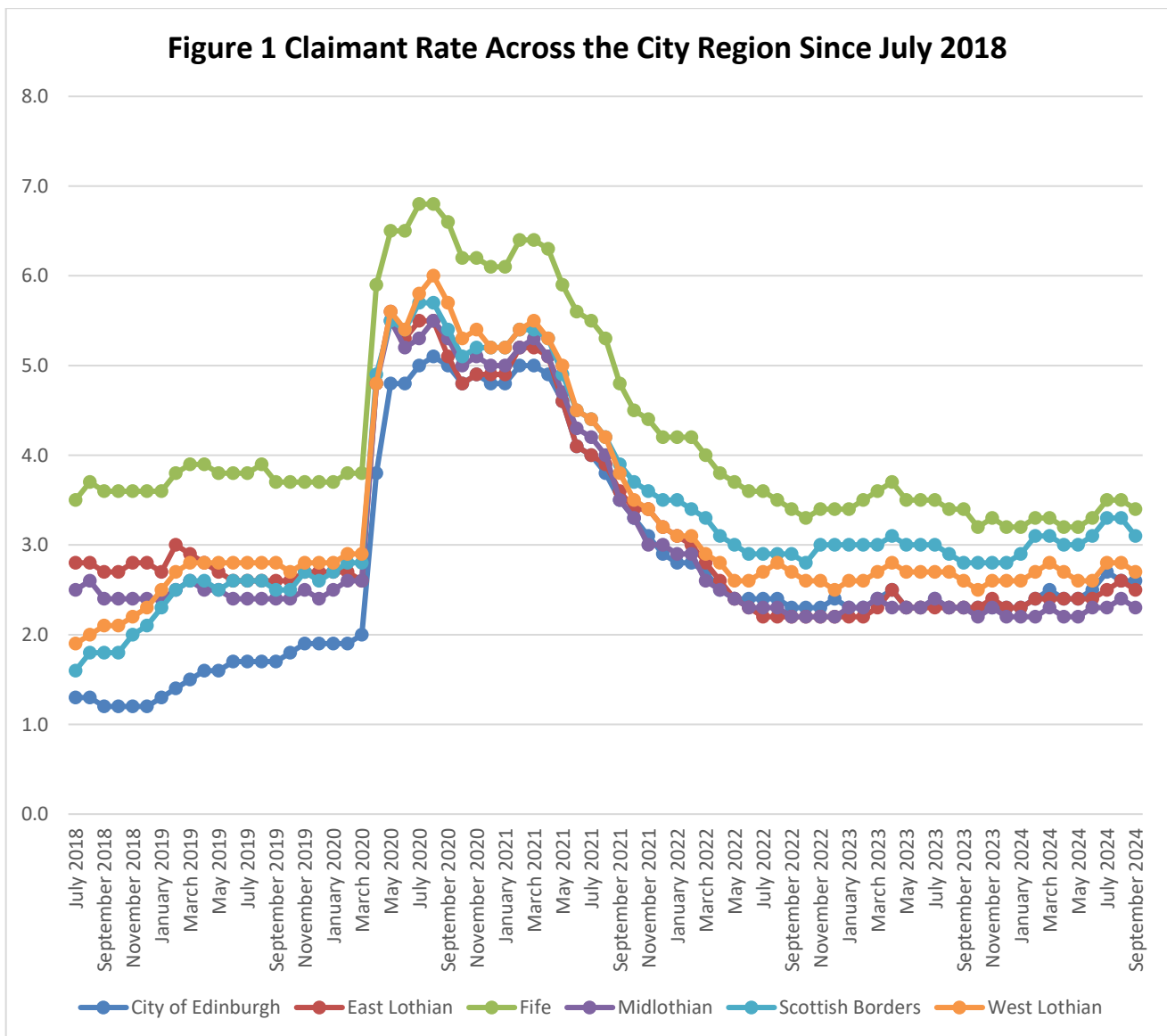


Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count October 2024 Summary Update

Claimant Count Change Between September 2023 and September 2024:	Claimant Count Change Between August 2024 and September 2024:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ UK increased by 17.7% ↑ Scotland increased by 8.1% ↑ Edinburgh increased by 12.9% ↑ City Region increased by 8.3% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ UK increased by 1.2% ↓ Scotland decreased by 1.9% ↓ Edinburgh decreased by 0.3% ↓ City Region decreased by 2.1%



Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

City Region Summary

1. In September 2024 the claimant count for the City Region was 25,565 (in August it was 26,120). Of these
 - a. 4,340 were 16-24 year olds down from 4,565 in August.
 - b. 15,350 were 25-49 year olds down from 15,670 in August.
 - c. 5,880 were 50 or older up from 5,875 in August.
2. In August 2024 there were 48,104 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in the Region. In July 2024 there were 48,253.

Edinburgh Summary

1. In September 2024 the claimant count for Edinburgh was 9,430 (in August it was 9,455). Of these
 - a. 1,235 were 16-24 year olds. It was 1,280 in August.
 - b. 6,005 were 25-49 year olds. It was 6,025 in August.
 - c. 2,195 were 50 or older. This is the same as August.
2. In August 2024 there were 15,260 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Edinburgh. In July 2024 there were 15,135.

East Lothian Summary

1. In September 2024 the claimant count for East Lothian was 1,640 (in August it was 1,705). Of these
 - a. 275 were 16-24 year olds. In August there were 300.
 - b. 965 were 25-49 year olds. In August there were 1000.
 - c. 400 were 50 or older. In August there were 400.
2. In August 2024 there were 3,766 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in East Lothian. In July 2024 there were 3,757.

Fife Summary

1. In September 2024 the claimant count for Fife was 7,825 (in August it was 8,035). Of these
 - a. 1,570 were 16-24 year olds. In August there were 1,670.
 - b. 4,490 were 25-49 years of age. In August there were 4,590.
 - c. 1,765 were 50 or older. In August there were 1,775.
2. In August 2024 there were 14,421 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Fife. In July 2024 there were 14,550.

Midlothian Summary

1. In September 2024 the claimant count for Midlothian was 1,375 (it was 1,425 in August). Of these
 - a. 270 were 16-24 year olds. In August it was 275.
 - b. 850 were 25-49 year olds. In August it was 885.
 - c. 255 were 50 or older. In July it was 265.
2. In August 2024 there were 3,563 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Midlothian. In July there were 3,611.

Scottish Borders Summary

1. In September 2024 the claimant count for Scottish Borders was 2,095 (in August it was 2,190). Of these
 - a. 370 were 16-24 year olds. In August it was 375.
 - b. 1,115 were 25-49 year olds. In August there were 1,180.
 - c. 610 were 50 or older. In August there were 630.
2. In August 2024 there were 4,032 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders. In July there were 4,023.

West Lothian Summary

1. In September 2024 the claimant count for West Lothian was 3,200 (in August it was 3,310). Of these
 - a. 620 were 16-24 year olds. In August there were 665.
 - b. 1,925 were 25-49 year olds. In August there were 1,990.
 - c. 655 were 50 or older. In August there were 655.
2. In August 2024 there were 7,062 West Lothian individuals claiming Universal Credit who were in work. In July there were 7,177.

Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count October 2024 Full Update

Claimant Count by Nation and Region

Table 1 indicates that in the UK the claimant count in September 2024 is higher than it was five years ago in EVERY region or Nation of the United Kingdom. In Scotland it is 4.5% higher than in September 2019 and in the UK, it is 54% higher. We can also see that in all the regions and countries of the UK the claimant count in September 2024 is higher than it was in September 2023. In Scotland the claimant count is 8.1% higher than it was a year ago.

Table 1: National Claimant Count Picture

	Sep 2019	Sep 2023	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Percentage Change		
					Sep19 - Sep24	Sep23- Sep24	Aug24 - Sep24
UK	1,164,740	1,523,970	1,772,555	1,793,460	54.0%	17.7%	1.2%
East	80,070	113,830	134,505	135,970	69.8%	19.5%	1.1%
East Midlands	73,270	99,940	115,655	116,150	58.5%	16.2%	0.4%
London	173,050	295,780	349,735	359,705	107.9%	21.6%	2.9%
North East	70,760	64,680	70,925	71,185	0.6%	10.1%	0.4%
North West	156,890	189,225	219,015	219,985	40.2%	16.3%	0.4%
N. Ireland	29,505	37,650	42,000	43,540	47.6%	15.6%	3.7%
Scotland	108,690	105,030	115,735	113,535	4.5%	8.1%	-1.9%
South East	106,795	161,450	184,635	187,540	75.6%	16.2%	1.6%
South West	68,385	84,865	99,880	100,040	46.3%	17.9%	0.2%
Wales	57,290	59,985	68,475	68,555	19.7%	14.3%	0.1%
West Midlands	133,290	176,710	210,350	214,930	61.2%	21.6%	2.2%
Yorks & Humb	106,740	134,825	161,645	162,320	52.1%	20.4%	0.4%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

Looking at the latest month to month change it can be seen in the table that across the UK the claimant count is 1.2% higher in than in September increasing by nearly 21,000 in the last month. In Scotland it is 1.9% lower (2,200) in September 2024 than it was in August. We have seen an increase in the claimants over the last month everywhere apart from Scotland.

Claimant Count by Scottish Local Authority

Table 2 focuses on Scottish Local Authorities. We can see that 13 Scottish Local Authorities have a claimant count higher in September 2024 than was recorded in September 2019. Half of the Local Authorities in the City Region had more claimants in September 2024 than they had in September 2019. The three that had fewer claimants were: East Lothian, West Lothian and Fife.

Over the last year three Local Authorities saw the claimant count fall and all the others saw the claimant count increase year on year. This ranged from a rise of 0.9% in Clackmannanshire through to a 17.1% in Orkney. One factor to consider is that this 12 month period includes the DWP

conditionality changes which are very likely to be behind at least some of this increase. What we can also see in Table 2 is that the change between August and September is slightly more positive with only two Local Authorities in Scotland recording a month to month increase and all 6 in the city region saw the claimant count fall between August and September.

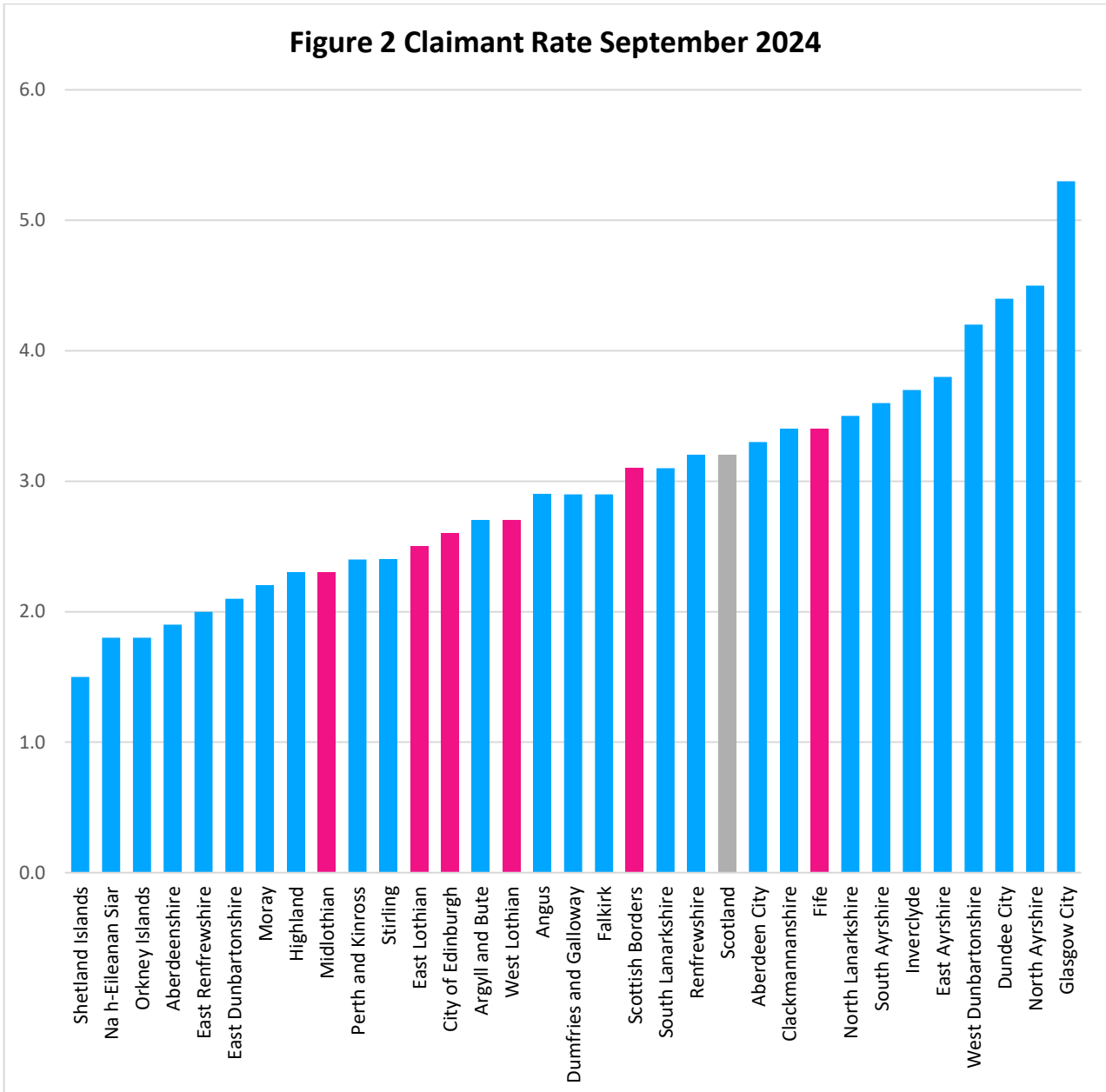
Table 2: Claimant Count - Scottish Local Authorities

	Sep 2019	Sep 2023	Aug 2024	Sep 2024	Percentage Change		
					Sep19 - Sep24	Sep23- Sep24	Aug24 - Sep24
Aberdeen City	3,815	4,625	5,120	5,050	32.4%	9.2%	-1.4%
Aberdeenshire	2,715	2,835	3,030	2,985	9.9%	5.3%	-1.5%
Angus	2,080	1,835	2,070	2,000	-3.8%	9.0%	-3.4%
Argyll and Bute	1,330	1,285	1,380	1,360	2.3%	5.8%	-1.4%
City of Edinburgh	6,380	8,355	9,455	9,430	47.8%	12.9%	-0.3%
Clackmannanshire	1,305	1,085	1,090	1,095	-16.1%	0.9%	0.5%
Dumfries and Galloway	2,670	2,370	2,625	2,530	-5.2%	6.8%	-3.6%
Dundee City	4,655	4,045	4,420	4,260	-8.5%	5.3%	-3.6%
East Ayrshire	3,645	2,950	2,960	2,895	-20.6%	-1.9%	-2.2%
East Dunbartonshire	1,200	1,215	1,345	1,325	10.4%	9.1%	-1.5%
East Lothian	1,685	1,500	1,705	1,640	-2.7%	9.3%	-3.8%
East Renfrewshire	960	1,005	1,160	1,145	19.3%	13.9%	-1.3%
Falkirk	3,175	2,815	3,040	2,980	-6.1%	5.9%	-2.0%
Fife	8,625	7,460	8,035	7,825	-9.3%	4.9%	-2.6%
Glasgow City	18,920	20,495	23,805	23,680	25.2%	15.5%	-0.5%
Highland	3,240	2,960	3,295	3,345	3.2%	13.0%	1.5%
Inverclyde	2,275	1,680	1,770	1,750	-23.1%	4.2%	-1.1%
Midlothian	1,350	1,345	1,425	1,375	1.9%	2.2%	-3.5%
Moray	1,400	1,210	1,350	1,315	-6.1%	8.7%	-2.6%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	340	275	290	270	-20.6%	-1.8%	-6.9%
North Ayrshire	4,410	3,480	3,775	3,650	-17.2%	4.9%	-3.3%
North Lanarkshire	8,190	7,205	7,840	7,645	-6.7%	6.1%	-2.5%
Orkney Islands	170	205	240	240	41.2%	17.1%	0.0%
Perth and Kinross	1,735	2,120	2,250	2,215	27.7%	4.5%	-1.6%
Renfrewshire	3,755	3,585	3,870	3,670	-2.3%	2.4%	-5.2%
Scottish Borders	1,730	1,890	2,190	2,095	21.1%	10.8%	-4.3%
Shetland Islands	210	210	235	215	2.4%	2.4%	-8.5%
South Ayrshire	2,570	2,190	2,385	2,375	-7.6%	8.4%	-0.4%
South Lanarkshire	6,785	5,965	6,395	6,220	-8.3%	4.3%	-2.7%
Stirling	1,430	1,390	1,485	1,425	-0.3%	2.5%	-4.0%
West Dunbartonshire	2,705	2,365	2,395	2,325	-14.0%	-1.7%	-2.9%
West Lothian	3,225	3,060	3,310	3,200	-0.8%	4.6%	-3.3%
Column Total	108,690	105,030	115,735	113,535	4.5%	8.1%	-1.9%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

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



Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

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 September 2024 is higher than it was in September 2023. Midlothian is the Local Authority where the year on year change is less marked.

Table 3: Claimant Count – City Region LAs

	September 2023	August 2024	September 2024	September 2024 Rate	% Change	
					Sep23-Sep24	Aug24 - Sep24
Edinburgh	8,355	9,455	9,430	2.6	12.9%	-0.3%
East Lothian	1,500	1,705	1,640	2.5	9.3%	-3.8%
Fife	7,460	8,035	7,825	3.4	4.9%	-2.6%
Midlothian	1,345	1,425	1,375	2.3	2.2%	-3.5%
Scottish Borders	1,890	2,190	2,095	3.1	10.8%	-4.3%
West Lothian	3,060	3,310	3,200	2.7	4.6%	-3.3%
City Region	23,610	26,120	25,565	2.8	8.3%	-2.1%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

The month-to-month change from August 2024 to September 2024 indicates that in every Local Authority in the City region the claimant count has fallen.

The data presented in Table 4 indicates that across the region in August 2023 there were 42,753 people who were in work but required financial support from Universal Credit (UC) as their income was not sufficient. In August 2024 this had increased by 12.5% to 48,104. Over the last month (July to August 2024) there has been a decrease of 0.3% in the region with around 150 fewer people working and claiming Universal Credit.

Table 4 Universal Credit Claimants in Employment

	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Jul23 to July 24	June24 to July 24
City of Edinburgh	13,513	15,135	15,260	12.9%	0.8%
East Lothian	3,493	3,757	3,766	7.8%	0.2%
Fife	12,861	14,550	14,421	12.1%	-0.9%
Midlothian	3,245	3,611	3,563	9.8%	-1.3%
West Lothian	6,163	7,177	7,062	14.6%	-1.6%
Scottish Borders	3,478	4,023	4,032	15.9%	0.2%
Total	42,753	48,253	48,104	12.5%	-0.3%

Source: StatXplore 29/10/2024

Gender Profile

From Table 5 we can see that two Local Authorities in the city region has seen the number of male claimants fall over the last 12 months, three have seen an increase and one (East Lothian) has seen no change year on year. and the other five have seen the number increase. Across the region the number of male claimants in September 2024 was 405 higher than in September 2023.

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

	September 2023	August 2024	September 2024		% Change	
			Claimant Count	Rate	Sep23-Sep24	Aug24 - Sep24
Edinburgh	4,925	5,335	5,320	3.0	8.0%	-0.3%
East Lothian	865	900	865	2.8	0.0%	-3.9%
Fife	4,495	4,495	4,435	4.0	-1.3%	-1.3%
Midlothian	770	765	750	2.7	-2.6%	-2.0%
Scottish Borders	1,080	1,170	1,140	3.6	5.6%	-2.6%
West Lothian	1,740	1,805	1,770	3.1	1.7%	-1.9%
City Region	13,875	14,470	14,280	3.3	2.9%	-1.3%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

Comparing the September 2024 statistics to those of August 2024 the picture is more positive as every Local Authority saw the number of male claimants fall between August and September. This culminated in the region as a whole recording a 1.3% fall between August and September 2024.

Table 5 also reflects the claimant rate in August for males in each of the six Local Authorities. This is arrived at by dividing the claimant count by the working age population. From this we can see that for Male claimants Midlothian had the lowest claimant rate and Fife had the highest.

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 (1,550 additional female claimants). Compare this to the male claimant count which had increased by around 400 over the same period. This is an increase of 15.3% year on year compared to an increase of 2.9% year on year for the number of male claimants.

Between September 2023 and September 2024 we can see that each Local Authority recorded an increase in the number of female claimants. This ranged from an 8.3% increase in West Lothian to 22% in East Lothian. The change between August and September is more positive as every Local Authority saw the number of claimants fall. Scottish Borders recorded a fall of 6.4% in the number of female claimants.

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

	September 2023	August 2024	September 2024		% Change	
			Claimant Count	Rate	Sep23-Sep24	Aug24 - Sep24
Edinburgh	3,430	4,120	4,110	2.3	19.8%	-0.2%
East Lothian	635	800	775	2.3	22.0%	-3.1%
Fife	2,965	3,545	3,390	3.0	14.3%	-4.4%
Midlothian	575	660	625	2.1	8.7%	-5.3%
Scottish Borders	810	1,020	955	3.0	17.9%	-6.4%
West Lothian	1,320	1,500	1,430	2.4	8.3%	-4.7%
City Region	9,735	11,645	11,285	2.5	15.9%	-3.1%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

We can see in the table that the claimant rate for females is more similar across the region than it is for males with Midlothian recording a claimant rate of 2.1 and Fife and Scottish Borders recording a rate of 3.0.

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 August 2023, 27,082 female claimants were in work and claiming Universal Credit. In August 2024 the number had increased to 31,382. This is over 4,000 more than 12 months ago. Compare this to the male in work Universal Credit claimant count, which was 15,661 in August 2023 and currently (August 2024) is sitting at 16,788- approximately 1,100 more. One positive is that between July and August 2024 there has been a fall in the number of both male and female claimants.

Table 7: In Work Universal Credit Claimants

		Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24
City of Edinburgh	Female	8,071	9,444	9,574
	Male	5,442	5,690	5,687
East Lothian	Female	2,375	2,523	2,521
	Male	1,115	1,228	1,248
Fife	Female	8,252	9,593	9,453
	Male	4,607	4,961	4,971
Midlothian	Female	2,166	2,446	2,422
	Male	1,083	1,163	1,148
West Lothian	Female	4,020	4,835	4,766
	Male	2,142	2,340	2,295
Scottish Borders	Female	2,198	2,576	2,596
	Male	1,272	1,445	1,439
Total	Female	27,082	31,417	31,332
	Male	15,661	16,827	16,788
Percentage Split	Female	63%	65%	65%
	Male	37%	35%	35%

Source: StatXplore 29/10/2024

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 August 2023 males comprised 37% of Universal Credit claimants whilst in August 2024 this was 35%. So consistently around 2/3rds of in work Universal Credit claimants are female across the region.

Age Profile

16-24 Year Olds

In September 2024 there were 4,340 claimants aged between 16-24 years of age in the City Region. This is 4.9% lower than a month ago and 2.1% higher than a year ago. In numerical terms the City Region has 90 more 16-24 year olds claiming than a year ago and just 225 fewer than last month. Worth highlighting is the fact that there are 230 fewer claimants aged 16-24 than there was the case in August 2019.

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
September 2019	995	305	1,845	300	395	730	4,570
September 2023	1,170	305	1,500	270	355	650	4,250
August 2024	1,280	300	1,670	275	375	665	4,565
September 2024	1,235	275	1,570	270	370	620	4,340
% Change							
Sep23-Sep24	5.6%	-9.8%	4.7%	0.0%	4.2%	-4.6%	2.1%
Aug24 - Sep24	-3.5%	-8.3%	-6.0%	-1.8%	-1.3%	-6.8%	-4.9%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

Looking at the different Local Authorities Edinburgh, Fife and Scottish Borders have more 16-24 year old claimants than a year ago. All six have fewer 16-24 year old claimants than last month.

25-49 Year Olds

In September 2024 there were 15,350 claimants aged between 25-49 years of age in the City Region. This is 2% lower than a month ago and 8.6% higher than a year ago. In numerical terms the City Region has 1,210 more 25-49 year olds claiming than a year ago, 320 fewer than last month and there are 2,280 more 25-49 year olds claiming in the City Region than in September 2019.

Looking at the different Local Authorities all six Local Authorities have more 25-49 year old claimants than a year ago and more positive all six Local Authorities have fewer claimants in this age group than a month ago.

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
September 2019	3,780	965	4,830	770	900	1,825	13,070
September 2023	5,275	870	4,325	820	1,060	1,790	14,140
August 2024	6,025	1,000	4,590	885	1,180	1,990	15,670
September 2024	6,005	965	4,490	850	1,115	1,925	15,350
% Change							
Sep23-Sep24	13.8%	10.9%	3.8%	3.7%	5.2%	7.5%	8.6%
Aug24 - Sep24	-0.3%	-3.5%	-2.2%	-4.0%	-5.5%	-3.3%	-2.0%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

50 Year Olds and Over

In August 2024 there were 5,880 claimants aged over 50 years of age in the City Region. This is 0.1% higher than a month ago and 12.6% higher than a year ago. In numerical terms the City Region has 660 more people over the age of 50 claiming than a year ago and 5 more than last month.

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
September 2019	1,610	915	1,950	275	435	730	5,915
September 2023	1,915	325	1,635	255	475	615	5,220
August 2024	2,150	400	1,775	265	630	655	5,875
September 2024	2,195	400	1,765	255	610	655	5,880
% Change							
Sep23-Sep24	14.6%	23.1%	8.0%	0.0%	28.4%	6.5%	12.6%
Aug24 - Sep24	2.1%	0.0%	-0.6%	-3.8%	-3.2%	0.0%	0.1%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

Looking at the different Local Authorities five of the six Local Authorities have more 50 plus claimants than were recorded a year. In terms of the month to month change we can see that Edinburgh has more claimants who were 50 or over than a month ago. There has been no change in East Lothian or West Lothian and the remaining three Local Authorities all recorded month to month falls.

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 August and September 2024. As we can see in this table, there has been a considerable rise over the last year which *could* be linked to changes in the way the data is collated that have been introduced.

Overall, there are 9,430 claimants in Edinburgh in September 2024, and this is 12.9% higher than September 2023 and 0.3% lower than in August 2024. From the table we can see that in September 2024 four wards had 750 or more claimants, ten wards had more than 500 and 1 ward had less than 200.

The table also indicates that one ward had a claimant count lower in September 2024 than a year ago (Morningside). In all other wards the claimant count is higher than a year ago. This ranges from 31.1% higher in Colinton and Farmilehead to 2.9% higher in Leith. Comparing the count recorded in September to that of August we can see that seven wards have recorded a month to month increase, seven have recorded a month to month fall and two recorded no change between July and August 2024. We can see that the claimant rate was highest in Forth 4.0% of residents aged 16-64 were claiming and lowest in Morningside.

Overall, in Edinburgh in September 2024, 56.4% of claimants were male and 13.1% are aged 16-24. The City Centre ward records that 69.5% of the claimants are male. Forth has the highest proportion of female claimants at 49.4%. In Morningside 31.7% of claimants in September were over 50 years of age, the highest proportion in the city and in Colinton/Farmilehead 18.6% of claimants were 16-24 years of age.

Table 11 Edinburgh Claimant Count by Ward August 2024

Wards	Sep 2024	Rate	Aug23 to Aug24	Aug24 to Sep24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Almond	640	2.8	20.8%	7.6%	53.9%	45.3%	13.3%	63.3%	22.7%
City Centre	705	2.6	15.6%	-3.4%	69.5%	29.8%	14.9%	63.1%	22.0%
Colinton/ Fairmilehead	295	1.9	31.1%	1.7%	52.5%	47.5%	18.6%	55.9%	23.7%
Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	160	1.1	3.2%	14.3%	53.1%	46.9%	6.3%	65.6%	28.1%
Craightinny/ Duddingston	630	3.0	9.6%	-1.6%	56.3%	43.7%	9.5%	65.1%	25.4%
Drum Brae/ Gyle	335	2.2	17.5%	0.0%	50.7%	49.3%	11.9%	61.2%	26.9%
Forth	870	4.0	10.1%	-5.9%	50.6%	49.4%	11.5%	65.5%	23.0%
Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	335	1.9	17.5%	4.7%	59.7%	40.3%	14.9%	62.7%	22.4%
Inverleith	335	1.5	13.6%	0.0%	52.2%	47.8%	9.0%	68.7%	22.4%
Leith	700	3.8	2.9%	0.7%	58.6%	41.4%	10.0%	67.9%	22.1%
Leith Walk	665	2.3	3.1%	0.8%	55.6%	44.4%	11.3%	66.2%	22.6%
Liberton/ Gilmerton	815	3.5	19.9%	-1.8%	57.1%	43.6%	14.1%	63.8%	22.7%
Morningside	205	0.9	-2.4%	0.0%	53.7%	43.9%	7.3%	61.0%	31.7%
Pentland Hills	785	3.7	9.8%	-1.9%	54.1%	45.9%	17.2%	61.1%	21.7%
Portobello/ Craigmillar	840	4.0	20.9%	-0.6%	50.6%	48.8%	14.3%	62.5%	23.2%
Sighthill/ Gorgie	745	2.9	12.9%	2.1%	61.1%	38.9%	15.4%	63.8%	20.8%
Southside/ Newington	375	1.3	17.2%	-1.3%	61.3%	38.7%	13.3%	58.7%	28.0%
Column Total	9,430	2.6	12.9%	-0.3%	56.4%	43.6%	13.1%	63.7%	23.3%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

Table 12 below looks at the in-work Universal Credit claimant count for the Edinburgh wards. This indicates that there are 15,260 people in the city who are working but their earnings are low enough that they can receive Universal Credit. This is 12.9% higher than it was a year ago and 0.8% higher than it was last month. Overall, four wards recorded a fall between July and August.

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

	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Aug23 to Aug 24	Jul 24 to Aug24
Almond	1,018	1,294	1307	28.4%	1.0%
City Centre	574	575	577	0.5%	0.3%
Colinton/Fairmilehead	434	510	520	19.8%	2.0%
Corstorphine/Murrayfield	261	324	334	28.0%	3.1%
Craightinny/Duddingston	896	958	962	7.4%	0.4%
Drum Brae/Gyle	530	630	643	21.3%	2.1%
Forth	1,476	1,584	1,626	10.2%	2.7%
Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	378	433	443	17.2%	2.3%
Inverleith	449	512	498	10.9%	-2.7%
Leith	1,009	1,085	1,082	7.2%	-0.3%
Leith Walk	912	985	962	5.5%	-2.3%
Liberton/Gilmerton	1,251	1,497	1,503	20.1%	0.4%
Morningside	250	251	248	-0.8%	-1.2%
Pentland Hills	1,239	1,293	1,299	4.8%	0.5%

Portobello/Craigmillar	1,267	1,507	1,552	22.5%	3.0%
Sighthill/Gorgie	1,193	1,287	1,300	9.0%	1.0%
Southside/Newington	375	403	407	8.5%	1.0%
Total	13,513	15,135	15,260	12.9%	0.8%

Source: StatXplore 29/10/2024

East Lothian

Table 13 gives the current situation in the six East Lothian wards, the percentage change over the last twelve months and the change recorded between August and September 2024.

Overall, there are 1,640 claimants in East Lothian in September 2024, and this is 9.3% higher than a year ago and 3.8% lower than last month. From the table we can see that over the last 12 months all six wards have seen the claimant count increase by between 3.8% and 19.7% and between August 2024 and September 2024 four of the six wards have seen a fall in the number of people claiming. One thing to remember is that numbers are often *relatively* small so a large percentage change can be the result of 20 additional claimants. The claimant rate ranges from 1.35 of 16-64 year olds claiming in North Berwick Coastal through to 3.5% in Musselburgh.

Table 13 East Lothian Claimant Count by Ward September 2024

Wards	Sep 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants August 2024				
			Sep23 to Sep24	Aug24 to Sep24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Dunbar and East Linton	190	2.1	11.8%	0.0%	52.6%	47.4%	15.8%	57.9%	26.3%
Haddington and Lammermuir	255	2.2	4.1%	-3.8%	52.9%	47.1%	13.7%	60.8%	25.5%
Musselburgh	425	3.5	19.7%	-3.4%	56.5%	43.5%	18.8%	58.8%	23.5%
North Berwick Coastal	100	1.3	5.3%	5.3%	50.0%	50.0%	10.0%	60.0%	30.0%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	255	2.3	6.3%	-3.8%	47.1%	52.9%	15.7%	58.8%	25.5%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	415	2.9	3.8%	-6.7%	53.0%	47.0%	20.5%	60.2%	20.5%
East Lothian	1,640	2.5	9.3%	-3.8%	52.7%	47.3%	16.8%	58.8%	24.4%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

Across the county 52.7% of claimants are male and this varies from 47.1% in Preston, Seton and Gosford to 56.5% in Musselburgh. Tranent Wallyford and Macmerry has the highest proportion of 16-24 year old claimants (20.5%). North Berwick Coastal has the highest proportion (30%) of over 50 year olds.

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

	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Aug23 to Aug 24	Jul 24 to Aug24
Dunbar and East Linton	450	512	505	12.2%	-1.4%
Haddington and Lammermuir	522	588	591	13.2%	0.5%
Musselburgh	766	837	835	9.0%	-0.2%
North Berwick Coastal	239	238	239	0.0%	0.4%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	615	633	630	2.4%	-0.5%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	894	954	969	8.4%	1.6%

Total	3,493	3,757	3,766	7.8%	0.2%
-------	-------	-------	-------	------	------

Source: StatXplore 29/10/2024

Table 14 above 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 August 2023 and August 2024 of 7.8%. This ranges from a 13.2% increase in working Universal Credit claimants in Haddington and Lammermuir (around 70 additional claimants over the year) to no change in North Berwick Coastal. Between July 2024 and September 2024, the count increased by 0.2% in the County and half of the wards saw the in work claimant count fall.

Fife

Turning now to look at Fife. Table 15 gives the current situation in the twenty two Fife wards, the percentage change over the last twelve months and the change recorded between August and September 2024.

Overall, there are 7,825 claimants in Fife in September 2024, and this is 4.9% higher than a year ago but 2.6% lower than last month. From the table we can see that over the last 12 months six wards have seen the claimant count fall by between 1.5% and 5.5%. Between August and September 2024 16 of the 22 wards in the Kingdom saw the claimant count fall. This ranged from a 0.8% fall in Kirkcaldy East through to an 8.8% fall in Rosyth.

Table 15 Fife Claimant Count by Ward September 2024

Wards	Sep 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants Aug24				
			Sep23 to Sep24	Aug24 to Sep24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	685	6.2	-5.5%	-4.2%	60.6%	39.4%	20.4%	56.2%	23.4%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	335	3.7	8.1%	-4.3%	58.2%	41.8%	19.4%	55.2%	25.4%
Cowdenbeath	545	3.9	10.1%	1.9%	57.8%	42.2%	24.8%	56.9%	18.3%
Cupar	200	2.4	8.1%	-2.4%	57.5%	42.5%	17.5%	60.0%	25.0%
Dunfermline Central	330	2.8	-1.5%	-7.0%	54.5%	43.9%	19.7%	57.6%	22.7%
Dunfermline North	320	3.0	8.5%	-4.5%	57.8%	42.2%	21.9%	56.3%	21.9%
Dunfermline South	390	2.5	2.6%	-2.5%	53.8%	44.9%	23.1%	55.1%	21.8%
East Neuk & Landward	180	2.6	12.5%	-2.7%	47.2%	50.0%	8.3%	58.3%	33.3%
Glenrothes Central and Thornton	355	3.8	2.9%	-2.7%	54.9%	45.1%	23.9%	57.7%	18.3%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	325	2.9	16.1%	-3.0%	58.5%	40.0%	21.5%	58.5%	20.0%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	345	3.5	4.5%	3.0%	50.7%	49.3%	21.7%	56.5%	21.7%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	190	2.3	15.2%	-5.0%	52.6%	47.4%	13.2%	52.6%	31.6%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	235	2.2	11.9%	6.8%	46.8%	51.1%	19.1%	55.3%	25.5%
Kirkcaldy Central	590	6.8	-3.3%	-7.1%	57.6%	42.4%	16.9%	56.8%	25.4%
Kirkcaldy East	610	6.6	4.3%	-0.8%	62.3%	37.7%	19.7%	60.7%	19.7%
Kirkcaldy North	355	3.7	-2.7%	-6.6%	56.3%	45.1%	22.5%	56.3%	21.1%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	390	3.3	2.6%	0.0%	56.4%	42.3%	17.9%	55.1%	25.6%
Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	585	5.0	8.3%	0.9%	58.1%	41.9%	22.2%	56.4%	21.4%

Rosyth	260	2.5	15.6%	-8.8%	51.9%	48.1%	17.3%	61.5%	21.2%
St Andrews	100	0.7	-4.8%	11.1%	55.0%	45.0%	20.0%	55.0%	25.0%
Tay Bridgehead	245	2.5	63.3%	-5.8%	51.0%	49.0%	16.3%	59.2%	24.5%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	265	2.7	-5.4%	-5.4%	58.5%	41.5%	22.6%	60.4%	17.0%
Fife	7,825	3.4	4.9%	-2.6%	56.7%	43.3%	20.1%	57.4%	22.6%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

Kirkcaldy East had the highest proportion of male claimants (62.3%) whilst Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay had 51.1% of claimants recording as female. With 24.8% of claimants being aged 16-24 Cowdenbeath has the highest proportion of this age group in Fife. In East Neuk and Landward 33.3% of the 180 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 14,421 Fife residents working and claiming Universal Credit support in August 2024 which is 12.1% higher than in August 2023 and much the same as it was last month. Again, there are people needing this support across the Kingdom with every ward other than St Andrews recording over 300 claimants. Two wards, Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages and Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty both had over 1,000 people working but requiring Universal Credit support to supplement their income.

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

	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Aug23 to Aug 24	Jul 24 to Aug24
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	1,008	1,080	1,057	4.9%	-2.1%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	406	456	443	9.1%	-2.9%
Cowdenbeath	855	1,008	975	14.0%	-3.3%
Cupar	390	426	424	8.7%	-0.5%
Dunfermline Central	612	676	672	9.8%	-0.6%
Dunfermline North	475	541	540	13.7%	-0.2%
Dunfermline South	715	816	818	14.4%	0.2%
East Neuk and Landward	334	371	382	14.4%	3.0%
Glenrothes Central and Thornton	687	757	769	11.9%	1.6%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	595	706	694	16.6%	-1.7%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	699	807	794	13.6%	-1.6%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	298	340	339	13.8%	-0.3%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	396	443	429	8.3%	-3.2%
Kirkcaldy Central	720	807	810	12.5%	0.4%
Kirkcaldy East	765	847	843	10.2%	-0.5%
Kirkcaldy North	573	711	694	21.1%	-2.4%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	651	702	708	8.8%	0.9%
Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	996	1,109	1,087	9.1%	-2.0%
Rosyth	610	703	704	15.4%	0.1%
St. Andrews	161	173	174	8.1%	0.6%
Tay Bridgehead	382	452	462	20.9%	2.2%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	545	618	613	12.5%	-0.8%
Total	12,861	14,550	14,421	12.1%	-0.9%

Source: StatXplore 29/10/2024

Midlothian

Turning now to look at Midlothian. Table 17 gives the current situation in the six Midlothian wards, the percentage change over the last twelve months and the change recorded between August and September 2024.

Overall, we can see that Midlothian had 1,375 claimants in September 2024 and has seen the claimant increase by 2.2% year on year and has fallen by 3.5% between August and September 2024. Looking at the wards it is apparent that over the course of the year two wards saw an increase in the claimant count, one saw no change and three wards recorded a fall. Over the last month all six wards recorded a fall, and this ranged from 2.1% in Midlothian West to 11.1% in Bonnyrigg.

Table 17 Midlothian Claimant Count by Ward September 2024

Wards	Sep 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants Aug 2024				
			Sep23 to Sep24	Aug24 to Sep24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Bonnyrigg	200	1.7	-4.8%	-11.1%	52.5%	47.5%	20.0%	65.0%	15.0%
Dalkeith	270	3.0	-3.6%	-3.6%	55.6%	44.4%	22.2%	61.1%	16.7%
Midlothian East	250	2.5	8.7%	-2.0%	56.0%	44.0%	20.0%	62.0%	18.0%
Midlothian South	225	2.5	-4.3%	-2.2%	53.3%	46.7%	20.0%	64.4%	17.8%
Midlothian West	235	2.4	17.5%	-2.1%	51.1%	48.9%	17.0%	59.6%	25.5%
Penicuik	190	2.3	0.0%	-5.0%	60.5%	39.5%	18.4%	63.2%	18.4%
Midlothian	1,375	2.4	2.2%	-3.5%	54.5%	45.5%	19.6%	61.8%	18.5%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

We can see that overall, in Midlothian 54.5% of claimants are male, 19.6% are aged 16-24 and 18.5% are 50 or over. Looking at the wards themselves we can see that Penicuik had the highest proportion of male claimants (60.5%) and Midlothian West the highest proportion of female claimants (48.9%). In terms of the age profile 22.2% of claimants in Dalkeith were 16-24 years of age in September 2024. We can also see that 25.5% 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 3,563 claimants in Midlothian in August 2024. This is 9.8% higher than in August 2023 and 1.3% lower than a month ago. All six wards saw a year on year increase ranging from a 13.6% increase in Penicuik to 5.8% increase in Dalkeith. Over the last month there has been a fall in the number of in work claimants in all six Midlothian wards.

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

	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Aug23 to Aug 24	Jul 24 to Aug24
Bonnyrigg	525	598	595	13.3%	-0.5%
Dalkeith	605	643	640	5.8%	-0.5%
Midlothian East	544	632	618	13.6%	-2.2%
Midlothian South	651	710	700	7.5%	-1.4%
Midlothian West	469	513	507	8.1%	-1.2%
Penicuik	452	518	502	11.1%	-3.1%
Total	3,245	3,611	3563	9.8%	-1.3%

Source: StatXplore 29/10/2024

The situation in West Lothian is looked at in Table 19 below. Overall, there were 3,200 claimants in West Lothian in September 2024, and this is 4.6% more than a year ago and 3.2% lower than a month ago. Seven wards recorded a month to month fall between August and September 2024 and this ranged from 1.2% fall in Livingston South through to a 9.6% fall in Whitburn and Blackburn.

Table 19 West Lothian Claimant Count by Ward September 2024

Wards	Sepr 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants Aug 2024				
			Sep23 to Sep24	Aug24 to Sep24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Armadale & Blackridge	285	2.9	-3.4%	-3.4%	59.6%	40.4%	22.8%	56.1%	21.1%
Bathgate	420	2.7	0.0%	-2.3%	53.6%	45.2%	20.2%	57.1%	21.4%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	335	2.7	4.7%	3.1%	52.2%	47.8%	20.9%	56.7%	20.9%
East Livingston & E. Calder	370	2.5	2.8%	-7.5%	51.4%	48.6%	18.9%	64.9%	17.6%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	385	3.8	11.6%	2.7%	61.0%	39.0%	20.8%	63.6%	15.6%
Linlithgow	130	1.3	8.3%	-7.1%	53.8%	46.2%	15.4%	50.0%	34.6%
Livingston North	355	2.3	20.3%	-1.4%	54.9%	45.1%	16.9%	62.0%	21.1%
Livingston South	405	2.6	3.8%	-1.2%	54.3%	44.4%	17.3%	61.7%	21.0%
Whitburn & Blackburn	515	3.7	-1.0%	-9.6%	55.3%	44.7%	18.4%	60.2%	20.4%
West Lothian	3,200	2.7	4.6%	-3.2%	55.3%	44.7%	19.4%	60.2%	20.5%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

Overall, we can see that 55.3% of claimants in West Lothian are male whilst in Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley 61% of claimants are male. In West Lothian overall 19.4% of claimants are 16-24 years of age and the ward with the highest proportion of these younger claimants is Armadale and Blackridge where 22.8% are 16-24 years of age. Whilst 20.5% of claimants in West Lothian are 50 years of age or over this is a lot higher in Linlithgow where 34% of all claimants are 50 or over.

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

	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Aug23 to Aug 24	Jul 24 to Aug24
Armadale and Blackridge	513	590	596	16.2%	1.0%
Bathgate	758	893	898	18.5%	0.6%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	659	783	746	13.2%	-4.7%
East Livingston and East Calder	808	924	923	14.2%	-0.1%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	642	742	729	13.6%	-1.8%
Linlithgow	219	275	279	27.4%	1.5%
Livingston North	638	806	783	22.7%	-2.9%
Livingston South	860	1,008	996	15.8%	-1.2%
Whitburn and Blackburn	1,068	1,146	1,111	4.0%	-3.1%
Total	6,163	7,177	7,062	14.6%	-1.6%

Source: StatXplore 29/10/2024

Table 20 indicates that across West Lothian in August 2024 there were 7,062 individuals working and claiming Universal Credit which is 14.6% higher than a year ago but 1.6% lower than in June. We can also see that only one 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.

Turning now to look at Scottish Borders. Table 21 gives the current situation in the eleven Scottish Borders wards, the percentage change over the last twelve months and the change recorded between July and August 2024. From this table we can see that there were 2,095 people claiming in September which is 10.8% higher than September 2023 and 4.3% lower than in August. We can see that only one ward recorded a year on year fall and every ward apart from Selkirkshire (no change) and Tweeddale West (11.5% higher) recorded a fall in the claimant count between August and September. With respect to the claimant rate, we can see that this ranges from 2.1% of 16-64 year olds in Tweeddale East through to 4.6% of 16-64 year olds in Hawick and Denholm.

Table 21 Scottish Borders Claimant Count by Ward September 2024

Wards	Sep 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants Aug 2024				
			Sep23 to Sep24	Aug24 to Sep24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
East Berwickshire	190	3.2	22.6%	-2.6%	47.4%	52.6%	13.2%	55.3%	31.6%
Galashiels and District	345	3.5	-2.8%	-8.0%	58.0%	42.0%	20.3%	52.2%	26.1%
Hawick and Denholm	245	4.6	2.1%	-2.0%	59.2%	40.8%	20.4%	55.1%	24.5%
Hawick and Hermitage	210	4.3	16.7%	-2.3%	61.9%	38.1%	26.2%	47.6%	28.6%
Jedburgh and District	175	3.3	12.9%	-2.8%	48.6%	51.4%	22.9%	48.6%	25.7%
Kelso and District	160	2.9	3.2%	-5.9%	53.1%	50.0%	9.4%	56.3%	34.4%
Leaderdale & Melrose	140	2.2	16.7%	-12.5%	50.0%	50.0%	14.3%	64.3%	21.4%
Mid Berwickshire	175	3.0	20.7%	-7.9%	54.3%	48.6%	17.1%	45.7%	37.1%
Selkirkshire	175	3.2	25.0%	0.0%	54.3%	45.7%	17.1%	57.1%	25.7%
Tweeddale East	135	2.1	22.7%	-6.9%	51.9%	48.1%	14.8%	55.6%	33.3%
Tweeddale West	145	2.3	11.5%	11.5%	58.6%	41.4%	10.3%	55.2%	34.5%
Scottish Borders	2,095	3.1	10.8%	-4.3%	54.4%	45.6%	17.7%	53.2%	29.1%

Source: NOMIS 28/10/2024

The data in Table 21 also indicates that 54.4% of claimants were male, 17.7% were 16-24 years of age and 29.1% were over 50 years of age. In Hawick and Hermitage 61.9% of claimants were males, in East Berwickshire 52.6% were females. In terms of age cohorts 26.2% of claimants in Hawick and Hermitage were 16-24 years of age and in Mid Berwickshire 37.1% of claimants were fifty or over.

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

	Aug-23	Jul-24	Aug-24	Aug23 to Aug 24	Jul 24 to Aug24
East Berwickshire	365	442	446	22.2%	0.9%
Galashiels and District	569	599	605	6.3%	1.0%
Hawick and Denholm	385	426	434	12.7%	1.9%
Hawick and Hermitage	274	319	316	15.3%	-0.9%
Jedburgh and District	247	271	267	8.1%	-1.5%
Kelso and District	287	361	368	28.2%	1.9%
Leaderdale and Melrose	298	391	383	28.5%	-2.0%
Mid Berwickshire	344	381	388	12.8%	1.8%
Selkirkshire	284	315	327	15.1%	3.8%
Tweeddale East	202	268	257	27.2%	-4.1%
Tweeddale West	218	252	253	16.1%	0.4%
Total	3,478	4,023	4,032	15.9%	0.2%

Source: StatXplore 29/10/2024

Table 22 looks at the number of people in work and claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders. In August 2024 there were 4,032 people working who needed the support of Universal Credit. This is 15.9% higher than a year ago and 0.2% higher than last month. Only one ward, Galashiels and District, has over 500 people working and claiming Universal Credit. We can see that only four wards saw the claimant count for in work support fall between July and August and the others saw it increase by between 0.4% (Tweedale West) and 3.8% (Selkirkshire).

Chris Nicol, Business Intelligence Manager,
Capital City Partnership
1/11/2024

07462 432348
chris.nicol@capitalcitypartnership.org