

# Unemployment and benefits data sheet

Last updated: May 2024

Produced by: Risk, Performance & Procurement

Contact: [performance@rushmoor.gov.uk](mailto:performance@rushmoor.gov.uk)

Summary –there was a large a rise in the number of people claiming benefits during the Covid-19 pandemic, this has now reduced. In April 2024, 3.0% of Rushmoor’s working age population were claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed.

## Claimant Count analysis

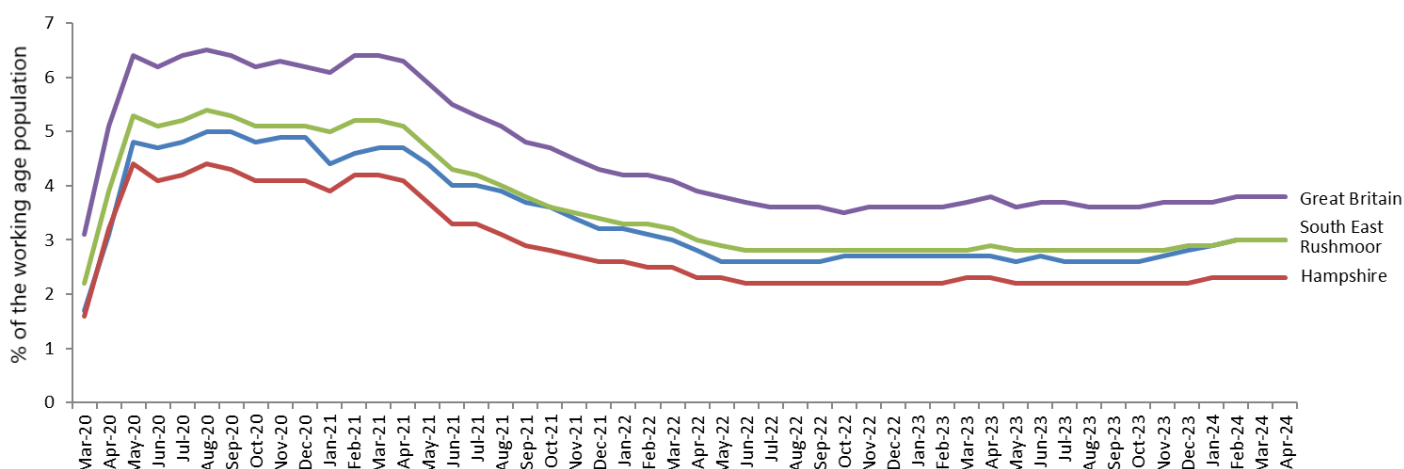
*“The Claimant Count is the number of people claiming benefit principally for the reason of being unemployed. This is measured by combining the number of people claiming Jobseeker’s Allowance (JSA) and National Insurance credits with the number of people receiving Universal Credit principally for the reason of being unemployed”*

Source: Office of National Statistics

In April 2024 there were 1,955 Rushmoor residents claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed, a small decrease from 1,965 in March 2024. Overall, 3.0% of Rushmoor’s working age population (16-64) were claiming benefits for the principally reason of being unemployed. This was a lower percentage than Great Britain (3.8%), the same as the South East (3.0%) but a higher percentage than Hampshire (2.3%).

The following chart sets out the claimants as a percentage of the working age population. In March 2020 before the Covid-19 lockdown 1,030 residents claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed (1.7% of the working age population).

Claimant Count



(Source: Office for National Statistics NOMIS <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/report.aspx?town=rushmoor>)

The following table shows the number of people claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed in each ward in April 2024.

April 2024	Claimant count	Claimants as a proportion of residents aged 16-64
Aldershot Park	195	4.0
Cherrywood	210	3.9
Cove and Southwood	100	2.2
Empress	110	3.0
Fernhill	115	2.8
Knellwood	90	1.9
Manor Park	200	3.5
North Town	190	4.3
Rowhill	165	3.8
St John's	85	1.9
St Mark's	130	2.5
Wellington	245	4.5
West Heath	125	2.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,955</b>	<b>3.2*</b>

(Source: Office for National Statistics <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/ward2011/contents.aspx>)

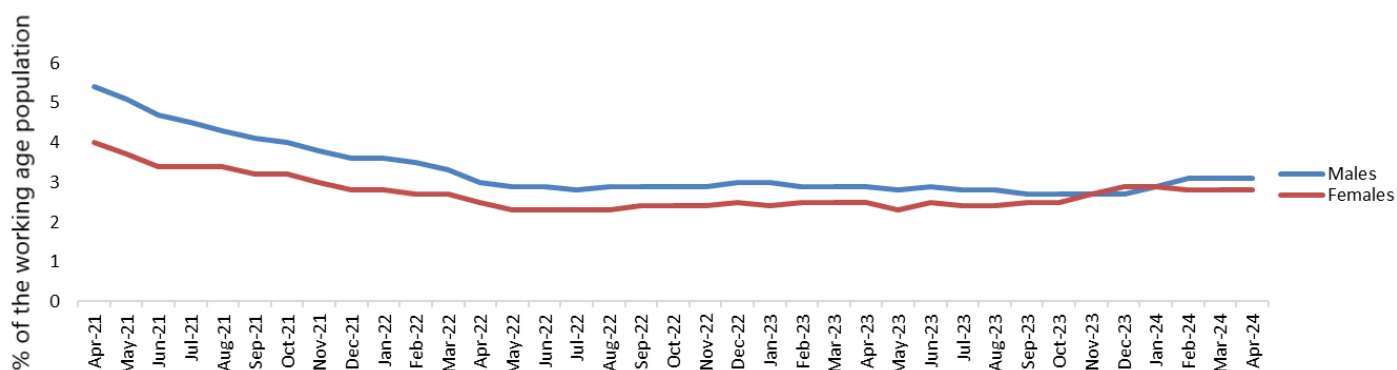
\*Different population figure has been used which has given a higher rate

There are six wards that have a higher percentage of claimants than the Rushmoor average. The wards are Wellington ward (4.5%), North Town ward (4.3%), Aldershot Park ward (4.0%), Cherrywood ward (3.9%), Rowhill ward (3.8%) and Manor Park ward (3.5%). All the wards in Aldershot have a higher rate than the Rushmoor average.

## Claimant Count by female and males

The following chart shows the percentage of males and females claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed. Of the 1,955 residents claiming in April 2024, 1,040 were male (3.1% of the male working age population) and 915 were female (2.8% of the female working age population).

## Percentage of Rushmoor females and males (aged 16-64) claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed



(Source: Office for National Statistics)

[http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/subreports/jsa\\_time\\_series/report.aspx?](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/subreports/jsa_time_series/report.aspx?)

## Claimant Count by age

The following table shows the age of residents claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed in Rushmoor. In April 2024, 3.8% of 18-24 year olds were claiming. This is a lower percentage), the South East (4.0%) and Great Britain as a whole (5.1%) but a higher percentage than Hampshire (3.5%).

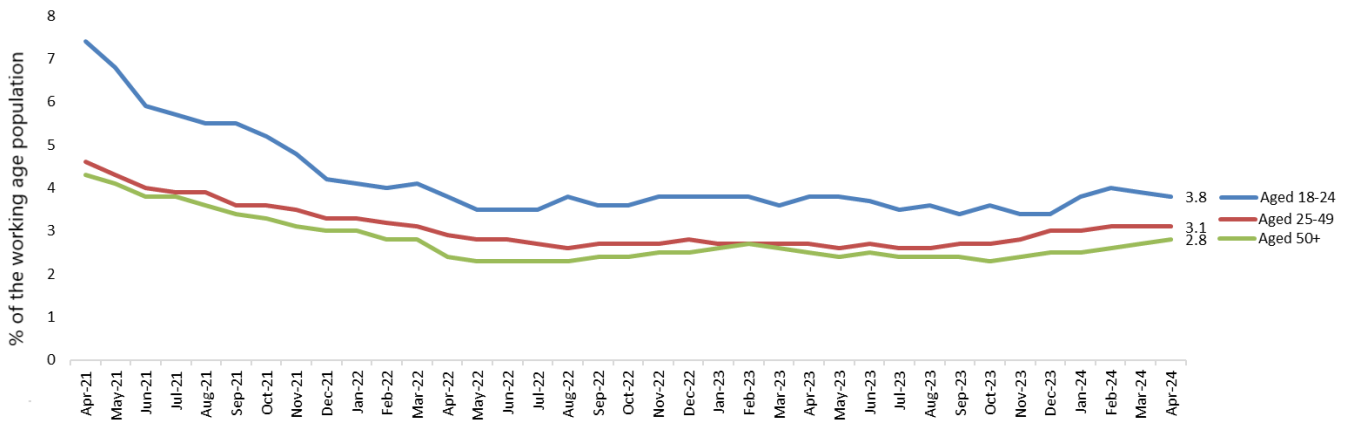
Claimant Count by age April 2024	Number in Rushmoor	Rushmoor*	Hampshire*	South East *	Great Britain*
Aged 18-24	285	3.8%	3.5%	4.0%	5.1%
Aged 25-49	1,155	3.1%	2.7%	3.4%	4.4%
Aged 50+	515	2.8%	1.7%	2.3%	2.8%

\*Claimants as a percentage of total age group in the area

(Source: Office for National Statistics NOMIS <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/report.aspx?town=rushmoor>)

The following graph shows the percentage of residents claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed in Rushmoor as the percentage of the total population of each age group in Rushmoor. The chart shows that after the pandemic the percentage for all age groups fell.

## Percentage of residents claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed as a proportion of the resident population of the same age

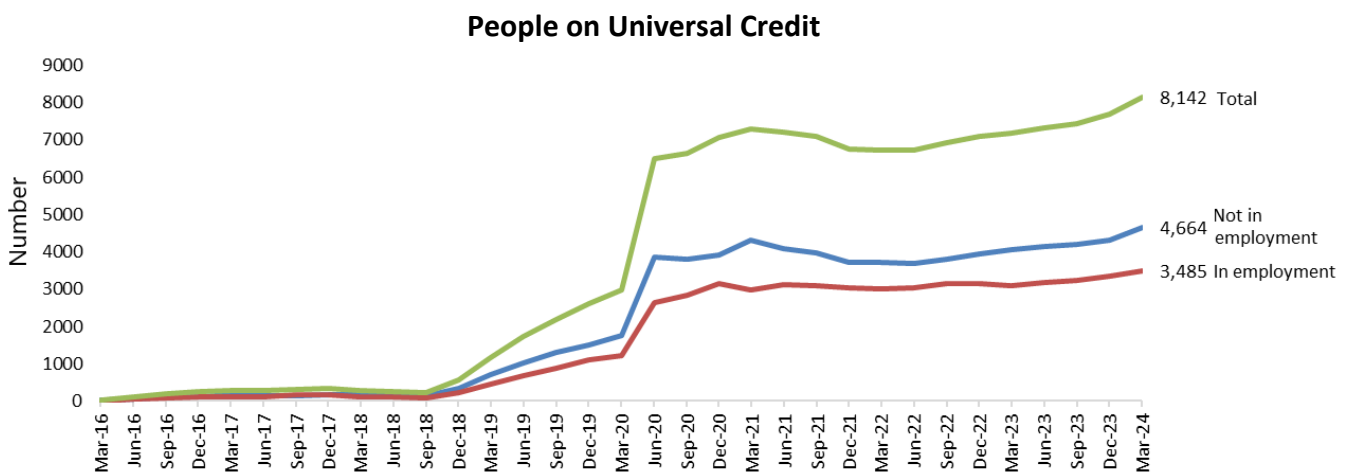


(Source: Office for National Statistics NOMIS <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/report.aspx?town=rushmoor>)

## Universal Credit

Universal Credit is a benefit for people on a low income or out of work, who are below pension age. It began being rolled out in Rushmoor in February 2016 and will replace most means-tested benefits and tax credits, and will include payments for children and housing costs.

The following shows the number of people on Universal Credit in Rushmoor at the end of each financial quarter since the introduction of Universal Credit. Due to the pandemic there was a sharp rise in people on Universal Credit between March 2020 and June 2020.

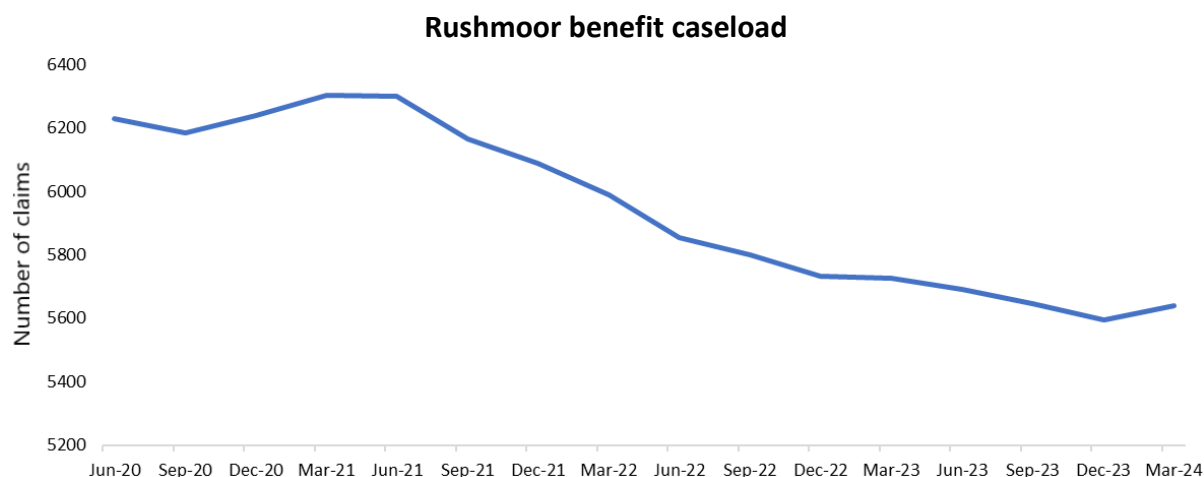


(Source: Department for Work & Pensions <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/> )

## Housing and Council Tax Benefit take up

Rushmoor Borough Council is responsible for Council Tax Support (CTS) and local Housing Allowance (this is now covered by Universal Credit for those of working age). The benefit case load was 5,641 in March 2024.

The following table shows the number of claims has been declining over the past four years, as people move over to Universal Credit but in last three months there was a rise. This rise is due to an increase in Council Tax Support applications.



## Model based unemployment

Not everyone who is unemployed is entitled to claim out of work benefits, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Annual Population Survey estimates the percentage of the working age population who are unemployed. It should be noted that this is model based and the ONS Annual Population Survey base the data on a small sample of people in the area.

This data estimates that there are 1,500 people unemployed in Rushmoor (2.4% of the economically active population).

The following table shows the unemployment rate in Rushmoor, Hampshire, the South East and Great Britain. Rushmoor has a lower rate than Hampshire, the South East and Great Britain.

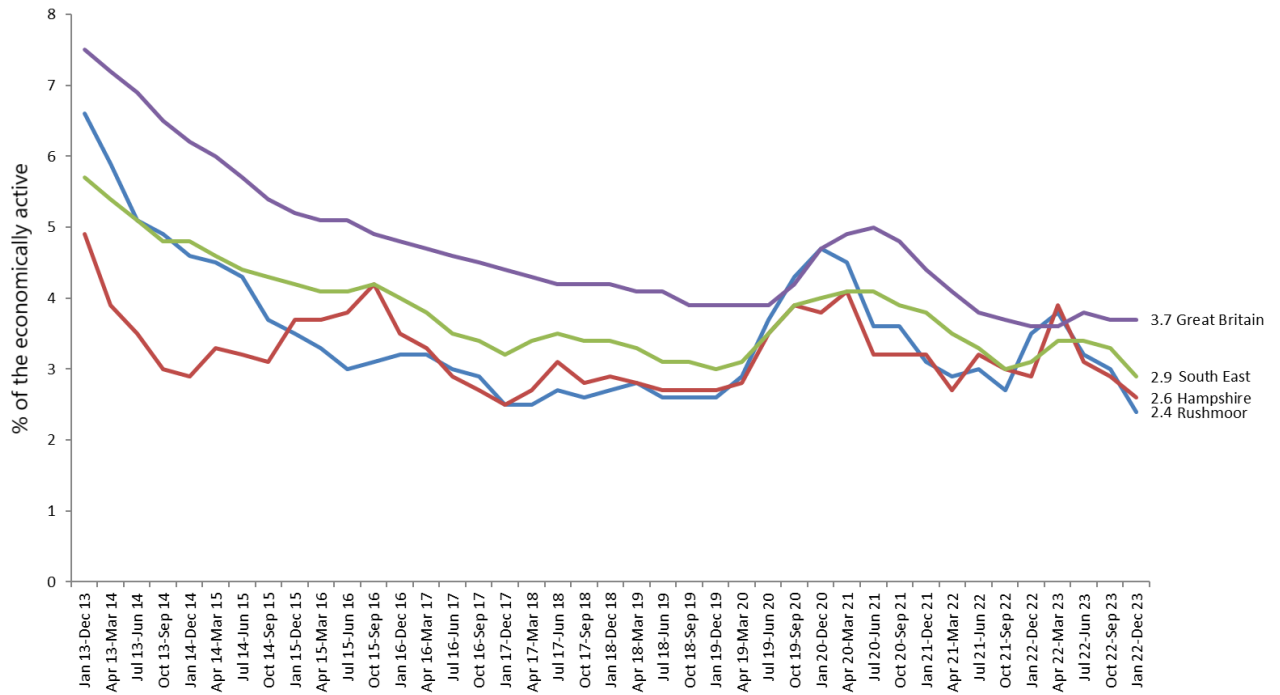
January 2022 –December 2023	Rushmoor	Hampshire	South East	Great Britain
Unemployed (Model Based)	2.4% (1,500)	2.6%	2.9%	3.7%

(Source: Office for National Statistics NOMIS)

[http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/subreports/jsa\\_time\\_series/report.aspx?](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/subreports/jsa_time_series/report.aspx?)

The following chart shows the unemployment rate over the last 10 years, recent data shows a fall for Rushmoor, Hampshire and the South East.

## Unemployment (model based)



(Source: Office for National Statistics NOMIS)

[http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/subreports/jsa\\_time\\_series/report.aspx?](http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/subreports/jsa_time_series/report.aspx?)