

## Midlands Engine Claimant Count – December 2021 Release<sup>1</sup>

### Key Points:

- The Midlands Engine area had 319,150 claimants in November 2021, a decrease of 5,295 claimants (-1.6%) from October 2021, the UK decreased by 2.0% over this period. When compared to November 2020, the number of claimants decreased by 22.6% (-93,360) in the Midlands Engine area, while UK-wide decreased by 26.3%. The Midlands Engine area now has 97,610 more claimants since March 2020. This is an increase of 44.1%, while the UK overall figure has increased by 51.3%.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.8% compared to 3.5% for the UK in November 2021.
- In November 2021, there were 56,560 youth claimants in the Midlands Engine area, a decrease of 3.1% (-1,785) from October 2021, while for the UK there was a decrease of 3.2%. When compared to November 2020, the number of youth claimants decreased by 32.6% (-27,360) in the Midlands Engine area, while UK-wide decreased by 36.9%. The Midlands Engine area has 12,365 more youth claimants compared to March 2020. This is an increase of 28.0%, while the UK increased by 32.7%.
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.9% compared to 4.5% for the UK proportion in November 2021.

### In Detail:

#### Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

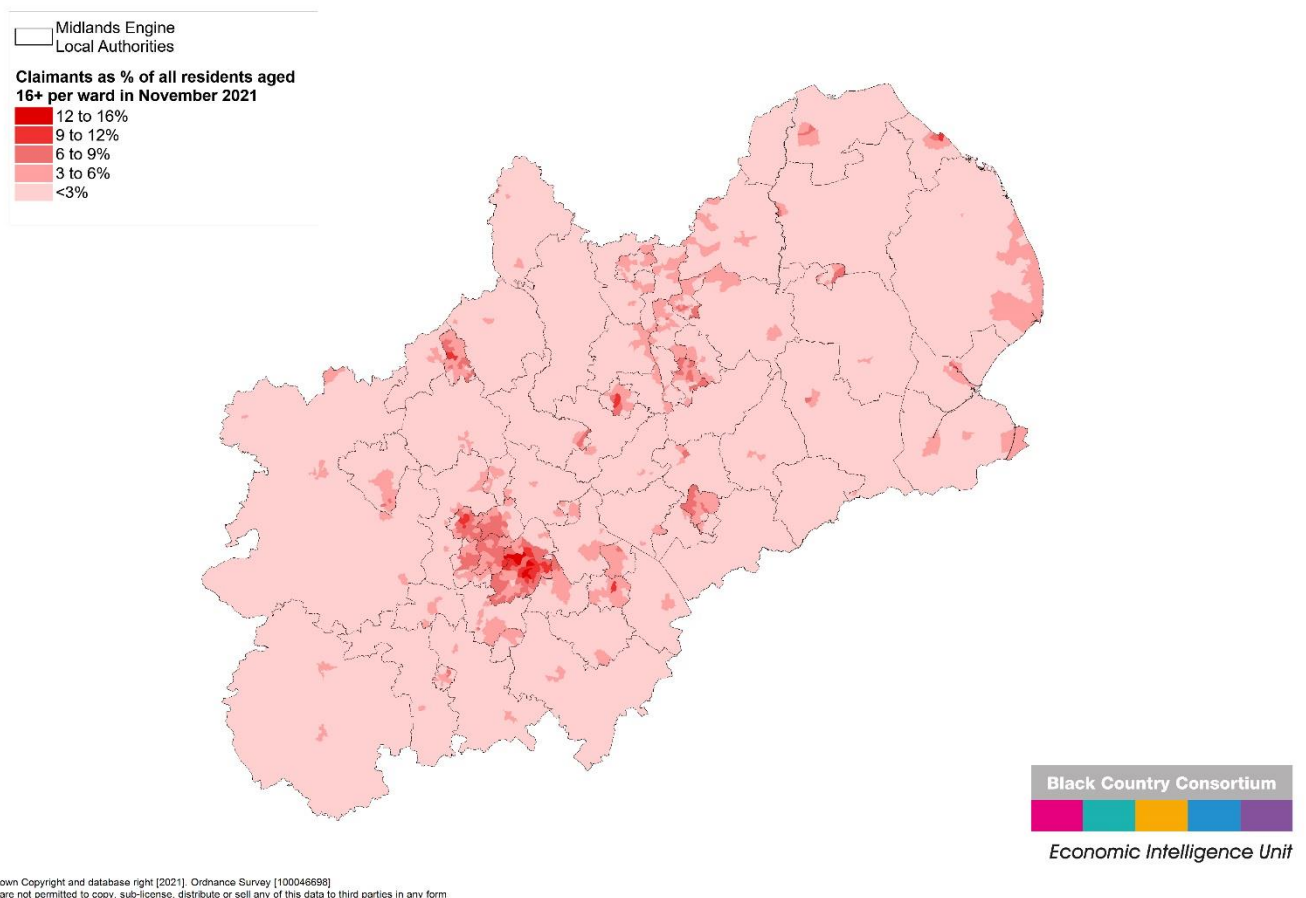
- There were 319,150 claimants aged 16 years and over in the Midlands Engine area in November 2021, this is a decrease of 5,295 claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 1.6% for the Midlands Engine area, compared to a 2.0% decrease across the UK. Out of the 65 local authorities within the Midlands Engine, 62 experienced a decrease - as Oadby and Wigston increased by 5 claimants, Blaby by 20 claimants and East Lindsey by 115 claimants.
- Since November 2020, the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has decreased by 93,360 (-22.6% compared to a decrease of 26.3% for the UK).
- Since March 2020 (221,540 claimants), the number of claimants in the Midlands Engine area has increased by 97,610 (+44.1% compared to +51.3% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of claimants as percentage of residents aged 16 years and over was 3.8% compared to 3.5% for the UK in November 2021.

#### Ward Analysis – Claimants Aged 16 Years and Over

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 426 were at or above the UK average of 3.5% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 years and over in November 2021.
- The wards with the highest the number of claimants as a percentage of the population were based in Birmingham, with Birchfield the highest with 15.7%. This is followed by Handsworth at 15.6% and then Aston and Lozells both at 14.5%.

<sup>1</sup> Office for National Statistics (ONS)/Department for Work and Pensions (DWP): Claimant Count – released December 2021

The following map shows claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 years and over in November 2021 across the Midlands Engine:



### Youth Claimants (Aged 16 – 24 Years Old)

- There were 56,560 youth claimants (16 – 24 years old) in the Midlands Engine area in November 2021, a decrease of 1,785 youth claimants since the previous month. This equates to a decrease of 3.1% with the UK decreasing by 3.2%. Six of the local authorities within the Midlands Engine experienced an increase in youth claimants (by +5 claimants each in Shropshire, Stafford, Chesterfield, Derbyshire Dales and South Holland, +20 claimants in East Lindsey), a further four local authorities (County of Herefordshire, Stratford-on-Avon, Blaby and Oadby & Wigston) remained at the same level when compared to October 2021.
- Since November 2020 (83,920), the number of youth claimants has decreased by 27,360 (-32.6% compared to -36.9% for the UK).
- Since March 2020 (44,195 claimants), the number of youth claimants has increased by 12,365 (+28.0% compared to +32.7% for the UK).
- Overall, for the Midlands Engine area the number of youth claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old was 4.9% compared to 4.5% for the UK proportion in November 2021.

### Ward Analysis – Youth Claimants

- Out of the 1,511 wards within the Midlands Engine, 641 were at or above the UK average of 4.5% for the number of claimants as a percentage of the population aged 16 – 24 years and over in November 2021.

- The ward with the highest the number of claimants as a percentage of the population was based in Portland (Mansfield) at 16.8%. This is followed East Marsh (North East Lincolnshire) at 14.0% and then Handsworth (Birmingham) at 13.6%.

The following map shows youth claimants as a percentage of residents aged 16 – 24 years old in November 2021:

