

# Unemployment in Kent

All data comes from the Claimant Count by Sex and Age data set, released monthly by the Office for National Statistics. The latest data is for March 2024 and includes revisions to data for February 2024. Data for April 2024 is due to be released on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

**NOTE:** The term “Kent” refers to the Kent County Council area and excludes Medway.

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**This bulletin looks at the number of people claiming either Jobseekers Allowance or Universal Credit principally for the reason of being unemployed in March 2024. It also looks at the age and sex of claimants, in particular at youth unemployment which is defined as those aged 18 to 24.**

## Headlines

- 33,615 people were claiming unemployment benefits in Kent in March 2024.
- The number of people who were unemployed in Kent in has increased by 0.8% (+260) since the previous month.
- The unemployment rate in Kent is 3.5% (GB 3.9%).
- Youth unemployment in Kent (18 to 24 year-olds) is 5.4%, just above the national rate of 5.2%.
- Thanet (10.0%) has the highest rate of youth unemployment in the South East.
- Thanet, Dover, Folkestone & Hythe, Swale, and Gravesham have some of the highest youth unemployment rates in the South East.
- Unemployment increased for males (+1.4%) while females saw no change over the last month.

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## Introduction

This bulletin looks at the number of people claiming either Jobseekers Allowance or Universal Credit principally for the reason of being unemployed. It also looks at the age and sex of claimants, in particular at youth unemployment which is defined as those aged 18 to 24.

This bulletin uses information from a dataset called The Claimant Count by Sex and Age. This experimental series counts the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit who are out of work.

Under Universal Credit a broader span of claimants are required to look for work than under Jobseeker's Allowance. As Universal Credit Full Service is rolled out in particular areas, the number of people recorded as being on the Claimant Count is therefore likely to rise.

Unemployment rates are calculated using the Office for National Statistics Mid-Year Population Estimates 2007-2021. The resident working age population is defined as all males and females aged 16-64. These denominators will be updated annually with the ONS mid-year population estimates.

### Introduction of Universal Credit

Since 2013 the roll out of Universal Credit has progressed across the UK. Universal Credit is replacing a number of means-tested benefits including the means-tested element of Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA).

DWP are gradually transferring claimants of existing benefits (those that Universal Credit was designed to replace) onto Universal Credit. This includes people claiming Working and Child Tax Credits (including people in receipt of Tax Credits and ESA), Job Seekers Allowance (Income-Related), Income Support (Income-Related) or Housing Benefit (Income-Related). This managed migration should be complete by March 2025. The managed migration of claimants on Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance, except for those receiving Child Tax Credit, will now take place in 2028.

More information regarding Universal Credit can be found on the government website <https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit>

## Unemployment in Kent Districts

**Table 1: Unemployment in Kent compared to Great Britain, March 2024**

Area	Number	Rate	Number change since last month	Percentage change since last month	Number change since last year	Percentage change since last year
Kent	33,615	3.5%	+260	+0.8%	+1,860	+5.9%
Great Britain	1,589,300	3.9%	+29,770	+1.9%	+67,560	+4.4%

**Table 2: District unemployment, March 2024**

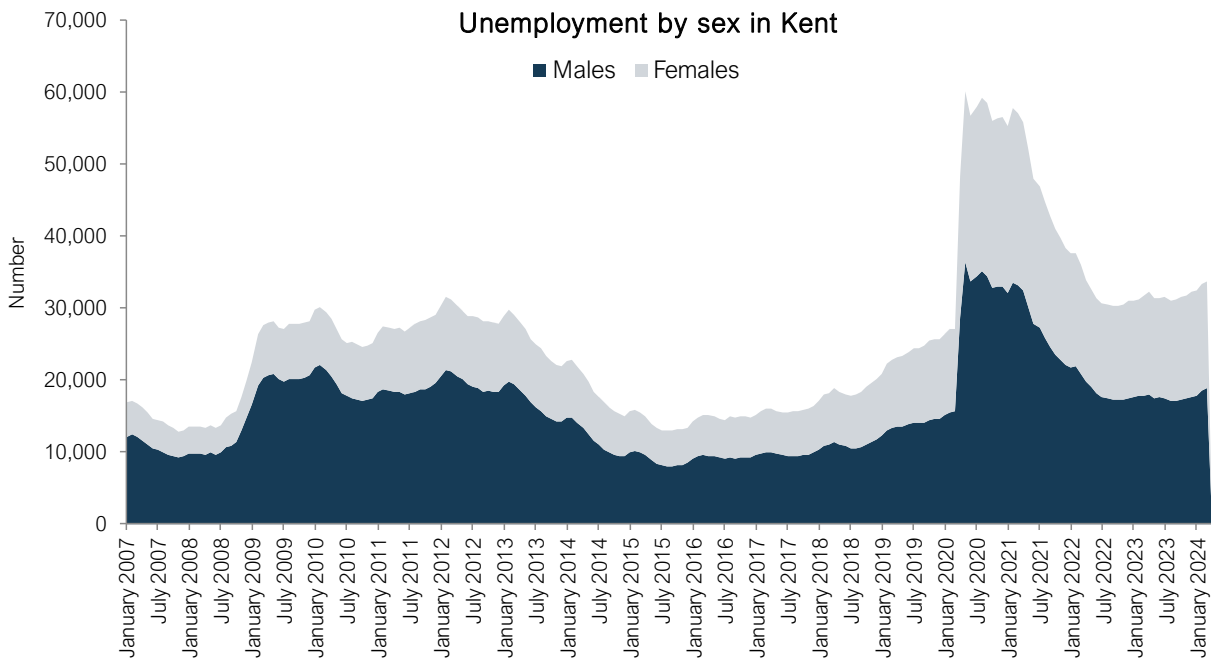
Area	Number	Rate	Number change since last month	Percentage change since last month	Number change since last year	Percentage change since last year
Ashford	2,610	3.2%	+60	+2.4%	+180	+7.4%
Canterbury	3,425	3.5%	+30	+0.9%	+285	+9.1%
Dartford	2,335	3.1%	+20	+0.9%	+150	+6.9%
Dover	2,775	4.1%	+10	+0.4%	+80	+3.0%
Folkestone & Hythe	2,770	4.3%	+20	+0.7%	+175	+6.7%
Gravesham	3,005	4.5%	+65	+2.2%	+170	+6.0%
Maidstone	3,545	3.2%	+90	+2.6%	+465	+15.1%
Sevenoaks	1,480	2.1%	+0	+0.0%	+70	+5.0%
Swale	3,525	3.8%	-35	-1.0%	+85	+2.5%
Thanet	4,620	5.6%	-20	-0.4%	-40	-0.9%
Tonbridge & Malling	1,835	2.3%	+5	+0.3%	+140	+8.3%
Tunbridge Wells	1,690	2.4%	+25	+1.5%	+95	+6.0%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>33,615</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>+260</b>	<b>+0.8%</b>	<b>+1,860</b>	<b>+5.9%</b>
Medway	7,175	4.1%	+210	+3.0%	+520	+7.8%

**Table 3: Unemployment by Sex in Kent, March 2024**

Sex	Number	Rate	Number change since last month	Percentage change since last month	Number change since last year	Percentage change since last year
Males	18,790	4.0%	+260	+1.4%	+965	+5.4%
Females	14,825	3.0%	+0	+0.0%	+895	+6.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,615</b>	<b>3.5%</b>	<b>+260</b>	<b>+0.8%</b>	<b>+1,860</b>	<b>+5.9%</b>

**Table 4: District unemployment by sex, March 2024**

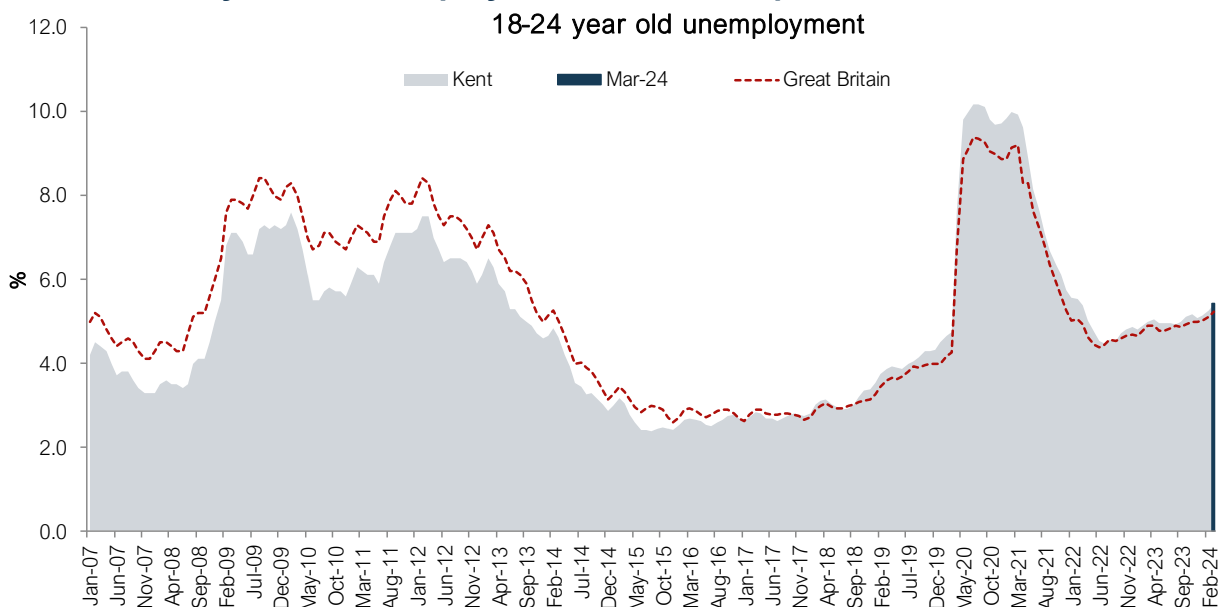
Area	Male claimants	Male claimant rate	Female claimants	Female claimant rate
Ashford	1,415	3.6%	1,195	2.9%
Canterbury	1,990	4.2%	1,435	2.8%
Dartford	1,205	3.3%	1,130	3.0%
Dover	1,620	4.8%	1,160	3.3%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,570	5.0%	1,200	3.7%
Gravesham	1,650	5.1%	1,355	4.0%
Maidstone	1,945	3.6%	1,600	2.9%
Sevenoaks	770	2.2%	710	1.9%
Swale	2,040	4.4%	1,485	3.2%
Thanet	2,740	6.9%	1,880	4.4%
Tonbridge & Malling	955	2.4%	880	2.1%
Tunbridge Wells	895	2.6%	795	2.2%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>18,790</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>14,825</b>	<b>3.0%</b>
Medway	3,980	4.6%	3,195	3.6%

**Chart 1: Unemployment by sex in Kent**

**Table 5: Unemployment by age group in Kent, March 2024**

Age group	Number	Rate	Number change since last month	Percentage change since last month	Number change since last year	Percentage change since last year
18-24	6,305	5.4%	+175	+2.9%	+490	+8.4%
25-49	19,560	4.0%	-45	-0.2%	+1,025	+5.5%
50-64	7,685	2.4%	+135	+1.8%	+325	+4.4%

**Table 6: District unemployment by age group, March 2024**

Area	18-24 claimants	25-49 claimants	50-64 claimants	18-24 claimant rate	25-49 claimant rate	50-64 claimant rate
Ashford	495	1,515	595	5.4%	3.6%	2.2%
Canterbury	705	1,875	845	3.2%	4.4%	2.9%
Dartford	440	1,405	485	5.7%	3.2%	2.4%
Dover	595	1,550	625	7.9%	4.7%	2.5%
Folkestone & Hythe	525	1,545	690	7.3%	5.0%	2.9%
Gravesham	505	1,860	630	6.4%	5.3%	3.1%
Maidstone	640	2,135	765	5.3%	3.6%	2.2%
Sevenoaks	225	895	355	3.1%	2.5%	1.4%
Swale	710	2,035	775	6.5%	4.2%	2.5%
Thanet	925	2,615	1,070	10.0%	6.4%	3.7%
Tonbridge & Malling	310	1,085	430	3.6%	2.6%	1.6%
Tunbridge Wells	235	1,040	410	3.3%	2.9%	1.7%
<b>Kent</b>	<b>6,305</b>	<b>19,560</b>	<b>7,685</b>	<b>5.4%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>2.4%</b>
Medway	1,335	4,330	1,505	6.1%	4.6%	2.8%

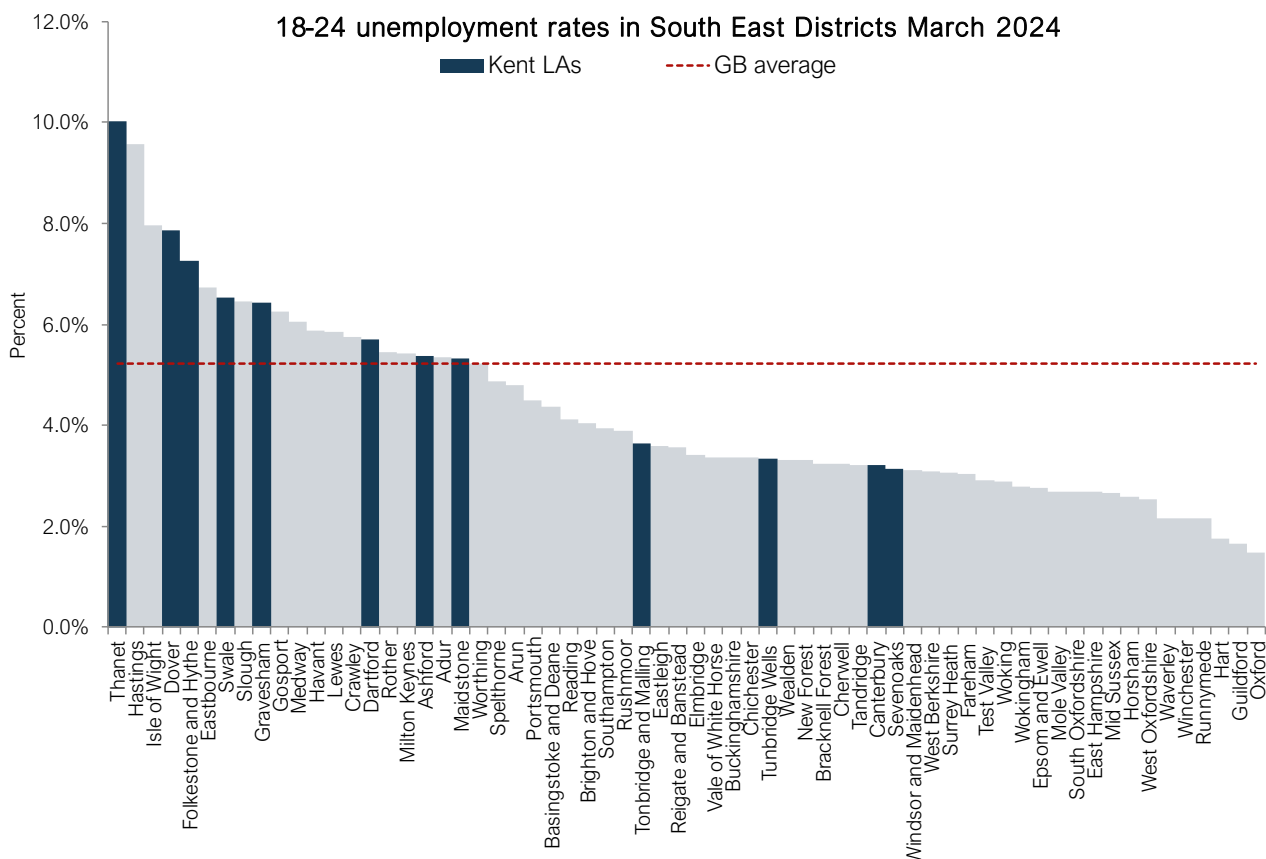
**Chart 2: 18-24 year old unemployment in Kent compared to Great Britain**


**Table 7: 18 to 24 year old unemployment, March 2024**

Area	Number	Rate	Number change since last month	Percentage change since last month	Number change since last year	Percentage change since last year
Kent	6,305	5.4%	+175	+2.9%	+490	+8.4%
Great Britain	281,295	5.2%	+5,590	+2.0%	+18,260	+6.9%

**Table 8: Unemployment by age group in Kent - % of all unemployed, March 2024**

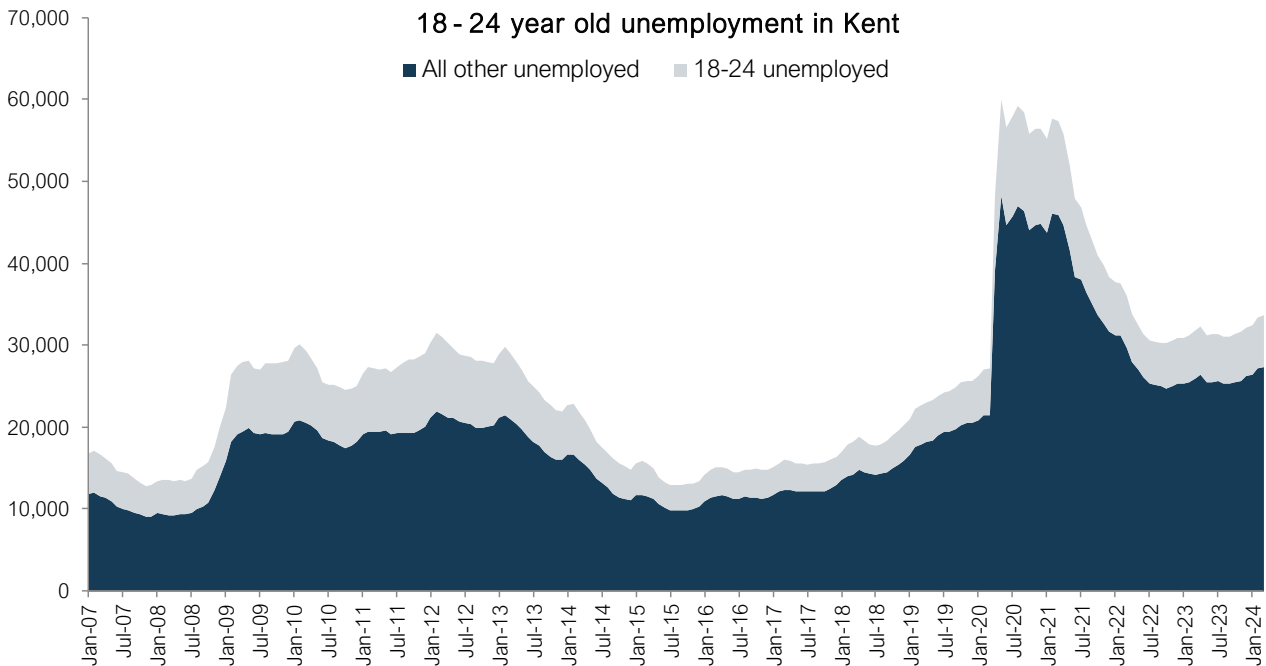
Age group	Number of claimants in Kent	% of all unemployed in Kent	Number of claimants in Great Britain	% of all unemployed in Great Britain
18-24	6,305	18.8%	281,295	17.7%
25-49	19,560	58.2%	945,970	59.5%
50-64	7,685	22.9%	358,835	22.6%

**Chart 3: 18 to 24 unemployment rates in South East local authorities, March 2024**


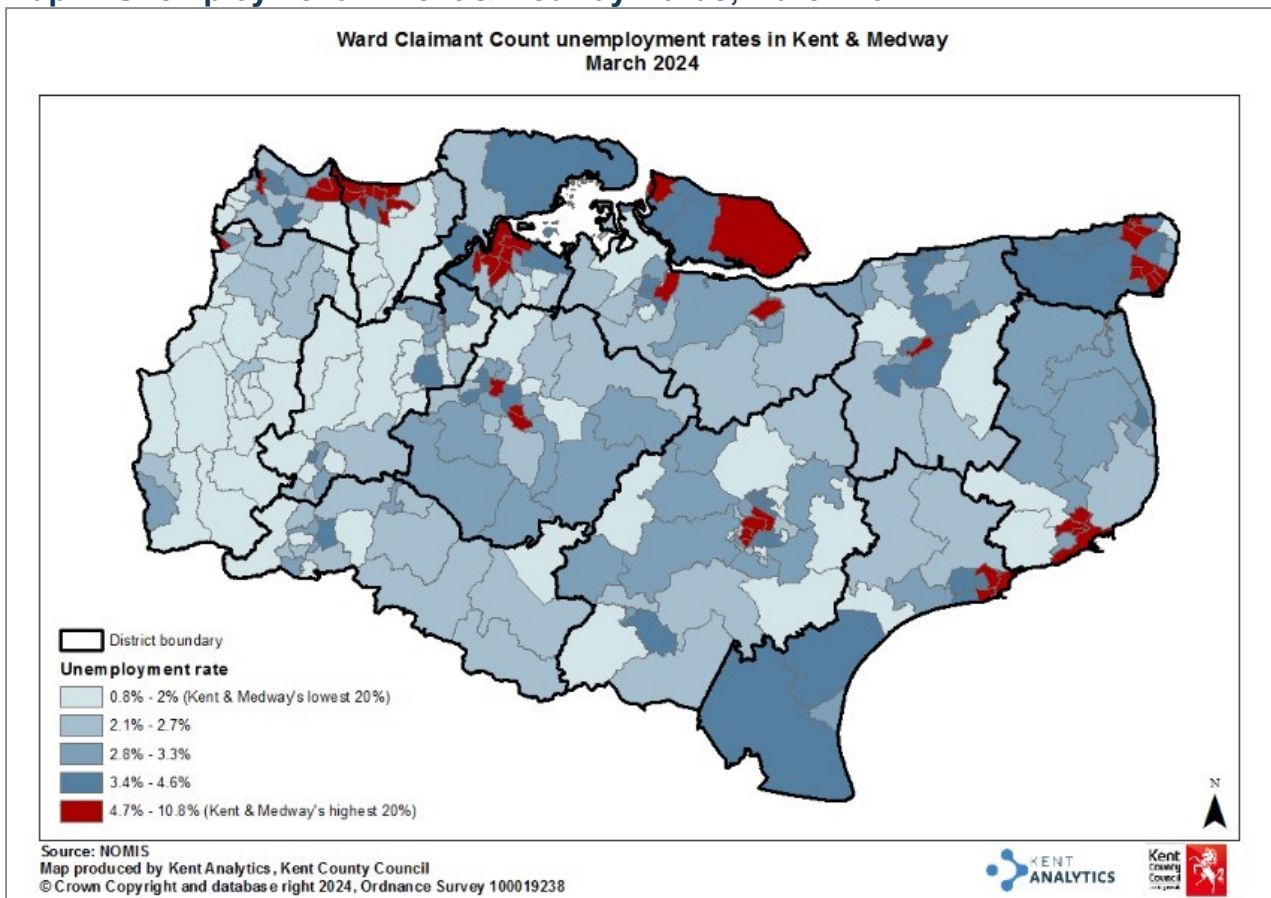
A table showing 18 to 24 year old unemployment in South East local authorities can be found in the annexe at the end of this bulletin.



**Chart 4: 18 to 24 year old unemployment in Kent compared to all other unemployed**



**Map 1: Unemployment in Kent & Medway wards, March 2024**



## Unemployment in Kent & Medway wards

This section presents tables showing the number and proportion of working age people who are unemployed and claiming Jobseekers Allowance or out of work and claiming Universal Credit at local Job Centre Plus offices in Kent and Medway wards.

Ward unemployment rates are calculated using the Office for National Statistics Mid-Year Population Estimates 2007-2020. The resident working age population is defined as all males and females aged 16-64.

Data is presented for Kent and Medway electoral ward boundaries as of 2021.

## Ashford

<b>March 2024</b>	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>Ashford District</b>	<b>2,610</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>7.4%</b>
Aylesford & East Stour	205	4.6	5	2.5%	25	13.9%
Beaver	255	5.9	25	10.9%	25	10.9%
Biddenden	40	2.8	0	0.0%	5	14.3%
Bircholt	30	2.0	0	0.0%	-5	-14.3%
Bockhanger	60	3.8	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Bybrook	75	4.1	0	0.0%	10	15.4%
Charing	45	3.3	0	0.0%	10	28.6%
Conningbrook & Little Burton Farm	15	1.4	0	0.0%	-5	-25.0%
Downs North	35	2.5	-5	-12.5%	-5	-12.5%
Downs West	10	0.8	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Furley	210	4.9	5	2.4%	25	13.5%
Goat Lees	60	3.8	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Godinton	60	2.2	-10	-14.3%	0	0.0%
Highfield	25	1.6	10	66.7%	10	66.7%
Isle of Oxney	35	2.2	0	0.0%	5	16.7%
Kennington	25	2.0	0	0.0%	-5	-16.7%
Kingsnorth Village & Bridgefield	55	3.3	5	10.0%	5	10.0%
Mersham, Sevington South with Finberry	40	3.1	5	14.3%	5	14.3%
Norman	90	4.4	5	5.9%	0	0.0%
Park Farm North	30	1.7	0	0.0%	-5	-14.3%
Park Farm South	40	2.2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Repton	55	3.1	0	0.0%	10	22.2%
Rolvenden & Tenterden West	30	2.0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Roman	40	2.1	0	0.0%	-5	-11.1%
Saxon Shore	20	1.5	-5	-20.0%	0	0.0%
Singleton East	40	2.5	0	0.0%	-10	-20.0%
Singleton West	35	1.8	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Stanhope	180	7.9	20	12.5%	40	28.6%
Tenterden North	30	2.9	-10	-25.0%	0	0.0%
Tenterden South	40	3.7	-10	-20.0%	-5	-11.1%
Tenterden St Michael's	35	2.5	5	16.7%	10	40.0%
Upper Weald	45	2.8	5	12.5%	-10	-18.2%
Victoria	240	5.8	-10	-4.0%	5	2.1%
Washford	55	2.9	5	10.0%	5	10.0%
Weald Central	90	3.1	5	5.9%	15	20.0%
Weald North	15	3.9	0	0.0%	-5	-25.0%
Weald South	70	2.7	-5	-6.7%	-10	-12.5%
Willesborough	95	0.8	5	5.6%	10	11.8%
Wye with Hinxhill	45	2.6	-5	-10.0%	10	28.6%

## Canterbury

<b>March 2024</b>	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>Canterbury District</b>	<b>3,425</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>9.1%</b>
Barton	395	3.9	10	2.6%	30	8.2%
Beltinge	90	2.7	5	5.9%	10	12.5%
Blean Forest	70	0.8	10	16.7%	10	16.7%
Chartham & Stone Street	125	2.6	10	8.7%	-20	-13.8%
Chestfield	80	2.1	-5	-5.9%	5	6.7%
Gorrell	220	3.3	0	0.0%	10	4.8%
Greenhill	110	4.6	-10	-8.3%	20	22.2%
Herne & Broomfield	150	2.6	15	11.1%	20	15.4%
Heron	365	4.6	-5	-1.4%	20	5.8%
Little Stour & Adisham	55	2.0	-5	-8.3%	10	22.2%
Nailbourne	55	2.4	5	10.0%	0	0.0%
Northgate	350	5.4	-10	-2.8%	45	14.8%
Reculver	75	3.1	0	0.0%	20	36.4%
Seasalter	125	2.8	5	4.2%	30	31.6%
St Stephen's	275	3.4	0	0.0%	-20	-6.8%
Sturry	175	3.7	0	0.0%	15	9.4%
Swalecliffe	50	2.4	5	11.1%	0	0.0%
Tankerton	40	1.9	5	14.3%	5	14.3%
West Bay	85	3.5	0	0.0%	5	6.3%
Westgate	255	3.3	-5	-1.9%	35	15.9%
Wincheap	295	4.2	15	5.4%	40	15.7%

## Dartford

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>March 2024</b>						
<b>Dartford District</b>	<b>2,335</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>6.9%</b>
Bean & Village Park	40	2.3	10	33.3%	10	33.3%
Brent	90	2.5	0	0.0%	20	28.6%
Bridge	40	2.3	5	14.3%	5	14.3%
Burnham	80	3.6	10	14.3%	5	6.7%
Darenth	65	3.6	-5	-7.1%	0	0.0%
Ebbsfleet	40	5.1	0	0.0%	5	14.3%
Greenhithe & Knockhall	200	2.8	0	0.0%	30	17.6%
Heath	65	1.9	-5	-7.1%	15	30.0%
Joyden's Wood	50	1.7	0	0.0%	10	25.0%
Longfield, New Barn & Southfleet	70	2.0	10	16.7%	10	16.7%
Maypole & Leyton Cross	40	2.0	0	0.0%	5	14.3%
Newtown	160	3.7	-10	-5.9%	-5	-3.0%
Princes	160	4.6	5	3.2%	5	3.2%
Stone Castle	155	2.9	5	3.3%	0	0.0%
Stone House	150	3.6	-5	-3.2%	0	0.0%
Swanscombe	225	4.8	-20	-8.2%	0	0.0%
Temple Hill	350	4.6	20	6.1%	-5	-1.4%
Town	110	8.4	-5	-4.3%	35	46.7%
West Hill	130	2.4	-5	-3.7%	-10	-7.1%
Wilmington, Sutton-at-Hone & Hawley	110	2.4	5	4.8%	15	15.8%

## Dover

<b>March 2024</b>	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>Dover District</b>	<b>2,775</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>3.0%</b>
Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	35	2.0	0	0.0%	-5	-12.5%
Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	205	3.1	5	2.5%	20	10.8%
Buckland	250	5.1	-5	-2.0%	-15	-5.7%
Dover Downs & River	65	1.7	0	0.0%	10	18.2%
Eastry Rural	115	2.9	15	15.0%	5	4.5%
Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	105	2.6	5	5.0%	25	31.3%
Little Stour & Ashstone	120	2.9	10	9.1%	20	20.0%
Maxton & Elms Vale	70	2.9	-5	-6.7%	-10	-12.5%
Middle Deal	150	3.7	0	0.0%	5	3.4%
Mill Hill	150	3.1	-5	-3.2%	-5	-3.2%
North Deal	140	3.1	10	7.7%	5	3.7%
Sandwich	115	3.2	-10	-8.0%	-15	-11.5%
St Radigunds	305	6.5	5	1.7%	10	3.4%
Tower Hamlets	255	8.1	-5	-1.9%	30	13.3%
Town & Castle	500	8.6	-5	-1.0%	-10	-2.0%
Walmer	90	2.5	0	0.0%	-5	-5.3%
Whitfield	105	3.0	-5	-4.5%	10	10.5%

## Folkestone & Hythe

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>March 2024</b>						
<b>Folkestone &amp; Hythe District</b>	<b>2,770</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>6.7%</b>
Broadmead	80	3.6	-5	-5.9%	20	33.3%
Cheriton	290	3.5	-5	-1.7%	10	3.6%
East Folkestone	460	6.2	20	4.5%	25	5.7%
Folkestone Central	570	7.2	5	0.9%	10	1.8%
Folkestone Harbour	320	7.6	-5	-1.5%	15	4.9%
Hythe	185	3.2	-5	-2.6%	35	23.3%
Hythe Rural	60	1.8	0	0.0%	5	9.1%
New Romney	125	3.2	0	0.0%	10	8.7%
North Downs East	165	2.2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
North Downs West	85	2.2	0	0.0%	5	6.3%
Romney Marsh	140	3.8	20	16.7%	20	16.7%
Sandgate & West Folkestone	130	3.8	-5	-3.7%	15	13.0%
Walland & Denge Marsh	160	3.5	-5	-3.0%	0	0.0%

## Gravesham

<b>March 2024</b>	<b>Number unemployed</b>	<b>Percentage unemployed (%)</b>	<b>Number change since previous month</b>	<b>% change since previous month</b>	<b>Number change since previous year</b>	<b>% change since previous year</b>
<b>Gravesham District</b>	<b>3,005</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>6.0%</b>
Central	260	5.4	-10	-3.7%	-10	-3.7%
Chalk	35	2.7	5	16.7%	10	40.0%
Coldharbour	140	4.8	-10	-6.7%	-10	-6.7%
Higham	55	2.5	5	10.0%	5	10.0%
Istead Rise	20	1.0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Meopham North	40	1.6	5	14.3%	10	33.3%
Meopham South and Vigo	45	1.8	5	12.5%	0	0.0%
Northfleet North	350	6.4	0	0.0%	35	11.1%
Northfleet South	265	4.7	-5	-1.9%	5	1.9%
Painters Ash	110	3.6	5	4.8%	30	37.5%
Pelham	355	6.6	-25	-6.6%	5	1.4%
Riverside	465	6.9	20	4.5%	15	3.3%
Riverview	45	1.8	5	12.5%	5	12.5%
Shorne, Cobham and Luddesdown	45	1.9	5	12.5%	15	50.0%
Singlewell	275	5.5	20	7.8%	20	7.8%
Westcourt	255	6.2	25	10.9%	20	8.5%
Whitehill	100	3.7	0	0.0%	5	5.3%
Woodlands	145	3.4	0	0.0%	20	16.0%



## Maidstone

<b>March 2024</b>	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>Maidstone District</b>	<b>3,545</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>15.1%</b>
Allington	65	1.6	5	8.3%	5	8.3%
Barming and Teston	30	2.5	5	20.0%	20	200.0%
Bearsted	55	1.2	-5	-8.3%	-5	-8.3%
Boughton Monchelsea and Chart Sutton	35	2.3	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Boxley	70	1.3	5	7.7%	10	16.7%
Bridge	150	3.5	0	0.0%	5	3.4%
Coxheath and Hunton	140	2.9	10	7.7%	10	7.7%
Detling and Thurnham	45	2.3	5	12.5%	25	125.0%
Downswood and Otham	60	3.2	5	9.1%	15	33.3%
East	175	3.2	0	0.0%	5	2.9%
Fant	285	3.9	15	5.6%	40	16.3%
Harrietsham and Lenham	110	3.0	-10	-8.3%	10	10.0%
Headcorn	100	2.8	0	0.0%	25	33.3%
Heath	115	2.5	0	0.0%	25	27.8%
High Street	605	7.6	30	5.2%	40	7.1%
Leeds	30	2.0	5	20.0%	5	20.0%
Loose	40	2.7	0	0.0%	10	33.3%
Marden and Yalding	155	2.9	-5	-3.1%	-15	-8.8%
North	215	3.2	5	2.4%	35	19.4%
North Downs	30	2.2	-5	-14.3%	0	0.0%
Park Wood	295	5.2	0	0.0%	50	20.4%
Shepway North	220	4.0	15	7.3%	50	29.4%
Shepway South	180	5.1	15	9.1%	25	16.1%
South	175	2.9	5	2.9%	30	20.7%
Staplehurst	105	2.9	5	5.0%	30	40.0%
Sutton Valence and Langley	65	2.9	0	0.0%	15	30.0%

## Sevenoaks

<b>March 2024</b>	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>Sevenoaks District</b>	<b>1,480</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
Ash and New Ash Green	75	2.2	-5	-6.3%	10	15.4%
Brasted, Chevening and Sundridge	55	1.5	-5	-8.3%	-5	-8.3%
Cowden and Hever	25	2.0	0	0.0%	10	66.7%
Crockenhill and Well Hill	25	2.0	0	0.0%	-5	-16.7%
Dunton Green and Riverhead	70	1.8	0	0.0%	5	7.7%
Edenbridge North and East	80	2.7	-5	-5.9%	15	23.1%
Edenbridge South and West	80	2.9	-5	-5.9%	20	33.3%
Eynsford	20	2.1	-5	-20.0%	10	100.0%
Farningham, Horton Kirby and South Darenth	70	2.4	5	7.7%	10	16.7%
Fawkham and West Kingsdown	75	2.4	5	7.1%	5	7.1%
Halstead, Knockholt and Badgers Mount	20	1.1	0	0.0%	-5	-20.0%
Hartley and Hodsoll Street	55	1.8	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Hextable	40	1.7	5	14.3%	5	14.3%
Kemsing	40	1.7	0	0.0%	5	14.3%
Leigh and Chiddingstone Causeway	25	1.7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Otford and Shoreham	35	1.4	-5	-12.5%	-5	-12.5%
Penshurst, Fordcombe and Chiddingstone	25	1.9	0	0.0%	5	25.0%
Seal and Weald	50	2.0	5	11.1%	10	25.0%
Sevenoaks Eastern	45	1.7	5	12.5%	-15	-25.0%
Sevenoaks Kippington	40	1.2	5	14.3%	-5	-11.1%
Sevenoaks Northern	60	2.2	-5	-7.7%	5	9.1%
Sevenoaks Town and St John's	65	1.5	5	8.3%	0	0.0%
Swanley Christchurch and Swanley Village	90	2.4	-5	-5.3%	10	12.5%
Swanley St Mary's	140	4.8	0	0.0%	10	7.7%
Swanley White Oak	120	3.1	0	0.0%	-20	-14.3%
Westerham and Crockham Hill	40	1.5	-10	-20.0%	-25	-38.5%

## Swale

<b>March 2024</b>	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>Swale District</b>	<b>3,525</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>-35</b>	<b>-1.0%</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>2.5%</b>
Abbey	95	3.0	-10	-9.5%	-5	-5.0%
Bobbing, Iwade and Lower Halstow	75	2.0	-5	-6.3%	10	15.4%
Borden and Grove Park	85	2.3	0	0.0%	-5	-5.6%
Boughton and Courtenay	115	2.7	0	0.0%	50	76.9%
Chalkwell	75	3.4	-5	-6.3%	0	0.0%
East Downs	40	2.4	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Hartlip, Newington and Upchurch	90	2.4	5	5.9%	5	5.9%
Homewood	130	3.2	-10	-7.1%	-5	-3.7%
Kemsley	130	2.8	-5	-3.7%	0	0.0%
Milton Regis	175	4.6	-10	-5.4%	15	9.4%
Minster Cliffs	150	3.4	0	0.0%	15	11.1%
Murston	210	4.9	-5	-2.3%	-5	-2.3%
Priory	90	5.5	0	0.0%	10	12.5%
Queenborough and Halfway	215	4.4	10	4.9%	15	7.5%
Roman	165	4.0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Sheerness	680	8.5	-10	-1.4%	-35	-4.9%
Sheppey Central	205	3.7	10	5.1%	10	5.1%
Sheppey East	330	7.4	5	1.5%	35	11.9%
St Ann's	90	2.6	0	0.0%	-5	-5.3%
Teynham and Lynsted	115	3.1	5	4.5%	-20	-14.8%
The Meads	75	2.7	-5	-6.3%	15	25.0%
Watling	105	2.9	0	0.0%	-25	-19.2%
West Downs	40	2.5	0	0.0%	10	33.3%
Woodstock	45	1.3	0	0.0%	-5	-10.0%

## Thanet

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>March 2024</b>						
<b>Thanet District</b>	<b>4,620</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>-20</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>-40</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>
Beacon Road	110	4.0	-5	-4.3%	0	0.0%
Birchington North	50	3.0	5	11.1%	10	25.0%
Birchington South	145	4.6	5	3.6%	-5	-3.3%
Bradstowe	65	3.0	5	8.3%	0	0.0%
Central Harbour	370	7.0	-15	-3.9%	-5	-1.3%
Cliffsend and Pegwell	85	3.4	5	6.3%	10	13.3%
Cliftonville East	115	3.7	0	0.0%	25	27.8%
Cliftonville West	720	10.8	-5	-0.7%	-75	-9.4%
Dane Valley	350	7.7	5	1.4%	-10	-2.8%
Eastcliff	365	7.1	-5	-1.4%	-20	-5.2%
Garlinge	120	4.3	0	0.0%	-5	-4.0%
Kingsgate	25	2.0	0	0.0%	5	25.0%
Margate Central	430	10.8	-20	-4.4%	-30	-6.5%
Nethercourt	110	4.0	0	0.0%	5	4.8%
Newington	270	8.2	15	5.9%	5	1.9%
Northwood	205	5.4	-5	-2.4%	-15	-6.8%
Salmestone	190	5.2	5	2.7%	30	18.8%
Sir Moses Montefiore	165	5.2	5	3.1%	25	17.9%
St Peters	140	3.7	10	7.7%	10	7.7%
Thanet Villages	155	3.5	0	0.0%	5	3.3%
Viking	125	3.2	-5	-3.8%	5	4.2%
Westbrook	125	4.6	10	8.7%	5	4.2%
Westgate-on-Sea	195	4.4	-15	-7.1%	10	5.4%

## Tonbridge & Malling

<b>March 2024</b>	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>Tonbridge &amp; Malling District</b>	<b>1,835</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
Aylesford North and Walderslade	55	1.4	0	0.0%	-10	-15.4%
Aylesford South	85	2.7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Borough Green and Long Mill	80	1.7	0	0.0%	5	6.7%
Burham and Wouldham	60	3.0	0	0.0%	10	20.0%
Cage Green	75	2.9	5	7.1%	15	25.0%
Castle	45	1.4	0	0.0%	5	12.5%
Ditton	55	1.7	5	10.0%	15	37.5%
Downs and Mereworth	40	1.3	5	14.3%	10	33.3%
East Malling	115	3.5	10	9.5%	40	53.3%
Hadlow and East Peckham	90	2.1	-10	-10.0%	5	5.9%
Higham	50	1.9	0	0.0%	-10	-16.7%
Hildenborough	25	0.9	-5	-16.7%	-5	-16.7%
Judd	95	2.6	0	0.0%	-5	-5.0%
Kings Hill	95	1.6	15	18.8%	10	11.8%
Larkfield North	90	2.8	5	5.9%	10	12.5%
Larkfield South	50	2.1	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Medway	145	3.2	-5	-3.3%	15	11.5%
Snodland East and Ham Hill	100	2.9	-10	-9.1%	-15	-13.0%
Snodland West and Holborough Lakes	115	2.8	10	9.5%	20	21.1%
Trench	115	4.1	-5	-4.2%	10	9.5%
Vauxhall	95	2.6	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Wateringbury	25	1.9	0	0.0%	10	66.7%
West Malling and Leybourne	85	2.0	-5	-5.6%	0	0.0%
Wrotham, Ightham and Stansted	50	1.9	-10	-16.7%	0	0.0%

## Tunbridge Wells

<b>March 2024</b>	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>Tunbridge Wells District</b>	<b>1,690</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>6.0%</b>
Benenden and Cranbrook	105	2.4	0	0.0%	15	16.7%
Brenchley and Horsmonden	65	2.1	5	8.3%	15	30.0%
Broadwater	85	3.0	0	0.0%	5	6.3%
Capel	35	2.5	-5	-12.5%	10	40.0%
Culverden	145	2.4	10	7.4%	5	3.6%
Frittenden and Sissinghurst	15	1.2	0	0.0%	-15	-50.0%
Goudhurst and Lamberhurst	70	2.3	-10	-12.5%	10	16.7%
Hawkhurst and Sandhurst	95	2.6	-5	-5.0%	5	5.6%
Paddock Wood East	65	2.7	0	0.0%	15	30.0%
Paddock Wood West	70	2.9	5	7.7%	-10	-12.5%
Pantiles and St Mark's	60	1.4	0	0.0%	20	50.0%
Park	95	2.1	0	0.0%	5	5.6%
Pembury	65	2.0	10	18.2%	0	0.0%
Rusthall	80	2.7	0	0.0%	10	14.3%
Sherwood	180	3.6	5	2.9%	0	0.0%
Southborough North	55	2.3	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Southborough and High Brooms	145	2.8	5	3.6%	-5	-3.3%
Speldhurst and Bidborough	35	1.0	-5	-12.5%	0	0.0%
St James'	135	2.8	5	3.8%	-5	-3.6%
St John's	85	1.8	0	0.0%	10	13.3%

## Medway

<b>March 2024</b>	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
<b>Medway District</b>	<b>7,175</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>3.0%</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>7.8%</b>
Chatham Central	785	6.9	30	4.0%	65	9.0%
Cuxton and Halling	75	1.8	5	7.1%	0	0.0%
Gillingham North	745	5.5	-5	-0.7%	20	2.8%
Gillingham South	710	6.0	15	2.2%	25	3.6%
Hempstead and Wigmore	55	1.3	-5	-8.3%	0	0.0%
Lordswood and Capstone	125	2.3	-5	-3.8%	10	8.7%
Luton and Wayfield	685	6.9	40	6.2%	60	9.6%
Peninsula	290	3.4	-10	-3.3%	40	16.0%
Princes Park	180	2.7	5	2.9%	10	5.9%
Rainham Central	135	2.0	15	12.5%	30	28.6%
Rainham North	180	3.6	10	5.9%	25	16.1%
Rainham South	205	2.5	15	7.9%	35	20.6%
River	550	6.3	15	2.8%	100	22.2%
Rochester East	370	5.4	30	8.8%	55	17.5%
Rochester South and Horsted	190	2.3	5	2.7%	10	5.6%
Rochester West	245	3.4	10	4.3%	-10	-3.9%
Strood North	325	3.6	-5	-1.5%	5	1.6%
Strood Rural	230	2.5	0	0.0%	5	2.2%
Strood South	445	4.3	20	4.7%	10	2.3%
Twydall	290	3.6	10	3.6%	-20	-6.5%
Walderslade	180	3.1	-10	-5.3%	30	20.0%
Watling	180	3.0	30	20.0%	15	9.1%

## Annexe

Table showing the latest 18 to 24 unemployment in South East local authorities.

	18 to 24 number unemployed	18 to 24 unemployment rate
<b>March 2024</b>		
Adur	205	5.3%
Arun	500	4.8%
<b>Ashford</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>5.4%</b>
Basingstoke and Deane	550	4.4%
Bracknell Forest	290	3.2%
Brighton and Hove	1,470	4.0%
Buckinghamshire	1,240	3.4%
<b>Canterbury</b>	<b>705</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
Cherwell	355	3.2%
Chichester	315	3.4%
Crawley	515	5.8%
<b>Dartford</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>5.7%</b>
<b>Dover</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>7.9%</b>
East Hampshire	210	2.7%
Eastbourne	485	6.7%
Eastleigh	320	3.6%
Elmbridge	260	3.4%
Epsom and Ewell	155	2.8%
Fareham	230	3.0%
<b>Folkestone and Hythe</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>7.3%</b>
Gosport	370	6.3%
<b>Gravesham</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>6.4%</b>
Guildford	310	1.6%
Hart	120	1.8%
Hastings	590	9.6%
Havant	480	5.9%
Horsham	230	2.6%
Isle of Wight	660	8.0%
Lewes	360	5.8%
<b>Maidstone</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>5.3%</b>
Medway	1,335	6.1%
Mid Sussex	245	2.7%



	18 to 24 number unemployed	18 to 24 unemployment rate
<b>March 2024</b>		
Milton Keynes	1,130	5.4%
Mole Valley	145	2.7%
New Forest	340	3.3%
Oxford	455	1.5%
Portsmouth	1,215	4.5%
Reading	800	4.1%
Reigate and Banstead	330	3.6%
Rother	290	5.5%
Runnymede	235	2.2%
Rushmoor	295	3.9%
<b>Sevenoaks</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>3.1%</b>
Slough	805	6.5%
South Oxfordshire	250	2.7%
Southampton	1,340	4.0%
Spelthorne	330	4.9%
Surrey Heath	180	3.1%
<b>Swale</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>6.5%</b>
Tandridge	180	3.2%
Test Valley	235	2.9%
<b>Thanet</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>10.0%</b>
<b>Tonbridge and Malling</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
<b>Tunbridge Wells</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>3.3%</b>
Vale of White Horse	300	3.4%
Waverley	185	2.2%
Wealden	320	3.3%
West Berkshire	330	3.1%
West Oxfordshire	195	2.5%
Winchester	270	2.2%
Windsor and Maidenhead	305	3.1%
Woking	195	2.9%
Wokingham	335	2.8%
Worthing	380	5.2%

## Related documents

Interactive Excel models showing a timeseries of district and ward unemployment can be found on our [Unemployment and Benefits](#) webpage.