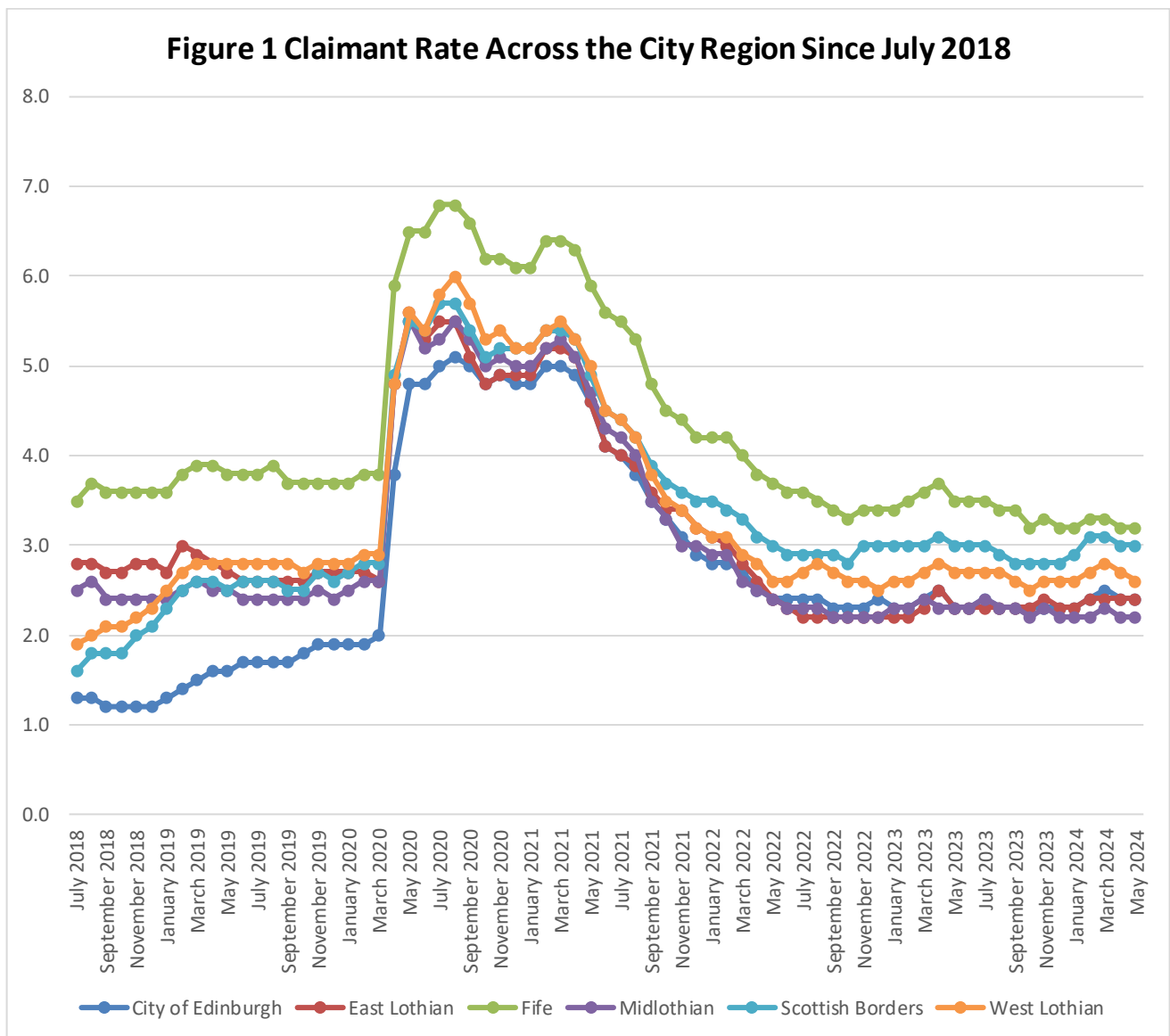


Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count June 2024 Summary Update

<p>Claimant Count Change Between May 2023 and May 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ UK increased by 6.5% ↓ Scotland decreased by 2.6% ↑ Edinburgh increased by 3.8% ↓ City Region decreased by 1.2% 	<p>Claimant Count Change Between April 2024 and May 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ UK increased by 2.2% ↑ Scotland increased by 0.8% ↑ Edinburgh increased by 1.2% ↑ City Region increased by 1.1%
---	---



Source: NOMIS 11/06/2024

City Region Summary

1. In May 2024 the claimant count for the City Region was 24,440 (in April it was 24,175). Of these
 - a. 4,400 were 16-24 year olds up from 4,335 in April.
 - b. 14,650 were 25-49 year olds up from 14,495 in April.
 - c. 5,380 were 50 or older up from 5,330 in April.
2. In April 2024 there were 47,191 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in the Region. In March 2024 there were 46,313.

Edinburgh Summary

1. In May 2024 the claimant count for Edinburgh was 8,895 (in April it was 8,790). Of these
 - a. 1,250 were 16-24 year olds. It was 1,245 in April.
 - b. 5,650 were 25-49 year olds. It was 5,570 in April.
 - c. 1,995 were 50 or older. It was 1,980 in April.
2. In April 2024 there were 15,092 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Edinburgh. In March 2024 there were 14,946.

East Lothian Summary

1. In May 2024 the claimant count for East Lothian was 1,595 (in April it was 1,575). Of these
 - a. 290 were 16-24 year olds. In April there were 290.
 - b. 940 were 25-49 year olds. In April there were 935.
 - c. 365 were 50 or older. In April there were 350.
2. In April 2024 there were 3,846 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in East Lothian. In March 2024 there were 3,811.

Fife Summary

1. In May 2024 the claimant count for Fife was 7,500 (in April it was 7,335). Of these
 - a. 1,585 were 16-24 year olds. In April there were 1,555.
 - b. 4,325 were 25-49 years of age. In April there were 4,200.
 - c. 1,585 were 50 or older. In April there were 1,580.
2. In April 2024 there were 13,489 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Fife. In March 2024 there were 12,917.

Midlothian Summary

1. In May 2024 the claimant count for Midlothian was 1,285 (it was 1,300 in April). Of these
 - a. 255 were 16-24 year olds. In April it was 255.
 - b. 790 were 25-49 year olds. In April it was 815.
 - c. 240 were 50 or older. In April it was 235.
2. In April 2024 there were 3,591 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Midlothian. In March there were 3,545.

Scottish Borders Summary

1. In May 2024 the claimant count for Scottish Borders was 2,055 (in April it was 2,045). Of these
 - a. 350 were 16-24 year olds. In April it was 340.
 - b. 1,105 were 25-49 year olds. In April there were 1,115.
 - c. 595 were 50 or older. In April there were 590.
2. In April 2024 there were 4,025 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders. In March there were 4,001.

West Lothian Summary

1. In May 2024 the claimant count for West Lothian was 3,110 (in April it was 3,130). Of these
 - a. 670 were 16-24 year olds. In April there were 670.
 - b. 1,840 were 25-49 year olds. In April there were 1,860.
 - c. 600 were 50 or older. In April there were 595.
2. In April 2024 there were 7,147 in West Lothian individuals claiming Universal Credit who were in work. In March there were 7,098.

Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count June 2024 Full Update

Claimant Count by Nation and Region

Table 1 indicates that in the UK the claimant count in May 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. In Scotland it is 0.8% higher than in May 2019 and in the UK, it is 46.4% higher. We can also see that in all but two regions and countries of the UK the claimant count in May 2024 is higher than it was in May 2023. In Scotland the claimant count has fallen by 2.6% between May 2023 and May 2024

Table 1: National Claimant Count Picture

	May 2019	May 2023	April 2024	May 2024	Percentage Change		
					May19 - May24	May23- May24	Apr24 - May24
UK	1,112,855	1,529,090	1,594,025	1,629,190	46.4%	6.5%	2.2%
East	75,440	113,785	121,140	122,865	62.9%	8.0%	1.4%
East Midlands	68,685	100,245	105,925	107,800	56.9%	7.5%	1.8%
London	161,170	285,085	303,840	317,435	97.0%	11.3%	4.5%
North East	71,215	66,720	65,455	66,395	-6.8%	-0.5%	1.4%
North West	152,665	193,475	199,495	203,555	33.3%	5.2%	2.0%
N. Ireland	29,110	35,435	36,475	36,940	26.9%	4.2%	1.3%
Scotland	107,025	110,795	107,045	107,875	0.8%	-2.6%	0.8%
South East	99,125	159,795	170,210	172,875	74.4%	8.2%	1.6%
South West	67,100	84,555	93,240	93,440	39.3%	10.5%	0.2%
Wales	53,940	61,885	63,110	63,705	18.1%	2.9%	0.9%
West Midlands	124,250	179,550	182,130	187,475	50.9%	4.4%	2.9%
Yorks & Humb	103,125	137,760	145,950	148,835	44.3%	8.0%	2.0%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

Looking at the latest change month to month it can be seen in the table that across the UK the claimant count is 2.2% higher in May than it was in April 2024. In Scotland it is 0.8% higher (830) between April 2024 and May.

Claimant Count by Scottish Local Authority

Table 2 focuses on Scottish Local Authorities. We can see that nearly every Scottish Local Authority now has a claimant count lower than it was a year ago. There are five where it is higher than a year ago and three of these are in the City Region. In the City Region as a whole the claimant count in May 2024 is 1.2% lower than in May 2023.

Looking at how April 2024 compares to May 2024. We can see that across Scotland sixteen Local Authorities saw the claimant count fall over the last month and sixteen saw it increase. Four of the Local Authorities in the City Region recorded a month to month increase with West Lothian and Midlothian recording a month to month fall.

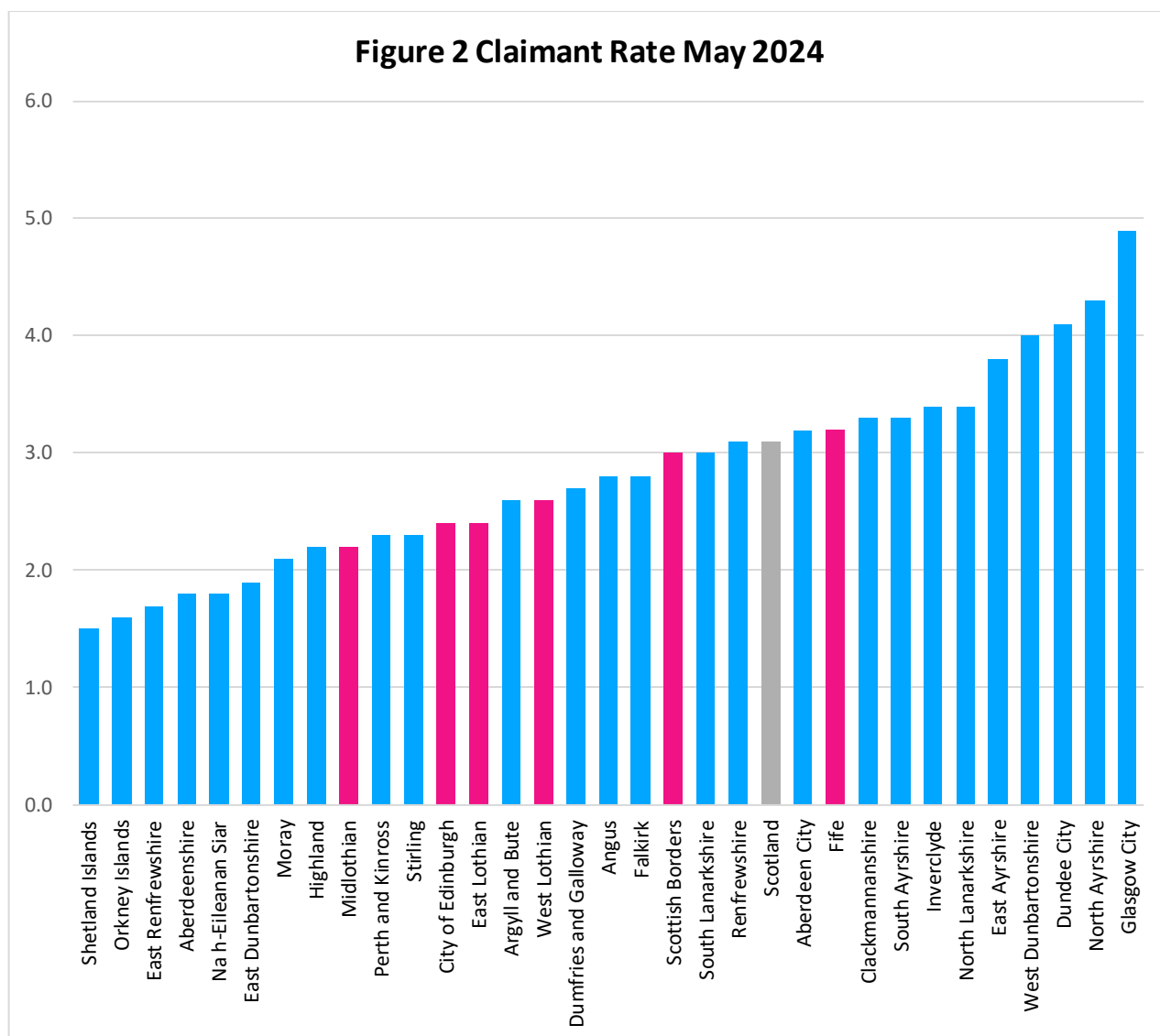
Table 2: Claimant Count - Scottish Local Authorities

	May 2019	May 2023	April 2024	May 2024	Percentage Change		
					May19 - May24	May23- May24	Apr24 - May24
Aberdeen City	3,440	4,870	4,825	5,010	45.6%	2.9%	3.8%
Aberdeenshire	2,625	3,035	2,840	2,905	10.7%	-4.3%	2.3%
Angus	2,140	2,020	1,895	1,925	-10.0%	-4.7%	1.6%
Argyll and Bute	1,350	1,350	1,450	1,330	-1.5%	-1.5%	-8.3%
Edinburgh	5,890	8,570	8,790	8,895	51.0%	3.8%	1.2%
Clackmannanshire	1,355	1,175	1,025	1,045	-22.9%	-11.1%	2.0%
Dumfries & Galloway	2,605	2,515	2,425	2,365	-9.2%	-6.0%	-2.5%
Dundee City	4,525	4,270	3,920	3,975	-12.2%	-6.9%	1.4%
East Ayrshire	3,675	3,110	2,905	2,845	-22.6%	-8.5%	-2.1%
E.Dunbartonshire	1,255	1,255	1,235	1,210	-3.6%	-3.6%	-2.0%
East Lothian	1,755	1,565	1,575	1,595	-9.1%	1.9%	1.3%
East Renfrewshire	860	1,035	1,000	995	15.7%	-3.9%	-0.5%
Falkirk	3,225	2,990	2,885	2,840	-11.9%	-5.0%	-1.6%
Fife	8,705	8,065	7,335	7,500	-13.8%	-7.0%	2.2%
Glasgow City	17,090	21,540	21,205	21,835	27.8%	1.4%	3.0%
Highland	3,535	3,400	3,130	3,205	-9.3%	-5.7%	2.4%
Inverclyde	2,465	1,830	1,595	1,640	-33.5%	-10.4%	2.8%
Midlothian	1,400	1,320	1,300	1,285	-8.2%	-2.7%	-1.2%
Moray	1,490	1,310	1,210	1,235	-17.1%	-5.7%	2.1%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	315	285	295	275	-12.7%	-3.5%	-6.8%
North Ayrshire	4,525	3,610	3,495	3,450	-23.8%	-4.4%	-1.3%
North Lanarkshire	8,410	7,555	7,450	7,375	-12.3%	-2.4%	-1.0%
Orkney Islands	170	220	195	215	26.5%	-2.3%	10.3%
Perth and Kinross	1,725	2,225	2,055	2,100	21.7%	-5.6%	2.2%
Renfrewshire	3,785	3,780	3,660	3,565	-5.8%	-5.7%	-2.6%
Scottish Borders	1,725	2,040	2,045	2,055	19.1%	0.7%	0.5%
Shetland Islands	200	235	220	210	5.0%	-10.6%	-4.5%
South Ayrshire	2,560	2,260	2,280	2,175	-15.0%	-3.8%	-4.6%
South Lanarkshire	6,990	6,335	5,990	6,075	-13.1%	-4.1%	1.4%
Stirling	1,485	1,410	1,440	1,390	-6.4%	-1.4%	-3.5%
W.Dunbartonshire	2,530	2,460	2,255	2,240	-11.5%	-8.9%	-0.7%
West Lothian	3,225	3,165	3,130	3,110	-3.6%	-1.7%	-0.6%
Scotland	107,025	110,795	107,045	107,875	0.8%	-2.6%	0.8%
City Region	22,700	24,725	24,175	24,440	7.7%	-1.2%	1.1%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

Figure 2, below, looks at the claimant rate for all the Scottish Local Authorities as recorded in May 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 May 2024



Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

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 May 2024 is lower than it was in May 2023. However, this positive change is not universal and three Local Authorities have seen it increase over the year and three have seen it fall.

Table 3: Claimant Count – City Region LAs

	May 2019	May 2023	April 2024	May 2024	Percentage Change	
					May23-May24	Apr24 - May24
Edinburgh	5,890	8,570	8,790	8,895	3.8%	1.2%
East Lothian	1,755	1,565	1,575	1,595	1.9%	1.3%
Fife	8,705	8,065	7,335	7,500	-7.0%	2.2%
Midlothian	1,400	1,320	1,300	1,285	-2.7%	-1.2%
Scottish Borders	1,725	2,040	2,045	2,055	0.7%	0.5%
West Lothian	3,225	3,165	3,130	3,110	-1.7%	-0.6%
City Region	22,700	24,725	24,175	24,440	-1.2%	1.1%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

One thing that we can also see in Table 3 is the claimant count currently in Edinburgh and Borders is still above what it was pre-pandemic. Generally, across the UK areas with relatively low claimant

counts saw the claimant count increase the most rapidly and again these areas have been the ones to retain some of that ‘pandemic bulge’ longer. There are a number of factors that could be behind this but one could be that these areas tended to have low claimant numbers before the pandemic due to strong hospitality sectors and these were not only impacted by the pandemic, but they have also been impacted by the cost of living crisis that followed closely on the heels of the pandemic.

The month-to-month change from April 2024 to May 2024 indicates that in two Local Authorities the claimant count is lower than it was month ago. Fife recorded a month to month increase of 2.2% between April and May, East Lothian a 1.3% rise, Edinburgh a 1.2% month to month increase and Scottish Borders a 0.5% increase.

The data presented in Table 4 indicates that across the region in April 2024 there were 47,191 people who were in work but required financial support from Universal Credit (UC) as their income was not sufficient. This was 1.9% (878) higher than a month ago and 11.6% (4,914) higher than a year ago. This trend was reflected in all the 6 Local Authorities.

Table 4 Universal Credit Claimants in Employment

	Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr 24	Percentage Change	
				Apr23 to Apr24	Mar24-Apr24
East Lothian	3,447	3,811	3,846	11.6%	0.9%
City of Edinburgh	13,618	14,946	15,092	10.8%	1.0%
Midlothian	3,189	3,545	3,591	12.6%	1.3%
Fife	12,502	12,917	13,489	7.9%	4.4%
West Lothian	6,069	7,098	7,147	17.8%	0.7%
Scottish Borders	3,462	4,001	4,025	16.3%	0.6%
City Region	42,277	46,313	47,191	11.6%	1.9%

Source: StatXplore 11/6/2024

Gender Profile

From Table 5 we can see that three Local Authorities in the city region have seen the number of male claimants fall over the last 12 months and three have seen the number increase. Across the region the number of male claimants in May 2024 was nearly 350 lower than in May 2023.

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

	May 2023	April 2024	May 2024	Percentage Change	
				May23-May24	Apr24 - May24
Edinburgh	5,105	5,180	5,240	2.6%	1.2%
East Lothian	925	870	885	-4.3%	1.7%
Fife	4,925	4,430	4,485	-8.9%	1.2%
Midlothian	765	775	775	1.3%	0.0%
Scottish Borders	1,180	1,180	1,195	1.3%	1.3%
West Lothian	1,850	1,835	1,830	-1.1%	-0.3%
City Region	14,750	14,270	14,410	-2.3%	1.0%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

Comparing the April 2024 statistics to those of May 2024 the picture is less positive as every Local Authority with the exception of West Lothian (recorded a fall in the male claimants) and Midlothian (recorded no change month to month) saw the male claimant count increase between April and May 2024.

Table 6 looks at the situation for female claimants. This indicates that over the last year there has been an increase in the number of female claimants (just over 100 additional female claimants).

This is an increase of 0.6% year on year compared to a fall of 2.3% year on year for the number of male claimants.

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

	May 2023	April 2024	May 2024	Percentage Change	
				May23-May24	Apr24 - May24
Edinburgh	3,465	3,610	3,655	5.5%	1.2%
East Lothian	635	705	710	11.8%	0.7%
Fife	3,140	2,905	3,015	-4.0%	3.8%
Midlothian	555	530	510	-8.1%	-3.8%
Scottish Borders	860	865	860	0.0%	-0.6%
West Lothian	1,315	1,295	1,275	-3.0%	-1.5%
City Region	9,970	9,910	10,025	0.6%	1.2%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

In three Local Authorities, we can see a year on year fall in the number of female claimants - ranging from a 8.1% fall in Midlothian to a 3.0% fall in West Lothian. Two Local Authorities have seen the number of female claimants increase year on year: In Edinburgh the number increased by 5.5% and East Lothian saw the number increase by 11.8% between May 2023 and May 2024. Between April and May 2024, the number of female claimants fell in three Local Authorities and increased in the other three.

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 April 2023, 27,043 female claimants were in work and claiming Universal Credit. In April 2024 the number had increased to 30,825. This is nearly 4,000 more than 12 months ago and 500 more than March 2024. Compare this to the male in work Universal Credit claimant count, which was 15,235 in April 2023 and currently (April 2024) is sitting at 16,365. 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. In April 2023 males comprised 36% of Universal Credit claimants whilst in April 2024 this was 35%.

Table 7: In Work Universal Credit Claimants

		Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr-24
City of Edinburgh	Male	5,418	5,621	5,685
	Female	8,202	9,319	9,400
East Lothian	Male	1,083	1,219	1,243
	Female	2,360	2,590	2,604
Fife	Male	4,366	4,308	4,501
	Female	8,139	8,608	8,982
Midlothian	Male	1,054	1,110	1,131
	Female	2,135	2,431	2,461
Scottish Borders	Male	1,274	1,429	1,432
	Female	2,182	2,569	2,593
West Lothian	Male	2,041	2,329	2,369
	Female	4,025	4,774	4,779
Total	Male	15,235	16,018	16,365
	Female	27,043	30,293	30,825

Source: StatXplore 11/6/2024

Age Profile

16-24 Year Olds

In April 2024 there were 4,355 claimants aged between 16-24 years of age in the City Region. In May this had increased slightly to 4,400- an increase of 1.0%. In three of the six Local Authorities there had been no real change in the number of 16-24 year old claimants between April and May. The others saw an increase ranging from 0.4% in Edinburgh to an increase of 2.9% in Scottish Borders.

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
May 2023	1,235	295	1,640	270	350	670	4,460
April 2024	1,245	290	1,555	255	340	670	4,355
May 2024	1,250	290	1,585	255	350	670	4,400
% Change							
May23-May24	1.2%	-1.7%	-3.4%	-5.6%	0.0%	0.0%	-1.3%
Apr24 - May24	0.4%	0.0%	1.9%	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	1.0%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

The year on year figure shows a 1.3% fall across the region from 4,460 in May 2023 to 4,400 in May 2024. When each of the six Local Authorities are looked at, the year on year change ranges from a fall of 5.6% in Midlothian through no change in West Lothian and Scottish Borders to a 1.2% increase year on year in Edinburgh. One thing to bear in mind is that a relatively small numerical change can result in what look to be significant percentage changes for example that 1.2% increase in Edinburgh is based on the number of claimants increasing from 1,235 to 1,250.

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 14,650 25–49-year-olds claiming in May 2024, and this is up 1.1% from 14,495 in April 2024.

We can see from the table that three Local Authorities recorded a month to month fall for this age group. This ranged from a 3.1% fall in Midlothian to a 0.9% fall in Scottish Borders. Comparing the situation in May 2024 with that of May 2023 the table indicates that three Local Authorities recorded a fall over the 12 months, two recorded an increase and one recorded no change.

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
May 2023	5,425	930	4,645	790	1,140	1,855	14,785
April 2024	5,570	935	4,200	815	1,115	1,860	14,495
May 2024	5,650	940	4,325	790	1,105	1,840	14,650
% Change							
May23-May24	4.1%	1.1%	-6.9%	0.0%	-3.1%	-0.8%	-0.9%
Apr24 - May24	1.4%	0.5%	3.0%	-3.1%	-0.9%	-1.1%	1.1%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

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 April 2024 there were 5,330 claimants who were fifty or over. This has increased by 0.9% so that in May 2024 there were 5,380 claimants who fell into this age category. When we look at what has happened over the last year, we can see that the City Region has 90 fewer claimants aged 50 or over in May 2024 than there were in May 2023- a fall of 1.6%.

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
May 2023	1,910	340	1,775	255	550	640	5,470
April 2024	1,980	350	1,580	235	590	595	5,330
May 2024	1,995	365	1,585	240	595	600	5,380
% Change							
May23-May24	4.5%	7.4%	-10.7%	-5.9%	8.2%	-6.3%	-1.6%
Apr24 - May24	0.8%	4.3%	0.3%	2.1%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

In all six Local Authorities there has been an increase in the number of claimants over the age of 50 over the last month. East Lothian has recorded a 4.3% increase from 350 claimants in April to 365 in May. Looking at how things have changed over a 12 month period we can see that for three Local Authorities there are more claimants over the age of 50 in May 2024 than there were in May 2023 whilst in three Local Authorities there are fewer.

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 April and May 2024. Overall, there are 8,895 claimants in Edinburgh in May 2024, and this is 3.8% higher than May 2023 and 1.2% higher than in April 2024. From the table we can see that in May 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 May 2024

Wards	May 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants May 2024				
		May23-May24	Apr24 - May24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Almond	560	3.7%	2.8%	56.3%	43.8%	14.3%	65.2%	20.5%
City Centre	685	14.2%	1.5%	67.9%	32.1%	14.6%	63.5%	21.9%
Colinton/ Fairmilehead	265	17.8%	1.9%	50.9%	47.2%	20.8%	54.7%	24.5%
Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	155	-6.1%	-3.1%	58.1%	41.9%	9.7%	61.3%	29.0%
Craightinny/ Duddingston	615	11.8%	1.7%	60.2%	39.8%	11.4%	66.7%	22.8%
Drum Brae/ Gyle	310	14.8%	0.0%	56.5%	43.5%	12.9%	62.9%	24.2%
Forth	850	0.6%	3.0%	55.9%	44.1%	11.8%	65.3%	22.9%
Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	290	11.5%	1.8%	60.3%	39.7%	13.8%	63.8%	20.7%
Inverleith	295	-9.2%	0.0%	50.8%	49.2%	6.8%	69.5%	23.7%
Leith	720	-10.6%	4.3%	61.1%	38.9%	11.1%	67.4%	21.5%
Leith Walk	675	3.1%	-4.3%	60.0%	40.0%	11.1%	64.4%	24.4%
Liberton/ Gilmerton	745	9.6%	7.2%	57.0%	43.0%	16.8%	61.7%	20.8%
Morningside	205	0.0%	-4.7%	61.0%	39.0%	12.2%	58.5%	29.3%
Pentland Hills	765	7.0%	-2.5%	56.9%	43.1%	19.0%	60.8%	19.6%
Portobello/Craigmillar	760	9.4%	4.1%	54.6%	45.4%	16.4%	61.8%	21.7%
Sighthill/ Gorgie	675	-6.3%	-1.5%	63.0%	36.3%	17.0%	62.2%	20.7%
Southside/Newington	325	1.6%	0.0%	63.1%	36.9%	13.8%	60.0%	26.2%
Edinburgh	8,895	3.8%	1.2%	58.9%	41.1%	14.1%	63.5%	22.4%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

The table also indicates that nine wards had a claimant count in May that was higher than April. We can see that in Liberton and Gilmerton it is 7.2% higher in May than it was in April. Morningside saw the claimant count fall by 4.7% over the same period. In the longer term four 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 10.6% 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 67.9% of the claimants are male. Inverleith ward has the highest proportion of female claimants at 49.2%. In Morningside 29.3% of claimants in April were over 50 years of age, the highest proportion in the city and in Colinton/Farmilehead 20.8% 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 1,563 people in Forth Ward who are working but their earnings are low enough that they can receive Universal Credit. This is higher than it was a year ago but almost the same as it was in March 2024. Overall, 11 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 April 2024

	Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr-24	Apr23 - Apr24	Mar24 to Apr24
Almond	1,011	1,236	1,267	25.3%	2.5%
City Centre	557	560	572	2.7%	2.1%
Colinton/Fairmilehead	469	521	519	10.7%	-0.4%
Corstorphine/Murrayfield	266	315	312	17.3%	-1.0%
Craightinny/Duddingston	887	953	950	7.1%	-0.3%
Drum Brae/Gyle	538	628	641	19.1%	2.1%
Forth	1,425	1,562	1,563	9.7%	0.1%
Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	392	434	443	13.0%	2.1%
Inverleith	424	516	518	22.2%	0.4%
Leith	1,205	1,095	1,098	-8.9%	0.3%
Leith Walk	904	987	985	9.0%	-0.2%
Liberton/Gilmerton	1,236	1,467	1,499	21.3%	2.2%
Morningside	240	256	256	6.7%	0.0%
Pentland Hills	1,192	1,289	1,301	9.1%	0.9%
Portobello/Craigmillar	1,316	1,474	1,489	13.1%	1.0%
Sighthill/Gorgie	1,159	1,241	1,276	10.1%	2.8%
Southside/Newington	397	407	407	2.5%	0.0%
Total	13,618	14,946	15,092	10.8%	1.0%

Source: StatXplore 11/6/2024

East Lothian

Table 13 below looks at the situation in the East Lothian Wards. Overall, the county has a claimant count of 1,595 which is 1.3% higher than it was last month and 1.9% higher than in May 2024. We can see that four wards recorded a month to month increase and two recorded a fall. Haddington and Lammermuir saw it increase by 8.2% between April and May 2024 whilst over the same period Dunbar and East Linton saw the claimant count fall by 5.4%. Over the last 12 months three wards recorded a year on year fall and three recorded a year on year increase. Whilst Dunbar and East Linton recorded a month to month fall between April and May the claimant count remains 12.9% higher than it was in May 2023.

Table 13 East Lothian Claimant Count by Ward May 2024

Wards	May 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants April 2024				
		May23- May24	Apr24 - May24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Dunbar and East Linton	175	12.9%	-5.4%	57.1%	42.9%	14.3%	60.0%	25.7%
Haddington and Lammermuir	265	12.8%	8.2%	54.7%	43.4%	17.0%	60.4%	22.6%
Musselburgh	420	9.1%	2.4%	57.1%	42.9%	17.9%	60.7%	21.4%
North Berwick Coastal	105	-8.7%	5.0%	52.4%	47.6%	14.3%	57.1%	23.8%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	230	-11.5%	-2.1%	52.2%	45.7%	23.9%	54.3%	21.7%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	405	-3.6%	1.3%	54.3%	45.7%	18.5%	58.0%	23.5%
East Lothian	1,595	1.9%	1.3%	55.5%	44.5%	18.2%	58.9%	22.9%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

Across the county 55.5% of claimants are male and this varies from 52.2% in Preston, Seaton and Gosford to 57.1% in Dunbar and East Linton. Preston, Seton and Gosford ward has the highest proportion of 16-24 year old claimants (23.9%). Dunbar and East Linton has the highest proportion (25.7%) 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 April 2023 and April 2024 of 11.6%. This ranges from a 17.5% increase in working Universal Credit claimants in Musselburgh to a fall of 5.1% in North Berwick Coastal. Between March 2024 and April 2024, the count increased by 0.9%. Four East Lothian wards saw an increase between March and April 2024.

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

	Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr-24	Apr23 - Apr24	Mar24-Apr24
Dunbar and East Linton	435	511	510	17.2%	-0.2%
Haddington and Lammermuir	533	598	609	14.3%	1.8%
Musselburgh	727	825	854	17.5%	3.5%
North Berwick Coastal	256	250	243	-5.1%	-2.8%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	602	649	658	9.3%	1.4%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	891	968	974	9.3%	0.6%
Total	3,447	3,811	3,846	11.6%	0.9%

Source: StatXplore 11/6/2024

Fife

Turning now to look at Fife. We can see that overall Fife recorded 7,500 claimants in May 2024 and of these 59.8% were male. Five wards had over 500 claimants in April and four had 200 or less. Overall, there are 7% fewer claimants in Fife than in May 2023 and 2.2% more than in April 2024. We can see that year on year, three wards (Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy; Tay Bridgehead and Rosyth) have seen the claimant count increase. Tay Bridgehead has seen the claimant count increase by 22.9% over the last 12 months- although the overall numbers are still relatively low. This is the largest year on year increase in the City Region. The remainder recorded a fall or no change. Leven Kennoway and Largo has seen the claimant count fall by 18.8% over the last year and this is the largest percentage fall in the City Region.

Between April and May 2024, the claimant count decreased in one Fife ward (East Neuk and Landward) and remained the same in ten wards. The remaining eleven wards all saw the claimant count increase between April and May. Kirkcaldy East saw the claimant count increase by 8.4% between April and May, which was the highest monthly percentage increase in the City Region. The ward with the single highest claimant count is Buckhaven, Methill and Wemyss Villages where 650 individuals were looking for work and claiming.

Table 15 Fife Claimant Count by Ward May 2024

Wards	May 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants April 2024				
		May23- May24	Apr24 - May24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	650	-15.6%	1.6%	63.8%	36.2%	23.1%	56.9%	20.0%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	330	3.1%	0.0%	60.6%	39.4%	18.2%	56.1%	25.8%
Cowdenbeath	515	-7.2%	3.0%	60.2%	39.8%	23.3%	58.3%	18.4%
Cupar	190	-2.6%	0.0%	57.9%	42.1%	18.4%	57.9%	23.7%
Dunfermline Central	350	-1.4%	0.0%	60.0%	40.0%	21.4%	60.0%	18.6%
Dunfermline North	320	-3.0%	6.7%	56.3%	43.8%	26.6%	53.1%	20.3%
Dunfermline South	360	-11.1%	2.9%	59.7%	40.3%	22.2%	58.3%	19.4%
East Neuk and Landward	155	-13.9%	-6.1%	54.8%	45.2%	12.9%	61.3%	25.8%
Glenrothes Central & Thornton	315	-10.0%	1.6%	61.9%	38.1%	30.2%	57.1%	14.3%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	300	0.0%	5.3%	61.7%	40.0%	21.7%	60.0%	20.0%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	315	-7.4%	0.0%	57.1%	42.9%	19.0%	57.1%	23.8%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	185	-2.6%	2.8%	56.8%	43.2%	18.9%	51.4%	29.7%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	205	-14.6%	5.1%	56.1%	43.9%	19.5%	53.7%	26.8%
Kirkcaldy Central	590	-11.3%	0.0%	58.5%	41.5%	19.5%	57.6%	22.9%
Kirkcaldy East	580	-10.1%	8.4%	63.8%	35.3%	19.8%	57.8%	21.6%
Kirkcaldy North	345	-5.5%	3.0%	60.9%	40.6%	20.3%	58.0%	21.7%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	345	-18.8%	0.0%	68.1%	31.9%	21.7%	53.6%	24.6%
Lochgelly, Cardenden & Benarty	580	-1.7%	0.0%	59.5%	40.5%	23.3%	56.9%	19.8%
Rosyth	280	5.7%	5.7%	51.8%	48.2%	17.9%	62.5%	19.6%
St Andrews	95	-5.0%	0.0%	52.6%	42.1%	15.8%	52.6%	26.3%
Tay Bridgehead	215	22.9%	0.0%	55.8%	44.2%	16.3%	62.8%	20.9%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	270	-11.5%	0.0%	55.6%	44.4%	20.4%	63.0%	16.7%
Fife	7,500	-7.0%	2.2%	59.8%	40.2%	21.1%	57.7%	21.1%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

Leven, Kennoway and Largo had the highest proportion of male claimants (68.1%) which was the highest proportion in the City Region whilst Rosyth had 48.2% of claimants recording as female. With 30.2% of claimants being aged 16-24 Glenrothes Central and Thornton not only has the highest proportion of this age group in Fife it is also the highest proportion of all the City Region wards. In Howe of Fife and Tay Coast 29.7% of the 185 claimants are over 50 years of age.

Table 16, below, looks at the in-work Universal Credit claimant numbers for the wards in Fife. Overall, there were 13,489 Fife residents working and claiming Universal Credit support in April 2024 which is 4.4% higher than in March 2024 and 7.9% higher than a year ago. Again, there are people needing this support across the Kingdom with every ward other than St Andrews and Howe of Fife and Tay Coast recording over 300 claimants.

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

	Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr-24	Apr23- Apr24	Mar24- Apr24
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	971	981	1,029	6.0%	4.9%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	403	387	408	1.2%	5.4%
Cowdenbeath	811	887	925	14.1%	4.3%
Cupar	372	367	391	5.1%	6.5%
Dunfermline Central	569	627	634	11.4%	1.1%

Dunfermline North	479	508	513	7.1%	1.0%
Dunfermline South	691	678	725	4.9%	6.9%
East Neuk and Landward	328	341	364	11.0%	6.7%
Glenrothes Central and Thornton	651	680	697	7.1%	2.5%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	565	607	624	10.4%	2.8%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	706	740	780	10.5%	5.4%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	293	276	297	1.4%	7.6%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	400	379	420	5.0%	10.8%
Kirkcaldy Central	690	703	758	9.9%	7.8%
Kirkcaldy East	736	763	803	9.1%	5.2%
Kirkcaldy North	530	609	618	16.6%	1.5%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	656	649	685	4.4%	5.5%
Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	966	996	1,054	9.1%	5.8%
Rosyth	598	642	631	5.5%	-1.7%
St. Andrews	175	158	170	-2.9%	7.6%
Tay Bridgehead	359	375	395	10.0%	5.3%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	556	567	578	4.0%	1.9%
Total	12,502	12,917	13,489	7.9%	4.4%

Source: StatXplore 11/6/2024

Midlothian

The Midlothian position is presented in Table 17 below. Looking at the change between May 2023 and May 2024 we can see that one ward (Penicuik) recorded a year-on-year increase of 8.1% and Midlothian East saw the claimant count increase by 4.7% between May 2023 and May 2024. The remaining four wards saw the claimant count fall with Midlothian South recording a fall of 10.9% over the twelve month period. The change over the last month has seen four wards in Midlothian record a fall, one record an increase and one record no change.

Table 17 Midlothian Claimant Count by Ward May 2024

Wards	May 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants April 2024				
		May23- May24	Apr24 - May24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Bonnyrigg	195	-7.1%	0.0%	61.5%	38.5%	20.5%	64.1%	17.9%
Dalkeith	250	-3.8%	4.2%	60.0%	40.0%	18.0%	66.0%	16.0%
Midlothian East	225	4.7%	-4.3%	57.8%	42.2%	20.0%	64.4%	17.8%
Midlothian South	205	-10.9%	-4.7%	58.5%	41.5%	26.8%	53.7%	19.5%
Midlothian West	205	-6.8%	-2.4%	58.5%	39.0%	17.1%	58.5%	22.0%
Penicuik	200	8.1%	-2.4%	65.0%	35.0%	17.5%	62.5%	20.0%
Midlothian	1,285	-2.7%	-1.2%	60.3%	39.7%	19.8%	61.5%	18.7%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

We can see that overall, in Midlothian 60.3% of claimants are male, 19.8% are aged 16-24 and 18.7% 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 26.8% of claimants in Midlothian South were 16-24 years of age in May 2024 the highest proportion in Fife and in the City Region. We can also see that 22% of claimants in Midlothian West were over the age of 50.

Table 18 looks at the number of in work Universal Credit claimants in the 6 Midlothian wards. We can see that overall, there are 3,591 claimants in Midlothian in April 2024. This is 12.6% higher than in April 2023 and 1.3% higher than a year ago. All six wards saw a year on year increase ranging from a 17.3% increase in Penicuik to 6% increase in Dalkeith. Over the last month there has been an

increase in the number of in work claimants in every Midlothian ward with the exception of Dalkeith which saw the number of in work Universal Credit claimants fall by 2.4%.

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

	Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr-24	Apr23-Apr24	Mar24-Apr24
Bonnyrigg	521	539	575	10.4%	6.7%
Dalkeith	586	636	621	6.0%	-2.4%
Midlothian East	558	629	634	13.6%	0.8%
Midlothian South	641	716	717	11.9%	0.1%
Midlothian West	442	514	516	16.7%	0.4%
Penicuik	445	506	522	17.3%	3.2%
Total	3,189	3,545	3,591	12.6%	1.3%

Source: StatXplore 11/6/2024

West Lothian

The situation in West Lothian is looked at in Table 19 below. Overall, there were 3,105 claimants in West Lothian in May 2024, and this is 1.9% less than a year ago and 0.8% less than last month. We can see that 58.9% of claimants in West Lothian are male and 21.6% are aged between 16-24.

Table 19 West Lothian Claimant Count by Ward May 2024

Wards	May 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants March 2024				
		May23- May24	Apr24 - May24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Armadale & Blackridge	270	-3.6%	0.0%	59.3%	40.7%	20.4%	61.1%	18.5%
Bathgate	420	-7.7%	-1.2%	58.3%	41.7%	23.8%	57.1%	17.9%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	305	-12.9%	0.0%	60.7%	39.3%	24.6%	52.5%	23.0%
East Livingston & E. Calder	370	8.8%	0.0%	58.1%	43.2%	21.6%	56.8%	21.6%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	365	-7.6%	0.0%	64.4%	35.6%	20.5%	64.4%	15.1%
Linlithgow	130	8.3%	0.0%	57.7%	42.3%	19.2%	50.0%	34.6%
Livingston North	325	14.0%	1.6%	56.9%	43.1%	18.5%	63.1%	20.0%
Livingston South	410	7.9%	-2.4%	58.5%	41.5%	23.2%	62.2%	14.6%
Whitburn & Blackburn	505	-9.0%	-3.8%	58.4%	42.6%	21.8%	59.4%	18.8%
West Lothian	3,105	-1.9%	-0.8%	58.9%	41.1%	21.6%	59.3%	19.2%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

Looking at the wards in more detail we can see that five wards recorded a lower claimant number in May 2024 than in May 2023 and four had recorded a year on year increase. There is quite a contrast across the wards with the claimant count falling by 12.9% in Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh compared to Livingston North which saw the claimant count increase by 14% over the course of the year. Looking at the most recent month to month changes we can see that 5 wards recorded no change between April and May, three recorded a fall and one (Livingston North recorded an increase).

With a count of 505 claimants in May Whitburn & Blackburn had the most claimants of any West Lothian Ward. We can also see that in Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Ward, 64.4% of claimants were male, in Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh 24.6% of claimants were 16-24 and in Linlithgow 34.6% of claimants were 50 or over. This means that Linlithgow has the highest proportion of claimants who are over the age of 50.

Table 20 indicates that across West Lothian in April 2024 there were 7,147 individuals working and claiming Universal Credit which is 17.8% higher than a year ago and 0.7% higher than in March

2024. We can also see that whilst no ward has over 1,000 working Universal Credit claimants 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 April 2024

	Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr-24	Apr23- Apr24	Mar24- Apr24
Armadale and Blackridge	510	604	601	17.8%	-0.5%
Bathgate	780	890	887	13.7%	-0.3%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	644	750	765	18.8%	2.0%
East Livingston and East Calder	761	940	937	23.1%	-0.3%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	659	727	724	9.9%	-0.4%
Linlithgow	216	261	259	19.9%	-0.8%
Livingston North	627	778	811	29.3%	4.2%
Livingston South	861	1,007	1,006	16.8%	-0.1%
Whitburn and Blackburn	1,014	1,144	1,163	14.7%	1.7%
Total	6,069	7,098	7,147	17.8%	0.7%

Source: StatXplore 11/6/2024

Scottish Borders

Table 21 below looks at the position in the Scottish Borders wards. From this table we can see that there were 2,055 people claiming in May in Scottish Borders, up from May 2023 by 0.7% and up by 0.5% from April 2024.

Table 21 Scottish Borders Claimant Count by Ward May 2024

Wards	May 2024	% Change		Proportion of Claimants May 2024				
		May23- May24	Apr24 - May24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
East Berwickshire	175	-2.8%	0.0%	48.6%	51.4%	14.3%	54.3%	31.4%
Galashiels and District	375	-7.4%	1.4%	60.0%	40.0%	17.3%	52.0%	29.3%
Hawick and Denholm	265	3.9%	1.9%	60.4%	39.6%	18.9%	58.5%	22.6%
Hawick and Hermitage	210	7.7%	0.0%	64.3%	33.3%	23.8%	47.6%	28.6%
Jedburgh and District	160	6.7%	-5.9%	53.1%	46.9%	21.9%	50.0%	28.1%
Kelso and District	145	-6.5%	-6.5%	62.1%	37.9%	13.8%	55.2%	31.0%
Leaderdale & Melrose	135	12.5%	0.0%	51.9%	48.1%	14.8%	63.0%	22.2%
Mid Berwickshire	165	0.0%	6.5%	54.5%	45.5%	18.2%	45.5%	36.4%
Selkirkshire	170	13.3%	6.3%	61.8%	41.2%	17.6%	61.8%	23.5%
Tweeddale East	115	0.0%	-8.0%	56.5%	43.5%	13.0%	47.8%	43.5%
Tweeddale West	140	-3.4%	0.0%	60.7%	39.3%	7.1%	60.7%	32.1%
Scottish Borders	2,055	0.7%	0.5%	58.2%	41.8%	17.0%	53.8%	29.0%

Source: NOMIS 11/6/2024

Overall, four wards have seen the claimant count fall year on year and five have seen it increase since May 2023. Two wards saw no change at all. In Selkirkshire the claimant count is 13.3% higher in 2024 than it was in 2023. Between March and April four Scottish Borders wards recorded an increase and three recorded a fall with the remaining four recording no change month to month. Selkirkshire recorded a 6.3% increase between April and May 2024.

The data in Table 21 also indicates that 58.2% of claimants were male and 17% were 16-24 years of age. In Hawick and Hermitage 23.8% of claimants were 16-24 years of age compared to 7.1% in Tweeddale West. In Tweeddale East 43.5% of claimants were fifty or over the highest proportion in the city region.

Table 22 looks at the number of people in work and claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders. In April 2024 there were 4,025 people working who needed the support of Universal Credit. This is 16.3% higher than a year ago and 0.6% 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 April 2024

	Apr-23	Mar-24	Apr-24	Apr23-Apr24	Mar24-Apr24
East Berwickshire	362	436	428	18.2%	-1.8%
Galashiels and District	569	603	630	10.7%	4.5%
Hawick and Denholm	389	437	437	12.3%	0.0%
Hawick and Hermitage	278	302	297	6.8%	-1.7%
Jedburgh and District	237	277	274	15.6%	-1.1%
Kelso and District	294	353	345	17.3%	-2.3%
Leaderdale and Melrose	282	363	377	33.7%	3.9%
Mid Berwickshire	351	377	380	8.3%	0.8%
Selkirkshire	264	318	332	25.8%	4.4%
Tweeddale East	224	260	255	13.8%	-1.9%
Tweeddale West	207	272	268	29.5%	-1.5%
Total	3,462	4,001	4,025	16.3%	0.6%

Source: StatXplore 11/6/2024

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 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

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 and new data isn't scheduled to be released till July. 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.

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.

Chris Nicol, Business Intelligence Manager,
Capital City Partnership
20/6/2024

07462 432348
chris.nicol@capitalcitypartnership.org