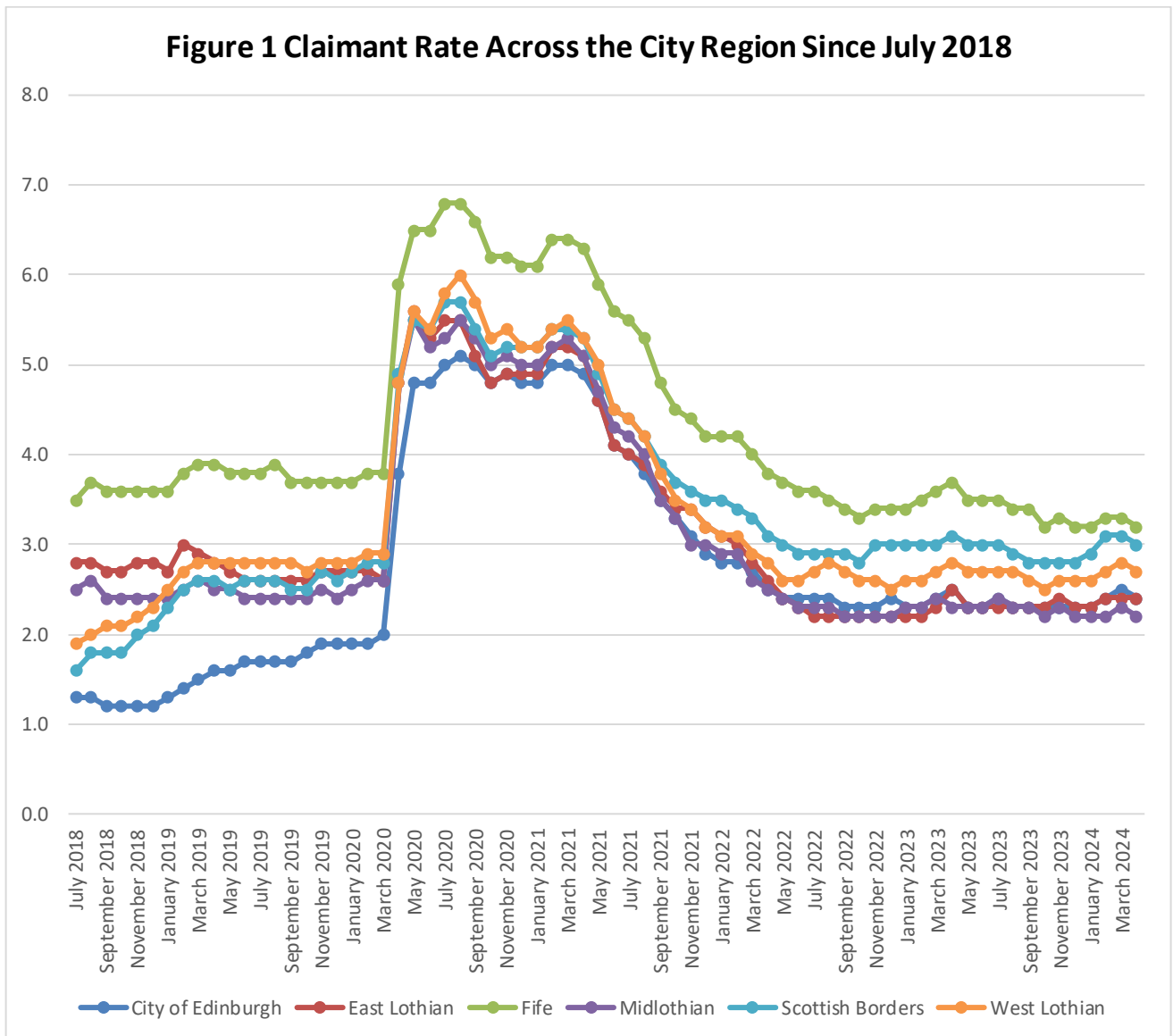


Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count May 2024 Summary Update

<p>Claimant Count Change Between April 2023 and April 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ UK increased by 1.9% ↓ Scotland decreased by 7.3% ↓ Edinburgh decreased by 0.8% ↓ City Region decreased by 5.9% 	<p>Claimant Count Change Between March 2024 and April 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ UK increased by 0.4% ↓ Scotland decreased by 1.1% ◆ No change in the Edinburgh count ↓ City Region decreased by 1.3%
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Source: NOMIS 14/5/2024

City Region Summary

1. In April 2024 the claimant count for the City Region was 24,450 (in March it was 24,780). Of these
 - a. 4,420 were 16-24 year olds down from 4,435 in March.
 - b. 14,640 were 25-49 year olds down from 14,935 in March.
 - c. 5,390 were 50 or older up from 5,405 in March.
2. In March 2024 there were 46,313 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in the Region. In February 2024 there were 44,683.

Edinburgh Summary

1. In April 2024 the claimant count for Edinburgh was 8,925 (in March it was 8,925). Of these
 - a. 1,260 were 16-24 year olds. It was 1,270 in March.
 - b. 5,650 were 25-49 year olds. It was 5,655 in March.
 - c. 2,015 were 50 or older. It was 2,005 in March.
2. In March 2024 there were 14,946 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Edinburgh. In February 2024 there were 14,601.

East Lothian Summary

1. In April 2024 the claimant count for East Lothian was 1,590 (in March it was 1,595). Of these
 - a. 295 were 16-24 year olds. In March there were 280.
 - b. 950 were 25-49 year olds. In March there were 970.
 - c. 345 were 50 or older. In March there were 345.
2. In March 2024 there were 3,811 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in East Lothian. In February 2024 there were 3,633.

Fife Summary

1. In April 2024 the claimant count for Fife was 7,455 (in March it was 7,525). Of these
 - a. 1,585 were 16-24 year olds. In March there were 1,575.
 - b. 4,265 were 25-49 years of age. In March there were 4,355.
 - c. 1,610 were 50 or older. In March there were 1,590.
2. In March 2024 there were 12,917 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Fife. In February 2024 there were 12,460.

Midlothian Summary

1. In April 2024 the claimant count for Midlothian was 1,275 (it was 1,340 in March). Of these
 - a. 255 were 16-24 year olds. In March it was 265.
 - b. 790 were 25-49 year olds. In March it was 825.
 - c. 230 were 50 or older. In March it was 245.
2. In March 2024 there were 3,545 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Midlothian. In February there were 3,390.

Scottish Borders Summary

1. In April 2024 the claimant count for Scottish Borders was 2,050 (in March it was 2,085). Of these
 - a. 345 were 16-24 year olds. In March it was 370.
 - b. 1,115 were 25-49 year olds. In March there were 1,125.
 - c. 590 were 50 or older. In March there were 590.
2. In March 2024 there were 4,001 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders. In February there were 3,834.

West Lothian Summary

1. In April 2024 the claimant count for West Lothian was 3,155 (in March it was 3,310). Of these
 - a. 680 were 16-24 year olds. In March there were 675.
 - b. 1,870 were 25-49 year olds. In March there were 2,005.
 - c. 600 were 50 or older. In March there were 630.
2. In March 2024 there were 7,098 in West Lothian individuals claiming Universal Credit who were in work. In February there were 6,764.

Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count May 2024 Full Update

Claimant Count by Nation and Region

Table 1 indicates that in the UK the claimant count in April 2024 is higher than it was five years ago. This is the same in every region and nation apart from the North East of England and in Scotland. In Scotland it is 0.1% lower than in April 2019 and in the UK, it is 44.9% higher. We can also see that in eight regions and countries of the UK the claimant count in April 2024 is higher than it was in April 2023 whilst the other five have seen a year on year fall. In Scotland the claimant count has fallen by 7.3% between April 2023 and April 2024

Table 1: National Claimant Count Picture

	April 2019	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	Percentage Change		
					April 19 - April 24	April 23- April 24	Mar24 - April 24
UK	1,106,610	1,584,450	1,608,340	1,614,410	45.9%	1.9%	0.4%
East	74,690	117,120	122,470	122,575	64.1%	4.7%	0.1%
East Midlands	67,865	103,655	106,445	106,825	57.4%	3.1%	0.4%
London	158,645	291,385	306,840	310,425	95.7%	6.5%	1.2%
North East	71,335	70,515	66,115	66,110	-7.3%	-6.2%	0.0%
North West	152,415	201,345	200,135	201,440	32.2%	0.0%	0.7%
N. Ireland	29,560	37,665	36,395	37,110	25.5%	-1.5%	2.0%
Scotland	108,035	116,435	109,140	107,965	-0.1%	-7.3%	-1.1%
South East	98,185	165,005	172,200	172,245	75.4%	4.4%	0.0%
South West	67,440	88,295	94,620	93,785	39.1%	6.2%	-0.9%
Wales	53,770	64,665	63,720	63,435	18.0%	-1.9%	-0.4%
West Midlands	122,280	185,130	184,340	184,890	51.2%	-0.1%	0.3%
Yorks & Humb	102,380	143,230	145,915	147,610	44.2%	3.1%	1.2%

Source: NOMIS 14/5/2024

Looking at the latest change month to month it can be seen in the table that across the UK the claimant count is 0.4% higher in April 2024 than it was in March 2024. In Scotland it fell by 1.1% (1,175) between March and April 2024.

Claimant Count by Scottish Local Authority

Table 2 focuses on Scottish Local Authorities. We can see that every Scottish Local Authority now has a claimant count lower than it was a year ago. Clackmannanshire has seen the claimant count fall by 17.6% over the last 12 months whilst Argyll and Bute saw the claimant count fall by 1% over the same period. Na h-Eileanan Siar recorded no change between April 2023 and April 2024. In the City Region the claimant count in April 2024 is 5.9% lower than in April 2023.

Looking at how April 2024 compares to March 2024. We can see that across Scotland seven Local Authorities saw the claimant count increase over the last month, one (Edinburgh) recorded no

change and every other Local Authority in Scotland saw the claimant count fall. This month to month fall ranged from 9.3% in Orkney to 0.2% in Aberdeenshire.

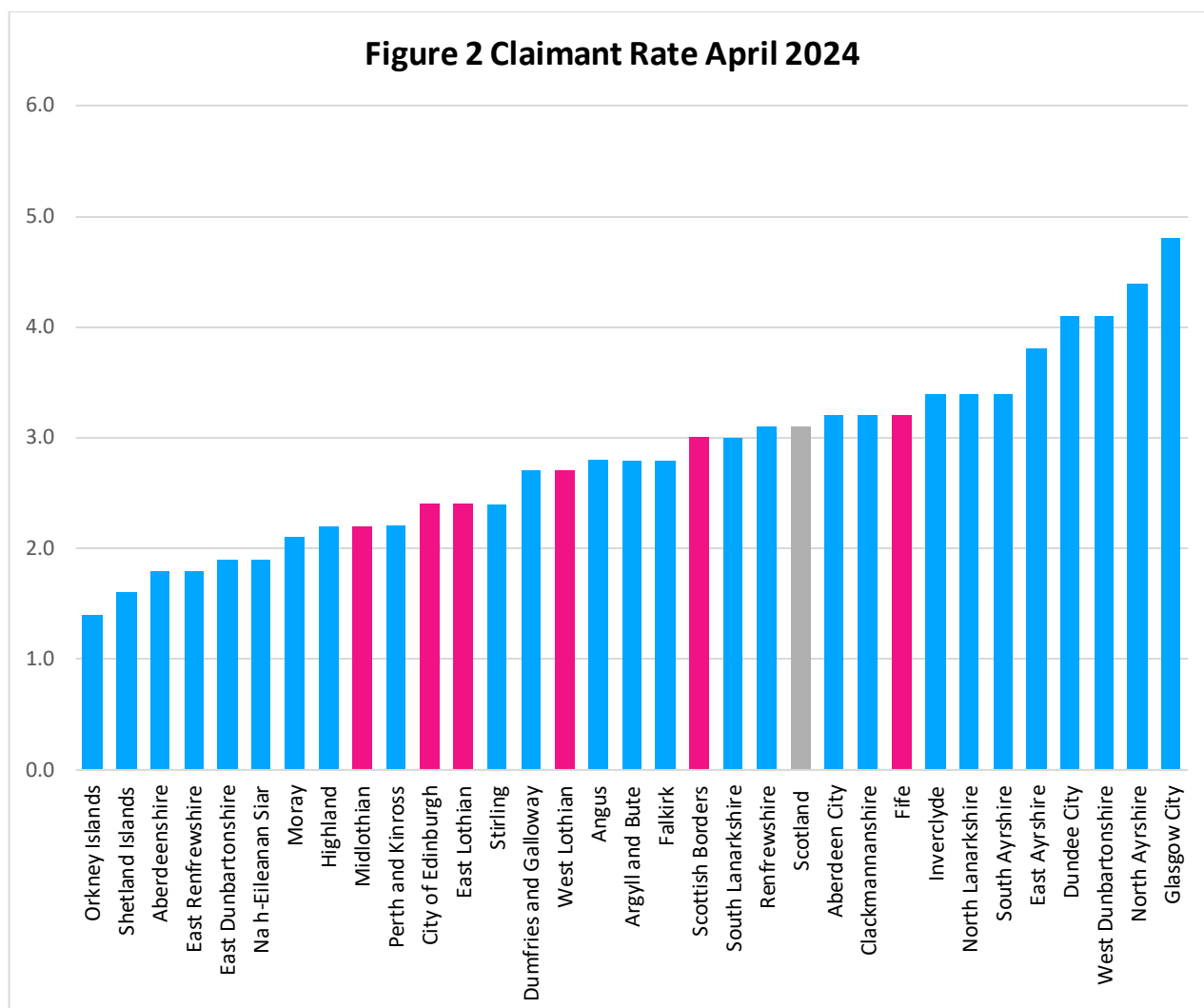
Table 2: Claimant Count - Scottish Local Authorities

	April 2019	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	Percentage Change		
					April 19 - April 24	April 23- April 24	Mar24 - April 24
Aberdeen City	3,460	5,050	4,860	4,920	42.2%	-2.6%	1.2%
Aberdeenshire	2,645	3,160	2,865	2,860	8.1%	-9.5%	-0.2%
Angus	2,150	2,115	1,910	1,935	-10.0%	-8.5%	1.3%
Argyll and Bute	1,375	1,470	1,540	1,455	5.8%	-1.0%	-5.5%
Edinburgh	5,760	8,995	8,925	8,925	54.9%	-0.8%	0.0%
Clackmannanshire	1,355	1,250	1,075	1,030	-24.0%	-17.6%	-4.2%
Dumfries & Galloway	2,645	2,670	2,490	2,345	-11.3%	-12.2%	-5.8%
Dundee City	4,590	4,420	4,065	3,990	-13.1%	-9.7%	-1.8%
East Ayrshire	3,750	3,375	2,895	2,860	-23.7%	-15.3%	-1.2%
E.Dunbartonshire	1,250	1,275	1,190	1,235	-1.2%	-3.1%	3.8%
East Lothian	1,825	1,655	1,595	1,590	-12.9%	-3.9%	-0.3%
East Renfrewshire	835	1,090	1,005	1,010	21.0%	-7.3%	0.5%
Falkirk	3,365	3,155	2,960	2,900	-13.8%	-8.1%	-2.0%
Fife	9,020	8,535	7,525	7,455	-17.4%	-12.7%	-0.9%
Glasgow City	16,910	22,495	21,430	21,525	27.3%	-4.3%	0.4%
Highland	3,725	3,650	3,300	3,200	-14.1%	-12.3%	-3.0%
Inverclyde	2,490	1,895	1,670	1,625	-34.7%	-14.2%	-2.7%
Midlothian	1,455	1,355	1,340	1,275	-12.4%	-5.9%	-4.9%
Moray	1,510	1,440	1,315	1,235	-18.2%	-14.2%	-6.1%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	330	300	315	300	-9.1%	0.0%	-4.8%
North Ayrshire	4,565	3,795	3,555	3,535	-22.6%	-6.9%	-0.6%
North Lanarkshire	8,435	7,890	7,520	7,510	-11.0%	-4.8%	-0.1%
Orkney Islands	190	230	215	195	2.6%	-15.2%	-9.3%
Perth and Kinross	1,745	2,300	2,105	2,080	19.2%	-9.6%	-1.2%
Renfrewshire	3,710	3,975	3,675	3,565	-3.9%	-10.3%	-3.0%
Scottish Borders	1,730	2,085	2,085	2,050	18.5%	-1.7%	-1.7%
Shetland Islands	205	255	215	220	7.3%	-13.7%	2.3%
South Ayrshire	2,600	2,480	2,315	2,245	-13.7%	-9.5%	-3.0%
South Lanarkshire	7,175	6,610	6,010	6,055	-15.6%	-8.4%	0.7%
Stirling	1,500	1,500	1,510	1,425	-5.0%	-5.0%	-5.6%
W.Dunbartonshire	2,465	2,615	2,350	2,275	-7.7%	-13.0%	-3.2%
West Lothian	3,270	3,360	3,310	3,155	-3.5%	-6.1%	-4.7%
Scotland	108,035	116,435	109,140	107,965	-0.1%	-7.3%	-1.1%
City Region	23,060	25,985	24,780	24,450	6.0%	-5.9%	-1.3%

Source: NOMIS 14/5/2024

Figure 2, below, looks at the claimant rate for all the Scottish Local Authorities as recorded in April 2024. 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 Midlothian the claimant rate is low enough to place it within the ten Local Authorities with the lowest claimant rate in the country.

Figure 2 Claimant Rate April 2024



Source: NOMIS 14/5/2024

City Region Position

Looking in more detail at the position in the City Region. It can be seen in Table 3 that across the region the claimant count recorded in April 2024 is lower than it was in April 2023. This ranges from 0.8% lower in Edinburgh to 12.7% lower in Fife.

Table 3: Claimant Count – City Region LAs

	April 2019	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	Percentage Change	
					Mar24 - April 24	April 23-April 24
City of Edinburgh	5,760	8,995	8,925	8,925	0.0%	-0.8%
East Lothian	1,825	1,655	1,595	1,590	-0.3%	-3.9%
Fife	9,020	8,535	7,525	7,455	-0.9%	-12.7%
Midlothian	1,455	1,355	1,340	1,275	-4.9%	-5.9%
Scottish Borders	1,730	2,085	2,085	2,050	-1.7%	-1.7%
West Lothian	3,270	3,360	3,310	3,155	-4.7%	-6.1%
City Region	23,060	25,985	24,780	24,450	-1.3%	-5.9%

Source: NOMIS 14/5/2024

The month-to-month change from March 2024 to April 2024 indicates that in all but one Local Authority the claimant count is lower than it was month ago. Whilst Edinburgh recorded no change month to month Midlothian saw the claimant count fall by 4.9% between March and April 2024.

The data presented in Table 4 indicates that across the region in March 2024 there were 46,313 people who were in work but required financial support from Universal Credit (UC) as their income was not sufficient. This was 3.6% (1,630) higher than a month ago and 13.4% (5,467) higher than a year ago. This trend was reflected in all of the 6 Local Authorities.

Table 4 Universal Credit Claimants in Employment

	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Percentage Change	
				Mar-23 to Mar-24	Feb-24-Mar-24
East Lothian	3,383	3,633	3,811	12.7%	4.9%
City of Edinburgh	13,240	14,601	14,946	12.9%	2.4%
Fife	12,063	12,460	12,917	7.1%	3.7%
Midlothian	3,092	3,390	3,545	14.7%	4.6%
Scottish Borders	3,366	3,834	4,001	18.9%	4.4%
West Lothian	5,700	6,764	7,098	24.5%	4.9%
Total	40,846	44,683	46,313	13.4%	3.6%

Source: StatXplore 14/5/2024

Gender Profile

From Table 5 we can see that five Local Authorities in the city region have seen the number of male claimants fall over the last 12 months whilst 1 has seen no change at all. Across the region the number of male claimants in April 2024 was nearly 750 lower than in April 2023. Comparing the April 2024 statistics to those of March 2024 the picture is almost as positive as every Local Authority with the exception of Edinburgh saw the male claimant count fall month to month. Overall, across the region, there are around 100 fewer male claimants in April 2024 than there were in March.

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

	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	Percentage Change	
				April 23-April 24	Mar24 - April 24
Edinburgh	5,260	5,255	5,260	0.0%	0.1%
East Lothian	930	885	880	-5.4%	-0.6%
Fife	5,110	4,515	4,505	-11.8%	-0.2%
Midlothian	775	790	770	-0.6%	-2.5%
Scottish Borders	1,190	1,195	1,185	-0.4%	-0.8%
West Lothian	1,945	1,900	1,860	-4.4%	-2.1%
City Region	15,210	14,540	14,460	-4.9%	-0.6%

Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

Table 6 looks at the situation for female claimants. This indicates that over the last year there has been a fall in the number of female claimants (down by 770). This is a fall of 7.2% compared to a fall of 4.9% in the number of male claimants.

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

	April 2023	March 2024	April 2024	Percentage Change	
				April 23-April 24	Mar24 - April 24
Edinburgh	3,735	3,670	3,665	-1.9%	-0.1%
East Lothian	725	715	710	-2.1%	-0.7%
Fife	3,420	3,010	2,955	-13.6%	-1.8%
Midlothian	575	550	505	-12.2%	-8.2%
Scottish Borders	895	890	865	-3.4%	-2.8%
West Lothian	1,415	1,405	1,295	-8.5%	-7.8%

City Region	10,765	10,240	9,995	-7.2%	-2.4%
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Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

In every Local Authority, we can see a year on year fall in the number of female claimants - ranging from a 13.6% fall in Fife between April 2023 and April 2024 through to a 1.9% fall in Edinburgh. Between March and April 2024, the number of female claimants fell in every Local Authority. This ranged from a 0.1% fall in Edinburgh to a 8.2% fall in Midlothian.

Table 7 below looks at the gender split of those who are in work and claiming Universal Credit. The data indicates that across the City Region in March 2023, 26,058 female claimants were in work and claiming Universal Credit. In March 2024 the number had increased to 30,293. This is 4,000 more than 12 months ago and 1,000 more than February 2024. Compare this to the male in work Universal Credit claimant count, which was 14,785 in March 2023 and currently (March 2024) is sitting at 16,018. Table 7 shows that across the region, and in each Local Authority, there are a far higher proportion of women who are in work, but their earnings are so low that they qualify for in work Universal Credit.

Table 7: In Work Universal Credit Claimants

		Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24
City of Edinburgh	Male	5,368	5,487	5,621
	Female	7,877	9,115	9,319
East Lothian	Male	1,072	1,146	1,219
	Female	2,313	2,489	2,590
Fife	Male	4,173	4,192	4,308
	Female	7,886	8,269	8,608
Midlothian	Male	1,016	1,052	1,110
	Female	2,080	2,336	2,431
Scottish Borders	Male	1,234	1,361	1,429
	Female	2,128	2,473	2,569
West Lothian	Male	1,923	2,188	2,329
	Female	3,776	4,569	4,774
Total	Male	14,785	15,432	16,018
	Female	26,058	29,252	30,293

Source: StatXplore 14/5/2024

Age Profile

16-24 Year Olds

In March 2024 there were 4,435 claimants aged between 16-24 years of age in the City Region. In April this had fallen by 0.3% to 4,420. In three of the six Local Authorities month to month increases were recorded between March and April 2024. This ranged from an increase of 5.4% in East Lothian through to a 0.6% increase in Fife. Edinburgh, Midlothian and Scottish Borders all saw the claimant count fall between March and April 2024. Scottish Borders saw the number of 16-24 year old claimants fall by 6.8% between March and April.

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
April 2023	1,240	315	1,635	270	360	690	4,510
March 2024	1,270	280	1,575	265	370	675	4,435
April 2024	1,260	295	1,585	255	345	680	4,420
% Change							
Apr23-Apr24	1.6%	-6.3%	-3.1%	-5.6%	-4.2%	-1.4%	-2.0%

Mar24-Apr24	-0.8%	5.4%	0.6%	-3.8%	-6.8%	0.7%	-0.3%
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Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

The year on year figure shows a 2.0% fall across the region from 4,510 in April 2023 to 4,420 in April 2024. When each of the six Local Authorities are looked at the year on year change ranges from an increase of 1.6% in Edinburgh for 16-24 year olds to a 6.3% fall in East Lothian.

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 14,640 25–49-year-olds claiming in April 2024, and this is down from 14,935 in March 2024 – a fall of 2.0%.

We can see from the table that all six Local Authorities recorded a month to month fall for this age group. This ranged from a 6.7% fall in West Lothian to a 0.1% fall in Edinburgh. Comparing the situation in April 2024 with that of April 2023 the table indicates that all 6 Local Authorities recorded a fall over the 12 months.

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
April 2023	5,710	990	4,985	820	1,160	2,005	15,670
March 2024	5,655	970	4,355	825	1,125	2,005	14,935
April 2024	5,650	950	4,265	790	1,115	1,870	14,640
% Change							
Apr23-Apr24	-1.1%	-4.0%	-14.4%	-3.7%	-3.9%	-6.7%	-6.6%
Mar24-Apr24	-0.1%	-2.1%	-2.1%	-4.2%	-0.9%	-6.7%	-2.0%

Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

50 Year Olds and Over

Table 10 looks at what has been happening in terms of those over the age of fifty. Across the City Region we can see that in March 2024 there were 5,405 claimants who were fifty or over. This has fallen by 0.3% so that in April 2024 there were 5,390 claimants who fell into this age category. Midlothian recorded an 6.1% fall between March and April whilst Fife saw an increase of 1.3%.

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
April 2023	2,040	350	1,915	260	560	665	5,790
March 2024	2,005	345	1,590	245	590	630	5,405
April 2024	2,015	345	1,610	230	590	600	5,390
% Change							
Apr23-Apr24	-1.2%	-1.4%	-15.9%	-11.5%	5.4%	-9.8%	-6.9%
Mar24-Apr24	0.5%	0.0%	1.3%	-6.1%	0.0%	-4.8%	-0.3%

Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

Over the last year the number of claimants over the age of 50 has fallen by 6.9% across the region from 5,790 in April 2023 to 5,390 in April 2024. Although the region has recorded a fall overall one Local Authority (Scottish Borders) saw the number of claimants over 50 years of age increase by 5.4% over the last 12 months.

Ward Profile

Edinburgh

Table 11 gives the current situation in the seventeen Edinburgh wards, the percentage change over the last twelve months and the change recorded between March and April 2024. Overall, there are 8,925 claimants in Edinburgh in April 2024 and this is 0.8% lower than April 2023 and the same as in March 2024. From the table we can see that in April 2024 three wards had 750 or more claimants, ten wards had more than 500 and 1 ward had less than 200.

Table 11 Edinburgh Claimant Count by Ward April 2024

Wards	April 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants April 2024				
		April 23- April 24	Mar24 - April 24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Almond	555	-3.5%	0.9%	55.0%	45.0%	14.4%	65.8%	19.8%
City Centre	695	7.8%	0.7%	69.1%	30.9%	15.1%	63.3%	22.3%
Colinton/ Fairmilehead	260	13.0%	0.0%	55.8%	44.2%	19.2%	55.8%	26.9%
Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	165	6.5%	-2.9%	54.5%	45.5%	12.1%	57.6%	30.3%
Craigtinny/ Duddingston	625	6.8%	4.2%	59.2%	40.8%	12.0%	64.8%	23.2%
Drum Brae/ Gyle	310	1.6%	-7.5%	54.8%	43.5%	11.3%	64.5%	22.6%
Forth	840	-0.6%	-0.6%	56.0%	44.0%	11.3%	64.9%	23.8%
Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	290	3.6%	-1.7%	60.3%	39.7%	13.8%	63.8%	20.7%
Inverleith	290	-17.1%	-4.9%	50.0%	50.0%	8.6%	67.2%	25.9%
Leith	695	-19.7%	-0.7%	61.9%	38.1%	11.5%	66.2%	22.3%
Leith Walk	700	1.4%	2.2%	60.0%	40.7%	10.7%	67.1%	22.9%
Liberton/ Gilmerton	715	-0.7%	-0.7%	55.9%	44.1%	17.5%	60.8%	21.7%
Morningside	220	4.8%	-2.2%	59.1%	40.9%	11.4%	61.4%	27.3%
Pentland Hills	780	3.3%	-0.6%	57.7%	42.3%	18.6%	61.5%	20.5%
Portobello/Craigmillar	750	2.7%	0.7%	56.7%	43.3%	16.0%	62.7%	22.0%
Sighthill/ Gorgie	700	-4.8%	2.9%	62.9%	37.1%	17.1%	62.1%	20.7%
Southside/Newington	335	6.3%	1.5%	62.7%	35.8%	14.9%	58.2%	26.9%
Edinburgh	8,925	-0.8%	0.0%	58.9%	41.1%	14.1%	63.3%	22.6%

Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

The table also indicates that seven wards had a claimant count in April that was higher than March. We can see that in Craigtinny and Duddingston the claimant count was 4.2% higher in April than in March whilst in Inverleith it was 4.9% lower. In the longer term six wards have seen the claimant count fall over the course of the last year. One of these is Leith Ward where the claimant count has fallen by 19.7% over the last 12 months.

Overall, in Edinburgh in April 2024, 58.9% of claimants were male and 14.1% are aged 16-24. The City Centre ward records that 69.1% of the claimants are male. This is by far the highest proportion of male claimants in all the City Region wards. Inverleith ward has the highest proportion of female claimants at 50%. In Corstorphine and Murrayfield 30.3% of claimants in April were over 50 years of age, the highest proportion in the city and in Colinton/Farmilehead 19.2% of claimants were 16-24 years of age.

Table 12 below looks at the in-work Universal Credit claimant count for the Edinburgh wards. This indicates that there are 1,562 people in Forth Ward who are working but their earnings are low enough that they can receive Universal Credit. This is slightly higher than it was a year ago but almost the same as it was in February 2024. Overall 12 wards have more in work claimants than last month and all but one (Leith) have more claimants than a year ago.

Table 12 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by Edinburgh Ward March 2024

	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Mar-23 - Mar-24	Feb-24 to Mar-24
Almond	976	1,174	1,236	26.6%	5.3%
City Centre	539	569	560	3.9%	-1.6%
Colinton/Fairmilehead	440	486	521	18.4%	7.2%
Corstorphine/Murrayfield	264	325	315	19.3%	-3.1%
Craigentinny/Duddingston	872	923	953	9.3%	3.3%
Drum Brae/Gyle	536	609	628	17.2%	3.1%
Forth	1,429	1,564	1,562	9.3%	-0.1%
Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	373	424	434	16.4%	2.4%
Inverleith	421	492	516	22.6%	4.9%
Leith	1,191	1,068	1,095	-8.1%	2.5%
Leith Walk	875	970	987	12.8%	1.8%
Liberton/Gilmerton	1,171	1,423	1,467	25.3%	3.1%
Morningside	235	261	256	8.9%	-1.9%
Pentland Hills	1,123	1,260	1,289	14.8%	2.3%
Portobello/Craigmillar	1,296	1,431	1,474	13.7%	3.0%
Sighthill/Gorgie	1,124	1,243	1,241	10.4%	-0.2%
Southside/Newington	375	388	407	8.5%	4.9%
Edinburgh	13,240	14,601	14,946	12.9%	2.4%

Source: StatXplore 15/5/2024

East Lothian

Table 13 below looks at the situation in the East Lothian Wards. Overall, the county has a claimant count of 1,590 which is 0.3% lower than it was last month and 3.9% lower than in April 2023.

Table 13 East Lothian Claimant Count by Ward April 2024

Wards	April 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants April 2024				
		April 23- April 24	Mar24 - April 24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Dunbar and East Linton	190	18.8%	2.7%	55.3%	44.7%	13.2%	57.9%	26.3%
Haddington and Lammermuir	240	-4.0%	-4.0%	56.3%	43.8%	14.6%	64.6%	20.8%
Musselburgh	415	0.0%	-1.2%	56.6%	43.4%	19.3%	60.2%	21.7%
North Berwick Coastal	100	-9.1%	5.3%	55.0%	45.0%	15.0%	60.0%	25.0%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	240	-12.7%	2.1%	54.2%	45.8%	20.8%	58.3%	20.8%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	400	-9.1%	-2.4%	55.0%	45.0%	21.3%	57.5%	21.3%
East Lothian	1,590	-3.9%	-0.3%	55.3%	44.7%	18.6%	59.7%	21.7%

Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

We can see that three wards recorded a month to month increase and three recorded a fall. North Berwick Coastal saw the claimant count increase by 5.3% whilst Haddington and Lammermuir saw it fall by 4.0% between March and April 2024. Over the last 12 months four wards recorded a year on year fall, one recorded no change whilst Dunbar and East Linton recorded an 18.8% increase between April 2023 and April 2024. Across the county 55.3% of claimants are male and this varies from 54.2% in Preston, Seaton and Gosford to 56.6% in Musselburgh. Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry has the highest proportion of 16-24 year old claimants (21.3%). Dunbar and East Linton has the highest proportion (26.3%) of over 50 year olds.

Table 14 looks at those claiming Universal Credit in East Lothian who are in work and presents the results by ward. Overall, there has been an increase between March 2023 and March 2024 of

12.7%. Between February and March 2024, the count increased by 4.9%. All East Lothian wards saw an increase between February and March 2024.

Table 14 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by East Lothian Ward March 2024

	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Mar-23 - Mar-24	Feb-24 to Mar-24
Dunbar and East Linton	427	485	511	19.7%	5.4%
Haddington and Lammermuir	536	565	598	11.6%	5.8%
Musselburgh	720	787	825	14.6%	4.8%
North Berwick Coastal	251	238	250	-0.4%	5.0%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	577	629	649	12.5%	3.2%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	871	935	968	11.1%	3.5%
East Lothian	3,383	3,633	3,811	12.7%	4.9%

Source: StatXplore 15/5/2024

Fife

Turning now to look at Fife. We can see that overall Fife recorded 7,455 claimants in April 2024 and of these 60.4% were male. Five wards had over 500 claimants in April and five had 200 or less. Overall, there are 12.7% fewer claimants in April 2024 compared to April 2023 and 0.9% fewer than in March 2024.

Table 15 Fife Claimant Count by Ward April 2024

Wards	April 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants April 2024				
		April 23- April 24	Mar24 - April 24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	650	-17.2%	-3.0%	64.6%	36.2%	23.1%	56.9%	20.8%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	330	-7.0%	0.0%	63.6%	36.4%	18.2%	54.5%	27.3%
Cowdenbeath	520	-10.3%	-1.0%	61.5%	37.5%	22.1%	56.7%	20.2%
Cupar	200	-7.0%	8.1%	60.0%	40.0%	17.5%	60.0%	25.0%
Dunfermline Central	350	-6.7%	0.0%	61.4%	38.6%	21.4%	60.0%	17.1%
Dunfermline North	310	-16.2%	-3.1%	59.7%	40.3%	27.4%	51.6%	19.4%
Dunfermline South	360	-19.1%	-2.7%	56.9%	41.7%	22.2%	56.9%	19.4%
East Neuk and Landward	170	-10.5%	0.0%	55.9%	41.2%	14.7%	58.8%	26.5%
Glenrothes Central and Thornton	305	-20.8%	-9.0%	59.0%	41.0%	27.9%	59.0%	14.8%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	285	-14.9%	-3.4%	63.2%	36.8%	21.1%	59.6%	19.3%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	325	-12.2%	-3.0%	55.4%	44.6%	20.0%	60.0%	21.5%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	185	0.0%	0.0%	54.1%	43.2%	16.2%	54.1%	27.0%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	195	-26.4%	0.0%	53.8%	46.2%	17.9%	56.4%	25.6%
Kirkcaldy Central	600	-14.9%	0.8%	58.3%	41.7%	20.8%	55.8%	23.3%
Kirkcaldy East	540	-20.0%	0.0%	65.7%	34.3%	19.4%	57.4%	24.1%
Kirkcaldy North	340	-6.8%	-5.6%	58.8%	39.7%	22.1%	57.4%	22.1%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	360	-18.2%	1.4%	65.3%	33.3%	22.2%	54.2%	23.6%
Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	580	-4.9%	3.6%	61.2%	38.8%	22.4%	56.9%	19.8%
Rosyth	270	1.9%	5.9%	53.7%	46.3%	20.4%	63.0%	18.5%
St Andrews	95	-5.0%	-5.0%	57.9%	42.1%	15.8%	52.6%	31.6%
Tay Bridgehead	215	16.2%	0.0%	58.1%	41.9%	18.6%	58.1%	23.3%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	280	-13.8%	3.7%	57.1%	42.9%	23.2%	57.1%	17.9%
Fife	7,455	-12.7%	-0.9%	60.4%	39.6%	21.3%	57.2%	21.6%

Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

We can see that year on year, two wards (Tay Bridgehead and Rosyth) have seen the claimant count increase, and the remainder recorded a fall or no change. Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay recorded a fall of 26.4% year on year the largest percentage fall in the city region.

Between March and April 2024, the claimant count decreased in nine Fife wards, increased for six and remained the same for seven. The greatest percentage increase was recorded in Cupar which saw the claimant count increase by 8.1% between March and April. The ward with the single highest claimant count is Buckhaven, Methill and Wemyss Villages where 650 individuals were looking for work and claiming, down by 3.0% on last month. Glenrothes Central and Thornton recorded a percentage fall of 9.0% between March and April 2024.

Kirkcaldy East had the highest proportion of male claimants (65.7%) whilst Rosyth had 46.3% of claimants recording as female. Glenrothes Central and Thornton recorded a high proportion of claimants aged 16-24 (27.9%). This indicates that this ward has the highest proportion of 16-24 year old claimants in the whole City Region. In St Andrews 31.6% of the 100 claimants are over 50 years of age which is the second largest proportion in the City Region behind Mid Berwickshire in Scottish Borders.

Table 16 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by Fife Ward March 2024

	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Mar-23 - Mar-24	Feb-24 to Mar-24
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	967	948	981	1.4%	3.5%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	383	373	387	1.0%	3.8%
Cowdenbeath	789	852	887	12.4%	4.1%
Cupar	351	362	367	4.6%	1.4%
Dunfermline Central	557	608	627	12.6%	3.1%
Dunfermline North	453	476	508	12.1%	6.7%
Dunfermline South	677	679	678	0.1%	-0.1%
East Neuk and Landward	299	334	341	14.0%	2.1%
Glenrothes Central and Thornton	629	676	680	8.1%	0.6%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	520	586	607	16.7%	3.6%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	687	711	740	7.7%	4.1%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	307	276	276	-10.1%	0.0%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	392	365	379	-3.3%	3.8%
Kirkcaldy Central	653	686	703	7.7%	2.5%
Kirkcaldy East	711	731	763	7.3%	4.4%
Kirkcaldy North	531	567	609	14.7%	7.4%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	632	627	649	2.7%	3.5%
Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	912	933	996	9.2%	6.8%
Rosyth	589	602	642	9.0%	6.6%
St. Andrews	162	152	158	-2.5%	3.9%
Tay Bridgehead	320	360	375	17.2%	4.2%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	543	549	567	4.4%	3.3%
Fife	12,063	12,460	12,917	7.1%	3.7%

Source: StatXplore 15/5/2024

Table 16, above, looks at the in-work Universal Credit claimant numbers for the wards in Fife. Overall, there were 12,917 Fife residents working and claiming Universal Credit support in March 2024 which is 3.7% higher than February 2024 and 7.1% higher than a year ago. Again, there are people needing this support across the Kingdom with every ward other than St Andrews and East Neuk and Landward recording over 300 claimants.

Midlothian

The Midlothian position is presented in Table 17 below. Looking at the change between April 2023 and April 2024 we can see that one ward (Penicuik) recorded a year-on-year increase of 13.9% and the remaining five wards saw the claimant count fall. The change over the last month has seen every ward in Midlothian record a fall ranging from a 2.4% fall in Penicuik to a 6.1% fall in Midlothian East.

Table 17 Midlothian Claimant Count by Ward April 2024

Wards	April 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants April 2024				
		April 23- April 24	Mar24 - April 24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Bonnyrigg	185	-11.9%	-5.1%	64.9%	35.1%	21.6%	64.9%	13.5%
Dalkeith	235	-16.1%	-6.0%	63.8%	38.3%	21.3%	61.7%	17.0%
Midlothian East	230	-2.1%	-6.1%	60.9%	39.1%	19.6%	63.0%	17.4%
Midlothian South	210	-4.5%	-4.5%	57.1%	42.9%	23.8%	59.5%	16.7%
Midlothian West	210	-6.7%	-4.5%	57.1%	42.9%	19.0%	59.5%	21.4%
Penicuik	205	13.9%	-2.4%	61.0%	39.0%	14.6%	65.9%	17.1%
Midlothian	1,275	-5.9%	-4.9%	60.4%	39.6%	20.0%	62.0%	18.0%

Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

We can see that overall, in Midlothian 60.4% of claimants are male, 20.0% are aged 16-24 and 18.0% are 50 or over. Looking at the wards themselves we can see that Bonnyrigg had the highest proportion of male claimants. In terms of the age profile 23.8% of claimants in Midlothian South were 16-24 years of age in April 2024 and 21.4% of claimants in Midlothian West were over the age of 50.

Table 18 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by Midlothian Ward March 2024

	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Mar-23 - Mar-24	Feb-24 to Mar-24
Bonnyrigg	496	519	539	8.7%	3.9%
Dalkeith	561	604	636	13.4%	5.3%
Midlothian East	549	605	629	14.6%	4.0%
Midlothian South	615	688	716	16.4%	4.1%
Midlothian West	434	496	514	18.4%	3.6%
Penicuik	435	481	506	16.3%	5.2%
Midlothian	3,092	3,390	3,545	14.7%	4.6%

Source: StatXplore 15/5/2024

Table 18 looks at the number of in work Universal Credit claimants in the 6 Midlothian wards. We can see that overall, there are 3,545 claimants in Midlothian in March 2024. This is 14.7% higher than in March 2023 and 4.6% higher than a year ago. All six wards saw a year on year increase ranging from a 18.4% increase in Midlothian West to an 8.7% increase in Bonnyrigg. Over the last month there has been an increase in the number of in work claimants in every Midlothian ward with Dalkeith recording the largest percentage increase.

West Lothian

The situation in West Lothian is looked at in Table 19 below. Overall, there were 3,150 claimants in West Lothian in April 2024, and this is 6.3% less than a year ago and 4.7% less than last month. We can see that 59% of claimants in West Lothian are male and 21.6% are aged between 16-24.

Looking at the wards in more detail we can see that seven wards recorded a lower claimant number in April than in March and the other two recorded no change month to month. This ranges from a

fall of 9.8% between March and April in Armadale and Blackridge through to a 1.2% fall in Livingston South. With a count of 520 claimants in April Whitburn & Blackburn had the most claimants of any West Lothian Ward. We can also see that in Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward, 63.5% of claimants were male, in East Livingston & E. Calder 23.72% of claimants were 16-24 and in Linlithgow 30.8% of claimants were 50 or over.

Table 19 West Lothian Claimant Count by Ward April 2024

Wards	April 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants April 2024				
		April 23- April 24	Mar24 - April 24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Armadale & Blackridge	275	-6.8%	-9.8%	58.2%	41.8%	20.0%	58.2%	21.8%
Bathgate	415	-14.4%	-7.8%	60.2%	41.0%	22.9%	59.0%	18.1%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	315	-11.3%	-7.4%	57.1%	41.3%	22.2%	52.4%	25.4%
East Livingston & E. Calder	380	0.0%	0.0%	59.2%	40.8%	23.7%	57.9%	17.1%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	370	-12.9%	0.0%	63.5%	36.5%	21.6%	64.9%	13.5%
Linlithgow	130	4.0%	-3.7%	57.7%	42.3%	19.2%	50.0%	30.8%
Livingston North	320	10.3%	-4.5%	57.8%	43.8%	18.8%	64.1%	17.2%
Livingston South	425	7.6%	-1.2%	57.6%	43.5%	22.4%	62.4%	16.5%
Whitburn & Blackburn	520	-15.4%	-7.1%	59.6%	40.4%	21.2%	59.6%	20.2%
West Lothian	3,150	-6.3%	-4.7%	59.0%	41.1%	21.6%	59.4%	19.0%

Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

Table 20 indicates that across West Lothian in March 2024 there were 6,098 individuals working and claiming Universal Credit which is 24.5% higher than a year ago and 4.9% higher than in January 2023. We can also see that no ward has over 1,000 working Universal Credit claimants and apart from Linlithgow every ward has over 500 people working and relying on Universal Credit.

Table 20 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by West Lothian Ward March 2024

	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Mar-23 - Mar-24	Feb-24 to Mar-24
Armadale and Blackridge	484	582	604	24.8%	3.8%
Bathgate	737	847	890	20.8%	5.1%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	587	712	750	27.8%	5.3%
East Livingston and East Calder	739	871	940	27.2%	7.9%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	622	677	727	16.9%	7.4%
Linlithgow	208	262	261	25.5%	-0.4%
Livingston North	584	733	778	33.2%	6.1%
Livingston South	799	953	1,007	26.0%	5.7%
Whitburn and Blackburn	941	1,122	1,144	21.6%	2.0%
West Lothian	5,700	6,764	7,098	24.5%	4.9%

Source: StatXplore 15/5/2024

Scottish Borders

Table 21 below looks at the position in the Scottish Borders wards. From this table we can see that there were 2,050 people claiming in April in Scottish Borders, down by 1.7% since March and also 1.7% lower than the previous year.

Overall, five wards have seen the claimant count fall year on year and five have seen it fall between March and April 2024. We can also see that four wards recorded a month to month increase ranging from 4% in Tweeddale East to 2.0% in Hawick and Denholm. We can also see that 57.8% of claimants were male and 16.8% were 16-24 years of age. In Hawick and Hermitage 24.4% of

claimants were 16-24 years of age compared to 7.4% in Tweeddale West. In Mid Berwickshire 38.7% of claimants were fifty or over the highest proportion in the city region.

Table 21 Scottish Borders Claimant Count by Ward April 2024

Wards	April 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants March 2024				
		April 23- April 24	Mar24 - April 24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
East Berwickshire	170	-8.1%	-8.1%	50.0%	52.9%	14.7%	55.9%	29.4%
Galashiels and District	375	-5.1%	-1.3%	60.0%	40.0%	18.7%	54.7%	26.7%
Hawick and Denholm	260	-3.7%	2.0%	61.5%	38.5%	19.2%	57.7%	23.1%
Hawick and Hermitage	205	0.0%	0.0%	65.9%	36.6%	24.4%	46.3%	29.3%
Jedburgh and District	170	6.3%	-2.9%	52.9%	47.1%	17.6%	50.0%	29.4%
Kelso and District	155	3.3%	3.3%	61.3%	41.9%	9.7%	58.1%	32.3%
Leaderdale & Melrose	135	22.7%	0.0%	51.9%	44.4%	14.8%	59.3%	25.9%
Mid Berwickshire	155	-8.8%	-8.8%	51.6%	48.4%	16.1%	45.2%	38.7%
Selkirkshire	160	6.7%	3.2%	62.5%	37.5%	18.8%	59.4%	21.9%
Tweeddale East	130	4.0%	4.0%	53.8%	46.2%	11.5%	50.0%	34.6%
Tweeddale West	135	-10.0%	-6.9%	63.0%	37.0%	7.4%	63.0%	29.6%
Scottish Borders	2,050	-1.7%	-1.7%	57.8%	42.2%	16.8%	54.4%	28.8%

Source: NOMIS 15/5/2024

Table 22 looks at the number of people in work and claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders. In March 2024 there were 4,001 people working who needed the support of Universal Credit. This is 18.9% higher than a year ago and 4.4% higher than it was in February 2024. Only one ward, Galashiels and District, has over 500 people working and claiming Universal Credit.

Table 22 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by Scottish Borders Ward March 2024

	Mar-23	Feb-24	Mar-24	Mar-23 - Mar-24	Feb-24 to Mar-24
East Berwickshire	360	394	436	21.1%	10.7%
Galashiels and District	547	602	603	10.2%	0.2%
Hawick and Denholm	384	428	437	13.8%	2.1%
Hawick and Hermitage	269	290	302	12.3%	4.1%
Jedburgh and District	230	263	277	20.4%	5.3%
Kelso and District	284	337	353	24.3%	4.7%
Leaderdale and Melrose	288	343	363	26.0%	5.8%
Mid Berwickshire	339	373	377	11.2%	1.1%
Selkirkshire	245	303	318	29.8%	5.0%
Tweeddale East	222	239	260	17.1%	8.8%
Tweeddale West	200	255	272	36.0%	6.7%
Scottish Borders	3,366	3,834	4,001	18.9%	4.4%

Source: StatXplore 15/5/2024

Economic Activity

The following section is based on economic activity rather than claimant count and the data underpinning it is derived from surveys. 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 Local Authority. It is based on twelve months survey data so reflects the position as of December 2023 which was the same as was reported on last month. It gives the economic activity rate in all six authorities and, of those that are economically inactive in each authority, the proportion and number who want a job. 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 but can include groups who are not looking for work as they are studying, have health issues or looking after family.

This suggest that 85.8% of the working age population in Edinburgh are economically active whilst it is 77.9% in West Lothian. We can see that across the region 82.9% of the 158,800 economically inactive do not want a job and this ranges from 77% in Fife through to 88% in East Lothian.

Table 23 Economic activity aged 16-64 (January 2023- December 2023)

	Economic activity rate - aged 16-64		% who are economically inactive - aged 16-64		% of economically inactive who do not want a job	
	numerator	percent	numerator	percent	numerator	percent
City of Edinburgh	305,800	85.8	50,700	14.2	43,900	86.6
East Lothian	54,200	82.4	11,600	17.6	10,300	88.6
Fife	175,700	78.2	48,900	21.8	37,800	77.2
Midlothian	49,400	86.6	7,600	13.4	6,400	84.4
Scottish Borders	51,900	78.7	14,000	21.3	11,900	84.9
West Lothian	91,200	77.9	25,900	22.1	21,300	82.1
Column Total	728,300	82.1	158,800	17.9	131,600	82.9

Source: NOMIS 24/4/2024

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 85.1%, they are 95% confident that the real figure, based on the whole population, would be between 81.8% and 88.4% - the confidence levels recorded.

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