

Overall Unemployment

Universal Credit + JSA claimants

ENGLAND



SOLIHULL

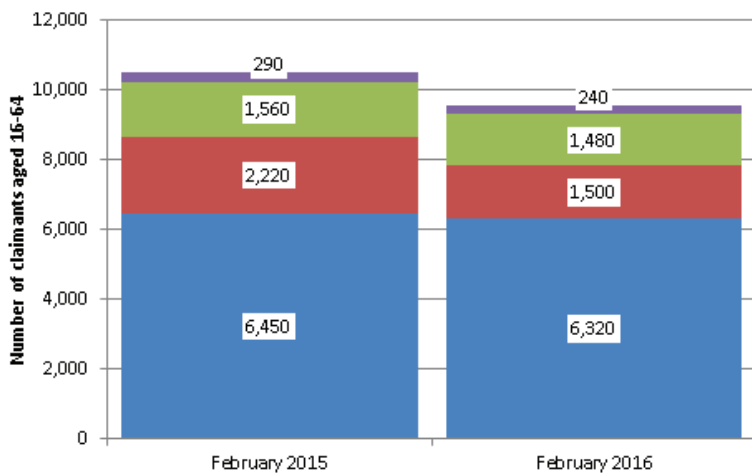
Youth Unemployment

Universal Credit + JSA claimants

ENGLAND



SOLIHULL



Out of Work Benefit Claimants (Worklessness) in Solihull February 2016

- ESA and Incapacity Benefits
- Job Seekers Allowance
- Lone Parents on Income Support
- Others on Income related benefit

Destination Work Update

The Destination Work training and support programme delivered by Standguide in Chelmsley Wood, commenced in December 2014 and continues to produce positive outcomes for young people:

- A total of 708 young people engaged on a 2 week activity programme were supported by a personal mentor;
- Of those young people engaged, a total of 277 gained employment, with an additional 2 taking up self-employment;
- Of the 279 into employment, a total of 24 young people were placed in Apprenticeships;
- Of the 279 young people into employment, 85 achieved sustained employment;
- From the 279 young people into employment, 158 of those were Solihull residents.

Birmingham City Council, (the lead accountable body for Destination Work) offered to extend referrals of young people onto the programme for mentoring activity only. However, Standguide did not wish to take up this opportunity and are working to maximise current outcomes for their existing customers. The project will cease on 31 March 2017.

This briefing introduces a new headline measure for claimant unemployment in Solihull, which is more representative of the true level of benefit related unemployment than Job Seekers Allowance (JSA). Since June 2015 there has been a phased introduction of Universal Credit (UC) in Solihull which has replaced a number of existing benefits, including JSA for new claimants. These new claimants would probably be receiving JSA in the absence of UC; therefore focusing only on JSA figures does not give a wholly representative view on the current level of unemployment. Headline claimant unemployment will therefore combine JSA claimants and those UC claimants who are required to be available for and actively seeking work.

The new headline measure of claimant is available down to ward level on an age and gender basis.









It should be noted that as the ONS is still working on the methodology for creating these figures they are liable to retrospective revision. In July 2016, figures dating back to April 2015 were revised by the ONS.

Headline Claimant Unemployment

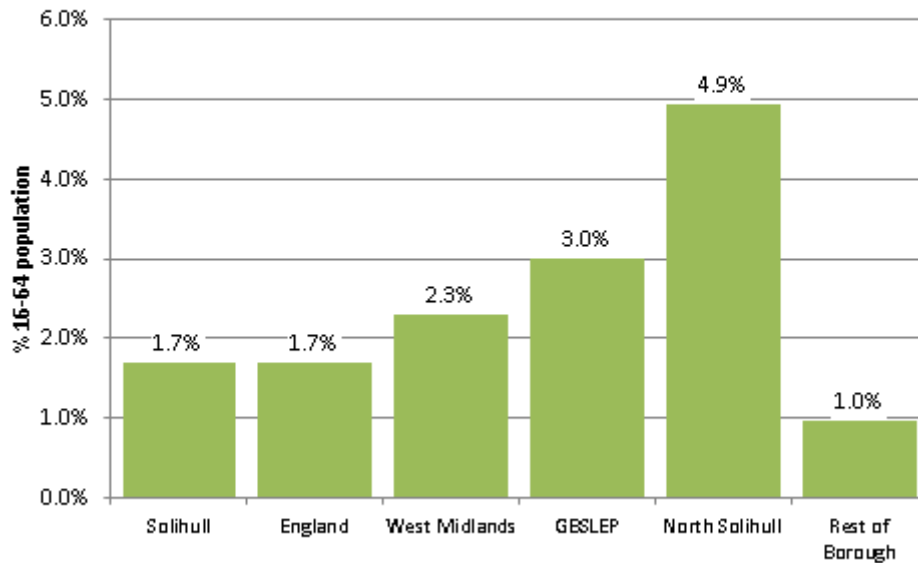
In July 2016 there were 2,130 individuals in Solihull claiming either Job Seekers Allowance or receiving Universal Credit and actively seeking work. This represents a claimant unemployment rate of 1.7%.

On this basis the headline claimant unemployment rate in Solihull is in-line with the England average, but below that for the West Midlands (2.3%) and Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP (3.0%).

Around 54% of claimants in Solihull (1,145 individuals) live in the three North Solihull regeneration wards (Chelmsley Wood, Kingshurst & Fordbridge and Smith's Wood) where the rate is 4.9% compared with 1.0% across the rest of the Borough.

Working Age Claimant Unemployment (JSA+UC claimants) – July 2016						
Area	Claimant Count July 2016	% 16-64		Annual Change (July 2015-2016)		
		July 2015	July 2016	Count	%	Trend
Solihull	2,130	1.5%	1.7%	+225	+12%	
<i>North Solihull</i>	1,145	4.4%	4.9%	+130	+13%	
<i>Rest of Borough</i>	990	0.9%	1.0%	+100	+11%	
England	598,865	1.8%	1.7%	-17,670	-3%	
West Midlands	82,035	2.2%	2.3%	+2,915	+4%	
GBSLEP	37,060	2.9%	3.0%	+1,430	+4%	
Other Comparators						
Met Councils	207,900	2.8%	2.8%	-4,415	-2%	
CIPFA Comparator Councils	29,430	1.3%	1.3%	-900	-3%	
Data Source: ONS/Nomis						

Headline Claimant Unemployment July 2016

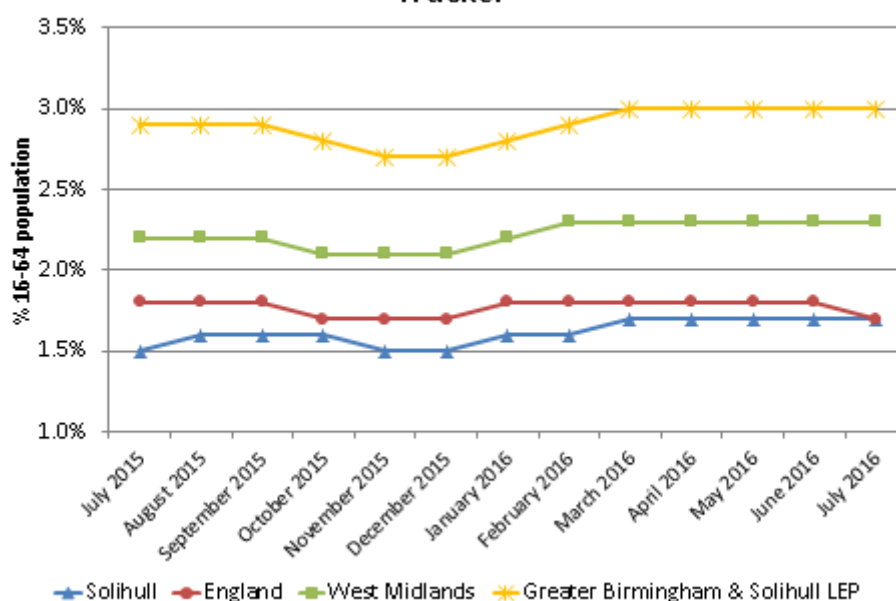


Source: ONS/Nomis and DWP/StatXplore

The claimant unemployment count in Solihull increased by 0.7% (+15 individuals) between June and July 2016. The number of claimants in Solihull is now 12% higher than in July 2015 (+225 individuals). This is broadly in-line with the regional trend, but contrasts with a slight fall across England as a whole (-3%). The number of claimants in North Solihull increased by +13% (+130 individuals) over the last year, mirroring a rise across the rest of the borough (+11%, +100 individuals).

The rise in the number of claimants in Solihull between July 2015 and 2016 resulted in an increase in the claimant unemployment rate of 20 percentage points (from 1.5% to 1.7%). The rate increased in both North Solihull (from 4.4% to 4.9%) and across the rest of the Borough (from 0.9% to 1.0%) over this period.

Headline Claimant Unemployment Rates: 12 Month Tracker



Source: ONS/Nomis and DWP/StatXplore

Gender Breakdown

Around 63% of Solihull claimants are male (1,335 individuals) and 37% female (795 individuals), which is broadly consistent with the gender split nationally. The claimant unemployment rate in Solihull is below the national average for females and the same for males.

	Claimant Unemployment by Gender - July 2016					
	Count		% all claimants		Rate	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Solihull	1,335	795	63%	37%	2.2%	1.2%
England	377,315	221,550	63%	37%	2.2%	1.3%
West Midlands	52,400	29,635	64%	36%	2.9%	1.7%
GBSLEP	24,040	13,020	65%	35%	3.9%	2.1%

Data Source: ONS/Nomis

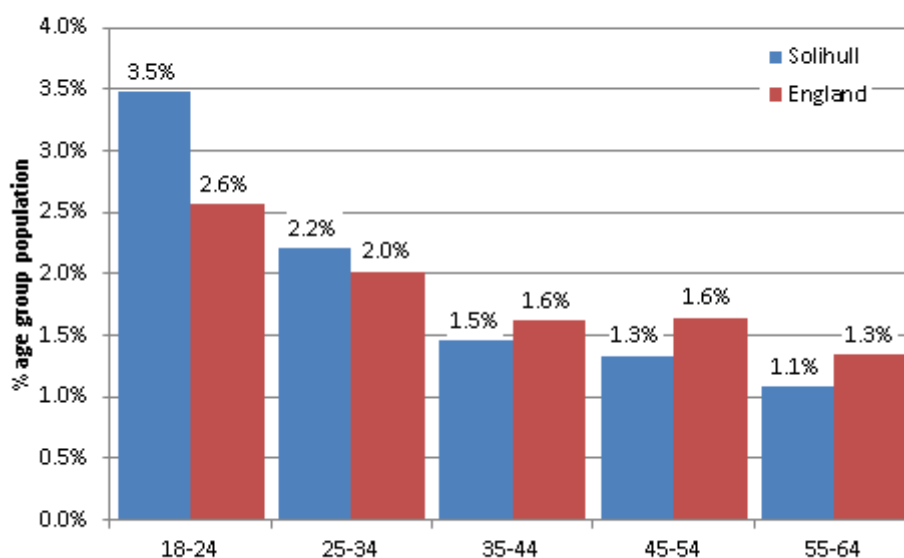
Age Breakdown

In July 2016 a half of all claimants in Solihull were under the age of 35, with 18-24 year olds the largest single group (560 individuals, 26% of all claimants). This is consistent with the distribution of claimants nationally and is as much due to increasing take up of other benefits, particularly sickness benefits such as Employment Support Allowance, among older age groups as increasing employment rates.

Solihull's claimant unemployment rate is above the England average among 18-24 year olds and is also marginally higher for those aged 25-34 years. However, it is below average among older age groups.

	Solihull Claimants July 2016		Rates (% Age Group)	
	Claimant Count	% Total	Solihull	England
Age 18-24	560	26%	3.5%	2.6%
Age 25-34	505	24%	2.2%	2.0%
Age 35-44	370	17%	1.5%	1.6%
Age 45-54	425	20%	1.3%	1.6%
Age 55-64	270	13%	1.1%	1.3%
Total	2,130		1.7%	1.7%
Source: ONS/Nomis				

Headline Unemployment Rates by Age Group July 2016



Source: ONS/Nomis and DWP/StatXplore

Youth Unemployment (18-24 year olds)

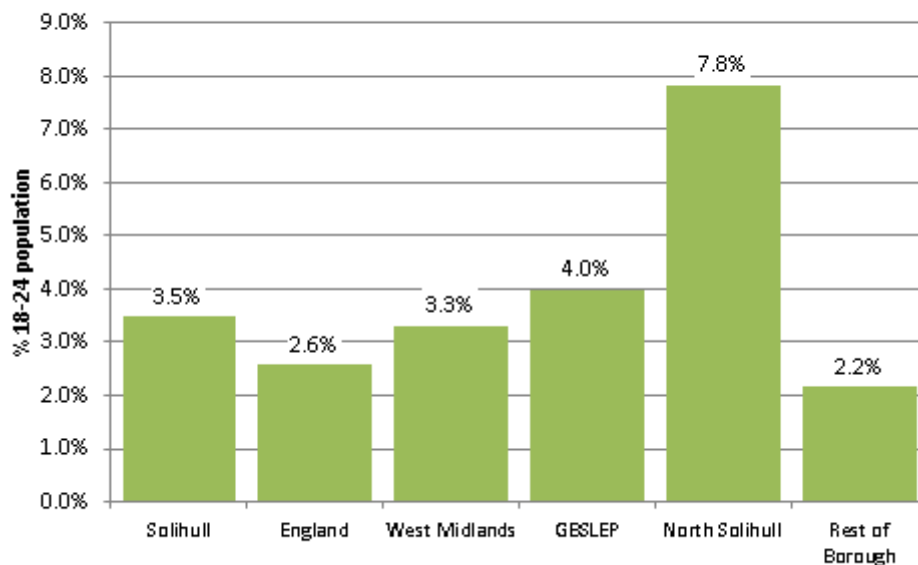
In July 2016 there were 560 18-24 year olds in Solihull claiming either Job Seekers Allowance or receiving Universal Credit and actively seeking work. This represents an 18-24 year old claimant unemployment rate of 3.5%.

On this basis the 18-24 claimant unemployment rate in Solihull is higher than the England average (2.6%), and marginally above that for the West Midlands (3.3%). In order to match the England average rate the number of 18-24 year old claimants in Solihull would have to fall by nearly 150.

Around 53% (295 individuals) of 18-24 year old claimants live in the three North Solihull regeneration wards (Chelmsley Wood, Kingshurst & Fordbridge and Smith's Wood), where the rate is nearly four times higher than across the rest of the Borough (7.8% compared to 2.2%).

18-24 Claimant Unemployment (JSA+UC claimants) – July 2016						
Area	Claimant Count July 2016	% 18-24		Annual Change (July 2015-2016)		
		July 2015	July 2016	Count	%	Trend
Solihull	560	3.1%	3.5%	+55	+11%	↑
<i>North Solihull</i>	295	8.2%	7.8%	-15	-5%	↓
<i>Rest of Borough</i>	265	1.6%	2.2%	+70	+36%	↑
England	126,415	2.8%	2.6%	-10,205	-7%	↓
West Midlands	17,865	3.3%	3.3%	+300	+2%	↑
GBSLEP	8,080	3.8%	4.0%	+305	+4%	↑
Other Comparators						
Met Councils	46,530	4.2%	3.8%	-3,745	-7%	↓
CIPFA Comparator Councils	6,615	2.3%	2.1%	-575	-8%	↓
Data Source: ONS/Nomis						

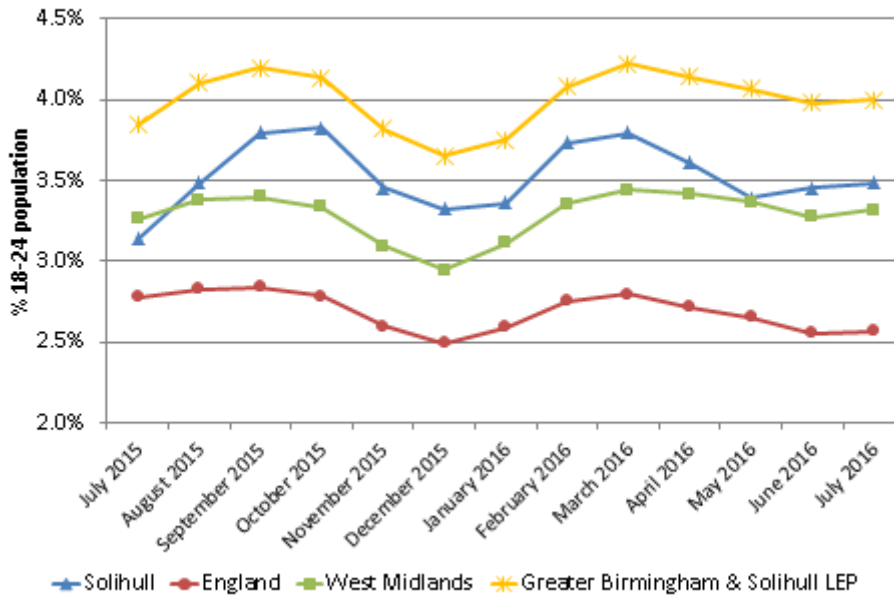
18-24 Claimant Unemployment July 2016



Source: ONS/Nomis and DWP/StatXplore

The number of 18-24 year old claimants in Solihull increased by +11% (+55 individuals) between July 2015 and 2016. The rate among this group has risen from 3.1% to 3.5% as a result, although there have been substantial seasonal fluctuations during this period. The number of claimants in North Solihull fell by -5% in the year to July 2016 (-15 individuals), although this was not enough to offset an increase in the rest of the Borough of +36%, (+70 individuals).

Youth Claimant Unemployment Rates (18-24 Year olds): 12 Month Tracker

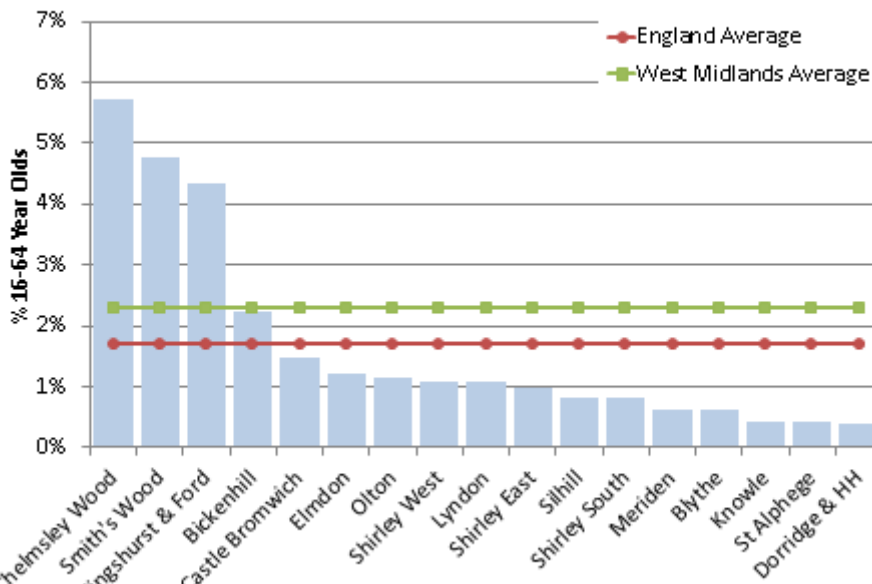


Source: ONS/Nomis and DWP/StatXplore

Ward Claimant Unemployment


















Only three wards in Solihull have a claimant unemployment rate higher than the West Midlands average: Chelmsley Wood (5.7%), Smith's Wood (4.8%) and Kingshurst & Fordbridge (4.3%).

Ward Claimant Unemployment July 2016



Source: ONS/NOMIS

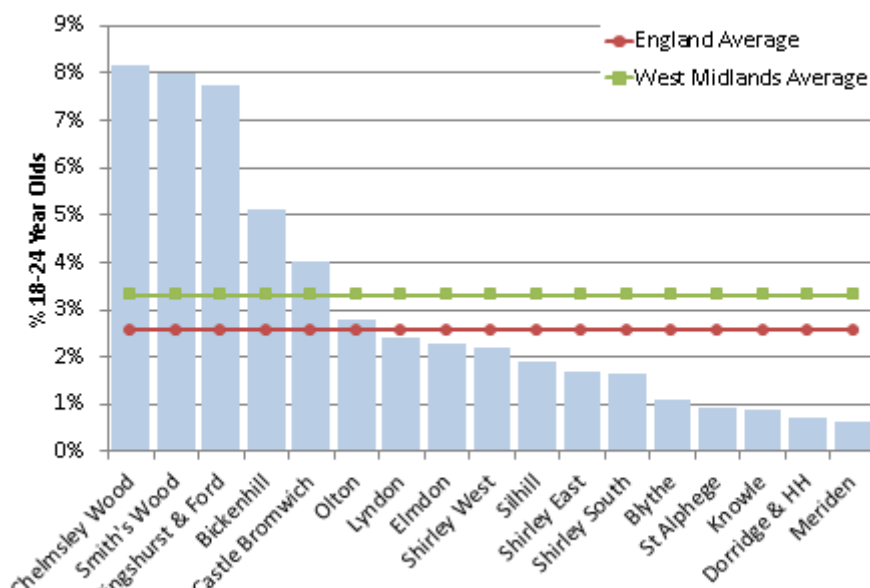
Between July 2015 and 2016 claimant unemployment increased in 11 out of Solihull's 17 wards, with falls in just in three.

Claimant Unemployment – July 2016						
	Count July 2016	% 16-64		Annual Change (July 2015-2016)		
		July 2015	July 2016	Count	%	Trend
Bickenhill	170	2.1%	2.2%	+10	+6%	
Blythe	55	0.4%	0.6%	+20	+57%	
Castle Bromwich	105	1.5%	1.5%	0	0%	
Chelmsley Wood	430	5.1%	5.7%	+45	+12%	
Dorridge & Hockley Heath	25	0.3%	0.4%	+5	+25%	
Elmdon	90	0.9%	1.2%	+20	+29%	
Kingshurst & Fordbridge	345	4.1%	4.3%	+20	+6%	
Knowle	25	0.4%	0.4%	0	0%	
Lyndon	90	1.1%	1.1%	0	0%	
Meriden	45	0.7%	0.6%	-5	-10%	
Olton	85	0.9%	1.1%	+20	+31%	
Shirley East	70	0.8%	1.0%	+15	+27%	
Shirley South	60	0.6%	0.8%	+15	+33%	
Shirley West	80	1.2%	1.1%	-5	-6%	
Silhill	60	0.6%	0.8%	+15	+33%	
Smith's Wood	370	3.9%	4.8%	+65	+21%	
St Alphege	35	0.5%	0.4%	-5	-13%	
Data Source: ONS/Nomis						

Ward 18-24 Claimant Unemployment

Five wards in Solihull have an 18-24 year old claimant unemployment rate higher than the West Midlands average: Chelmsley Wood (8.2%), Smith's Wood (8.0%), Kingshurst & Fordbridge (7.7%), Bickenhill (5.1%) and Castle Bromwich (4.0%).

Ward 18-24 Claimant Unemployment July 2016



Source: ONS/NOMIS

Between July 2015 and 2016 the number of 18-24 year old claimants fell in two out of the three North Solihull wards. In the Rest of the Borough there were increases in seven wards.

18-24 Claimant Unemployment – July 2016						
	Count July 2016	% 18-24		Annual Change (July 2015-2016)		
		July 2015	July 2016	Count	%	Trend
Bickenhill	50	3.6%	5.1%	+15	+43%	↑
Blythe	10	0.6%	1.1%	+5	+100%	↑
Castle Bromwich	40	3.0%	4.0%	+10	+33%	↑
Chelmsley Wood	100	9.0%	8.2%	-10	-9%	↓
Dorridge & Hockley Heath	5	0.7%	0.7%	0	0%	↔
Elmdon	20	2.3%	2.3%	0	0%	↔
Kingshurst & Fordbridge	100	8.1%	7.7%	-5	-5%	↓
Knowle	5	0.9%	0.9%	0	0%	↔
Lyndon	25	2.4%	2.4%	0	0%	↔
Meriden	5	0.6%	0.6%	0	0%	↔
Olton	25	1.7%	2.8%	+10	+67%	↑
Shirley East	15	0.6%	1.7%	+10	+200%	↑
Shirley South	15	1.1%	1.7%	+5	+50%	↑
Shirley West	20	2.2%	2.2%	0	0%	↔
Silhill	15	1.3%	1.9%	+5	+50%	↑

Smith's Wood	100	8.0%	8.0%	0	0%	
St Alphege	10	0.9%	0.9%	0	0%	
Source: Claimant Count, ONS/Nomis						

Worklessness

In line with Government guidance, worklessness is defined as the number of working age people claiming a key out of work benefit (Jobseekers Allowance, Employment Support Allowance/Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents on Income Support, Others on Income Related Benefit). The Department of Work and Pensions has now released the data for February 2016.

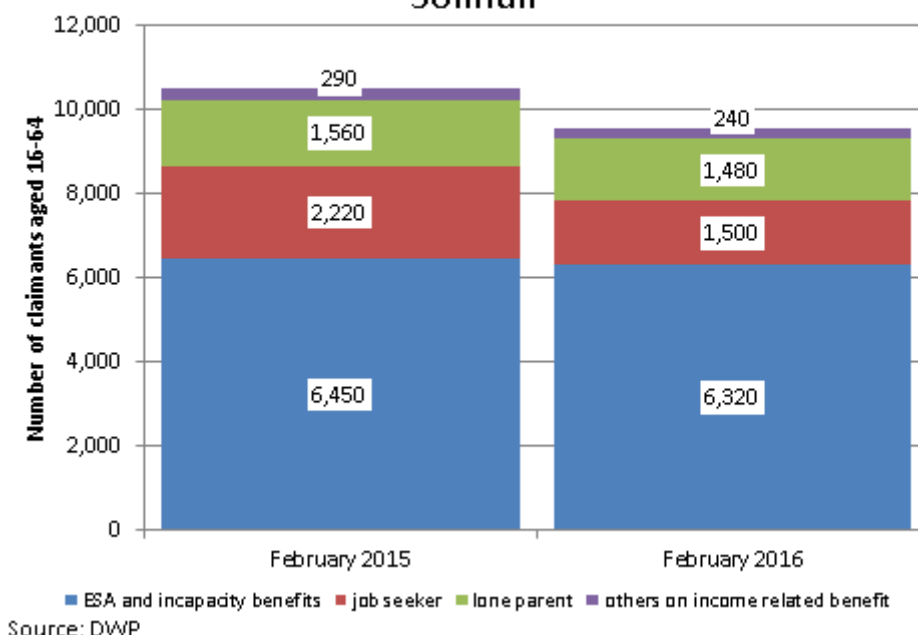
In February 2016 there were 9,530 individuals in Solihull claiming a key out of work benefit, equating to a worklessness rate of 7.5%. This is below the England (8.7%), West Midlands (9.9%) and Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP (10.9%) averages and the lowest it has been since records began in 1999. Between February 2015 and 2016 the number of claimants in Solihull fell by -9% (-990 individuals), a sharper reduction than across England as a whole.

Slightly less than 19% of 16-64 year olds in the three North Solihull regeneration wards claim an out of work benefit compared with around 5% in the rest of the Borough.

Out of Work Benefit Claimants (Worklessness) – February 2016						
	Count Feb 2016	% 16-64		Annual Change (Feb 2015-2016)		
		Feb 2015	Feb 2016	Count	%	Trend
Solihull	9,530	8.3%	7.5%	-990	-9%	
<i>North Solihull</i>	4,430	20.8%	18.8%	-480	-10%	
<i>Rest of Borough</i>	5,110	5.3%	4.9%	-420	-8%	
England	2,990,210	9.4%	8.7%	-238,160	-7%	
West Midlands	354,590	10.7%	9.9%	-29,080	-8%	
GBSLEP	135,560	11.9%	10.9%	-12,650	-9%	
Source: DWP/Nomis						

In the course of the last year there were falls in Solihull in the number of claimants of all types of out of work benefits, including a reduction of -720 individuals claiming Job Seekers Allowance, -130 claiming ESA/Incapacity benefit and -80 Lone Parents on Income Support.

Out of Work Benefit Claimants (Worklessness) in Solihull



Methodology Notes

Universal Credit

From May 2015 onwards there has been a phased introduction of Universal Credit (UC) in Solihull which will replace a number existing benefits including (means tested) Job Seekers Allowance for new claimants.

The Pathfinder for UC started on 29 April 2013 and the programme is being gradually rolled out across the country. At the moment UC is only available to single claimants without a partner and without child dependents (hence why more than half of current UC claimants in Solihull are under the age of 35 years).

In response to the growing number of areas introducing UC the ONS have announced a change to the definition of the measurement of the Claimant Count. From May 2015 the ONS headline measure of the Claimant Count was changed to include out of work claimants of Universal Credit. In July 2016 this definition was again changed so that only those Universal Credit claimants who are required to be available for and actively seeking work are included. This change resulted in the ONS retrospectively revising figures dating back to April 2015

Comparator Areas

Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP): Birmingham, Solihull, Cannock Chase, East Staffordshire, Lichfield, Tamworth, Bromsgrove, Redditch, Wyre Forest

Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) nearest neighbour comparator Local Authorities: Bedford, Central Bedfordshire, Bury, Chester East, Chester West &

Chester, Stockport, Trafford, Warrington, Bath & North East Somerset, North Somerset, Poole, South Gloucestershire, Swindon, Wiltshire, York

Metropolitan Councils: Gateshead, Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside, South Tyneside, Sunderland, Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford, Wigan, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens, Wirral, Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham, Sheffield, Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds, Wakefield, Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall, Wolverhampton.