant count for the City Region was 24,635. Of these
  - a. 4,600 were 16-24 year olds up from 4,515 in July.
  - b. 14,640 were 25-49 year olds down from 14,970 in July.
  - c. 5,390 were 50 or older down from 5,520 in July.
2. In July 2023 there were 43,076 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in the Region. In June there were 42,197.

## Edinburgh Summary

1. In August 2023 the claimant count for Edinburgh was 8,620. Of these
  - a. 1,260 were 16-24 year olds. It was 1,230 in July.
  - b. 5,460 were 25-49 year olds. It was 5,515 in July.
  - c. 1,900 were 50 or older. It was 1,975 in July.
2. In July 2023 there were 13,725 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Edinburgh. In June there were 13,520.

## East Lothian Summary

1. In August 2023 the claimant count for East Lothian was 1,550. Of these
  - a. 320 were 16-24 year olds. In July there were 310.
  - b. 890 were 25-49 year olds. In July there were 910.
  - c. 335 were 50 or older. In July there were 335.
2. In July 2023 there were 3,514 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in East Lothian. In June there were 3,452.

## Fife Summary

1. In August 2023 the claimant count for Fife was 7,935. Of these
  - a. 1,670 were 16-24 year olds. In July there were 1,655.
  - b. 4,535 were 25-49 years of age. In July there were 4,655.
  - c. 1,730 were 50 or older. In July there were 1,750.
2. In July 2023 there were 12,972 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Fife. In June there were 12,624.

## Midlothian Summary

1. In August 2023 the claimant count for Midlothian was 1,330. Of these
  - a. 270 were 16-24 year olds. In July it was 280.
  - b. 800 were 25-49 year olds. In July it was 855.
  - c. 260 were 50 or older. In July it was 270.
2. In July 2023 there were 3,220 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Midlothian. In June there were 3,186.

## Scottish Borders Summary

1. In August 2023 the claimant count for Scottish Borders was 2,000. Of these
  - a. 380 were 16-24 year olds. In July it was 360.
  - b. 1,090 were 25-49 year olds. In July there were 1,115.
  - c. 530 were 50 or older. In July there were 525.
2. In July 2023 there were 3,483 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders. In June there were 3,446.

## West Lothian Summary

1. In August 2023 the claimant count for West Lothian was 3,200. Of these
  - a. 700 were 16-24 year olds. In July there were 680.
  - b. 1,865 were 25-49 year olds. In July there were 1,920.
  - c. 635 were 50 or older. In July there were 665.
2. In July 2023 there were 6,162 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in West Lothian. In June there were 5,969.

## Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count September 2023 Full Update

### Claimant Count by Nation and Region

From Table 1 it can be seen that in all but 4 regions and countries of the UK the claimant count in August 2023 is higher than it was in August 2022. This ranges from London, where it is 6.5% higher than a year ago, through to Wales where it is 4.4% lower. Scotland is 1.9% lower than last year. The most recent month to month change indicates that in the case of 7 regions and nations there was a month to month fall, 2 recorded no percentage change and 4 recorded an increase. Generally, the August figure is very similar to that recorded in July across all the regions and nations of the UK.

**Table 1: National Claimant Count Picture**

	Aug 2022	July 2023	Aug 2023	Percentage Change	
				Aug22-Aug23	Jul23-Aug23
<b>UK</b>	1,520,035	1,545,730	1,548,270	1.9%	0.2%
<b>East</b>	111,900	115,100	115,120	2.9%	0.0%
<b>East Midlands</b>	97,165	101,610	101,640	4.6%	0.0%
<b>London</b>	279,570	293,980	297,650	6.5%	1.2%
<b>North East</b>	68,785	66,855	66,360	-3.5%	-0.7%
<b>North West</b>	193,380	193,345	192,765	-0.3%	-0.3%
<b>N. Ireland</b>	36,045	36,620	37,370	3.7%	2.0%
<b>Scotland</b>	112,805	111,930	110,685	-1.9%	-1.1%
<b>South East</b>	160,345	161,655	163,155	1.8%	0.9%
<b>South West</b>	84,230	85,575	85,345	1.3%	-0.3%
<b>Wales</b>	63,350	61,110	60,550	-4.4%	-0.9%
<b>West Midlands</b>	175,335	180,000	179,805	2.5%	-0.1%
<b>Yorks &amp; Humb</b>	137,135	137,960	137,825	0.5%	-0.1%

*Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023*

### Claimant Count by Scottish Local Authority

Table 2 looks specifically at the situation in Scotland and focuses on Scottish Local Authorities (LAs). Whilst the majority of Scottish LAs now have a claimant count lower than it was a year ago 9 had a claimant count in August 2023 that was higher than August 2022. Out of the 6 LAs that make up the City Region, 4 saw a year to year fall with East Lothian and Scottish Borders the only 2 recording an increase between August 2022 and August 2023.

In the City Region the claimant count in August 2023 is 1.5% lower than in July. Five of the six LAs saw a month to month fall, whilst Scottish Borders recorded the same claimant count in August as it had in July.

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

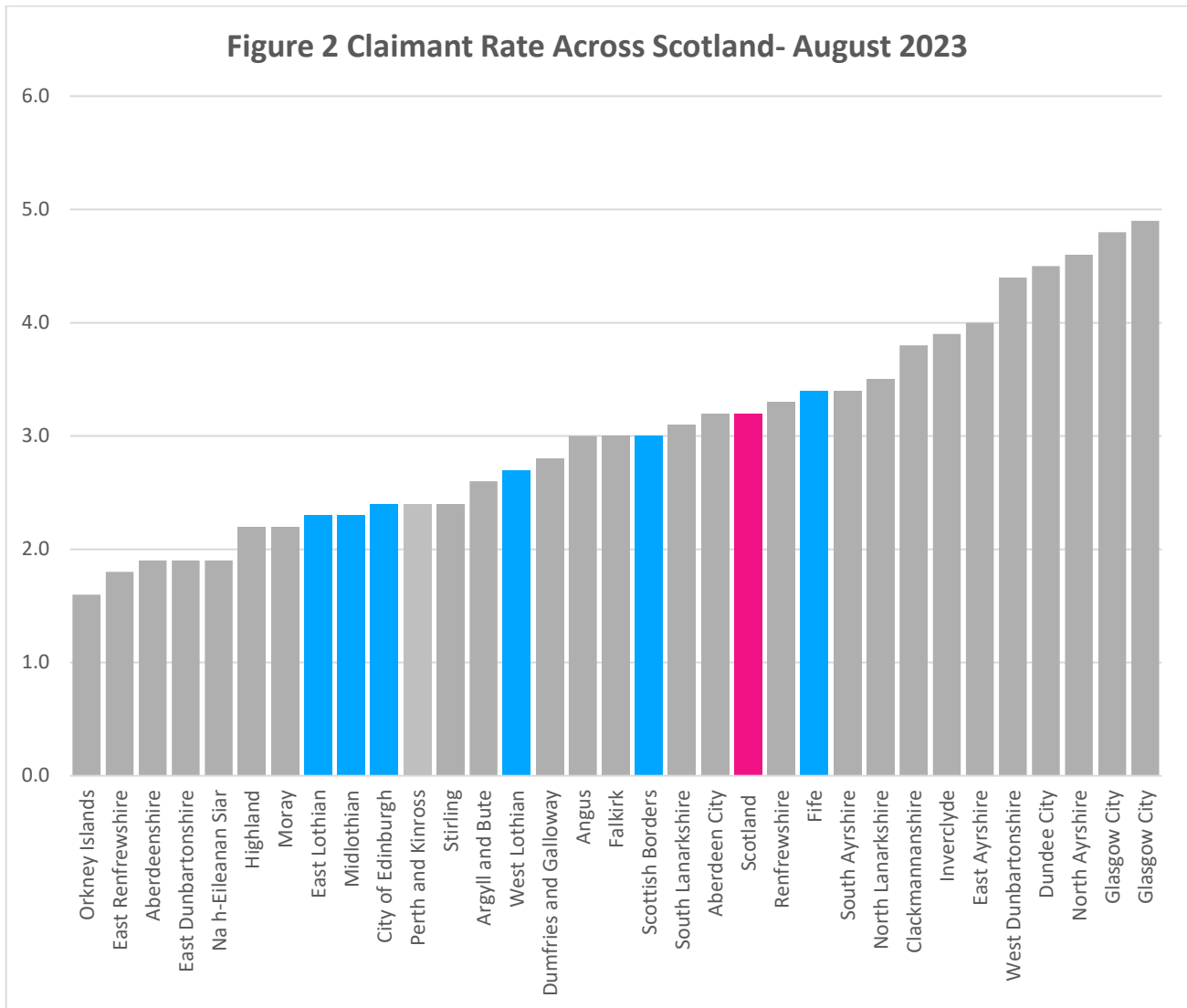
	Aug 22	July 23	Aug 23	Aug22-Aug23	July23-Aug23
Aberdeen City	5,270	4,885	4,985	-5.4%	2.0%
Aberdeenshire	3,065	3,025	2,970	-3.1%	-1.8%

Angus	1,960	2,135	2,060	5.1%	-3.5%
Argyll and Bute	1,380	1,350	1,330	-3.6%	-1.5%
<b>Edinburgh</b>	<b>8,685</b>	<b>8,725</b>	<b>8,620</b>	<b>-0.7%</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>
Clackmannanshire	1,210	1,195	1,200	-0.8%	0.4%
Dumfries & Galloway	2,515	2,540	2,385	-5.2%	-6.1%
Dundee City	4,255	4,435	4,360	2.5%	-1.7%
East Ayrshire	3,235	3,175	3,045	-5.9%	-4.1%
E.Dunbartonshire	1,280	1,275	1,240	-3.1%	-2.7%
<b>East Lothian</b>	<b>1,495</b>	<b>1,555</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>
East Renfrewshire	965	1,015	1,040	7.8%	2.5%
Falkirk	3,120	3,010	3,010	-3.5%	0.0%
<b>Fife</b>	<b>8,105</b>	<b>8,060</b>	<b>7,935</b>	<b>-2.1%</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>
Glasgow City	21,725	21,630	21,510	-1.0%	-0.6%
Highland	3,280	3,220	3,205	-2.3%	-0.5%
Inverclyde	1,920	1,890	1,880	-2.1%	-0.5%
<b>Midlothian</b>	<b>1,370</b>	<b>1,405</b>	<b>1,330</b>	<b>-2.9%</b>	<b>-5.3%</b>
Moray	1,395	1,385	1,325	-5.0%	-4.3%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	335	290	285	-14.9%	-1.7%
North Ayrshire	3,755	3,675	3,705	-1.3%	0.8%
North Lanarkshire	7,870	7,585	7,580	-3.7%	-0.1%
Orkney Islands	200	195	210	5.0%	7.7%
Perth and Kinross	2,205	2,255	2,260	2.5%	0.2%
Renfrewshire	3,700	3,825	3,760	1.6%	-1.7%
<b>Scottish Borders</b>	<b>1,975</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Shetland Islands	240	230	205	-14.6%	-10.9%
South Ayrshire	2,475	2,335	2,260	-8.7%	-3.2%
South Lanarkshire	6,615	6,355	6,345	-4.1%	-0.2%
Stirling	1,435	1,435	1,455	1.4%	1.4%
W.Dunbartonshire	2,480	2,565	2,430	-2.0%	-5.3%
<b>West Lothian</b>	<b>3,305</b>	<b>3,260</b>	<b>3,200</b>	<b>-3.2%</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>
Scotland	112,805	111,930	110,685	-1.9%	-1.1%
City Region	24,935	25,005	24,635	-1.2%	-1.5%

**Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023**

Figure 2, below, looks at the claimant rate for all the Scottish Local Authorities as of August 2023. From this it can be seen that, except for Fife, all the City Region Local Authorities had a claimant rate below the Scottish average. For three Local Authorities in the City Region the claimant rate is low enough to place it within the 10 Local Authorities with the lowest claimant rate in the country.

**Figure 2 Claimant Rate Across Scotland- August 2023**



Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023

### City Region Position

Looking in more detail at the position in the City Region. It can be seen in Table 3 below that across the region the claimant count recorded in August 2023 is lower than it was in August 2022. Only East Lothian and Scottish Borders recorded a year on year increase.

**Table 3: Claimant Count – City Region LAs**

	August 2022	July 2023	August 2023	Percentage Change	
				Aug22-Aug23	July23-Aug23
Edinburgh	8,685	8,725	8,620	-0.7%	-1.2%
East Lothian	1,495	1,555	1,550	3.7%	-0.3%
Fife	8,105	8,060	7,935	-2.1%	-1.6%
Midlothian	1,370	1,405	1,330	-2.9%	-5.3%
Scottish Borders	1,975	2,000	2,000	1.3%	0.0%
West Lothian	3,305	3,260	3,200	-3.2%	-1.8%
City Region	24,935	25,005	24,635	-1.2%	-1.5%

Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023

The month-to-month changes from July to August 2023 indicates that every LA (bar one) saw a fall. Scottish Borders was the only one not to record a fall in the claimant count between July and August 2023 and it saw no change.

The data presented in Table 4 indicates that across the region in June 2023 there were 42,197 people who were in work but required financial support from Universal Credit (UC) as their income was not sufficient. Over the last month this has increased by around 900 people so that the most recent data from July 2023 indicates there were 43,076 individuals in work and claiming.

**Table 4 Universal Credit Claimants In Employment**

	Jul-22	Jun-23	Jul-23
City of Edinburgh	13,792	13,520	13,725
East Lothian	3,500	3,452	3,514
Fife	12,818	12,624	12,972
Midlothian	3,155	3,186	3,220
West Lothian	6,055	5,969	6,162
Scottish Borders	3,362	3,446	3,483
City Region	42,678	42,197	43,076

Source: StatXplore 12/9/2023

## Gender Profile

Turning now to look at the gender profile of the claimants in the Region. Tables 5 and 6 look at the number of claimants split by gender in August 2022, July 2023 and August 2023.

From Table 5 we can see that the male claimant count in West Lothian it is 8.6 lower than it was 12 months ago and 7.9% lower in Midlothian. East Lothian was the only LA to record a year on year increase, albeit a very small 0.6% increase. Every LA recorded a fall between July and August ranging from a fall of 3.8% in Midlothian to a fall of 0.4% in Scottish Borders.

**Table 5: Change in Male Claimant Count Across the City Region**

	Aug-22	Jul-23	Aug-23	Aug22-Aug23	Jul23-Aug23
Edinburgh	5,320	5,105	5,055	-5.0%	-1.0%
East Lothian	885	905	890	0.6%	-1.7%
Fife	4,945	4,770	4,735	-4.2%	-0.7%
Midlothian	820	785	755	-7.9%	-3.8%
Scottish Borders	1,130	1,135	1,130	0.0%	-0.4%
West Lothian	1,985	1,835	1,815	-8.6%	-1.1%
City Region	15,085	14,535	14,380	-4.7%	-1.1%

Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023

Table 6 looks at the situation for female claimants and presents a different picture. For example, over the last 12 months every LA in the region has recorded an increase in the number of female claimants and overall, the increases are between 1.3% and 7.4%.

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

	Aug-22	Jul-23	Aug-23	Aug22-Aug23	Jul23-Aug23
Edinburgh	3,365	3,615	3,565	5.9%	-1.4%
East Lothian	610	650	655	7.4%	0.8%
Fife	3,160	3,290	3,200	1.3%	-2.7%
Midlothian	545	625	575	5.5%	-8.0%
Scottish Borders	845	870	875	3.6%	0.6%
West Lothian	1,320	1,425	1,385	4.9%	-2.8%
City Region	9,845	10,475	10,255	4.2%	-2.1%

Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023

Overall, we can see that in August 2023 there were 10,255 female claimants in the city region and whilst this is less than the July count it is still around 400 more than August 2022.

What these tables indicate is that in the claimant count females make up a larger proportion than was the case 12 months ago – 41.6% now compared to 39.5% a year ago.

Table 7 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 July 2023 27,356 female claimants were recorded (this is around 600 more than the previous month). Compare this to the male in work UC claimant count which increased by 300 over the same period. Table 7 shows that across the region, and in each LA, there are a far higher proportion of women reliant on in work universal credit.

**Table 7: In Work Universal Credit Claimants**

		Jul-22	Jun-23	Jul-23
City of Edinburgh	Male	5,816	5,432	5,523
	Female	7,973	8,090	8,203
East Lothian	Male	1,184	1,126	1,132
	Female	2,316	2,325	2,384
Fife	Male	4,814	4,541	4,633
	Female	8,009	8,083	8,336
Midlothian	Male	1,081	1,027	1,051
	Female	2,075	2,156	2,170
West Lothian	Male	2,163	2,068	2,104
	Female	3,884	3,901	4,057
Scottish Borders	Male	1,301	1,269	1,276
	Female	2,061	2,173	2,205
City Region	Male	16,361	15,466	15,722
	Female	26,318	26,734	27,356

**Source: StatXplore 12/09/2023**

## Age Profile

### 16-24 Year Olds

In August 2023 across the City region there were 4,600 16-24 year olds claiming and included in the NOMIS figures.

**Table 8: 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
<b>Aug-22</b>		1,165	275	1,565	270	350	670	4,295
<b>Jul-23</b>		1,230	310	1,655	280	360	680	4,515
<b>Aug-23</b>		1,260	320	1,670	270	380	700	4,600
<b>% Change</b>	<b>Aug22-Aug23</b>	8.2%	16.4%	6.7%	0.0%	8.6%	4.5%	7.1%
	<b>Jul23-Aug23</b>	2.4%	3.2%	0.9%	-3.6%	5.6%	2.9%	1.9%

**Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023**

In terms of the latest month to month figures, Table 8 indicates that the number of 16-24 years olds claiming across the region has increased by 1.9% between July 2023 and August 2023. This varies across the region – a 5.6% month to month increase in Scottish Borders through to a 3.6% fall in Midlothian.

We can see from the table that for 16-24 year olds the claimant count in Edinburgh remains 7.1% higher than it was in August 2022 and in East Lothian it is 16.4% higher (has increased by 45 over the 12 month period). Apart from Midlothian every LA has recorded more 16-24 year old claimants in August 2023 than in August 2022.

### 25-49 Year Olds

Table 9 allows us to look at what has been happening in terms of 25–49-year-olds, the age band that captures the highest claimant numbers. Across the City Region there were 14,604 25–49-year-olds claiming in August 2023. This is 2.2% lower than in July 2023 and 2.1% lower than in August 2022.

**Table 9: Change in Claimants by Age Across the City Region (All Gender)**

25-49 Year Olds	Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	Scottish Borders	West Lothian	City Region	
Aug-22	5,440	895	4,730	800	1,065	2,020	14,950	
Jul-23	5,515	910	4,655	855	1,115	1,920	14,970	
Aug-23	5,460	890	4,535	800	1,090	1,865	14,640	
% Change	Aug22-Aug23	0.4%	-0.6%	-4.1%	0.0%	2.3%	-7.7%	-2.1%
	Jul23-Aug23	-1.0%	-2.2%	-2.6%	-6.4%	-2.2%	-2.9%	-2.2%

Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023

We can see from the table that every one of the 6 LAs recorded a month to month fall for this age group. In the case of Midlothian, the fall was from 855 in July to 800 in August a 6.4% fall. Looking at what has happened over the 12 months since August 2022 3 LAs recorded a year on year fall, one saw no real change and 2 recorded a year on year increase.

### 50 Year Olds and Over

Table 10 looks at what has been happening in terms of those over the age of 50. Across the City Region we can see that year on year the number of claimants has fallen by 5.4% and 4 of the 6 LA have also recorded a year to year fall in this claimant count, with Midlothian and Edinburgh recording the largest percentage falls. West and East Lothian recorded year on year increases of 3.1% and 2.4% respectively. There are still however 5,390 claimants aged 50 or over in the region.

**Table 10: Change in Claimants by Age Across the City Region (All Gender)**

50 years and over	Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	Scottish Borders	West Lothian	City Region	
Aug-22	2,075	325	1,810	300	565	620	5,695	
Jul-23	1,975	335	1,750	270	525	665	5,520	
Aug-23	1,900	335	1,730	260	530	635	5,390	
% Change	Aug22-Aug23	-8.4%	3.1%	-4.4%	-13.3%	-6.2%	2.4%	-5.4%
	Jul23-Aug23	-3.8%	0.0%	-1.1%	-3.7%	1.0%	-4.5%	-2.4%

Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023

The month to month trend is more positive with 4 LAs recording a fall and one, East Lothian, recording no change.

## Ward Profile

This section looks at the data available by ward for each LA in turn.



## Edinburgh

Table 11 gives the current situation in the 17 Edinburgh Wards, the percentage change over the last 12 months and the change recorded between July and August 2023.

Looking at the change from August 2022 and August 2023 we can see that over the course of the year, 11 wards recorded a fall in the claimant count – Corstorphine/ Murrayfield saw the count fall by 8.8%. We can also see that 6 wards recorded an increase with Leith recording an increase of 9.1% far in excess of what was being recorded elsewhere. This is likely to be linked to the fact that this is the ward where the MS Victoria was berthed and that it was home to Ukrainian refugees.

**Table 11 Edinburgh Claimant Count by Ward August 2023**

Wards	August 2023	% Change		Proportion of Claimants Aug2023				
		Aug22-Aug23	Jul23-Aug23	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Almond	545	-0.9%	1.9%	56.0%	45.0%	14.7%	66.1%	19.3%
City Centre	625	0.8%	0.0%	68.8%	32.0%	15.2%	59.2%	26.4%
Colinton/ Fairmilehead	215	-8.5%	2.4%	53.5%	46.5%	14.0%	60.5%	23.3%
Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	155	-8.8%	0.0%	54.8%	45.2%	9.7%	64.5%	25.8%
Craightinny/ Duddingston	595	0.8%	0.8%	58.8%	42.0%	10.1%	68.9%	21.8%
Drum Brae/ Gyle	285	-1.7%	-3.4%	61.4%	40.4%	12.3%	64.9%	24.6%
Forth	850	1.2%	0.6%	56.5%	43.5%	13.5%	64.7%	21.2%
Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	275	-1.8%	0.0%	60.0%	41.8%	14.5%	63.6%	23.6%
Inverleith	320	-3.0%	-1.5%	53.1%	46.9%	15.6%	56.3%	29.7%
Leith	720	9.1%	-2.7%	61.1%	38.9%	13.2%	66.7%	20.1%
Leith Walk	670	-4.3%	-2.9%	59.0%	41.0%	11.9%	64.2%	23.9%
Liberton/ Gilmerton	690	-4.8%	-2.8%	55.1%	44.2%	18.8%	62.3%	18.1%
Morningside	210	2.4%	-6.7%	59.5%	40.5%	14.3%	64.3%	19.0%
Pentland Hills	715	-3.4%	0.0%	57.3%	42.7%	17.5%	63.6%	18.9%
Portobello/ Craigmillar	710	-1.4%	-2.1%	58.5%	41.5%	14.8%	63.4%	21.8%
Sighthill/ Gorgie	710	3.6%	-2.1%	59.2%	40.8%	19.0%	59.9%	20.4%
Southside/Newington	330	-5.7%	1.5%	62.1%	37.9%	10.6%	59.1%	28.8%
Edinburgh	8,620	-0.7%	-1.2%	58.6%	41.4%	14.6%	63.3%	22.0%

**Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023**

The table also indicates that between July and August 2023 8 wards recorded a fall in the claimant count, 4 saw no change month to month and the remaining 5 saw the claimant count increase. In Colinton/ Fairmilehead it increased by 2.4% over the month. We can see that there are 10 wards in the city with over 500 claimants and 1, Forth, with over 750.

Overall, in Edinburgh in August 2023, 58.6% of claimants were male and 14.6% are aged 16-24- a slightly higher proportion than last month. The City Centre ward records that 68.8% of the claimants are male- the highest proportion in the City Region. Southside and Newington had the highest percentage of claimants over the age of 50 – the only ward where more than 30% of claimants are that age – whilst Sighthill and Gorgie had the highest percentage of 16-24 year old claimants.

Table 12 below looks at the in-work UC claimant count for the Edinburgh wards. There are just under 1,500 in Forth Ward who are working but their earnings are low enough that they can receive UC. This has increased by 2.5% since June 2023 and 2.2% since July 2022. In Leith Ward there are 1,091 individuals working and claiming and this has increased by 18.6% over the last 12 months but fallen by 5.5% between June and July – again this could be linked into the MS Victoria. Overall, 4 wards have seen the in-work UC count fall between June and July 2023.

**Table 12 In Work UC Claimant Count by Edinburgh Ward July 2023**

	Jul-22	Jun-23	Jul-23	Jul22-Jul23	Jun23-Jul23
Almond	958	999	1,014	5.8%	1.5%
City Centre	667	561	564	-15.4%	0.5%
Colinton/Fairmilehead	446	430	437	-2.0%	1.6%
Corstorphine/Murrayfield	275	267	284	3.3%	6.4%
Craigtinny/Duddingston	999	870	887	-11.2%	2.0%
Drum Brae/Gyle	535	533	552	3.2%	3.6%
Forth	1,461	1,456	1,493	2.2%	2.5%
Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	398	379	389	-2.3%	2.6%
Inverleith	483	447	464	-3.9%	3.8%
Leith	920	1,155	1,091	18.6%	-5.5%
Leith Walk	982	898	929	-5.4%	3.5%
Liberton/Gilmerton	1,291	1,209	1,261	-2.3%	4.3%
Morningside	308	239	257	-16.6%	7.5%
Pentland Hills	1,173	1,206	1,229	4.8%	1.9%
Portobello/Craigmillar	1,300	1,321	1,317	1.3%	-0.3%
Sighthill/Gorgie	1,179	1,180	1,179	0.0%	-0.1%
Southside/Newington	418	376	375	-10.3%	-0.3%
Edinburgh	13,792	13,520	13,725	-0.5%	1.5%

Source: StatXplore 13/09/2023

### East Lothian

Table 13 below looks at the situation in the East Lothian Wards. Overall, the county has a claimant count 3.7% higher than it was last year and 0.3% lower in August than it was in July. We can see that two wards have recorded an increase between July and August 2023, two recorded a fall and two saw no change.

**Table 13 East Lothian Claimant Count by Ward August 2023**

Wards	August 2023	% Change		Proportion of Claimants Aug2023				
		Aug22-Aug23	Jul23-Aug23	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Dunbar and East Linton	170	13.3%	13.3%	52.9%	44.1%	20.6%	58.8%	20.6%
Haddington and Lammermuir	225	-4.3%	0.0%	57.8%	44.4%	20.0%	57.8%	22.2%
Musselburgh	380	-1.3%	-2.6%	59.2%	40.8%	19.7%	56.6%	23.7%
North Berwick Coastal	105	5.0%	0.0%	57.1%	42.9%	14.3%	61.9%	19.0%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	250	-2.0%	-7.4%	62.0%	36.0%	22.0%	56.0%	22.0%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	420	15.1%	1.2%	56.0%	44.0%	22.6%	57.1%	20.2%
East Lothian	1,550	3.7%	-0.3%	57.4%	42.3%	20.6%	57.4%	21.6%

Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023

Across the county 57.4% of claimants are male and this varies from 52.9% in Dunbar and East Linton to 62% in Preston, Seton and Gosford. Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry has the highest proportion of 16-24 year olds and Musselburgh has the highest proportion of over 50 year olds.

Table 14 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 July 2022 and July 2023 in 3 wards and an increase in 3 wards. The latest data shows a month to month increase in every ward bar North Berwick Coastal.

**Table 14 In Work UC Claimant Count by East Lothian Ward July 2023**

	Jul-22	Jun-23	Jul-23	Jul22-Jul23	Jun23-Jul23
Dunbar and East Linton	460	436	453	-1.5%	3.9%
Haddington and Lammermuir	538	525	529	-1.7%	0.8%
Musselburgh	758	746	766	1.1%	2.7%
North Berwick Coastal	260	253	242	-6.9%	-4.3%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	587	600	604	2.9%	0.7%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	896	890	918	2.5%	3.1%
East Lothian	3,500	3,452	3,514	0.4%	1.8%

Source: StatXplore 13/9/2023

### Fife

Turning now to look at Fife. From Table 15 it is apparent that 9 of the 22 wards have a claimant count higher than it was a year ago. In one ward it's the same and in the other wards the claimant count has fallen year on year. Looking at what has changed over the last month we can see that in 11 wards the claimant count has fallen between July and August, in 4 it has remained the same and in the other 6 wards it has increased.

**Table 15 Fife Claimant Count by Ward August 2023**

Wards	August 2023	% Change		Proportion of Claimants Aug2023				
		Aug22-Aug23	Jul23-Aug23	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	755	-1.3%	-2.6%	62.9%	37.1%	22.5%	56.3%	21.2%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	325	1.6%	-1.5%	56.9%	43.1%	18.5%	55.4%	24.6%
Cowdenbeath	520	-7.1%	1.0%	61.5%	38.5%	23.1%	54.8%	22.1%
Cupar	200	2.6%	0.0%	62.5%	37.5%	22.5%	52.5%	25.0%
Dunfermline Central	360	-5.3%	0.0%	54.2%	44.4%	19.4%	62.5%	18.1%
Dunfermline North	300	-14.3%	-4.8%	61.7%	36.7%	21.7%	60.0%	18.3%
Dunfermline South	395	-8.1%	-3.7%	57.0%	41.8%	22.8%	57.0%	20.3%
East Neuk and Landward	190	8.6%	0.0%	60.5%	39.5%	15.8%	57.9%	23.7%
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	365	1.4%	-1.4%	58.9%	41.1%	23.3%	58.9%	17.8%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	300	0.0%	-6.3%	60.0%	40.0%	23.3%	61.7%	15.0%
Glenrothes West & Kinglassie	360	9.1%	-5.3%	58.3%	41.7%	22.2%	56.9%	20.8%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	185	5.7%	0.0%	56.8%	43.2%	13.5%	56.8%	29.7%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	245	-3.9%	-3.9%	49.0%	53.1%	18.4%	55.1%	28.6%
Kirkcaldy Central	650	9.2%	0.0%	63.1%	36.9%	19.2%	56.9%	23.8%
Kirkcaldy East	610	-4.7%	-4.7%	59.8%	40.2%	20.5%	55.7%	23.8%
Kirkcaldy North	370	2.8%	-2.6%	56.8%	43.2%	23.0%	54.1%	21.6%

<b>Leven, Kennoway and Largo</b>	405	-2.4%	3.8%	64.2%	35.8%	21.0%	54.3%	24.7%
<b>Lochgelly, Cardenden &amp; Benarty</b>	585	-1.7%	0.9%	63.2%	36.8%	22.2%	59.0%	18.8%
<b>Rosyth</b>	255	-13.6%	-3.8%	54.9%	47.1%	19.6%	60.8%	19.6%
<b>St Andrews</b>	105	-8.7%	5.0%	66.7%	33.3%	19.0%	38.1%	42.9%
<b>Tay Bridgehead</b>	175	6.1%	2.9%	51.4%	48.6%	17.1%	62.9%	20.0%
<b>West Fife and Coastal Villages</b>	290	-10.8%	1.8%	58.6%	41.4%	20.7%	56.9%	22.4%
<b>Fife</b>	7,935	-2.1%	-1.6%	59.7%	40.3%	21.0%	57.2%	21.8%

Source: *NOMIS 12/9/2023*

The ward with the single highest claimant count is Buckhaven, Methill and Wemyss Villages where 755 individuals were looking for work and claiming, slightly down on the 775 recorded in July 2023. Overall, there are 5 wards where 500 or more people were claiming in July.

In terms of gender the average across the Kingdom is that 40.3% of claimants are female and 59.7% are male. Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay had 53.1% of claimants recorded as female – the highest proportion in the City Region. The three Glenrothes wards all record high proportions of claimants aged 16-24 and the average across the Kingdom is 21%. In St Andrews 42.9% of the 105 claimants are over 50 years of age- this is by far the highest proportion in the City Region.

Table 16 below looks at the in-work UC claimant numbers for the wards in Fife. Overall, there were 12,972 Fife residents working and claiming UC support in July 2023 which is 2.8% higher than in June and 1.2% higher than a year ago. Again, there are people needing this support across the Kingdom with all but every ward other than St Andrews recording over 300 claimants.

**Table 16 In Work UC Claimant Count by Fife Ward July 2023**

	<b>Jul-22</b>	<b>Jun-23</b>	<b>Jul-23</b>	<b>Jul22-Jul23</b>	<b>Jun23-Jul23</b>
<b>Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages</b>	1,028	966	1,019	-0.9%	5.5%
<b>Burntisland, Kinghorn &amp; Western Kirkcaldy</b>	416	409	410	-1.4%	0.2%
<b>Cowdenbeath</b>	906	837	864	-4.6%	3.2%
<b>Cupar</b>	360	382	393	9.2%	2.9%
<b>Dunfermline Central</b>	614	558	598	-2.6%	7.2%
<b>Dunfermline North</b>	483	479	491	1.7%	2.5%
<b>Dunfermline South</b>	719	715	724	0.7%	1.3%
<b>East Neuk and Landward</b>	315	329	334	6.0%	1.5%
<b>Glenrothes Central and Thornton</b>	666	672	691	3.8%	2.8%
<b>Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch</b>	552	568	590	6.9%	3.9%
<b>Glenrothes West and Kinglassie</b>	712	716	710	-0.3%	-0.8%
<b>Howe of Fife and Tay Coast</b>	310	293	303	-2.3%	3.4%
<b>Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay</b>	376	406	406	8.0%	0.0%
<b>Kirkcaldy Central</b>	734	697	732	-0.3%	5.0%
<b>Kirkcaldy East</b>	772	741	759	-1.7%	2.4%
<b>Kirkcaldy North</b>	546	541	568	4.0%	5.0%
<b>Leven, Kennoway and Largo</b>	651	650	669	2.8%	2.9%
<b>Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty</b>	1,003	973	999	-0.4%	2.7%
<b>Rosyth</b>	608	607	632	3.9%	4.1%
<b>St. Andrews</b>	166	163	165	-0.6%	1.2%
<b>Tay Bridgehead</b>	326	377	380	16.6%	0.8%
<b>West Fife and Coastal Villages</b>	547	538	547	0.0%	1.7%
<b>Fife</b>	12,818	12,624	12,972	1.2%	2.8%

Source: *StatXplore 13/9/2023*

## Midlothian

The Midlothian position is presented in Table 17 below. Looking at the change between August 2022 and August 2023 we can see that 4 wards recorded a year-on-year fall and 2 wards saw the claimant count increase. The change over the last month has seen all but one ward (Midlothian West) record a month to month fall. Penicuik recorded the highest proportion of male claimants in August and at 25% of claimants, the ward of Dalkeith had the highest proportion of young people claiming, whilst Midlothian West has the highest proportion of claimants aged over 50.

**Table 17 Midlothian Claimant Count by Ward August 2023**

Wards	August 2023	% Change		Proportion of Claimants Aug2023				
		Aug22-Aug23	Jul23-Aug23	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Bonnyrigg	195	-2.5%	-11.4%	54%	46%	21%	62%	21%
Dalkeith	265	3.9%	-3.6%	60%	40%	25%	57%	19%
Midlothian East	230	-11.5%	-6.1%	54%	46%	17%	67%	15%
Midlothian South	240	6.7%	-4.0%	54%	46%	23%	60%	17%
Midlothian West	215	-2.3%	0.0%	58%	42%	21%	51%	28%
Penicuik	185	-14.0%	-7.5%	62%	38%	16%	65%	19%
Midlothian	1,330	-2.9%	-5.3%	57%	43%	20%	60%	20%

Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023

Table 18 looks at the number of in work UC claimants in the 6 Midlothian wards. We can see that overall, there are slightly more claimants than in July 2022, but the situation is different depending on which ward you look at. The more recent month to month change between June 2023 and July 2023 is similar with Midlothian West recording an increase of 7.7% whilst Penicuik saw a fall of 2.8% over the same period.

**Table 18 In Work UC Claimant Count by Midlothian Ward July 2023**

	Jul-22	Jun-23	Jul-23	Jul22-Jul23	Jun23-Jul23
Bonnyrigg	456	528	535	17.3%	1.3%
Dalkeith	588	584	587	-0.2%	0.5%
Midlothian East	569	541	555	-2.5%	2.6%
Midlothian South	625	647	642	2.7%	-0.8%
Midlothian West	435	418	450	3.4%	7.7%
Penicuik	480	464	451	-6.0%	-2.8%
Midlothian	3,155	3,186	3,220	2.1%	1.1%

Source: StatXplore 13/9/2023

## West Lothian

The situation in West Lothian is looked at in Table 19 below. The August 2023 claimant count ranged from 110 in Linlithgow to 535 in Whitburn and Blackburn. Generally, there has been a 1.8% month to month fall and this is replicated in 6 of the wards.

As with other areas there are generally more male claimants in every ward than female. Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley had 62% of claimant's male making this the ward with the highest proportion of male claimants. In terms of the age profile, in one ward (Armadale & Blackridge) 25% of claimants are 16-24 years of age- one of the highest proportions in the City Region. Compare this to Linlithgow where 32% of those claiming are aged over 50.

**Table 19 West Lothian Claimant Count by Ward August 2023**

Wards	August 2023	% Change		Proportion of Claimants Aug2023				
		Aug22-Aug23	Jul23-Aug23	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Armadale & Blackridge	295	0.0%	-1.7%	58%	42%	25%	56%	19%
Bathgate	445	0.0%	-2.2%	55%	44%	20%	61%	19%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	330	-19.5%	-4.3%	61%	41%	23%	55%	24%
East Livingston & E. Calder	380	11.8%	5.6%	54%	46%	21%	55%	22%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	390	8.3%	-2.5%	62%	38%	19%	64%	17%
Linlithgow	110	-24.1%	-15.4%	59%	45%	18%	55%	32%
Livingston North	295	-7.8%	1.7%	54%	46%	22%	59%	17%
Livingston South	425	-2.3%	3.7%	54%	46%	24%	58%	19%
Whitburn & Blackburn	535	-4.5%	-7.0%	57%	43%	21%	58%	20%
West Lothian	3,200	-3.2%	-1.8%	57%	43%	22%	58%	20%

Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023

Table 20 indicates that across West Lothian in July 2023 there were 6,192 individuals working and claiming UC which is around 200 more than the previous month and around 100 more than a year ago. We can see that Livingston North was the only ward that recorded a month to month fall between June and July 2023.

**Table 20 In Work UC Claimant Count by West Lothian Ward July 2023**

	Jul-22	Jun-23	Jul-23	Jul22-Jul23	Jun23-Jul23
Armadale and Blackridge	551	505	513	-6.9%	1.6%
Bathgate	798	729	757	-5.1%	3.8%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	644	627	658	2.2%	4.9%
East Livingston and East Calder	727	750	797	9.6%	6.3%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	621	651	662	6.6%	1.7%
Linlithgow	226	204	223	-1.3%	9.3%
Livingston North	659	650	641	-2.7%	-1.4%
Livingston South	827	851	862	4.2%	1.3%
Whitburn and Blackburn	1,003	1,003	1,050	4.7%	4.7%
West Lothian	6,055	5,969	6,162	1.8%	3.2%

Source: StatXplore 13/9/2023

### Scottish Borders

Table 21 below looks at the position in the Scottish Borders wards. From this table we can see that in 7 wards the claimant count in August 2023 is higher than it was a year ago. One point to bear in mind is that the wards recording a high percentage increase tend to have *relatively* low claimant numbers to start with.

We can see that in 2 of the Scottish Borders wards there was no change in the claimant count between July and August and 4 wards recorded month-to-month falls. This leaves only 5 wards that recorded a month-to-month increase.

The table indicates that 43.8% of claimants are female and this ranges from 52% in Leaderdale and Melrose to 34.2% in Hawick and Hermitage. Hawick and Denholm had the highest proportion of 16-

24 year old claimants in July whilst Mid Berwickshire recorded that 36% of claimants were over 50 years of age, the highest proportion in Scottish Borders.

**Table 21 Scottish Borders Claimant Count by Ward August 2023**

Wards	August 2023	% Change		Proportion of Claimants Aug2023				
		Aug22-Aug23	Jul23-Aug23	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
East Berwickshire	175	6.1%	2.9%	48.6%	51.4%	11.4%	60.0%	28.6%
Galashiels & District	375	-5.1%	-5.1%	56.0%	44.0%	18.7%	54.7%	25.3%
Hawick & Denholm	255	10.9%	-3.8%	62.7%	37.3%	29.4%	52.9%	17.6%
Hawick & Hermitage	190	2.7%	0.0%	65.8%	34.2%	26.3%	50.0%	26.3%
Jedburgh & District	160	14.3%	6.7%	53.1%	46.9%	21.9%	56.3%	21.9%
Kelso and District	160	6.7%	3.2%	59.4%	40.6%	15.6%	53.1%	28.1%
Leaderdale & Melrose	125	-10.7%	4.2%	48.0%	52.0%	12.0%	60.0%	28.0%
Mid Berwickshire	155	6.9%	-6.1%	51.6%	48.4%	19.4%	48.4%	35.5%
Selkirkshire	150	-6.3%	7.1%	60.0%	40.0%	20.0%	56.7%	26.7%
Tweeddale East	110	-21.4%	0.0%	54.5%	50.0%	18.2%	54.5%	31.8%
Tweeddale West	140	3.7%	-3.4%	57.1%	42.9%	10.7%	60.7%	28.6%
Scottish Borders	2,000	1.3%	0.0%	56.5%	43.8%	19.0%	54.5%	26.5%

**Source: NOMIS 12/9/2023**

Table 22 looks at the number of people in work and claiming in Scottish Borders, and in July 2023 there were 3,483 people working who needed the support of Universal Credit. This is 1.1% higher than the previous month and 3.6% higher than July 2022.

**Table 22 In Work UC Claimant Count by Scottish Borders Ward July 2023**

	Jul-22	Jun-23	Jul-23	Jul22-Jul23	Jun23-Jul23
East Berwickshire	377	367	366	-2.9%	-0.3%
Galashiels and District	573	553	576	0.5%	4.2%
Hawick and Denholm	406	383	383	-5.7%	0.0%
Hawick and Hermitage	265	269	286	7.9%	6.3%
Jedburgh and District	255	239	225	-11.8%	-5.9%
Kelso and District	274	290	291	6.2%	0.3%
Leaderdale and Melrose	251	303	306	21.9%	1.0%
Mid Berwickshire	304	358	350	15.1%	-2.2%
Selkirkshire	264	274	271	2.7%	-1.1%
Tweeddale East	207	205	207	0.0%	1.0%
Tweeddale West	188	211	225	19.7%	6.6%
Total	3,362	3,446	3,483	3.6%	1.1%

**Source: StatXplore 13/9/2023**

## 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 and these margins of error can be considerable, particularly at a local level or when used to report on specific demographic groups.

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 as of March 2023 which is the same as the last report as

there is no updates on Nomis. It gives the economic activity rate in all 6 authorities and, of those that are economically inactive in each authority, the proportion and number who want a job.

**Table 23 Economic activity aged 16-64 (April 2022- March 2023)**

	Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	Scottish Borders	West Lothian	City Region
Economic activity rate - aged 16-64	81.3	77.4	77.1	80.0	82.8	79.0	79.7
Estimated number who are economically active	289,200	50,100	172,800	45,200	54,700	92,400	704,500
% who are economically inactive - aged 16-64	18.7	22.6	22.9	17.4	17.2	21.0	20.3
Estimated number who are economically inactive	66,500	14,600	51,400	11,300	11,400	24,600	179,800
% of economically inactive who want a job	16.1	8.2	19.2	***	23.0	20.9	16.6
Estimated number economically inactive who want a job	10,700	1,200	9,900	***	2,600	5,100	29,900

**Source: NOMIS 20/8/2023**

**\*\*\* Sample too small for ONS to publish the data**

It is worth noting that Economically Active includes in employment and those claiming an out of work benefit. Economically inactive are the more difficult to pinpoint group. So, if the estimates are correct these would be in addition to the claimant count figures looked at elsewhere in this report.

The caveat with these statistics is that as it is a survey there are confidence limits 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 81.3%, they are 95% confident that the real figure, based on the whole population, would be between 77.9% and 84.7% - the confidence levels recorded.

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