

Overall Unemployment

Universal Credit + JSA claimants

ENGLAND



SOLIHULL

Youth Unemployment

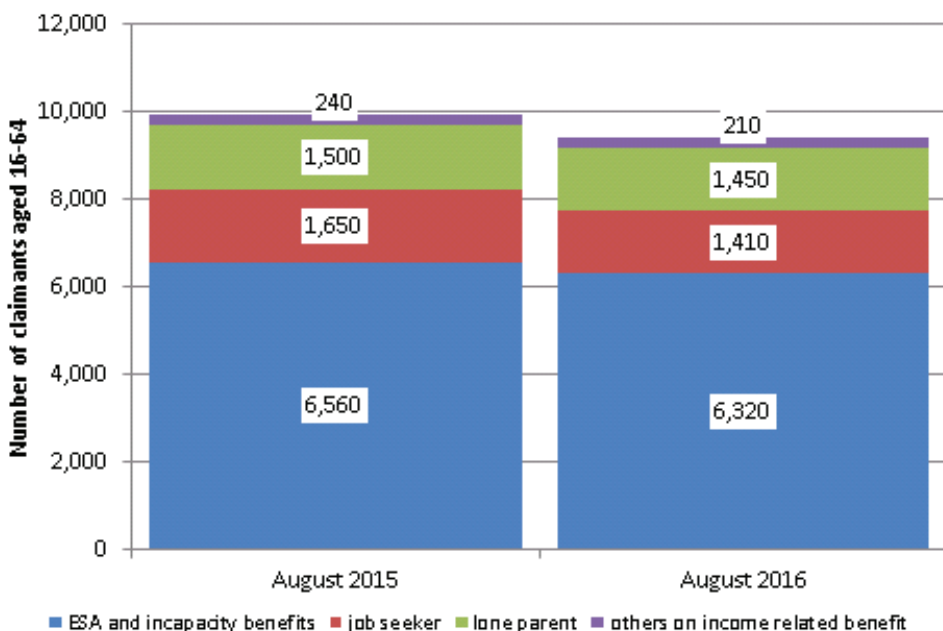
Universal Credit + JSA claimants

ENGLAND



SOLIHULL

*Numbers are rounded to the nearest 5 and the previous month's figures are retrospectively revised.



Out of Work Benefit Claimants (Worklessness) in Solihull - August 2016

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

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

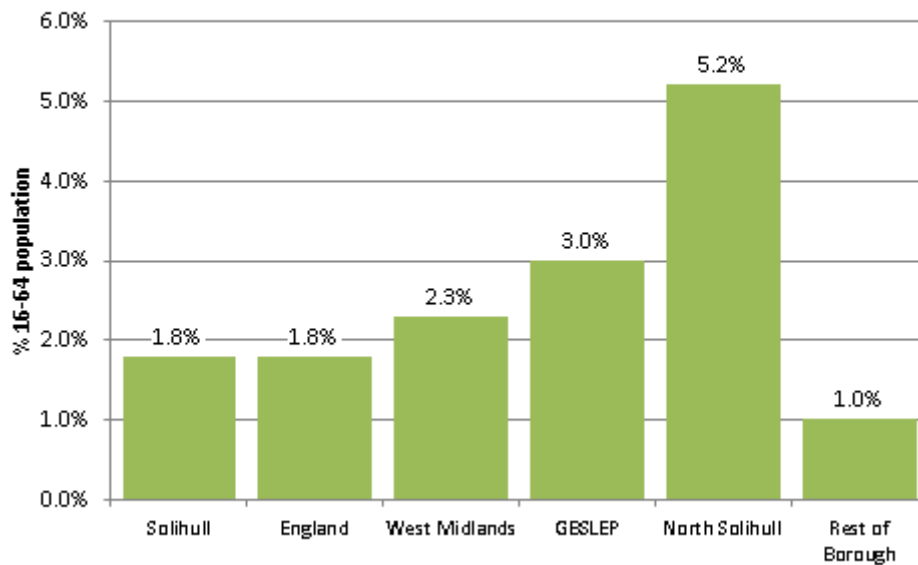
In January 2017 there were 2,255 individuals in Solihull claiming either Job Seekers Allowance or receiving Universal Credit and actively seeking work. This represents a claimant unemployment rate of 1.8%.

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

Around 54% of claimants in Solihull (1,210 individuals) live in the three North Solihull regeneration wards (Chelmsley Wood, Kingshurst & Fordbridge and Smith's Wood) where the rate is 5.2% compared with 1.0% across the rest of the Borough.

Working Age Claimant Unemployment (JSA+UC claimants) – January 2017						
Area	Claimant Count Jan 2017	% 16-64		Annual Change (Jan 2016-2017)		
		Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Count	%	Trend
Solihull	2,255	1.6%	1.8%	+225	+11%	
<i>North Solihull</i>	1,210	4.7%	5.2%	+130	+12%	
<i>Rest of Borough</i>	1,050	0.9%	1.0%	+100	+11%	
England	622,190	1.8%	1.8%	+9,155	+1%	
West Midlands	82,735	2.2%	2.3%	+3,860	+5%	
GBSLEP	37,460	2.8%	3.0%	+2,000	+6%	
Other Comparators						
Met Councils	207,175	2.7%	2.8%	+1,240	+1%	
CIPFA Comparator Councils	29,710	1.3%	1.3%	-105	0%	
Data Source: ONS/Nomis						

Headline Claimant Unemployment January 2017

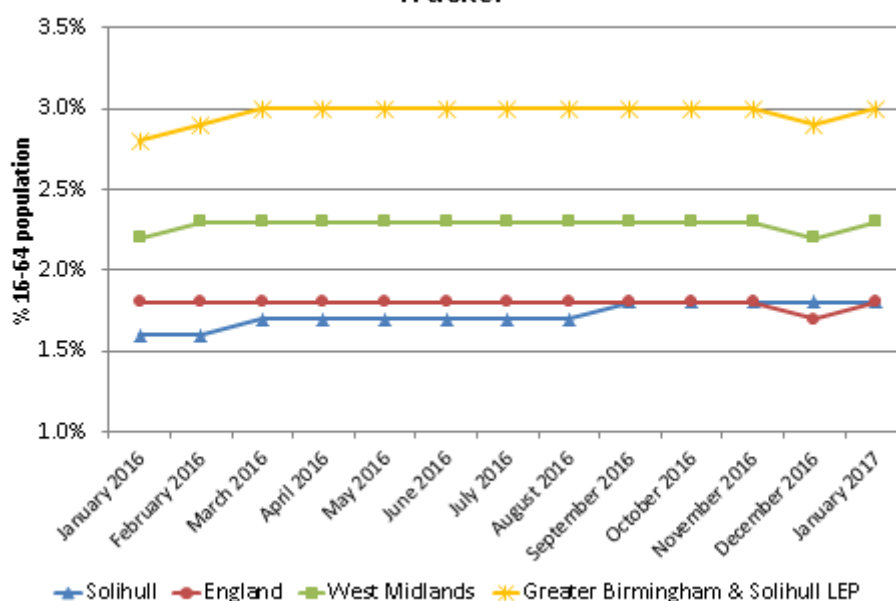


Source: ONS/Nomis and DWP/StatXplore

A seasonal post-Christmas effect contributed to a rise in the Solihull claimant unemployment count in Solihull in January 2017 (+40 claimants), although this is consistent with previous years. The number of claimants in Solihull is 11% higher than in January 2016 (+225 individuals). This rise in Solihull is consistent with, albeit more pronounced than national and regional trends (England +1%, West Midlands +5%). The number of claimants in North Solihull increased by +12% (+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 January 2016 and 2017 resulted in an increase in the claimant unemployment rate of 20 basis points (from 1.6% to 1.8%). The rate increased in both North Solihull (from 4.7% to 5.2%) 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 61% of Solihull claimants are male (1,370 individuals) and 39% female (885 individuals), which is consistent with the gender split nationally. The claimant unemployment rate in Solihull is below the national average for males, but slightly above for females.

	Claimant Unemployment by Gender - January 2017					
	Count		% all claimants		Rate	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Solihull	1,370	885	61%	39%	2.2%	1.4%
England	389,935	232,255	63%	37%	2.3%	1.3%
West Midlands	52,265	30,470	63%	37%	2.9%	1.7%
GBSLEP	23,910	13,550	64%	36%	3.8%	2.1%

Data Source: ONS/Nomis

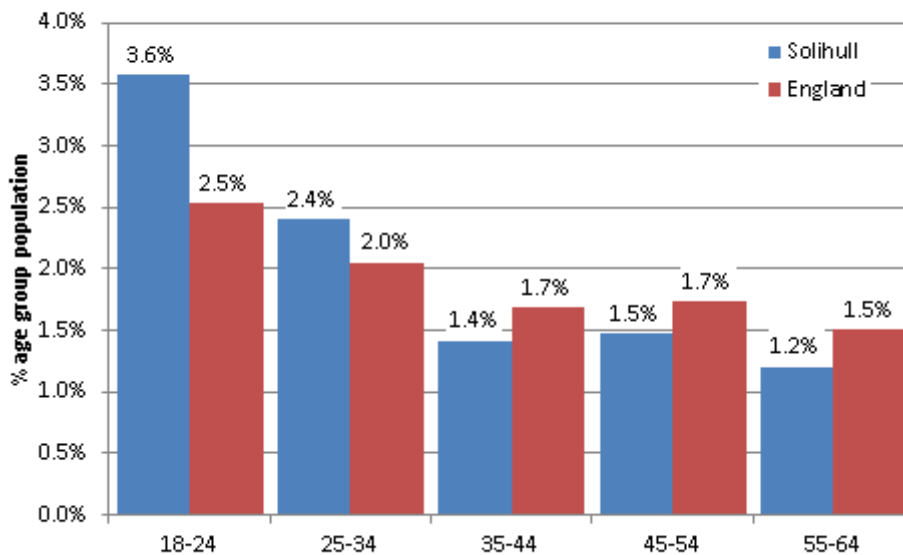
Age Breakdown

In January 2017 just under a half of all claimants in Solihull were under the age of 35, with 18-24 year olds the largest single group (575 individuals, 25% 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 both 18-24 year olds and those aged 25-34 years. However, it is below average among older age groups.

	Solihull Claimants January 2017		Rates (% Age Group)	
	Claimant Count	% Total	Solihull	England
Age 18-24	575	25%	3.6%	2.5%
Age 25-34	550	24%	2.4%	2.0%
Age 35-44	360	16%	1.4%	1.7%
Age 45-54	470	21%	1.5%	1.7%
Age 55-64	300	13%	1.2%	1.5%
Total	2,255		1.8%	1.8%
Source: ONS/Nomis				

Headline Unemployment Rates by Age Group January 2017



Source: ONS/Nomis and DWP/StatXplore

Youth Unemployment (18-24 year olds)

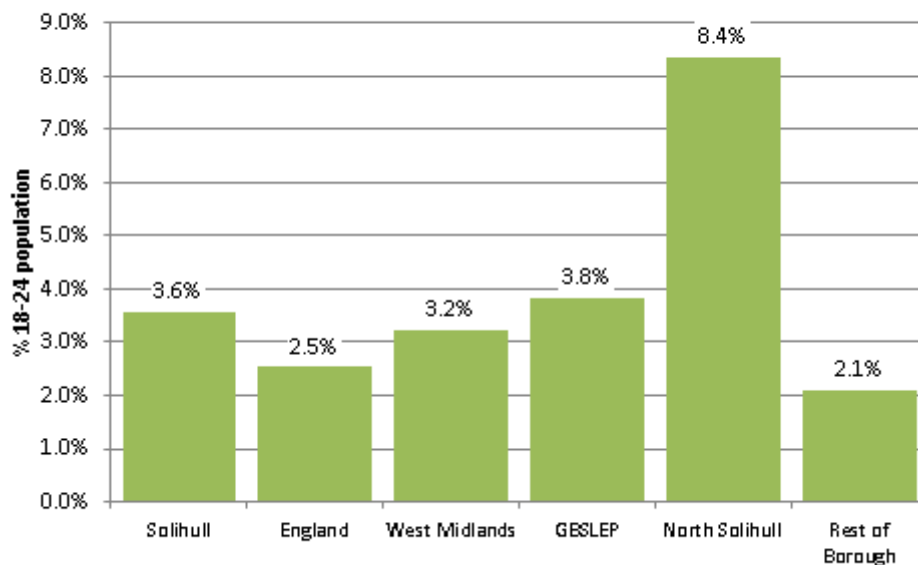
In January 2017 there were 575 18-24 year olds in Solihull claiming either Job Seekers Allowance or receiving Universal Credit and actively seeking work. This represents an 18-24 year old claimant unemployment rate of 3.6%.

On this basis the 18-24 claimant unemployment rate in Solihull is higher than the England average (2.5%) and that for the West Midlands (3.2%). In order to match the England average rate the number of 18-24 year old claimants in Solihull would have to fall by 167 individuals.

Around 55% (315 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 four times higher than across the rest of the Borough (8.4% compared to 2.1%).

18-24 Claimant Unemployment (JSA+UC claimants) – January 2017						
Area	Claimant Count Jan 2017	% 18-24		Annual Change (Jan 2016-2017)		
		Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Count	%	Trend
Solihull	575	3.4%	3.6%	+35	+6%	↑
<i>North Solihull</i>	315	8.0%	8.4%	+15	+5%	↑
<i>Rest of Borough</i>	260	1.9%	2.1%	+20	+8%	↑
England	124,705	2.6%	2.5%	-3,010	-2%	↓
West Midlands	17,415	3.1%	3.2%	+655	+4%	↑
GBSLEP	7,760	3.7%	3.8%	+180	+2%	↑
Other Comparators						
Met Councils	43,850	3.8%	3.6%	-1,710	-4%	↓
CIPFA Comparator Councils	6,030	2.1%	1.9%	-605	-9%	↓
Data Source: ONS/Nomis						

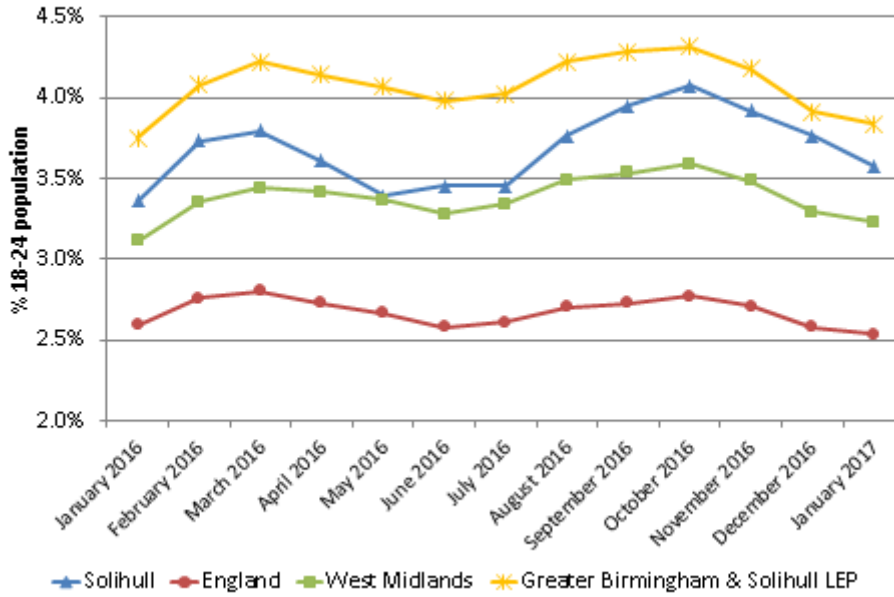
18-24 Claimant Unemployment January 2017



Source: ONS/Nomis and DWP/StatXplore

Unlike older age groups, 18-24 year olds were unaffected by the usual post-Christmas seasonal rise in unemployment, with Solihull's 18-24 claimant count falling for the third consecutive month in January (-30 individuals). However, the number of 18-24 year old claimants is +6% (+35 individuals) higher than in January 2016. The claimant rate among this group has risen from 3.4% to 3.6% as a result, although there have been substantial seasonal fluctuations during this period. The number of claimants in North Solihull increased by +5% (+15 claimants) in the year to January 2017, with an increase of +8%, (+20 individuals) in the rest of the borough.

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

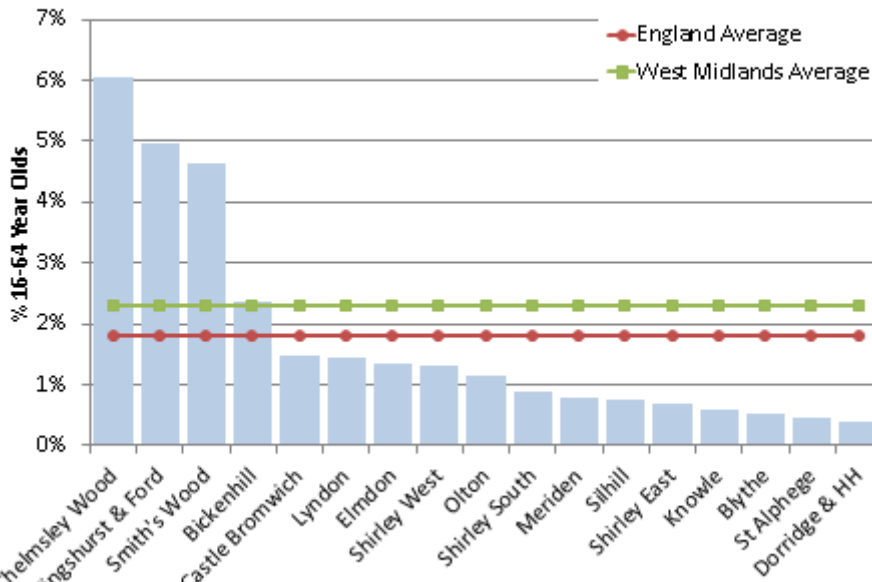


Source: ONS/Nomis and DWP/Stat Xplore

Ward Claimant Unemployment


















Only four wards in Solihull have a claimant unemployment rate higher than the West Midlands average: Chelmsley Wood (6.1%), Kingshurst & Fordbridge (5.0%) and Smith's Wood (4.6%) in the North Solihull regeneration area as well as, marginally, Bickenhill (2.4%).

Ward Claimant Unemployment January 2017



Source: ONS/NOMIS

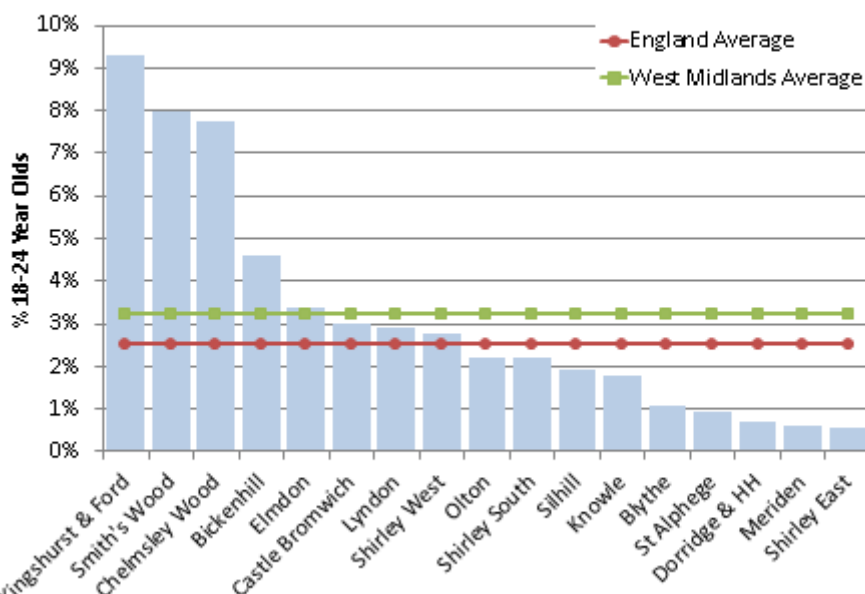
Between January 2016 and 2017 claimant unemployment increased in all except three of Solihull's 17 wards.

Claimant Unemployment – January 2017						
	Count Jan 2017	% 16-64		Annual Change (Jan 2016-2017)		
		Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Count	%	Trend
Bickenhill	180	2.2%	2.4%	+10	+6%	
Blythe	45	0.6%	0.5%	-5	-10%	
Castle Bromwich	105	1.4%	1.5%	+5	+5%	
Chelmsley Wood	455	5.6%	6.1%	+35	+8%	
Dorridge & Hockley Heath	25	0.3%	0.4%	+5	+25%	
Elmdon	100	1.2%	1.4%	+10	+11%	
Kingshurst & Fordbridge	395	4.1%	5.0%	+70	+22%	
Knowle	35	0.3%	0.6%	+15	+75%	
Lyndon	120	1.1%	1.4%	+25	+26%	
Meriden	55	0.6%	0.8%	+15	+38%	
Olton	85	1.1%	1.1%	+5	+6%	
Shirley East	50	0.9%	0.7%	-15	-23%	
Shirley South	65	0.6%	0.9%	+20	+44%	
Shirley West	95	1.2%	1.3%	+10	+12%	
Silhill	55	0.8%	0.8%	0	0%	
Smith's Wood	360	4.3%	4.6%	+25	+7%	
St Alphege	40	0.4%	0.5%	+10	+33%	
Data Source: ONS/Nomis						

Ward 18-24 Claimant Unemployment

There are five Solihull wards that have an 18-24 year old claimant unemployment rate higher than the West Midlands average: Kingshurst & Fordbridge (9.3%), Smith's Wood (8.0%), Chelmsley Wood (7.8%), Bickenhill (4.6%) and Elmdon (3.4%).



Ward 18-24 Claimant Unemployment January 2017



Source: ONS/NOMIS

Between January 2016 and 2017 the number of 18-24 year old claimants increased in six out of Solihull's 17 wards and fell in four.

	18-24 Claimant Unemployment – January 2017					
	Count Jan 2017	% 18-24		Annual Change (Jan 2016-2017)		
		Jan 2016	Jan 2017	Count	%	Trend
Bickenhill	45	5.1%	4.6%	-5	-10%	↓
Blythe	10	0.6%	1.1%	+5	+100%	↑
Castle Bromwich	30	3.5%	3.0%	-5	-14%	↓
Chelmsley Wood	95	8.2%	7.8%	-5	-5%	↓
Dorridge & Hockley Heath	5	0.7%	0.7%	0	0%	↔
Elmdon	30	2.8%	3.4%	+5	+20%	↑
Kingshurst & Fordbridge	120	7.7%	9.3%	+20	+20%	↑
Knowle	10	0.9%	1.8%	+5	+100%	↑
Lyndon	30	2.4%	2.9%	+5	+20%	↑
Meriden	5	0.6%	0.6%	0	0%	↔
Olton	20	1.7%	2.2%	+5	+33%	↑
Shirley East	5	1.7%	0.6%	-10	-67%	↓
Shirley South	20	1.1%	2.2%	+10	+100%	↑
Shirley West	25	2.8%	2.8%	0	0%	↔
Silhill	15	1.9%	1.9%	0	0%	↔







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 August 2016.

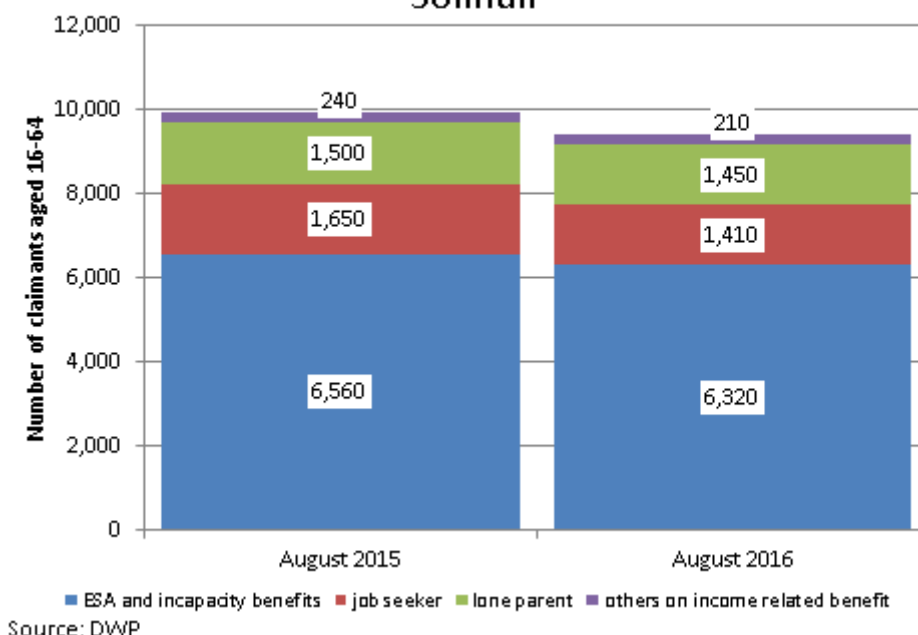
In August 2016 there were 9,390 individuals in Solihull claiming a key out of work benefit, equating to a worklessness rate of 7.4%. This is below the England (8.3%), West Midlands (9.6%) and Greater Birmingham & Solihull LEP (10.5%) averages and the lowest it has been since records began in 1999. Between August 2015 and 2016 the number of claimants in Solihull fell by -6% (-550 individuals).

Just over 18% 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) – August 2016						
	Count Aug 2016	% 16-64		Annual Change (Aug 2015-2016)		
		Aug 2015	Aug 2016	Count	%	Trend
Solihull	9,390	7.8%	7.4%	-550	-6%	
<i>North Solihull</i>	4,290	19.6%	18.2%	-335	-7%	
<i>Rest of Borough</i>	5,105	5.1%	4.9%	-180	-3%	
England	2,866,960	8.9%	8.3%	-197,330	-6%	
West Midlands	342,170	10.2%	9.6%	-23,190	-6%	
GBSLEP	131,400	11.3%	10.5%	-9,230	-7%	
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 -240 individuals claiming Job Seekers Allowance, -240 claiming ESA/Incapacity benefit and -50 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.