

Midlands Engine: Annual Population Survey: Year Ending September 2022¹

Key Points:

- In the year ending September 2022, the employment rate in the Midlands Engine area was 74.4%, compared to 75.5% for the UK overall. When compared to the year ending September 2021, the Midlands Engine area has increased by 0.7 percentage points (pp). The UK employment rate increased by 1.0pp over the same time period.
- The unemployment rate for the Midlands Engine was approximately 3.7% matching the UK rate in year ending September 2022. For the Midlands Engine, this is a decrease of approximately 1.3pp compared to a 1.2pp decrease nationally since the year ending September 2021.
- The economic activity rate for the Midlands Engine area was 77.6% in the year ending September 2022, compared to 78.4% for the UK. For the Midlands Engine area, the economic activity rate has decreased by 0.1pp since the year ending September 2021. The UK has also decreased by 0.1pp in the same period.
- For economic inactivity, the Midlands Engine rate was 22.4% for year ending September 2022, compared to 21.6% for the UK overall. Since the year ending September 2021, for the Midlands Engine area, this has increased by 0.1pp while the UK decreased by 0.1pp in the same period.

In Detail:

In the appendix is a table containing Midlands Engine local authority data for employment rate, unemployment rate, economic activity rate and economically inactive for year ending September 2022 and also the change from the year ending September 2021.

Employment Rate

- In the year ending September 2022, the employment rate in the Midlands Engine area was 74.4%, compared to 75.5% for the UK overall. When compared to the year ending September 2021, the Midlands Engine area has increased by 0.7 percentage points (pp). The UK employment rate increased by 1.0pp over the same time period.
- Within the Midlands Engine, 42 local authority areas have employment rates that were at or above the UK average (75.5%). South Staffordshire recorded the highest rate at 88.0%, down to East Lindsey with the lowest at 53.2%.
- Since the year ending September 2021, the employment rate in 42 of the Midlands Engine local authorities increased and 1 local authority (Harborough) remained the same level (79.6%). The highest percentage point increase in the employment rate was in West Lindsey by 16.2pp (to 84.2%), in contrast the highest percentage point decrease in the employment rate was in East Lindsey by 15.2pp (to 53.2%).

Unemployment Rate

- The unemployment rate for the Midlands Engine was approximately² 3.7% matching the UK rate in year ending September 2022. For the Midlands Engine, this is a decrease of approximately 1.3pp compared to a 1.2pp decrease nationally since the year ending September 2021.
- Where data is available across the Midlands Engine area, the unemployment rate varies from Boston which recorded the highest unemployment rate at 10.3%, down to Rugby at 1.3%.
- Where data is available, the highest percentage point increase in the unemployment rate was in East Lindsey by 3.0pp (to 9.0%), in contrast the highest percentage point decrease in the unemployment rate was in Blaby by 11.3pp (to 3.3%).

¹ Office for National Statistics (ONS): Annual Population Survey, released January 2023

² Please note, some estimates within the Midlands Engine are not available since the group sample size is zero or disclosive (0-2).

Economic Activity Rate

- The economic activity rate for the Midlands Engine area was 77.6% in the year ending September 2022, compared to 78.4% for the UK. For the Midlands Engine area, the economic activity rate has decreased by 0.1pp since the year ending September 2021. The UK has also decreased by 0.1pp in the same period.
- Within the Midlands Engine, 45 local authority areas have economically active rates that were above the UK average (78.4%). Blaby recorded the highest rate at 89.7%, down to East Lindsey with the lowest at 58.4%.
- Since the year ending September 2021, the economic activity rate in 39 of the Midlands Engine local authorities increased. The highest percentage point increase in the economic activity rate was in West Lindsey by 17.0pp (to 85.0%), in contrast the highest percentage point decrease in the economic activity rate was in East Lindsey by 14.3pp (to 58.4%).

Economic Inactivity²

- For economic inactivity, the Midlands Engine rate was 22.4% for year ending September 2022, compared to 21.6% for the UK overall. Since the year ending September 2021, for the Midlands Engine area, this has increased by 0.1pp while the UK decreased by 0.1pp in the same period.
- Economic inactivity can be broken down further into reasons of inactivity. For the year ending September 2022, the Midlands Engine had a higher percentage of people that were inactive when compared to the UK in one category; Looking after family/home (20.4% vs 19.5%).

Midlands Engine and UK Economic Inactivity by Reason, Year Ending September 2022:

	Midlands Engine	UK
Student	26.5%	27.0%
Looking after family/home	20.4%	19.5%
Sick	26.3%	27.8%
Retired	13.1%	13.9%
Other	9.1%	11.8%

Table may not equal 100% due to data gaps. Sick covers temporary and long-term sick and other includes other and discouraged.

Employment by Occupation

- The following table shows employment proportions by occupation for the Midlands Engine and the UK for the year ending September 2022. The Midlands Engine have a higher than the UK average percentage of people employed in four of the nine occupations, these include: administrative & secretarial occupations (10.3% vs 10.1%), skilled trades occupations (9.3% vs 8.7%), process, plant & machine operatives (7.5% vs 5.5%) and elementary occupations (11.6% vs 9.4%).

Midlands Engine and UK Employment by Occupation Proportions, Year Ending September 2022:

	Midlands Engine	UK
1: Managers, directors and senior officials	9.5%	10.4%
2: Professional occupations	23.5%	26.1%
3: Associate prof & tech occupations	13.4%	14.8%
4: Administrative and secretarial occupations	10.3%	10.1%
5: Skilled trades occupations	9.3%	8.7%
6: Caring, leisure and other service occupations	7.9%	8.0%
7: Sales and customer service occupations	6.3%	6.5%
8: Process, plant and machine operatives	7.5%	5.5%
9: Elementary occupations	11.6%	9.4%

Table may not equal 100% due to data gaps

Appendix

Employment activity for the working age population across the Midlands Engine local authorities for the year ending September 2022 and percentage point (pp) change since year ending September 2021:

	Economic activity rate		Employment rate		Unemployment rate		Economically inactive	
	Oct 21- Sep 22	PP change Oct 20- Sep 21	Oct 21- Sep 22	PP change Oct 20- Sep 21	Oct 21- Sep 22	PP change Oct 20- Sep 21	Oct 21- Sep 22	PP change Oct 20- Sep 21
Birmingham	71.2%	-1.0pp	65.4%	0.3pp	8.1%	-1.7pp	28.8%	1.0pp
Bromsgrove	77.8%	-7.9pp	74.0%	-10.5pp	4.7%	-	22.2%	7.9pp
Cannock Chase	87.7%	3.7pp	83.6%	7.7pp	4.6%	-5.1pp	12.3%	-3.7pp
Coventry	74.8%	1.0pp	70.5%	0.5pp	5.8%	0.5pp	25.2%	-1.0pp
Dudley	80.6%	-1.2pp	77.0%	-1.2pp	4.4%	-0.1pp	19.4%	1.2pp
East Staffordshire	82.1%	-0.6pp	78.7%	-0.7pp	4.1%	0.0pp	17.9%	0.6pp
Herefordshire, County of	79.0%	-2.1pp	76.6%	-1.8pp	3.1%	-0.2pp	21.0%	2.1pp
Lichfield	85.5%	9.2pp	83.4%	9.7pp	-	-	14.3%	-9.2pp
Malvern Hills	76.8%	-1.7pp	75.1%	3.0pp	-	-	23.2%	1.7pp
Newcastle-under-Lyme	79.0%	0.5pp	76.8%	2.5pp	-	-	21.0%	-0.5pp
North Warwickshire	86.1%	3.2pp	82.0%	0.1pp	-	-	13.9%	-3.2pp
Nuneaton and Bedworth	80.2%	-2.7pp	78.3%	-2.1pp	2.4%	-0.6pp	19.8%	2.7pp
Redditch	81.1%	3.0pp	78.7%	2.4pp	-	-	18.9%	-3.0pp
Rugby	87.6%	6.6pp	86.6%	8.1pp	1.3%	-1.9pp	12.2%	-6.6pp
Sandwell	67.8%	-10.4pp	63.6%	-9.6pp	6.2%	-0.2pp	32.2%	10.4pp
Shropshire	79.8%	2.4pp	76.8%	0.7pp	3.8%	2.2pp	20.2%	-2.4pp
Solihull	80.0%	-2.9pp	75.3%	-4.4pp	5.9%	2.0pp	20.0%	2.9pp
South Staffordshire	88.1%	9.4pp	88.1%	9.4pp	-	-	12.1%	-9.4pp
Stafford	78.9%	3.0pp	76.2%	1.6pp	-	-	21.1%	-3.0pp
Staffordshire Moorlands	85.6%	0.8pp	82.0%	-2.4pp	4.3%	-	14.4%	-0.8pp
Stoke-on-Trent	79.4%	0.3pp	76.7%	0.7pp	3.3%	-0.5pp	20.6%	-0.3pp
Stratford-on-Avon	83.1%	3.6pp	80.2%	4.4pp	3.4%	-1.2pp	16.9%	-3.6pp
Tamworth	85.4%	9.9pp	82.6%	7.2pp	-	-	14.6%	-9.9pp
Telford and Wrekin	79.6%	3.5pp	75.8%	3.4pp	4.7%	-0.1pp	20.5%	-3.5pp
Walsall	80.9%	6.3pp	75.4%	6.6pp	6.7%	-1.0pp	19.1%	-6.3pp
Warwick	82.8%	-3.2pp	80.3%	-2.2pp	3.1%	-1.1pp	17.3%	3.2pp
Wolverhampton	73.9%	-1.1pp	68.7%	-1.0pp	7.1%	0.1pp	26.1%	1.1pp
Worcester	82.6%	0.8pp	79.4%	-0.5pp	3.9%	-	17.4%	-0.8pp
Wychavon	87.1%	4.8pp	83.9%	1.9pp	3.6%	-	12.9%	-4.8pp
Wyre Forest	72.1%	-7.9pp	69.1%	-6.9pp	-	-	27.8%	7.9pp
Amber Valley	76.4%	-4.6pp	73.7%	-5.1pp	3.5%	0.8pp	23.6%	4.6pp
Ashfield	79.6%	-3.6pp	78.9%	-1.4pp	-	-	20.6%	3.6pp
Bassetlaw	84.5%	12.6pp	82.5%	11.3pp	-	-	15.6%	-12.6pp
Blaby	89.6%	3.5pp	86.7%	13.1pp	3.4%	-11.3pp	10.2%	-3.5pp
Bolsover	72.3%	-3.2pp	72.3%	1.3pp	-	-	27.7%	3.2pp
Boston	83.7%	0.7pp	75.3%	2.6pp	10.1%	-2.3pp	16.3%	-0.7pp
Broxtowe	76.4%	-2.8pp	71.4%	-4.5pp	6.5%	2.4pp	23.6%	2.8pp
Charnwood	81.4%	-6.0pp	80.0%	-3.7pp	1.8%	-2.6pp	18.6%	6.0pp
Chesterfield	80.6%	0.4pp	78.1%	2.7pp	-	-2.9pp	19.4%	-0.4pp
Derby	74.6%	-4.0pp	71.9%	-3.6pp	3.6%	-0.4pp	25.4%	4.0pp
Derbyshire Dales	69.2%	0.5pp	68.3%	2.7pp	-	-	31.0%	-0.5pp
East Lindsey	58.4%	-14.3pp	53.2%	-15.2pp	8.9%	3.0pp	41.6%	14.3pp
Erewash	79.1%	1.2pp	75.0%	-0.7pp	5.2%	2.3pp	20.9%	-1.2pp
Gedling	80.8%	2.5pp	78.6%	7.0pp	2.7%	-5.8pp	19.2%	-2.5pp
Harborough	80.4%	-5.4pp	79.6%	0.0pp	-	-	19.7%	5.4pp
High Peak	81.0%	5.1pp	80.2%	9.6pp	-	-	19.0%	-5.1pp
Hinckley and Bosworth	82.5%	-2.4pp	81.1%	0.3pp	-	-	17.5%	2.4pp
Leicester	70.2%	-1.6pp	66.1%	-0.3pp	5.7%	-1.7pp	29.8%	1.6pp
Lincoln	77.8%	4.5pp	77.1%	7.7pp	-	-	22.2%	-4.5pp
Mansfield	68.6%	1.9pp	66.2%	1.7pp	-	-	31.2%	-1.9pp
Melton	81.8%	0.6pp	80.5%	3.9pp	-	-	18.2%	-0.6pp
Newark and Sherwood	79.5%	5.9pp	78.9%	11.8pp	-	-	20.6%	-5.9pp
North East Derbyshire	71.3%	-13.0pp	70.2%	-12.5pp	-	-	28.7%	13.0pp
North Kesteven	84.0%	-1.9pp	83.3%	2.5pp	-	-	16.0%	1.9pp
North West Leicestershire	79.6%	2.2pp	77.7%	2.9pp	-	-	20.4%	-2.2pp
Nottingham	75.3%	-2.5pp	71.5%	-1.6pp	5.1%	-1.1pp	24.6%	2.5pp

	Economic activity rate		Employment rate		Unemployment rate		Economically inactive	
	Oct 21- Sep 22	PP change Oct 20- Sep 21	Oct 21- Sep 22	PP change Oct 20- Sep 21	Oct 21- Sep 22	PP change Oct 20- Sep 21	Oct 21- Sep 22	PP change Oct 20- Sep 21
Oadby and Wigston	83.1%	9.7pp	78.6%	5.2pp	5.4%	-	16.9%	-9.7pp
Rushcliffe	85.4%	2.2pp	85.4%	4.9pp	-	-	14.7%	-2.2pp
Rutland	83.0%	7.3pp	81.8%	9.6pp	-	-	17.0%	-7.3pp
South Derbyshire	83.2%	1.7pp	77.8%	1.3pp	6.2%	0.2pp	16.8%	-1.7pp
South Holland	80.1%	2.3pp	80.1%	4.2pp	-	-	19.9%	-2.3pp
South Kesteven	74.1%	-2.9pp	72.7%	-2.7pp	-	-	25.7%	2.9pp
West Lindsey	85.1%	17.0pp	84.2%	16.2pp	-	-	14.9%	-17.0pp
North East Lincolnshire	74.5%	0.7pp	72.3%	2.0pp	3.0%	-1.7pp	25.5%	-0.7pp
North Lincolnshire	78.7%	4.7pp	77.5%	6.0pp	1.6%	-1.7pp	21.2%	-4.7pp
Midlands Engine	77.6%	0.0pp	74.4%	0.7pp	3.7%	-1.3pp	22.4%	0.0pp
UK	78.4%	0.1pp	75.5%	1.0pp	3.7%	-1.2pp	21.6%	-0.1pp

- Denotes missing data