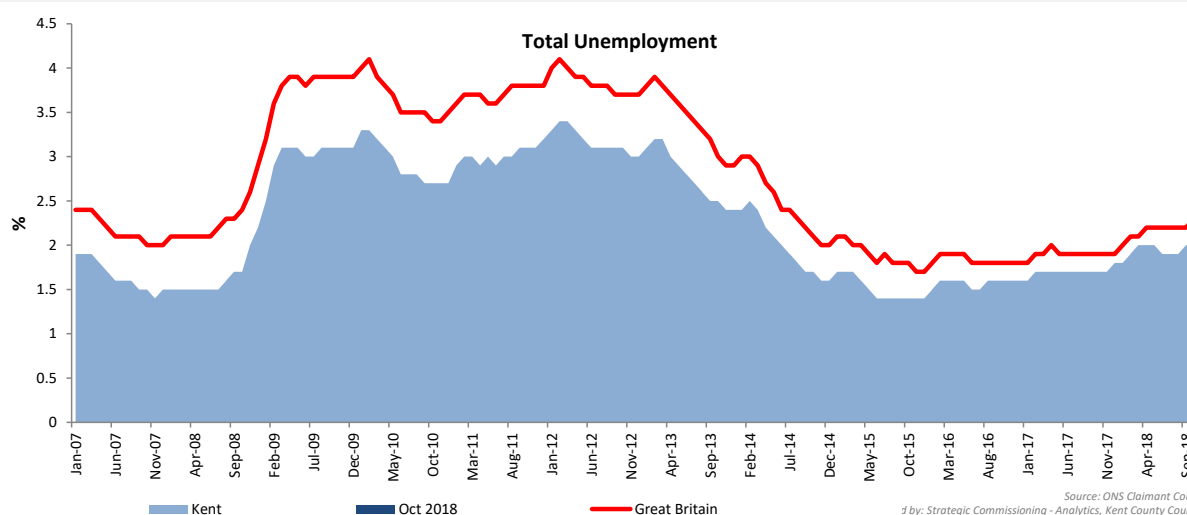


Unemployment in Kent

Last updated: 13 Nov 2018

Using information from the Office for National Statistics Claimant Count this bulletin looks at the total number of people claiming either Jobseekers Allowance or Universal Credit **principally for the reason of being unemployed**. It also looks at the age profile of claimants, in particular at youth unemployment which is defined as those aged 18 to 24.



Source: ONS Claimant Count
 † by: Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council

	Oct 2018		Change since Sep 2018		Change since Oct 2017	
	Number	% Rate	Number	%	Number	%
Unemployment Kent	19,220	2.0%	670	3.6%	3,385	21.4%
Great Britain	919,075	2.3%	15,155	1.7%	154,625	20.2%

	Oct 2018		Change since Sep 2018		Change since Oct 2017	
	Number	% Rate	Number	%	Number	%
Ashford	1,550	2.0%	105	7.3%	315	25.5%
Canterbury	1,590	1.5%	145	10.0%	300	23.3%
Dartford	825	1.2%	55	7.1%	45	5.8%
Dover	2,300	3.3%	75	3.4%	510	28.5%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,740	2.7%	140	8.8%	380	27.9%
Gravesham	1,535	2.3%	60	4.1%	200	15.0%
Maidstone	1,170	1.1%	0	0.0%	-30	-2.5%
Sevenoaks	475	0.7%	0	0.0%	-50	-9.5%
Swale	2,695	3.0%	25	0.9%	680	33.7%
Thanet	4,125	5.0%	105	2.6%	1,170	39.6%
Tonbridge and Malling	660	0.8%	-20	-2.9%	-70	-9.6%
Tunbridge Wells	560	0.8%	-15	-2.6%	-65	-10.4%
Medway	3,860	2.2%	210	5.8%	535	16.1%
Kent	19,220	2.0%	670	3.6%	3,385	21.4%

Kent unemployment headlines October 2018

The unemployment rate in Kent is 2%. This is below the rate for Great Britain (2.3%).

19,220 people were claiming unemployment benefits in Kent. This has increased since last month.

Thanet has the highest unemployment rate at 5%. Sevenoaks has the lowest unemployment rate at 0.7%.

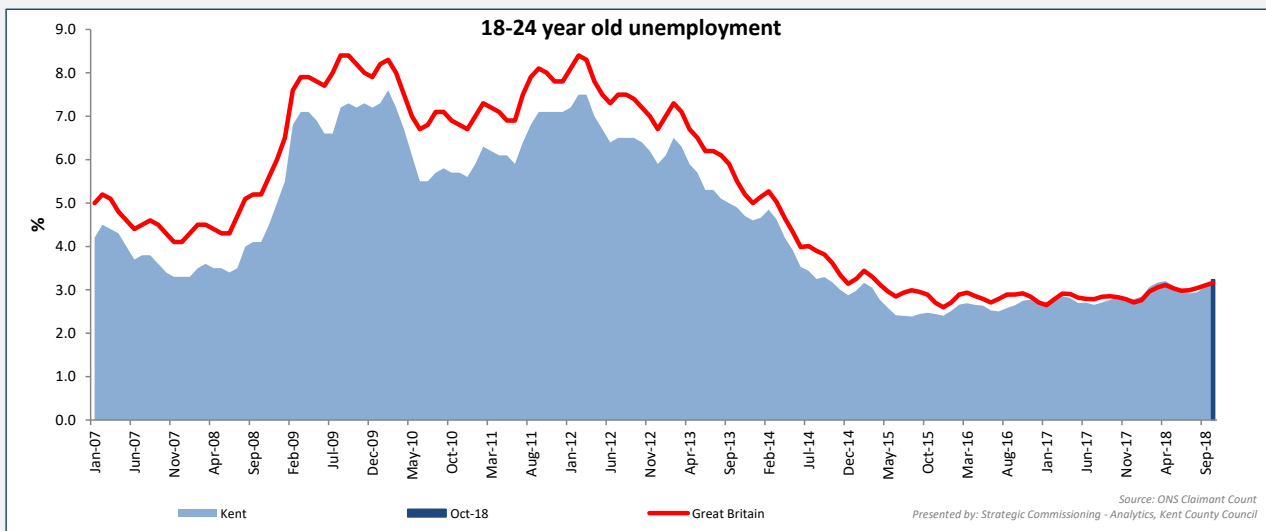
The 18-24 year old unemployment rate in Kent is 3.2%. They account for 21.3% of all unemployed people in the area

Thanet has the highest 18-24 year old unemployment rate in the South East at 7.8%.

Unemployment by age group

Kent	Oct 2018		Change since Sep 2018		Change since Oct 2017	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
18-24	4,095	3.2%	220	5.7%	515	14.4%
25-49	9,690	2.0%	380	4.1%	1,870	23.9%
50-64	5,390	1.8%	70	1.3%	980	22.2%

October 2018	Number			Rate		
	18-24	25-49	50-64	18-24	25-49	50-64
Ashford	375	740	425	4.2%	1.8%	1.7%
Canterbury	360	800	425	1.3%	1.8%	1.5%
Dartford	175	460	190	2.3%	1.2%	1.0%
Dover	470	1135	680	5.6%	3.5%	2.7%
Folkestone & Hythe	335	875	530	4.4%	2.7%	2.3%
Gravesham	325	785	420	4.0%	2.2%	2.1%
Maidstone	225	610	340	1.9%	1.1%	1.1%
Sevenoaks	85	240	150	1.1%	0.7%	0.6%
Swale	665	1295	715	5.8%	2.8%	2.5%
Thanet	840	2160	1120	7.8%	5.4%	4.0%
Tonbridge and Malling	145	305	210	1.6%	0.7%	0.8%
Tunbridge Wells	95	280	185	1.3%	0.7%	0.8%
Kent	4095	9690	5390	3.2%	2.0%	1.8%
Medway	820	2025	1010	3.4%	2.1%	2.0%

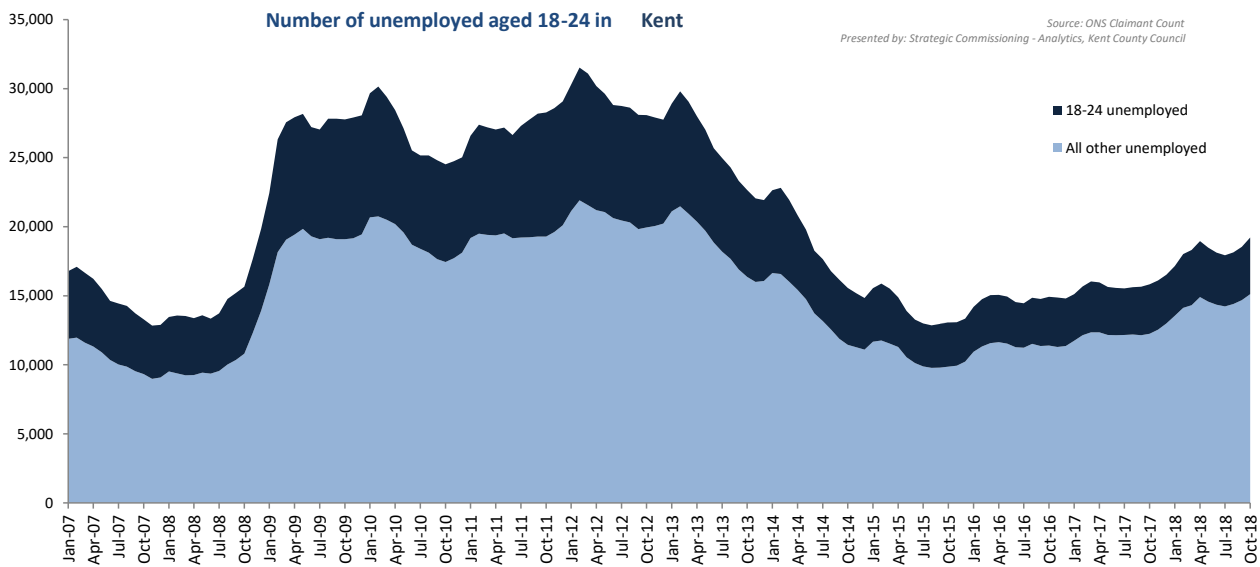
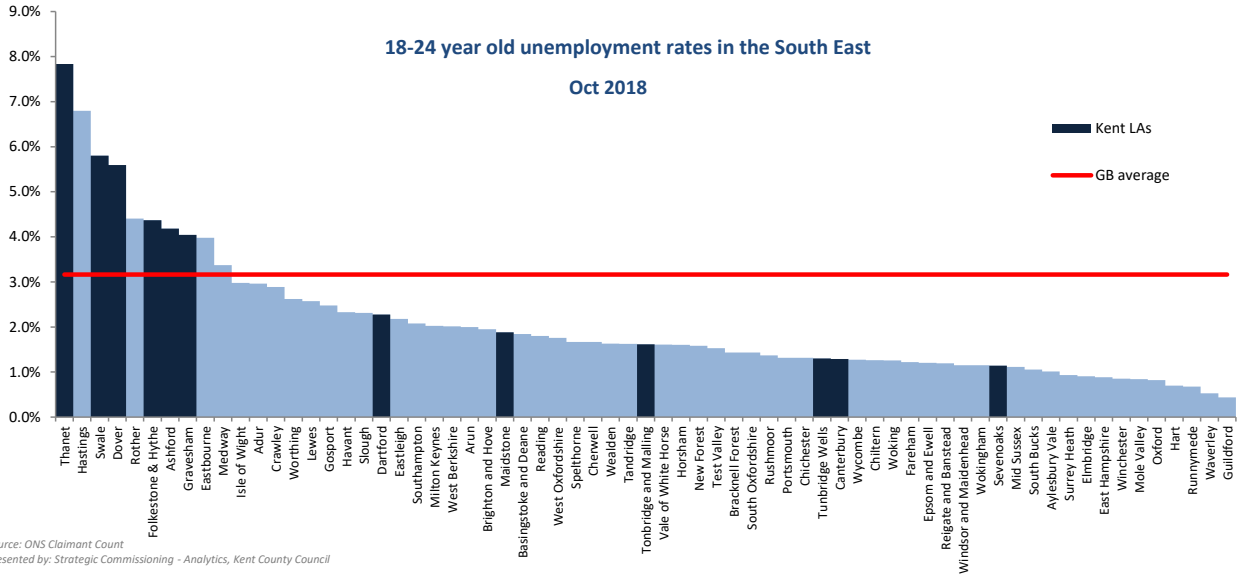


18-24 Unemployment	Number	Rate	Change since Sep 2018		Change since Oct 2017	
			Number	%	Number	%
Kent	4,095	3.2%	220	5.7%	515	14.4%
Great Britain	176,920	3.2%	3,480	2.0%	18,730	11.8%

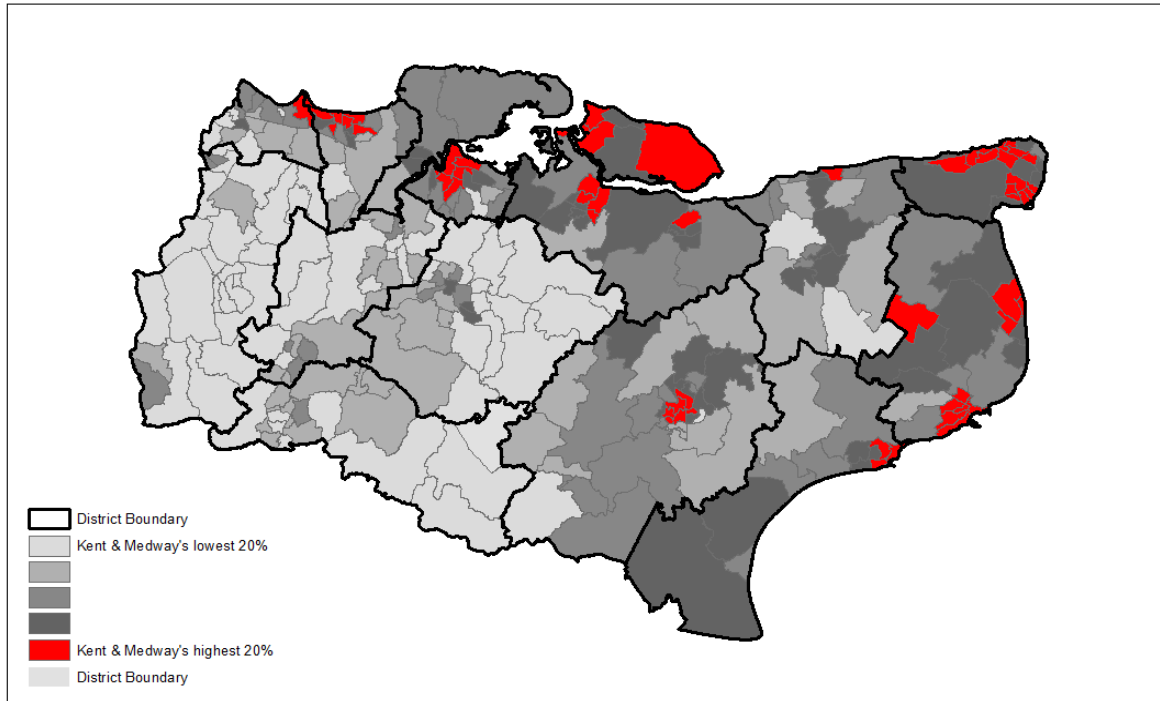
Unemployment by age group - % of all unemployed

October 2018

	Kent		Great Britain	
	Number	% of all unemployed	Number	% of all unemployed
18-24	4,095	21.3%	176,920	19.2%
25-49	9,690	50.4%	497,470	54.1%
50-64	5,390	28.0%	241,970	26.3%



Ward unemployment rates October 2018



Source: NOMIS Claimant Count
This map is produced by Strategic Commissioning - Analytics, Kent County Council
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This workbook looks at the total number of people claiming either Jobseekers Allowance or Universal Credit principally for the reason of being unemployed. It also looks at the age profile of claimants, in particular at youth unemployment which is defined as those aged 18 to 24.

This workbook 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. The dataset currently includes some out of work claimants of Universal Credit who are not required to look for work; for example, due to illness or disability. Therefore this dataset is considered experimental and the results should be interpreted with caution.

Unemployment rates are calculated using the Office for National Statistics Mid-year Population Estimates 2001-2017. 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.

Data back to December 2014 were revised by ONS on 18th October 2017. This bulletin contains these revisions and therefore supersedes any previously released data.

Introduction of Universal Credit

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

From April 2015 Universal Credit started to be rolled out within Kent. It is now available in all Jobcentre areas in Kent & Medway. Initially it was only available to single claimants without a partner and without child dependents however in 2017 the full roll out of Universal Credit to all claimant types began. The following table shows the planned roll out within Kent districts.

As announced in June 2018 the government will start to migrate existing claimants of the benefits that are being replaced to Universal Credit early in 2019. It hopes to migrate all existing benefit claimants to Universal Credit by March 2023.

Date of roll out	Job Centre Plus Office	District Served
May-17	Dover	Dover
Jul-17	Margate	Thanet
Jul-17	Ramsgate	Thanet
Dec-17	Sheerness	Swale
Dec-17	Sittingbourne	Swale
Feb-18	Gravesend	Gravesham
Feb-18	Gravesend	Sevenoaks (part)
Feb-18	Folkestone	Folkestone & Hythe
Feb-18	Chatham	Medway
Mar-18	Ashford	Ashford
Apr-18	Canterbury	Canterbury
Apr-18	Hernebay	Canterbury
Apr-18	Whitstable	Canterbury
May-18	Dartford	Dartford
May-18	Dartford	Sevenoaks (part)
Aug-18	Maidstone	Maidstone
Aug-18	Tonbridge	Tonbridge & Malling
Aug-18	Tonbridge	Tunbridge Wells

For more information on Universal Credit: <https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit>

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