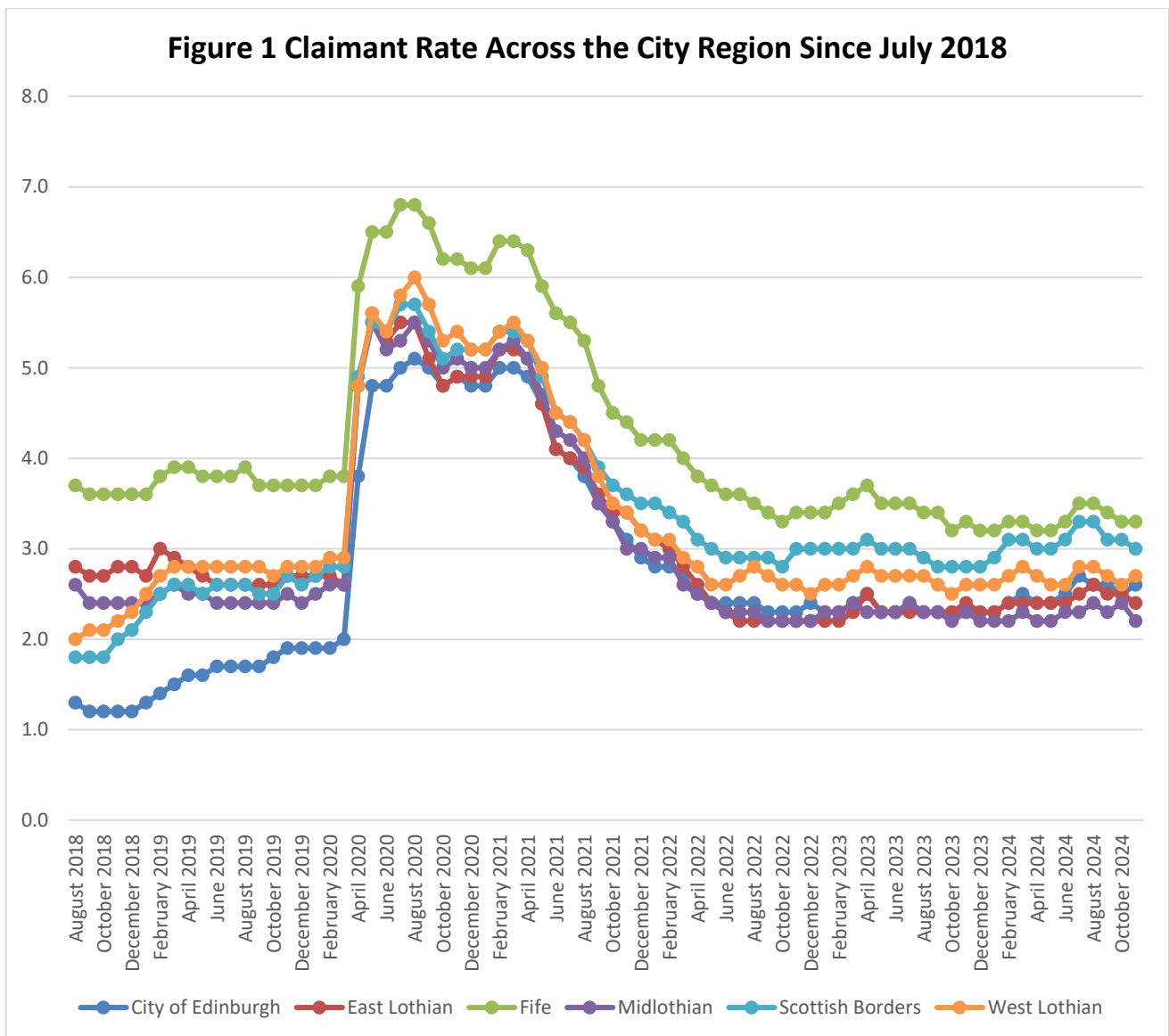


## Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count December 2024 Summary Update

<p><b>Claimant Count Change Between November 2023 and November 2024:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↑ UK increased by 14.4%</li> <li>↑ Scotland increased by 4.3%</li> <li>↑ Edinburgh increased by 11.7%</li> <li>↑ City Region increased by 6.5%</li> </ul>	<p><b>Claimant Count Change Between October 2024 and November 2024:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>↑ UK increased by 0.2%</li> <li>↑ Scotland increased by 0.8%</li> <li>↑ Edinburgh increased by 2.7%</li> <li>↑ City Region increased by 2.1%</li> </ul>
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Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024

## City Region Summary

1. In November 2024 the claimant count for the City Region was 25,315 (in October it was 24,790). Of these
  - a. 4,380 were 16-24 year olds up from 4,280 in October.
  - b. 15,120 were 25-49 year olds up from 14,760 in October.
  - c. 5,810 were 50 or older up from 5,755 in October.
2. In October 2024 there were 48,221 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in the Region. In September 2024 there were 49,000.

## Edinburgh Summary

1. In November 2024 the claimant count for Edinburgh was 9,400 (in October it was 9,150). Of these
  - a. 1,260 were 16-24 year olds. It was 1,235 in October.
  - b. 5,965 were 25-49 year olds. It was 5,775 in October.
  - c. 2,170 were 50 or older. It was 2,145 in October.
2. In October 2024 there were 15,161 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Edinburgh. In September 2024 there were 15,447.

## East Lothian Summary

1. In November 2024 the claimant count for East Lothian was 1,625 (in October it was 1,615). Of these
  - a. 295 were 16-24 year olds. In October there were 285.
  - b. 955 were 25-49 year olds. In October there were 945.
  - c. 375 were 50 or older. In October there were 385.
2. In October 2024 there were 3,810 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in East Lothian. In September 2024 there were 3,812.

## Fife Summary

1. In November 2024 the claimant count for Fife was 7,760 (in October it was 7,610). Of these
  - a. 1,585 were 16-24 year olds. In October there were 1,555.
  - b. 4,420 were 25-49 years of age. In October there were 4,315.
  - c. 1,750 were 50 or older. In October there were 1,740.
2. In October 2024 there were 14,435 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Fife. In September 2024 there were 14,637.

## Midlothian Summary

1. In November 2024 the claimant count for Midlothian was 1,310 (it was 1,365 in October). Of these
  - a. 270 were 16-24 year olds. In October it was 270.
  - b. 805 were 25-49 year olds. In October it was 840.
  - c. 235 were 50 or older. In October it was 255.
2. In October 2024 there were 3,656 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Midlothian. In September there were 3,563.

## Scottish Borders Summary

1. In November 2024 the claimant count for Scottish Borders was 2,060 (in October it was 2,055). Of these
  - a. 350 were 16-24 year olds. In October it was 355.
  - b. 1,090 were 25-49 year olds. In October there were 1,095.
  - c. 625 were 50 or older. In October there were 605.
2. In October 2024 there were 4,047 working individuals claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders. In September there were 4,099.

## West Lothian Summary

1. In November 2024 the claimant count for West Lothian was 3,160 (in October it was 2,995). Of these
  - a. 620 were 16-24 year olds. In October there were 580.
  - b. 1,885 were 25-49 year olds. In October there were 1,790.
  - c. 655 were 50 or older. In October there were 625.
2. In October 2024 there were 7,122 West Lothian individuals claiming Universal Credit who were in work. In September there were 7,349.

## Edinburgh and South East Regional Claimant Count December 2024 Full Update

### Claimant Count by Nation and Region

Table 1 indicates that in the UK the claimant count in November 2024 is higher than it was five years ago in EVERY region or Nation of the United Kingdom with the exception of the North East of England where it is 4.5% (3,225) lower and Scotland where it is 0.2% lower (275 fewer claimants) than in November 2019. In the UK, it is 46.8% higher (560,610 more claimants). We can also see that in all the regions and countries of the UK the claimant count in November 2024 is higher than it was in November 2023. In Scotland the claimant count is 4.3% higher than it was a year ago.

**Table 1: National Claimant Count Picture**

	November 2019	November 2023	October 2024	November 2024	Percentage Change		
					Nov19 - Nov24	Nov23- Nov24	Oct24 - Nov24
UK	1,196,765	1,535,890	1,754,330	1,757,375	46.8%	14.4%	0.2%
East	83,565	116,075	132,840	132,810	58.9%	14.4%	0.0%
East Midlands	75,025	99,910	113,125	112,675	50.2%	12.8%	-0.4%
London	177,415	295,990	356,300	359,855	102.8%	21.6%	1.0%
North East	72,235	64,470	69,075	69,010	-4.5%	7.0%	-0.1%
North West	160,330	190,735	213,855	212,640	32.6%	11.5%	-0.6%
N. Ireland	29,610	35,775	42,655	41,230	39.2%	15.2%	-3.3%
Scotland	110,250	105,470	109,080	109,975	-0.2%	4.3%	0.8%
South East	112,035	163,505	184,680	185,060	65.2%	13.2%	0.2%
South West	70,950	88,210	97,480	98,025	38.2%	11.1%	0.6%
Wales	58,720	61,770	66,360	67,065	14.2%	8.6%	1.1%
West Midlands	136,920	176,525	210,720	211,275	54.3%	19.7%	0.3%
Yorks & Humb	109,710	137,455	158,160	157,755	43.8%	14.8%	-0.3%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

Looking at the latest month to month change it can be seen in the table that across the UK the claimant count is 0.2% higher in than in October increasing by just over 3,045 claimants in the last month. In Scotland it is 0.8% higher (895 more claimants) in November 2024 than it was in October.

### Claimant Count by Scottish Local Authority

Table 2 focuses on Scottish Local Authorities. We can see that 10 Scottish Local Authorities have a claimant count higher in November 2024 than was recorded in November 2019 and two of the Local Authorities in the City Region feature in this list. The four that had fewer claimants were: East Lothian, West Lothian, Midlothian and Fife.

Over the last year nine Local Authorities saw the claimant count fall and almost all the others saw the claimant count increase year on year. This ranged from a rise of 0.1% in South Ayrshire through to a 17.3% increase in the Western Isles. One factor to consider is that this 12 month period

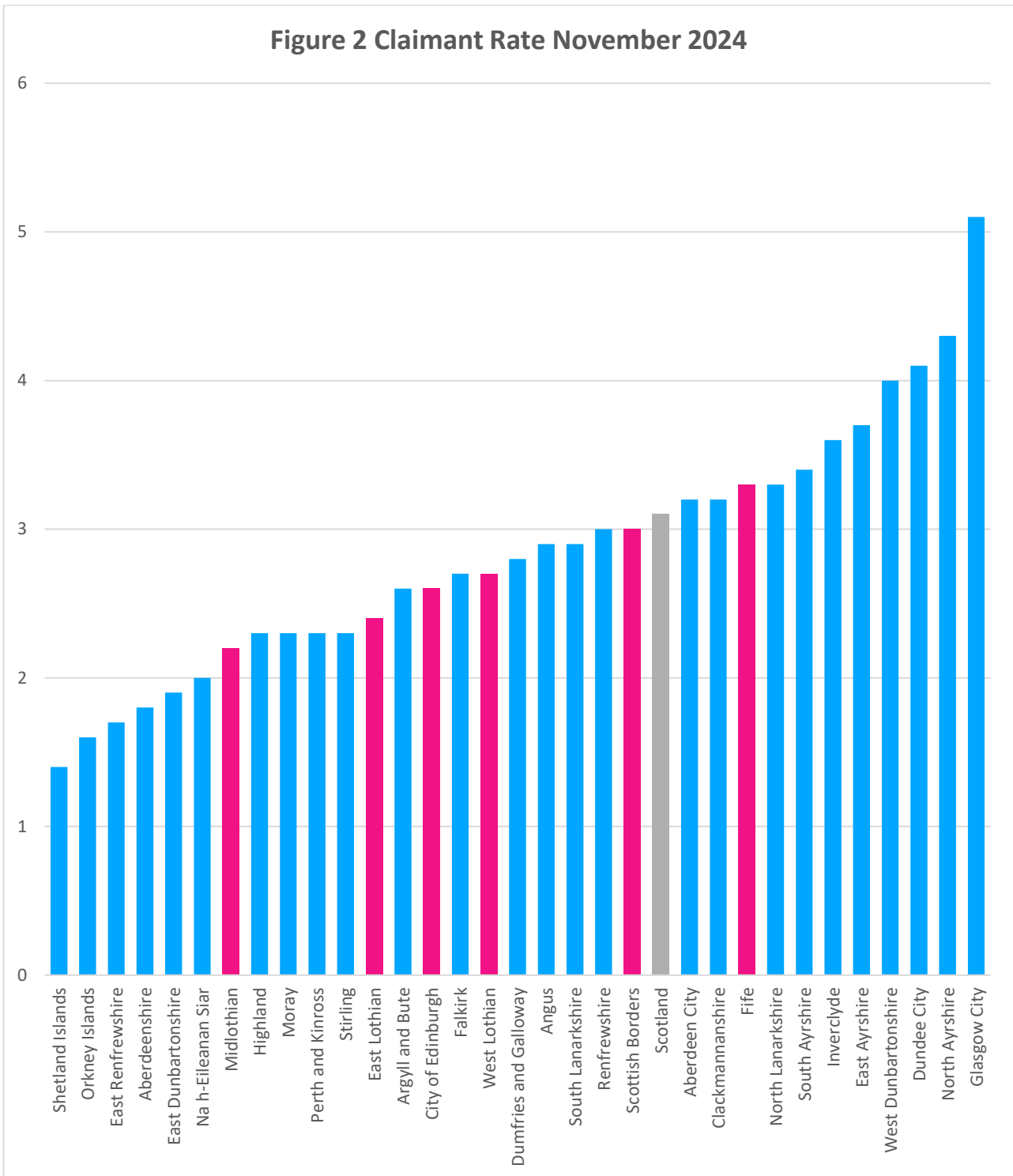
includes the DWP conditionality changes which are very likely to be behind at least some of this increase. What we can also see in Table 2 is that the change between October and November is almost the same with twenty two Local Authorities in Scotland recording a month to month increase and five of the Local Authorities in the city region were on this list.

**Table 2: Claimant Count - Scottish Local Authorities**

	Nov 2019	Nov 2023	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Percentage Change		
					Nov19 - Nov24	Nov23- Nov24	Oct24 - Nov24
Aberdeen City	3,965	4,690	4,840	4,950	24.8%	5.5%	2.3%
Aberdeenshire	2,825	2,820	2,860	2,920	3.4%	3.5%	2.1%
Angus	2,060	1,860	1,900	1,980	-3.9%	6.5%	4.2%
Argyll and Bute	1,340	1,330	1,315	1,350	0.7%	1.5%	2.7%
Edinburgh	6,830	8,415	9,150	9,400	37.6%	11.7%	2.7%
Clackmannanshire	1,330	1,105	1,010	1,030	-22.6%	-6.8%	2.0%
Dumfries & Galloway	2,690	2,380	2,495	2,425	-9.9%	1.9%	-2.8%
Dundee City	4,530	3,995	4,105	4,055	-10.5%	1.5%	-1.2%
East Ayrshire	3,605	2,995	2,730	2,780	-22.9%	-7.2%	1.8%
E.Dunbartonshire	1,225	1,200	1,285	1,250	2.0%	4.2%	-2.7%
East Lothian	1,740	1,575	1,615	1,625	-6.6%	3.2%	0.6%
East Renfrewshire	935	1,000	1,035	990	5.9%	-1.0%	-4.3%
Falkirk	3,280	2,840	2,810	2,795	-14.8%	-1.6%	-0.5%
Fife	8,575	7,445	7,610	7,760	-9.5%	4.2%	2.0%
Glasgow City	19,120	20,515	22,880	22,795	19.2%	11.1%	-0.4%
Highland	3,340	3,065	3,255	3,340	0.0%	9.0%	2.6%
Inverclyde	2,220	1,740	1,695	1,710	-23.0%	-1.7%	0.9%
Midlothian	1,400	1,325	1,365	1,310	-6.4%	-1.1%	-4.0%
Moray	1,435	1,235	1,275	1,355	-5.6%	9.7%	6.3%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	360	260	275	305	-15.3%	17.3%	10.9%
North Ayrshire	4,465	3,555	3,510	3,465	-22.4%	-2.5%	-1.3%
North Lanarkshire	8,065	7,155	7,280	7,305	-9.4%	2.1%	0.3%
Orkney Islands	180	200	215	210	16.7%	5.0%	-2.3%
Perth and Kinross	1,820	2,035	2,140	2,160	18.7%	6.1%	0.9%
Renfrewshire	3,885	3,595	3,505	3,520	-9.4%	-2.1%	0.4%
Scottish Borders	1,805	1,920	2,055	2,060	14.1%	7.3%	0.2%
Shetland Islands	240	205	200	200	-16.7%	-2.4%	0.0%
South Ayrshire	2,635	2,235	2,230	2,235	-15.2%	0.0%	0.2%
South Lanarkshire	6,805	5,955	5,875	5,960	-12.4%	0.1%	1.4%
Stirling	1,475	1,395	1,350	1,380	-6.4%	-1.1%	2.2%
W. Dunbartonshire	2,770	2,345	2,230	2,195	-20.8%	-6.4%	-1.6%
West Lothian	3,315	3,090	2,995	3,160	-4.7%	2.3%	5.5%
Scotland	110,250	105,470	109,080	109,975	-0.2%	4.3%	0.8%
City Region	23,665	23,770	24,790	25,315	7.0%	6.5%	2.1%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

Figure 2, below, looks at the claimant rate for all the Scottish Local Authorities as recorded in November 2024. From this it can be seen that, except for Fife, all the City Region Local Authorities had a claimant rate below the Scottish average. For Midlothian the claimant rate is low enough to place it within the ten Local Authorities with the lowest claimant rate in the country.



Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024

### City Region Position

Looking in more detail at the position in the City Region. It can be seen in Table 3 that across the region the claimant count recorded in November 2024 is higher than it was in 2019 and this is reflected in two of the six Local Authorities that make up the City region. Over the last year five Local Authorities have seen the claimant count increase and this ranges from a 2.3% increase in West Lothian through to a 11.7% increase in Edinburgh. The month-to-month change from October to November 2024 indicates that across the Region the claimant count is higher than the previous month. One of the regions Local Authorities recorded a month to month fall and all the others saw the claimant count increase between October and November.

**Table 3: Claimant Count – City Region LAs**

	Nov 2019	Nov 2023	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Claimant Rate Nov 24	Percentage Change		
						Nov19 - Nov24	Nov23- Nov24	Oct24 - Nov24
Edinburgh	6,830	8,415	9,150	9,400	2.6	37.6%	11.7%	2.7%
East Lothian	1,740	1,575	1,615	1,625	2.4	-6.6%	3.2%	0.6%
Fife	8,575	7,445	7,610	7,760	3.3	-9.5%	4.2%	2.0%
Midlothian	1,400	1,325	1,365	1,310	2.2	-6.4%	-1.1%	-4.0%
Scottish Borders	1,805	1,920	2,055	2,060	3.0	14.1%	7.3%	0.2%
West Lothian	3,315	3,090	2,995	3,160	2.7	-4.7%	2.3%	5.5%
City Region	23,665	23,770	24,790	25,315	3.1	7.0%	6.5%	2.1%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

The data presented in Table 4 indicates that across the region in October 2023 there were 43,597 people who were in work but required financial support from Universal Credit (UC) as their income was not sufficient. In October 2024 this had increased by 10.6% to 48,221. Over the last month there has been a decrease of 1.6% in the region with around 800 fewer people working and claiming Universal Credit.

**Table 4 Universal Credit Claimants in Employment**

	Oct-23	Sep-24	Oct-24	Oct23 to Oct 24	Sep24 to Oct24
City of Edinburgh	13,767	15,447	15,161	10.1%	-1.9%
East Lothian	3489	3812	3810	9.2%	-0.1%
Fife	13,065	14,637	14,435	10.5%	-1.4%
Midlothian	3,332	3,656	3,646	9.4%	-0.3%
West Lothian	6,367	7,349	7,122	11.9%	-3.1%
Scottish Borders	3,577	4,099	4,047	13.1%	-1.3%
Total	43,597	49,000	48,221	10.6%	-1.6%

**Source: StatXplore 17/12/2024**

## Gender Profile

From Table 5 we can see that two Local Authorities in the city region has seen the number of male claimants fall over the last 12 months, one has seen no change and the others have seen an increase. Across the region the number of male claimants in November 2024 was 440 higher than in November 2023.

**Table 5: Change in Male Claimant Count Across the City Region**

	Nov 2023	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Rate	% Change	
					Nov23-Nov24	Oct24 - Nov24
Edinburgh	4,910	5,225	5,375	3.0	9.5%	2.9%
East Lothian	895	855	865	2.8	-3.4%	1.2%
Fife	4,445	4,310	4,405	4.0	-0.9%	2.2%
Midlothian	750	775	750	2.7	0.0%	-3.2%
Scottish Borders	1,095	1,120	1,135	3.6	3.7%	1.3%
West Lothian	1,790	1,690	1,795	3.1	0.3%	6.2%
City Region	13,885	13,975	14,325	3.3	3.2%	2.5%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

Comparing the November 2024 statistics to those of October 2024 the picture is similar with one Local Authority recording month to month falls and the remaining four seeing the claimant count increase between October and November. This culminated in the region as a whole recording a 2.5% increase between October and November- 350 more claimants in November compared to

October. Table 5 also reflects the claimant rate in November for males in each of the six Local Authorities. This is arrived at by dividing the claimant count by the working age population. From this we can see that for male claimants Midlothian had the lowest claimant rate and Fife had the highest.

Table 6 looks at the situation for female claimants. This indicates that over the last year there has been an increase in the number of female claimants (1,105 additional female claimants). Compare this to the male claimant count which had increased by around 440 over the same period. This is an increase of 11.2% year on year compared to an increase of 3.2% year on year for the number of male claimants.

Between November 2023 and November 2024, we can see that one Local Authority (Midlothian) recorded a fall in the number of female claimants. All the others saw the number of female claimants increase year on year. This ranged from an increase of 5% in West Lothian through to an increase of 14.8% in Edinburgh.

**Table 6: Change in Female Claimant Count Across the City Region**

Female Claimants	Nov 2023	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Rate	% Change	
					Nov23-Nov24	Oct24 - Nov24
Edinburgh	3,505	3,925	4,025	2.3	14.8%	2.5%
East Lothian	680	760	765	2.3	12.5%	0.7%
Fife	3,000	3,300	3,350	3.0	11.7%	1.5%
Midlothian	575	590	560	2.1	-2.6%	-5.1%
Scottish Borders	825	935	925	3.0	12.1%	-1.1%
West Lothian	1,300	1,305	1,365	2.4	5.0%	4.6%
City Region	9,885	10,815	10,990	2.5	11.2%	1.6%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

The change between October and November is more positive as two Local Authorities saw the number of claimants fall. Midlothian recorded a fall of 5.1% in the number of female claimants and Scottish Borders saw it fall by 1.1% between October and November. We can see in the table that the claimant rate for females is more similar across the region than it is for males with Midlothian recording a claimant rate of 2.1 and Fife and Scottish Borders recording a rate of 3.0.

**Table 7: In Work Universal Credit Claimants**

		Oct-23	Sep-24	Oct-24
City of Edinburgh	Male	5,408	5,712	5,676
	Female	8,354	9,734	9,484
East Lothian	Male	1,093	1,246	1,259
	Female	2,397	2,566	2,549
Fife	Male	4,617	5,000	4,944
	Female	8,449	9,632	9,493
Midlothian	Male	1,080	1,164	1,180
	Female	2,257	2,492	2,461
West Lothian	Male	2,105	2,387	2,333
	Female	4,261	4,965	4,790
Scottish Borders	Male	1,284	1,461	1,440
	Female	2,290	2,639	2,604
City Region	Male	15,591	16,977	16,834
	Female	28,003	32,020	31,386

**Source: StatXplore 17/12/2024**

Table 7, above, looks at the gender split of those who are in work and claiming Universal Credit. The data indicates that across the City Region in October 2023, 28,003 female claimants were in work and claiming Universal Credit. In October 2024 the number had increased to 31,386. This is over 3,300 more than 12 months ago. Compare this to the male in work Universal Credit claimant count, which was 15,591 in October 2023 and currently (October 2024) is sitting at 16,834- approximately 1,250 more.

Table 7 shows that across the region, and in each Local Authority, there are a far higher proportion of women who are in work, but their earnings are so low that they qualify for in work Universal Credit. In October 2023 males comprised 36% of Universal Credit claimants whilst in October 2024 this was 35%. So consistently around 2/3<sup>rds</sup> of in work Universal Credit claimants are female across the region.

## Age Profile

### 16-24 Year Olds

In November 2024 there were 4,380 claimants aged between 16-24 years of age in the City Region. This is 2.3% higher than a month ago and 1% higher than a year ago. In numerical terms the City Region has 45 more 16-24 year olds claiming than a year ago and 100 more than last month. Worth highlighting is the fact that there are 175 fewer claimants aged 16-24 than there were in November 2019.

**Table 8: Change in Claimants by Age Across the City Region (All Gender)**

16-24 Year Olds	Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	Scottish Borders	West Lothian	City Region
November 2019	1,075	320	1,725	305	405	725	4,555
November 2023	1,200	310	1,520	260	360	685	4,335
October 2024	1,235	285	1,555	270	355	580	4,280
November 2024	1,260	295	1,585	270	350	620	4,380
% Change							
Nov23-Nov24	5.0%	-4.8%	4.3%	3.8%	-2.8%	-9.5%	1.0%
Oct24 - Nov24	2.0%	3.5%	1.9%	0.0%	-1.4%	6.9%	2.3%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

Looking at the different Local Authorities Edinburgh, Fife and Midlothian have more 16-24 year old claimants than a year ago. The change between October and November is slightly different as four Local Authorities saw their claimant count increase, one saw no change and one recorded a month to month fall.

### 25-49 Year Olds

In November 2024 there were 15,120 claimants aged between 25-49 years of age in the City Region. This is 2.4% higher than a month ago and 6.3% higher than a year ago. In numerical terms the City Region has 890 more 25-49 year olds claiming than a year ago, 360 more than last month and there are 1,630 more 25-49 year olds claiming in the City Region than in November 2019.

Looking at the different Local Authorities all but one of the six Local Authorities have more 25-49 year old claimants than a year ago (Midlothian has fewer) and four of the six Local Authorities in the Region have more claimants in this age group than a month ago.



**Table 9: Change in Claimants by Age Across the City Region (All Gender)**

25-49 Year Olds	Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	Scottish Borders	West Lothian	City Region
November 2019	4,090	990	4,785	805	940	1,880	13,490
November 2023	5,305	930	4,280	825	1,080	1,810	14,230
October 2024	5,775	945	4,315	840	1,095	1,790	14,760
November 2024	5,965	955	4,420	805	1,090	1,885	15,120
% Change							
Nov23-Nov24	12.4%	2.7%	3.3%	-2.4%	0.9%	4.1%	6.3%
Oct24 - Nov24	3.3%	1.1%	2.4%	-4.2%	-0.5%	5.3%	2.4%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

### 50 Year Olds and Over

In November 2024 there were 5,810 claimants aged over 50 years of age in the City Region. This is 1.0% higher than a month ago and 11.3% higher than a year ago. In numerical terms the City Region has 590 more people over the age of 50 claiming than a year ago and 55 more than last month.

**Table 10: Change in Claimants by Age Across the City Region (All Gender)**

50 years and over	Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	Scottish Borders	West Lothian	City Region
November 2019	1,665	970	2,065	295	460	725	6,180
November 2023	1,915	335	1,650	240	485	595	5,220
October 2024	2,145	385	1,740	255	605	625	5,755
November 2024	2,170	375	1,750	235	625	655	5,810
% Change							
Nov23-Nov24	13.3%	11.9%	6.1%	-2.1%	28.9%	10.1%	11.3%
Oct24 - Nov24	1.2%	-2.6%	0.6%	-7.8%	3.3%	4.8%	1.0%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

Looking at the different Local Authorities apart from Midlothian all Local Authorities have more 50 plus claimants than were recorded a year ago. In terms of the month to month change we can see that Midlothian and East Lothian have less claimants who were 50 or over than a month ago and in the other four Local Authorities there are more claimants than a month ago.

### Ward Profile

#### Edinburgh

Table 11 gives the current situation in the seventeen Edinburgh wards, the percentage change over the last twelve months and the change recorded between October and November 2024. As we can see in this table, there has been a considerable rise over the last year which *could* be linked to changes in the way the data is collated that have been introduced.

Overall, there are 9,400 claimants in Edinburgh in November 2024, and this is 11.7% higher than November 2023 and 2.7% higher than in October 2024. From the table we can see that in November 2024 four wards had 750 or more claimants, ten wards had more than 500 and 1 ward had less than 200.

The table also indicates that one ward (Leith Walk) had a claimant count lower in November 2024 than a year ago. In all other wards the claimant count is higher than a year ago. This ranges from 31.1% higher in Colinton and Farmilehead to 3.1% higher in Corstorphine/Murrayfield. Comparing the count recorded in November to that of October we can see that fourteen wards have recorded a month to month increase, two have recorded a month to month fall and one recorded no change

between October and November. We can see that the claimant rate was highest in Forth 4.1% of residents aged 16-64 were claiming and lowest in Morningside.

Overall, in Edinburgh in November 2024, 57.2% of claimants were male and 13.4% are aged 16-24. The City Centre ward records that 71% of the claimants are male. The gender split in Corstorphine and Murrayfield is worth mentioning as it indicates the issues with small numbers and rounding to the nearest five which is what NOMIS does with the statistic pre-publication. The gender split data indicates that there were 85 male claimants and 85 female claimants but only 165 claimants overall with the result that the percentage gender split looks incorrect. In Corstorphine and Murrayfield 30.3 % of claimants in November were over 50 years of age, the highest proportion in the city and in Pentland Hills 19.0% of claimants were 16-24 years of age.

**Table 11 Edinburgh Claimant Count by Ward November 2024**

Wards	Nov 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants November 2024				
			Nov23 to Nov24	Oct24 to Nov24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Almond	635	2.8	19.8%	0.0%	55.9%	44.1%	13.4%	63.8%	22.8%
City Centre	690	2.5	6.2%	1.5%	71.0%	29.0%	13.0%	65.2%	22.5%
Colinton/ Fairmilehead	295	1.9	31.1%	1.7%	49.2%	50.8%	15.3%	55.9%	28.8%
Corstorphine/ Murrayfield	165	1.1	3.1%	3.1%	51.5%	51.5%	12.1%	60.6%	30.3%
Craigtinny/ Duddingston	640	3.1	7.6%	2.4%	56.3%	43.8%	10.9%	63.3%	25.0%
Drum Brae/Gyle	340	2.2	21.4%	11.5%	52.9%	47.1%	13.2%	63.2%	23.5%
Forth	890	4.1	10.6%	4.7%	52.8%	46.6%	10.7%	66.9%	22.5%
Fountainbridge/ Craiglockhart	335	1.9	19.6%	3.1%	61.2%	38.8%	11.9%	61.2%	26.9%
Inverleith	345	1.5	19.0%	3.0%	55.1%	44.9%	13.0%	65.2%	21.7%
Leith	700	3.8	5.3%	-0.7%	62.1%	38.6%	12.1%	65.7%	22.1%
Leith Walk	635	2.2	-1.6%	2.4%	55.1%	44.9%	11.8%	66.9%	22.0%
Liberton/Gilmerton	765	3.3	12.5%	-1.9%	58.2%	41.8%	14.4%	61.4%	24.2%
Morningside	240	1.0	11.6%	14.3%	54.2%	45.8%	12.5%	58.3%	29.2%
Pentland Hills	790	3.8	11.3%	1.9%	55.1%	44.9%	19.0%	60.1%	20.3%
Portobello/ Craigmillar	840	4.0	23.5%	5.0%	50.6%	49.4%	13.7%	63.7%	22.6%
Sighthill/ Gorgie	735	2.9	12.2%	2.8%	63.3%	36.7%	16.3%	64.6%	19.7%
Southside/ Newington	365	1.3	7.4%	5.8%	60.3%	41.1%	13.7%	63.0%	24.7%
Column Total	9,400	2.6	11.7%	2.7%	57.2%	42.8%	13.4%	63.5%	23.1%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

Table 12 below looks at the in-work Universal Credit claimant count for the Edinburgh wards. This indicates that there are 15,161 people in the city who are working but their earnings are low enough that they can receive Universal Credit. This is 10.1% higher than it was a year ago and 1.9% lower than it was last month. Overall, only one ward recorded an increase between September and October.

**Table 12 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by Edinburgh Ward October 2024**

	Oct-23	Sep-24	Oct-24	Oct23-Oct-24	Sep24-Oct24
Almond	1,078	1,314	1,307	21.2%	-0.5%
City Centre	566	591	589	4.1%	-0.3%
Colinton/Fairmilehead	449	546	544	21.2%	-0.4%
Corstorphine/Murrayfield	287	337	331	15.3%	-1.8%

Craigentenny/Duddingston	886	960	939	6.0%	-2.2%
Drum Brae/Gyle	565	651	666	17.9%	2.3%
Forth	1,460	1,618	1,592	9.0%	-1.6%
Fountainbridge/Craiglockhart	393	428	428	8.9%	0.0%
Inverleith	472	509	483	2.3%	-5.1%
Leith	1,025	1,106	1,074	4.8%	-2.9%
Leith Walk	942	969	946	0.4%	-2.4%
Liberton/Gilmerton	1,293	1,539	1,514	17.1%	-1.6%
Morningside	242	268	260	7.4%	-3.0%
Pentland Hills	1,237	1,312	1,305	5.5%	-0.5%
Portobello/Craigmillar	1,329	1,589	1,566	17.8%	-1.4%
Sighthill/Gorgie	1,158	1,304	1,240	7.1%	-4.9%
Southside/Newington	387	406	382	-1.3%	-5.9%
Total	13,767	15,447	15,161	10.1%	-1.9%

Source: StatXplore 17/12/2024

### East Lothian

Table 13 gives the current situation in the six East Lothian wards, the percentage change over the last twelve months and the change recorded between October and November 2024. Overall, there are 1,625 claimants in East Lothian in November 2024, and this is 3.2% higher than a year ago and 0.6% higher than last month. From the table we can see that over the last 12 months four of the six wards have seen the claimant count increase by between 1.2% and 11.8% and between October and November 2024 two of the six wards have seen a fall in the number of people claiming. One thing to remember is that numbers are often *relatively* small so a large percentage change can be the result of a small number of additional claimants. The claimant rate ranges from 1.2% of 16-64 year olds claiming in North Berwick Coastal through to 3.3% in Musselburgh.

**Table 13 East Lothian Claimant Count by Ward November 2024**

Wards	Nov 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants November 2024				
			Nov23 to Nov24	Oct24 to Nov24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Dunbar and East Linton	190	2.1	11.8%	-2.6%	52.6%	47.4%	18.4%	55.3%	26.3%
Haddington and Lammermuir	240	2.1	0.0%	0.0%	56.3%	45.8%	16.7%	60.4%	22.9%
Musselburgh	405	3.3	5.2%	0.0%	55.6%	43.2%	17.3%	60.5%	22.2%
North Berwick Coastal	95	1.2	-5.0%	-9.5%	47.4%	52.6%	15.8%	63.2%	26.3%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	265	2.4	6.0%	3.9%	47.2%	52.8%	18.9%	54.7%	26.4%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	430	3.0	1.2%	3.6%	54.7%	45.3%	19.8%	61.6%	19.8%
East Lothian	1,625	2.5	3.2%	0.6%	53.2%	47.1%	18.2%	58.8%	23.1%

Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024

Across the county 53.2% of claimants are male and this varies from 47.2% in Preston, Seton and Gosford to 55.6% in Musselburgh. Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry has the highest proportion of 16-24 year old claimants (19.8%). Preston, Seton and Gosford has the highest proportion (26.4%) of over 50 year olds.

Table 14 below looks at those claiming Universal Credit in East Lothian who are in work and presents the results by ward. Overall, there has been an increase between October 2023 and

October 2024 of 9.2%. This ranges from a 15.7% increase in working Universal Credit claimants in Haddington and Lammermuir (around 80 additional claimants over the year) to an increase of 2.6% in North Berwick Coastal (6 more claimants in 2024 when compared to 2023). Between September 2024 and October 2024, the count fell by 0.1% in the County and four of the six wards recorded a month to month fall.

**Table 14 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by East Lothian Ward October 2024**

	Oct-23	Sep-24	Oct-24	Oct23-Oct-24	Sep24-Oct24
Dunbar and East Linton	464	516	516	11.2%	0.0%
Haddington and Lammermuir	522	595	604	15.7%	1.5%
Musselburgh	764	840	839	9.8%	-0.1%
North Berwick Coastal	234	241	240	2.6%	-0.4%
Preston, Seton and Gosford	604	632	631	4.5%	-0.2%
Tranent, Wallyford and Macmerry	898	981	976	8.7%	-0.5%
Total	3,489	3,812	3,810	9.2%	-0.1%

**Source: StatXplore 17/12/2024**

### *Fife*

Turning now to look at Fife. Table 15 gives the current situation in the twenty two Fife wards, the percentage change over the last twelve months and the change recorded between October and November 2024.

Overall, there are 7,760 claimants in Fife in November 2024, and this is 4.2% higher than a year ago and 2.0% higher than last month. From the table we can see that over the last 12 months six wards have seen the claimant count fall by between 3.6% and 5.3%. Between October and November 2024 four of the twenty two wards in the Kingdom saw the claimant count fall. Of the remaining wards sixteen recorded a month to month increase and two recorded no change in the claimant count.

**Table 15 Fife Claimant Count by Ward November 2024**

Wards	Nov 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants November 2024				
			Nov23 to Nov24	Oct24 to Nov24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	670	6.1	-3.6%	0.8%	59.7%	40.3%	20.9%	56.0%	23.1%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	335	3.7	1.5%	3.1%	59.7%	40.3%	19.4%	52.2%	28.4%
Cowdenbeath	525	3.8	7.1%	4.0%	58.1%	41.9%	22.9%	58.1%	19.0%
Cupar	220	2.6	22.2%	7.3%	56.8%	43.2%	20.5%	59.1%	22.7%
Dunfermline Central	325	2.8	-4.4%	3.2%	55.4%	44.6%	21.5%	58.5%	20.0%
Dunfermline North	325	3.0	14.0%	1.6%	56.9%	43.1%	23.1%	52.3%	24.6%
Dunfermline South	390	2.5	6.8%	6.8%	55.1%	44.9%	21.8%	59.0%	19.2%
East Neuk and Landward	190	2.7	11.8%	2.7%	50.0%	50.0%	10.5%	57.9%	31.6%
Glenrothes Central and Thornton	340	3.6	-4.2%	-1.4%	58.8%	41.2%	23.5%	57.4%	19.1%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	305	2.7	8.9%	1.7%	57.4%	42.6%	21.3%	60.7%	18.0%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	340	3.5	-4.2%	-1.4%	48.5%	51.5%	22.1%	55.9%	22.1%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	190	2.4	22.6%	-2.6%	55.3%	44.7%	15.8%	52.6%	31.6%

Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	230	2.2	9.5%	-2.1%	50.0%	50.0%	15.2%	58.7%	23.9%
Kirkcaldy Central	595	6.9	-4.0%	1.7%	58.8%	41.2%	19.3%	56.3%	23.5%
Kirkcaldy East	590	6.3	1.7%	0.9%	63.6%	36.4%	19.5%	59.3%	21.2%
Kirkcaldy North	355	3.7	2.9%	1.4%	54.9%	45.1%	23.9%	56.3%	21.1%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	415	3.6	13.7%	9.2%	56.6%	43.4%	21.7%	54.2%	25.3%
Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	550	4.7	1.9%	0.9%	58.2%	41.8%	22.7%	55.5%	21.8%
Rosyth	260	2.5	8.3%	4.0%	50.0%	50.0%	17.3%	59.6%	21.2%
St Andrews	105	0.7	5.0%	0.0%	52.4%	47.6%	19.0%	52.4%	23.8%
Tay Bridgehead	235	2.4	46.9%	0.0%	51.1%	48.9%	12.8%	59.6%	27.7%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	270	2.8	-5.3%	1.9%	61.1%	38.9%	20.4%	61.1%	18.5%
Fife	7,760	3.3	4.2%	2.0%	56.8%	43.2%	20.4%	57.0%	22.6%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

Kirkcaldy East had the highest proportion of male claimants (63.6%) whilst Glenrothes West and Kinglassie had 51.5% of claimants recording as female. With 23.9% of claimants being aged 16-24 Kirkcaldy North has the highest proportion of this age group in Fife.

**Table 16 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by Fife Ward October 2024**

	Oct-23	Sep-24	Oct-24	Oct23- Oct-24	Sep24- Oct24
Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages	1,015	1,102	1,125	10.8%	2.1%
Burntisland, Kinghorn and Western Kirkcaldy	407	443	449	10.3%	1.4%
Cowdenbeath	900	1,003	991	10.1%	-1.2%
Cupar	386	419	404	4.7%	-3.6%
Dunfermline Central	630	696	677	7.5%	-2.7%
Dunfermline North	484	551	542	12.0%	-1.6%
Dunfermline South	724	851	811	12.0%	-4.7%
East Neuk and Landward	331	368	373	12.7%	1.4%
Glenrothes Central and Thornton	706	794	767	8.6%	-3.4%
Glenrothes North, Leslie and Markinch	607	701	688	13.3%	-1.9%
Glenrothes West and Kinglassie	728	784	782	7.4%	-0.3%
Howe of Fife and Tay Coast	299	343	340	13.7%	-0.9%
Inverkeithing and Dalgety Bay	405	460	461	13.8%	0.2%
Kirkcaldy Central	734	810	810	10.4%	0.0%
Kirkcaldy East	764	830	846	10.7%	1.9%
Kirkcaldy North	610	690	693	13.6%	0.4%
Leven, Kennoway and Largo	643	718	684	6.4%	-4.7%
Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty	1,020	1,115	1,085	6.4%	-2.7%
Rosyth	610	720	701	14.9%	-2.6%
St. Andrews	160	173	171	6.9%	-1.2%
Tay Bridgehead	367	462	443	20.7%	-4.1%
West Fife and Coastal Villages	547	601	580	6.0%	-3.5%
Total	13,065	14,637	14,435	10.5%	-1.4%

**Source: StatXplore 17/12/2024**

Table 16, above, looks at the in-work Universal Credit claimant numbers for the wards in Fife. Overall, there were 14,435 Fife residents working and claiming Universal Credit support in October 2024 which is 10.5% higher than a year ago and 1.4% lower than last month. Again, there are

people needing this support across the Kingdom with every ward other than St Andrews recording around 300 or more claimants. Two wards, Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages; and Lochgelly, Cardenden and Benarty all had over 1,000 people working but requiring Universal Credit support to supplement their income.

### Midlothian

Turning now to look at Midlothian. Table 17 gives the current situation in the six Midlothian wards, the percentage change over the last twelve months and the change recorded between October and November 2024.

Overall, we can see that Midlothian had 1,310 claimants in November 2024 and has seen the claimant number decrease by 1.1% year on year and has fallen by 4.0% between October and November 2024. Looking at the wards it is apparent that over the course of the year half of the wards saw the claimant count fall and the other half saw it increase. This has resulted in some marked differences. For instance, whilst Dalkeith saw the claimant count fall by 14.3% over the course of the year Midlothian West saw a 10% increase over the same period. Over the last month every ward apart from Midlothian East saw the claimant count fall.

**Table 17 Midlothian Claimant Count by Ward November 2024**

Wards	Nov 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants November 2024				
			Nov23 to Nov24	Oct24 to Nov24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Bonnyrigg	195	1.7	-2.5%	-4.9%	53.8%	46.2%	20.5%	64.1%	15.4%
Dalkeith	240	2.6	-14.3%	-5.9%	62.5%	37.5%	20.8%	66.7%	12.5%
Midlothian East	250	2.5	4.2%	6.4%	56.0%	44.0%	22.0%	62.0%	16.0%
Midlothian South	210	2.3	-6.7%	-6.7%	54.8%	45.2%	23.8%	59.5%	16.7%
Midlothian West	220	2.3	10.0%	-8.3%	50.0%	50.0%	15.9%	56.8%	27.3%
Penicuik	195	2.4	2.6%	-2.5%	64.1%	33.3%	20.5%	56.4%	23.1%
Midlothian	1,310	2.3	-1.1%	-4.0%	57.3%	42.7%	20.6%	61.5%	17.9%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

We can see that overall, in Midlothian 57.3% of claimants are male, 20.6% are aged 16-24 and 17.9% are 50 or over. Looking at the wards themselves we can see that Penicuik had the highest proportion of male claimants (64.1%) and Midlothian West the highest proportion of female claimants (50%). In terms of the age profile 23.8% of claimants in Midlothian South were 16-24 years of age in November 2024. We can also see that 27.3% of claimants in Midlothian West were over the age of 50.

**Table 18 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by Midlothian Ward October 2024**

	Oct-23	Sep-24	Oct-24	Oct23-Oct-24	Sep24-Oct24
Bonnyrigg	536	610	605	12.9%	-0.8%
Dalkeith	594	656	656	10.4%	0.0%
Midlothian East	577	644	635	10.1%	-1.4%
Midlothian South	669	711	709	6.0%	-0.3%
Midlothian West	496	524	540	8.9%	3.1%
Penicuik	461	510	503	9.1%	-1.4%
Total	3,332	3,656	3,646	9.4%	-0.3%

**Source: StatXplore 17/12/2024**

Table 18 looks at the number of in work Universal Credit claimants in the 6 Midlothian wards. We can see that overall, there are 3,646 claimants in Midlothian in October 2024. This is 9.4% higher than in October 2023 and 0.3% lower than a month ago. All six wards saw a year on year increase

ranging from a 12.9% increase in Bonnyrigg to 6.0% increase in Midlothian South. Over the last month there has been a decrease in the number of in work claimants in all four Midlothian wards.

### West Lothian

The situation in West Lothian is looked at in Table 19 below. Overall, there were 3,160 claimants in West Lothian in November 2024, and this is 2.3% more than a year ago and 5.5% higher than a month ago. Only Whitburn and Blackburn recorded a month to month fall between October and November. Of those that recorded a month to month increase the highest increase was Livingston North and the lowest was in Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh.

**Table 19 West Lothian Claimant Count by Ward November 2024**

Wards	Nov 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants November 2024				
			Nov23 to Nov24	Oct24 to Nov24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
Armadale & Blackridge	280	2.8	-6.7%	7.7%	62.5%	37.5%	26.8%	53.6%	17.9%
Bathgate	440	2.8	2.3%	8.6%	58.0%	42.0%	21.6%	58.0%	19.3%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	305	2.4	-3.2%	1.7%	54.1%	45.9%	19.7%	55.7%	24.6%
East Livingston & E. Calder	355	2.5	1.4%	4.4%	53.5%	46.5%	19.7%	63.4%	18.3%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	380	3.7	10.1%	7.0%	57.9%	42.1%	19.7%	65.8%	14.5%
Linlithgow	120	1.2	14.3%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	16.7%	50.0%	29.2%
Livingston North	360	2.4	18.0%	10.8%	54.2%	44.4%	16.7%	59.7%	22.2%
Livingston South	435	2.8	7.4%	8.7%	56.3%	43.7%	17.2%	62.1%	21.8%
Whitburn & Blackburn	490	3.5	-9.3%	-1.0%	58.2%	40.8%	17.3%	59.2%	23.5%
West Lothian	3,160	2.7	2.3%	5.5%	56.8%	43.2%	19.6%	59.7%	20.7%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

Overall, we can see that 56.8% of claimants in West Lothian are male whilst in Armadale and Blackridge 62.5% of claimants are male. In West Lothian overall 19.6% of claimants are 16-24 years of age and the ward with the highest proportion of these younger claimants is Armadale and Blackridge where 26.8% are 16-24 years of age. Whilst 20.7% of claimants in West Lothian are 50 years of age or over this is a lot higher in Linlithgow where 29.2% of all claimants are 50 or over.

**Table 20 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by West Lothian Ward October 2024**

	Oct-23	Sep-24	Oct-24	Oct23-Oct-24	Sep24-Oct24
Armadale and Blackridge	540	607	604	11.9%	-0.5%
Bathgate	785	938	899	14.5%	-4.2%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	673	806	781	16.0%	-3.1%
East Livingston and East Calder	837	943	922	10.2%	-2.2%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	659	752	715	8.5%	-4.9%
Linlithgow	226	290	278	23.0%	-4.1%
Livingston North	679	810	773	13.8%	-4.6%
Livingston South	880	1,013	977	11.0%	-3.6%
Whitburn and Blackburn	1,087	1,198	1,181	8.6%	-1.4%
Total	6,367	7,349	7,122	11.9%	-3.1%

**Source: StatXplore 17/12/2024**

Table 20 indicates that across West Lothian in October 2024 there were 7,122 individuals working and claiming Universal Credit which is 11.9% higher than a year ago and 3.1% lower than in September.

### Scottish Borders

Turning now to look at Scottish Borders. Table 21 gives the current situation in the eleven Scottish Borders wards, the percentage change over the last twelve months and the change recorded between October and November 2024. From this table we can see that there were 2,060 people claiming in November which is 7.5% higher than a year ago and only 0.2% higher than last month. We can see that two wards (Tweeddale West and Galashiels and District) recorded a year on year fall and five wards recorded a fall in the claimant count between October and November.

**Table 21 Scottish Borders Claimant Count by Ward November 2024**

Wards	Nov 2024	Rate	% Change		Proportion of Claimants November 2024				
			Nov23 to Nov24	Oct24 to Nov24	Male	Female	Aged 16-24	Aged 25-49	Aged 50+
East Berwickshire	180	3.0	9.1%	-5.3%	44.4%	58.3%	13.9%	55.6%	33.3%
Galashiels and District	330	3.4	-2.9%	1.5%	60.6%	39.4%	18.2%	51.5%	30.3%
Hawick and Denholm	250	4.7	2.0%	4.2%	56.0%	44.0%	20.0%	56.0%	24.0%
Hawick and Hermitage	210	4.2	7.7%	-2.3%	64.3%	35.7%	23.8%	50.0%	26.2%
Jedburgh and District	165	3.2	10.0%	0.0%	51.5%	48.5%	24.2%	48.5%	27.3%
Kelso and District	165	2.9	22.2%	3.1%	48.5%	51.5%	12.1%	54.5%	33.3%
Leaderdale & Melrose	135	2.1	8.0%	-3.6%	55.6%	44.4%	14.8%	55.6%	29.6%
Mid Berwickshire	170	2.8	3.0%	6.3%	52.9%	47.1%	17.6%	47.1%	35.3%
Selkirkshire	175	3.2	25.0%	-5.4%	60.0%	42.9%	14.3%	60.0%	25.7%
Tweeddale East	140	2.2	27.3%	7.7%	53.6%	46.4%	14.3%	50.0%	32.1%
Tweeddale West	140	2.3	-3.4%	-6.7%	53.6%	46.4%	10.7%	53.6%	39.3%
Scottish Borders	2,060	3.1	7.3%	0.2%	55.1%	44.9%	17.0%	52.9%	30.3%

**Source: NOMIS 17/12/2024**

The data in Table 21 also indicates that 55.1% of claimants were male, 17.0% were 16-24 years of age and 30.3% were over 50 years of age. In Hawick and Hermitage 64.3% of claimants were males, in East Berwickshire 58.3% were females. In terms of age cohorts 24.2% of claimants in Jedburgh and District were 16-24 years of age and in Tweeddale West 39.3% of claimants were fifty or over.

Table 22 looks at the number of people in work and claiming Universal Credit in Scottish Borders. In October 2024 there were 4,047 people working who needed the support of Universal Credit. This is 13.1% higher than a year ago and 1.3% lower than last month. We can see that four wards saw the claimant count for in work support increase between September and October and the others saw it fall by between 0.3% (Hawick and Hermitage) and 6.1% (Mid Berwickshire).

**Table 22 In Work Universal Credit Claimant Count by Scottish Borders Ward October 2024**

	Oct-23	Sep-24	Oct-24	Oct23-Oct-24	Sep24-Oct24
East Berwickshire	365	450	435	19.2%	-3.3%
Galashiels and District	578	622	607	5.0%	-2.4%
Hawick and Denholm	394	433	437	10.9%	0.9%



Hawick and Hermitage	295	331	330	11.9%	-0.3%
Jedburgh and District	261	260	262	0.4%	0.8%
Kelso and District	300	368	377	25.7%	2.4%
Leaderdale and Melrose	299	391	382	27.8%	-2.3%
Mid Berwickshire	353	392	368	4.2%	-6.1%
Selkirkshire	286	326	321	12.2%	-1.5%
Tweeddale East	216	266	271	25.5%	1.9%
Tweeddale West	230	262	257	11.7%	-1.9%
Total	3,577	4,099	4,047	13.1%	-1.3%

**Source: StatXplore 17/12/2024**

## Economic Activity

The following section is based on economic activity rather than claimant count and the data underpinning it is derived from surveys. As a result, it can have margins of error and these margins of error can be considerable, particularly at a local level or when used to report on specific demographic groups. The data hasn't been updated on NOMIS and as a result the tables that follow are there same as presented in the last monthly report.

Table 23 looks at the most recent data that can be broken down by Local Authority. It is based on twelve months survey data so reflects the position as of June 2024. It gives the economic activity rate in all six authorities and, of those that are economically inactive in each authority, the proportion and number who want a job. We can see that this suggests that across the Region 80.4% of 16-64 year olds were economically active in June. The March survey was slightly higher at 80.7% of those aged between 16-64 were economically active but they are all within the confidence limits. Of the 174,700 who were recorded as economically inactive the survey indicates that around 34,200 would want a job- slightly more than the previous survey.

It is worth noting that Economically Active includes in employment and those claiming an out of work benefit. Economically inactive are the more difficult to pinpoint group. So, if the estimates are correct these would be in addition to the claimant count figures looked at elsewhere in this report but can include groups who are not looking for work as they are studying, have health issues or looking after family.

**Table 23 Economic activity aged 16-64 (July 2023- June 2024)**

	Economic activity rate - aged 16-64		% who are economically inactive - aged 16-64		% of economically inactive who want a job	
	numerator	percent	numerator	percent	numerator	percent
City of Edinburgh	296,700	81.9	65,400	18.1	9,800	15.0
East Lothian	54,200	82.5	11,500	17.5	1,400	12.6
Fife	178,900	78.7	48,400	21.3	13,400	27.7
Midlothian	48,400	85.5	8,200	14.5	1,300	15.5
Scottish Borders	54,500	80.0	13,600	20.0	3,400	25.2
West Lothian	88,500	75.6	28,600	24.4	4,900	16.9
Column Total	721,000	80.4	174,700	19.6	34,200	19.5

**Source: NOMIS 12/11/2024**

The caveat with these statistics is that as it is a survey there are confidence limits provided with the data. This indicates the number which the statisticians are 95% confident would be correct if the survey had spoken to every eligible individual. For example, whilst the economic activity rate for Edinburgh is 81.9%, they are 95% confident that the real figure, based on the whole population, would be between 78.4% and 85.4% - the confidence levels recorded.

## Employment Support Allowance

Recently there has been discussion about the number of people who are economically inactive and for those that were not working due to illness or health related issues what those issues were. Whilst published data might not give the full picture, we can get some information from the statistics around Employability Support Allowance (ESA) which is published on Stat Xplore

**Table 24 ESA by Condition for the City Region May 2024**

	Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	West Lothian	Scottish Borders	City Region
Mental and Behavioural disorders	7,546	1,027	5,031	1,111	3,019	1,327	19,071
Disease of the Musculoskeletal System and Connective Tissue	1,207	297	1,558	284	817	339	4,497
Symptoms, signs and abnormal Clinical and Laboratory findings, not elsewhere classified	1,207	236	1,132	263	595	325	3,764
Diseases of the Nervous System	985	199	986	190	505	267	3,129
Diseases of the Circulatory System	328	72	440	108	216	108	1,275
Neoplasms	312	66	301	59	171	80	986
Diseases of the Respiratory System	297	76	265	70	173	56	934
Factors influencing Health Status and contact with Health Services	276	45	257	47	129	69	827
Injury, poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes	213	63	242	65	138	95	814
Diseases of the Digestive System	207	27	184	26	101	50	596
Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic diseases	146	17	111	27	72	35	406
Congenital Malformations, Deformations and Chromosomal Abnormalities	104	33	107	28	55	38	363
Diseases of the Eye and Adnexa	98	21	92	17	40	30	296
Diseases of the Genito-urinary System	68	19	50	15	48	10	216
Certain Infectious and Parasitic diseases	89	10	52	..	25	8	181
Codes for special purposes	48	15	55	17	31	10	174
Diseases of the Skin and Subcutaneous System	57	11	39	9	19	12	145
Diseases of the Ear and Mastoid Process	45	7	34	11	27	10	129
External causes of morbidity and mortality	21	6	16	..	12	10	68
Diseases of the Blood and Blood forming organs and certain diseases involving the immune mechanism	16	..	16	5	18	6	53
Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium	9	..	7	6	5	..	26
Certain conditions originating in the Perinatal period	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unknown or claimants without diagnosis on the system	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Not available	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	13,275	2,266	10,976	2,366	6,191	2,889	37,962

**Source: StatXplore 17/12/2024**

What we can see from this table is that in May 2024 50% of ESA claimants in the City Region had a condition entitled “Mental or Behavioural Disorder”.

Table 25 below looks at how long the individuals have been claiming ESA and we can see that whilst 80% have been claiming the benefit for 5 years or more there are over 1,000 that have been claiming for no more than 6 months.

**Table 25 ESA by Condition for the City Region May 2024**

	Edinburgh	East Lothian	Fife	Midlothian	West Lothian	Scottish Borders	Total
Up to 3 months	146	50	199	53	127	49	633
3 months up to 6 months	170	59	179	37	106	47	592
6 months up to 1 year	247	71	313	56	165	70	919
1 year and up to 2 years	412	125	491	138	270	118	1,554
2 years and up to 5 years	1,117	266	1,236	276	711	292	3,898
5 years and over	11,182	1,696	8,558	1,804	4,812	2,315	30,371
Unknown duration	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	13,275	2,266	10,976	2,366	6,191	2,889	37,962

**Source: StatXplore 17/12/2024**

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