

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 time period.

The Department of Work and Pensions publish monthly counts of the numbers of claimant broken out by gender, age for 2011 Lower Level Super Output Areas (LSOA's) in England and Wales and for 2011 DataZones in Scotland. In total there are 41,729 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 had 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.

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 June 2025
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 June 2025
7. Rate for Female Claimants per 000 households in June 2025
8. Rate for Claimants aged 16-24 per 000 households in June 2025
9. Rate for Claimants 25-29 per 000 households in June 2025
10. Rate for Claimants 30-34 per 000 Households in June 2025
11. Rate for Claimants 35-39 per 000 Households in June 2025
12. Rate for Claimants 40-44 per 000 Households in June 2025
13. Rate for Claimants 45-49 per 000 Households in June 2025
14. Rate for Claimants 50-54 per 000 Households in June 2025
15. Rate for Claimants 55-59 per 000 Households in June 2025
16. Rate for Claimants 60+ per 000 Households in June 2025

3. Claimant Database Audit

The average claimant rate across the country is 62.17 claimants per 000 households. The rate is higher amongst males, and those in the oldest age group.

Descriptive Statistics			
	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
All Claimants rate per 000 Households	27290087	62.1728	55.54823
All Male Claimants rate per 000 Households	27290087	34.6421	33.04902
All Female Claimants rate per 000 Households	27290087	27.5025	24.55419
Aged 16-24 Claimants rate per 000 Households	27290087	10.8186	11.11910
Aged 25-29 Claimants rate per 000 Households	27290087	7.0767	8.47123
Aged 30-34 Claimants rate per 000 Households	27290087	7.2656	8.18826
Aged 35-39 Claimants rate per 000 Households	27290087	7.9111	8.77318
Aged 40-44 Claimants rate per 000 Households	27290087	7.3140	8.51251
Aged 45-49 Claimants rate per 000 Households	27290087	5.8651	7.61348
Aged 50+ Claimants rate per 000 Households	27290087	14.3605	13.20279
Valid N (listwise)	27290087		

The second table shows the regional variations in unemployment.

All Claimants rate per 000 Households

Region	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
1 - North East	55.0952	40.45944	1175692
2 - North West	65.0428	56.13189	3153769
3 - Yorks & Humberside	64.5016	62.62880	2330871
4 - East Midlands	55.1507	45.12638	2037420
5 - West Midlands	85.4818	88.88413	2429405
6 - East of England	50.6034	39.23741	2628771
7 - Inner London	111.7556	61.03272	1304045
8 - Outer London	104.4895	60.16633	2120172
9 - South East	48.7979	35.79878	3807950
10 - South West	40.1671	27.02245	2448771
12 - Scotland	42.4853	35.97993	2506279
13 - Wales	48.5990	32.34200	1346942
Total	62.1728	55.54823	27290087

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

All Claimant Rate per 000 Households banded into twenty equal sized groups

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1 - Low Unemployment	1365272	5.0	5.0	5.0
	2	1368639	5.0	5.0	10.0
	3	1359293	5.0	5.0	15.0
	4	1360525	5.0	5.0	20.0
	5	1371676	5.0	5.0	25.0
	6	1360763	5.0	5.0	30.0
	7	1365429	5.0	5.0	35.0
	8	1376595	5.0	5.0	40.0
	9	1346222	4.9	4.9	45.0
	10	1370746	5.0	5.0	50.0
	11	1363924	5.0	5.0	55.0
	12	1362600	5.0	5.0	60.0
	13	1366718	5.0	5.0	65.0
	14	1364510	5.0	5.0	70.0
	15	1372346	5.0	5.0	75.0
	16	1353587	5.0	5.0	80.0
	17	1368533	5.0	5.0	85.0
	18	1366664	5.0	5.0	90.0
	19	1363071	5.0	5.0	95.0
	20 - High Unemployment	1362974	5.0	5.0	100.0
	Total	27290087	100.0	100.0	

David Griffiths
TRAC Consultancy
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