

# Unemployed Claimants Database

## 1. Introduction

Unemployment is a key measure of deprivation and hardship. The Claimant database provides information on the number of people claiming benefit principally for the reason of being unemployed. From April 2015, the Claimant count includes all Universal Credit claimants who are required to seek work and be available for work, as well as all Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants. JSA claimants are gradually being moved onto the Universal Credit system but there are still some on the old system. The claimant database also includes people who claim unemployment-related benefits but who do not receive payment. For example, some claimants will have had their benefits stopped for a limited period.

The Department of Work and Pensions publish monthly counts of the numbers of claimants broken out by gender, and age, for 2021 Lower Level Super Output Areas (LSOA's) in England and Wales and for 2021 DataZones in Scotland. In total there are 43,064 such areas in Great Britain which makes them a reasonably small geographic area averaging around 1,500 residents. Using the census counts of the number of households in each area, claimant rates per 000 households by gender and age were calculated for each LSOA or Data Zone. These rates were then linked to postcodes so that all postcodes within the same LSOA or Data Zone has the same set of rates, and a postcode directory was compiled. This allows the data to be easily overlaid onto any database through a simple postcode match to enable areas with high or low claimant rates to be easily identified. The directory does show some postcodes with no households, but figures for unemployment and this is because all postcodes within the same LSOA are shown as having the same rate.

## 2. Information Held

Information is held in a directory with job seekers claimant rates for June 2025 and holds the following information for 2,628,671 postcodes in Great Britain:-

1. Postcode 1 Space Between Inward & Outward Postcode
2. Region
3. Number of households in the postcode (Census information)
4. Rate for All Claimants per 000 households in April 2026
5. Rate for All Claimants per 000 households banded into equal sized Semi-Deciles – a simple way of identifying areas by claimant rates quickly and easily
6. Rate for Male Claimants per 000 households in April 2026
7. Rate for Female Claimants per 000 households in April 2026
8. Rate for Claimants aged 16-24 per 000 households in April 2026
9. Rate for Claimants 25-29 per 000 households in April 2026
10. Rate for Claimants 30-34 per 000 Households in April 2026
11. Rate for Claimants 35-39 per 000 Households in April 2026
12. Rate for Claimants 40-44 per 000 Households in April 2026
13. Rate for Claimants 45-49 per 000 Households in April 2026
14. Rate for Claimants 50-54 per 000 Households in April 2026
15. Rate for Claimants 55-59 per 000 Households in April 2026
16. Rate for Claimants 60+ per 000 Households in April 2026

### 3. Claimant Database Audit

The average claimant rate across the country is 62.36 claimants per 000 households. The rate is higher amongst males, and those in the oldest age group.

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
All Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	61.3563	53.14942
Male Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	34.6085	32.44400
Female Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	26.6926	23.00240
16-24 Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	11.9388	11.59658
25-29 Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	7.1713	8.76708
30-34 Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	6.9339	8.03855
35-39 Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	7.4434	8.30736
40-44 Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	6.8025	7.94368
45-49 Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	5.5058	7.01098
50-54 Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	4.3821	5.77048
55-59 Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	3.8951	5.09682
60+ Claimants Rate per 1000 Households	27290087	3.6459	5.09910
Valid N (listwise)	27290087		

The second table shows the regional variations in unemployment. The table shows strong variations with the Inner and Outer London having significantly higher claimant rates than elsewhere.

All Claimants Rate per 1000 Households

Region	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
1 - North East	1175690	54.5853	39.72177
2 - North West	3153769	64.3739	53.57218
3 - Yorks & Humberside	2330876	62.9763	59.42706
4 - East Midlands	2037415	54.5327	43.51735
5 - West Midlands	2429400	83.2037	84.60400
6 - East of England	2628772	50.7063	37.33194
7 - Inner London	1304019	106.0917	59.57743
8 - Outer London	2120222	99.4023	56.79143
9 - South East	3807928	49.5039	35.22252
10 - South West	2448771	40.9430	27.99895
12 – Scotland	2506279	44.0513	38.33087
13 – Wales	1346946	48.7200	32.32472
Total	27290087	61.3563	53.14942

The final table provides information to easily identify areas by the claimant rate.

**All Claimants Rate per 1000 Households (Banded into Semi-Deciles)**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid <= 13.40 Claimants per 1000 Households	1360513	5.0	5.0	5.0
13.41 - 16.69	1362299	5.0	5.0	10.0
16.70 - 20.16	1361091	5.0	5.0	15.0
20.17 - 23.36	1363464	5.0	5.0	20.0
23.37 - 26.25	1380247	5.1	5.1	25.0
26.26 - 29.63	1362756	5.0	5.0	30.0
29.64 - 32.57	1354508	5.0	5.0	35.0
32.58 - 36.28	1376746	5.0	5.0	40.0
36.29 - 40.05	1355899	5.0	5.0	45.0
40.06 - 44.44	1363176	5.0	5.0	50.0
44.45 - 49.26	1376895	5.0	5.0	55.0
49.27 - 55.15	1349392	4.9	4.9	60.0
55.16 - 61.81	1370978	5.0	5.0	65.0
61.82 - 70.00	1367183	5.0	5.0	70.0
70.01 - 79.74	1362293	5.0	5.0	75.0
79.75 - 91.74	1370540	5.0	5.0	80.0
91.75 - 106.91	1357985	5.0	5.0	85.0
106.92 - 127.80	1366688	5.0	5.0	90.0
127.81 - 162.21	1362848	5.0	5.0	95.0
162.22+ Claimants per 1000 Households	1364586	5.0	5.0	100.0
Total	27290087	100.0	100.0	

The table shows strong variation with the 5% of areas with the highest claimant rate being at least 12 times larger than areas with the very lowest rates.

**David Griffiths**  
**TRAC Consultancy**  
**Tel. 07799 840133**  
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