

Unemployment and benefits data sheet

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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 2025, 3.1% of Rushmoor’s working age population were claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed.

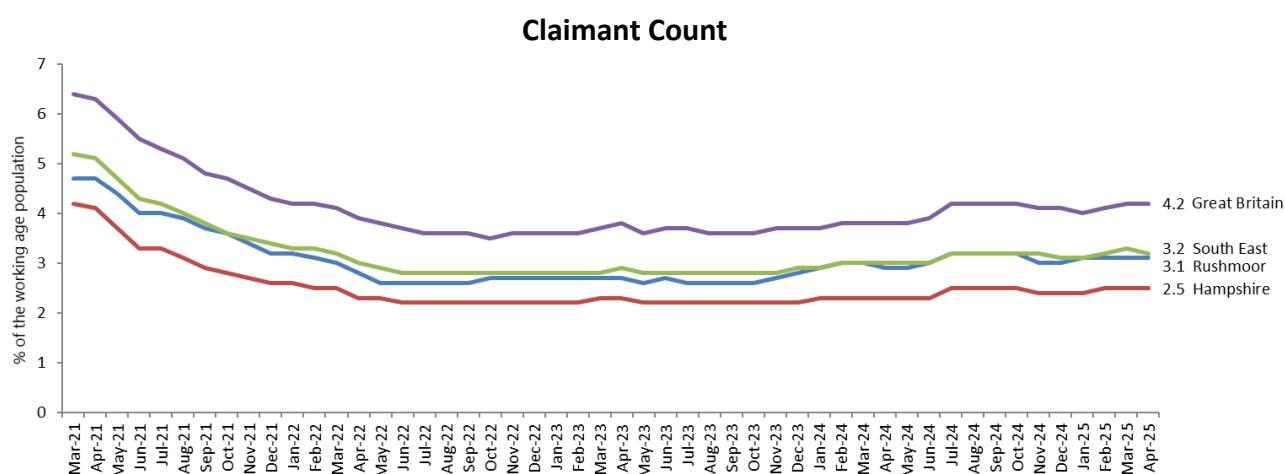
Claimant Count analysis

“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 2025 there were 2,025 Rushmoor residents claiming out-of-work benefits principally for the reason of being unemployed, a small increase from 2,015 in March 2025. Overall, 3.1% 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 (4.2%) and the South East (3.2%) but a higher percentage than Hampshire (2.5%).

The following chart sets out the claimants as a percentage of the working age population, it shows a recent increase for Rushmoor, Hampshire, the South East and Great Britian.



(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 2025.

April 2025	Claimant count	Claimants as a proportion of residents aged 16-64
Wellington	255	4.7
Aldershot Park	205	4.3
North Town	180	4.0
Cherrywood	210	3.9
Rowhill	165	3.8
Empress	135	3.7
Manor Park	190	3.4
West Heath	130	3.1
St Mark's	155	2.9
Fernhill	105	2.6
Cove and Southwood	110	2.4
Knellwood	105	2.1
St John's	80	1.8
Total	2,025	3.3*

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

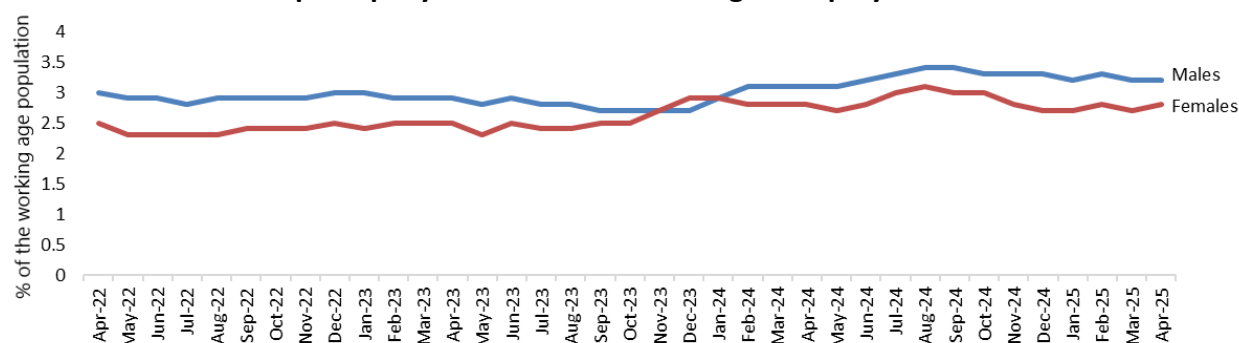
*Different population figure has been used which has given a higher rate

There are seven wards that have a higher percentage of claimants than the Rushmoor average. The wards are Wellington ward (4.7%), Aldershot Park ward (4.3%), Cherrywood ward (4.0%), North Town ward (3.9%), Rowhill ward (3.8%), Empress ward (3.7%) and Manor Park ward (3.4%). All the wards in Aldershot have a higher percentage of claimants 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 2,025 residents claiming in April 2025, 1,100 were male (3.2% of the male working age population) and 925 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?

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 2025, 4.2% of 18-24 year olds were claiming. This is a lower percentage than Great Britain (5.6%), and the South East (4.4%) but a higher percentage than Hampshire (3.9%).

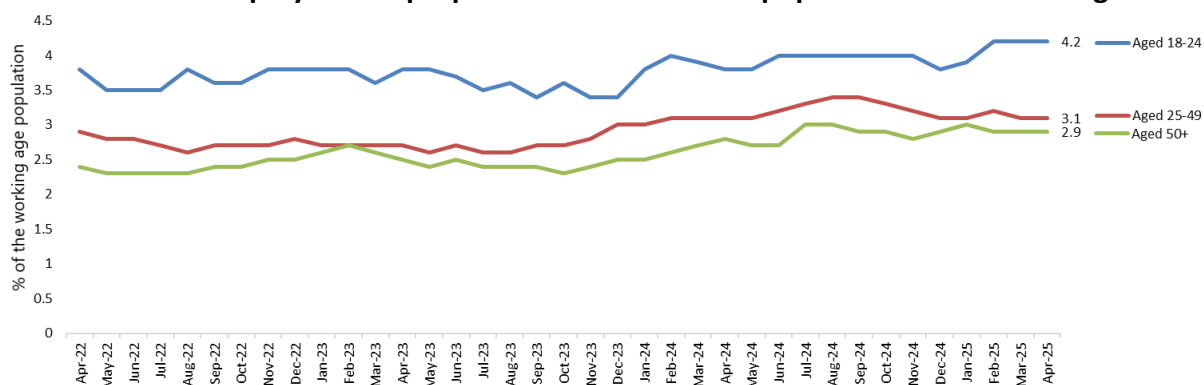
Claimant Count by age Apr 2025	Number in Rushmoor	Rushmoor*	Hampshire*	South East *	Great Britain*
Aged 18-24	320	4.2%	3.9%	4.4%	5.6%
Aged 25-49	1,160	3.1%	2.8%	3.6%	4.7%
Aged 50+	545	2.9%	1.8%	2.5%	3.1%

*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.

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

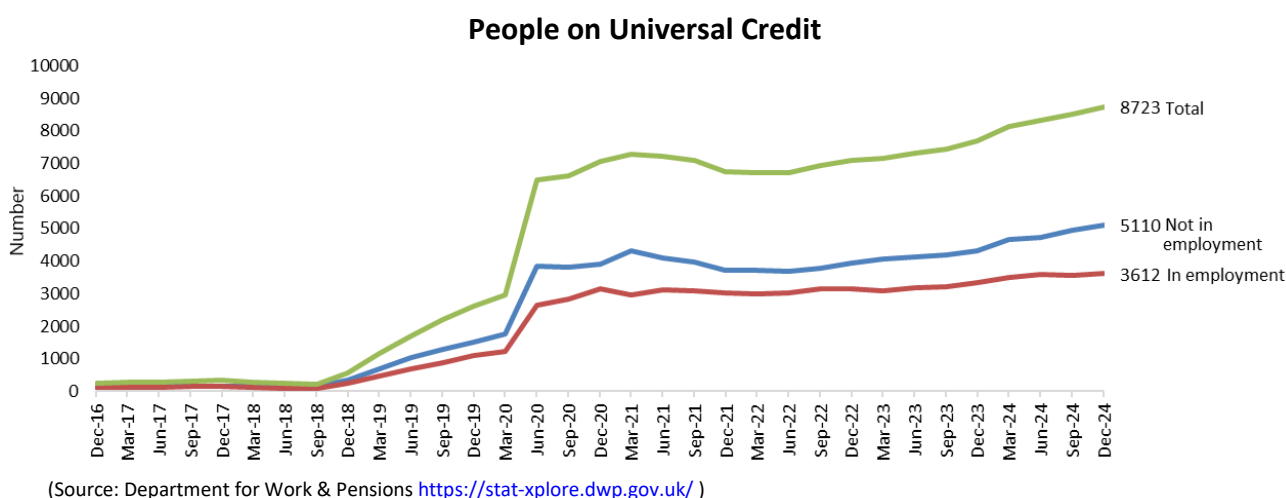


(Source: Office for National Statistics NOMIS <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/report.aspx?town=rushmoor>)

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.

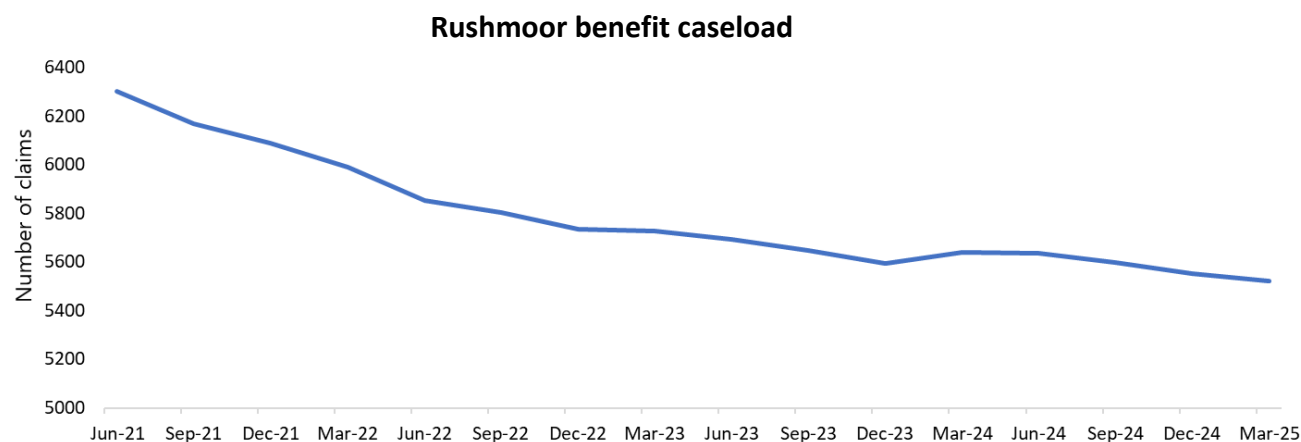
The following shows the number of people on Universal Credit in Rushmoor at the end of each financial quarter since the introduction of Universal Credit. Due to the pandemic there was a sharp rise in people on Universal Credit between March 2020 and June 2020.



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 caseload was 5,522 in March 2025.

The following table shows the number of claims has been declining over the past four years, as people move over to Universal Credit.



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 2,000 people unemployed in Rushmoor (3.7% of the economically active population).

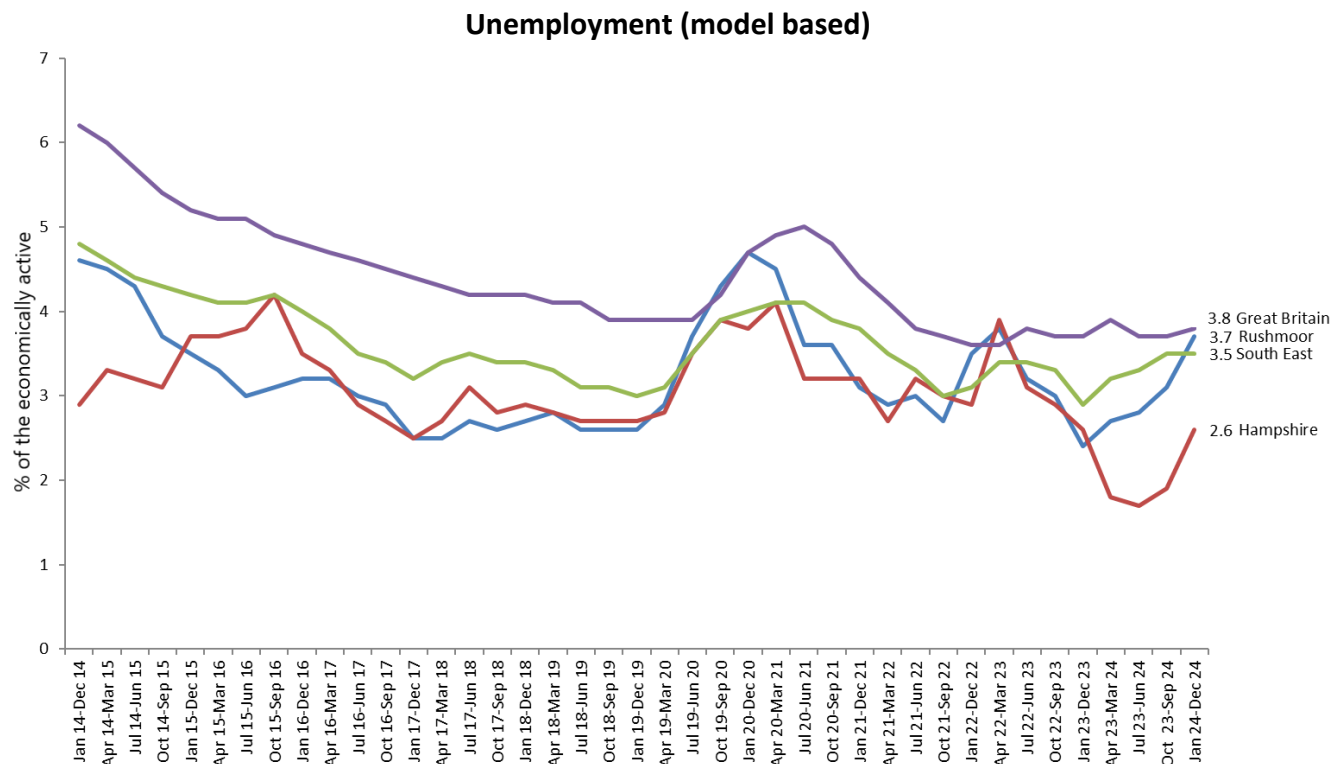
The following table shows the unemployment rate in Rushmoor, Hampshire, the South East and Great Britain. Rushmoor has a lower rate than Great Britain and a higher rate than Hampshire and the South East.

Jan 2024 –Dec 2024	Rushmoor	Hampshire	South East	Great Britain
Unemployed (Model Based)	3.7% (2,000)	2.6%	3.5%	3.8%

(Source: Office for National Statistics NOMIS)

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 rise for Hampshire and Rushmoor.



(Source: Office for National Statistics NOMIS)

http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/2038431789/subreports/jsa_time_series/report.aspx?