

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 May 2025 and includes revisions to data for April 2025. Data for June 2025 is due to be released on 17th July 2025.

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

Further Information

Kent Analytics
Kent County Council
Invicta House
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XQ

Email:
research@kent.gov.uk

Phone: 03000 41 74 44

[Kent facts and figures](#)

This bulletin looks at the number of people claiming either Jobseekers Allowance or Universal Credit principally for the reason of being unemployed in May 2025. 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

- 33,215 people were claiming unemployment benefits in Kent in May 2025.
- The number of people who were unemployed in Kent has increased by 1.4% (+455) since the previous month.
- The unemployment rate in Kent is 3.4% (GB 4.1%).
- Youth unemployment in Kent (18 to 24 year-olds) is 5.9%, higher than the national rate of 5.4%.
- Thanet (11.4%) 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 (+1.8%) and females (+0.9%) over the last month.

Contents

Introduction	1
Unemployment in Kent Districts.....	2
Unemployment in Kent & Medway wards.....	8
Ashford.....	9
Canterbury	10
Dartford.....	11
Dover	12
Folkestone & Hythe.....	13
Gravesham.....	14
Maidstone	15
Sevenoaks.....	16
Swale	17
Thanet.....	18
Tonbridge & Malling.....	19
Tunbridge Wells.....	20
Medway.....	21
Annexe	22
Related documents	24

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 2007-2023. 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, May 2025

Area	Number	Rate	Number change since last month	Percentage change since last month	Number change since last year	Percentage change since last year
Kent	33,215	3.4%	+455	+1.4%	+970	+3.0%
Great Britain	1,696,660	4.1%	+26,285	+1.6%	+127,600	+8.1%

Table 2: District unemployment, May 2025

Area	Number	Rate	Number change since last month	Percentage change since last month	Number change since last year	Percentage change since last year
Ashford	2,600	3.1%	+10	+0.4%	+45	+1.8%
Canterbury	3,320	3.4%	+35	+1.1%	+95	+2.9%
Dartford	2,425	3.2%	+85	+3.6%	+125	+5.4%
Dover	2,390	3.5%	+40	+1.7%	-245	-9.3%
Folkestone & Hythe	2,605	4.0%	-5	-0.2%	+85	+3.4%
Gravesham	3,040	4.6%	+20	+0.7%	+120	+4.1%
Maidstone	3,680	3.3%	+85	+2.4%	+235	+6.8%
Sevenoaks	1,510	2.1%	+10	+0.7%	+70	+4.9%
Swale	3,405	3.6%	+60	+1.8%	-50	-1.4%
Thanet	4,520	5.5%	+55	+1.2%	+205	+4.8%
Tonbridge & Malling	1,965	2.4%	+20	+1.0%	+195	+11.0%
Tunbridge Wells	1,755	2.5%	+35	+2.0%	+90	+5.4%
Kent	33,215	3.4%	+455	+1.4%	+970	+3.0%
Medway	7,565	4.2%	+70	+0.9%	+500	+7.1%

Table 3: Unemployment by Sex in Kent, May 2025

Sex	Number	Rate	Number change since last month	Percentage change since last month	Number change since last year	Percentage change since last year
Males	18,475	3.9%	+320	+1.8%	+495	+2.8%
Females	14,740	3.0%	+135	+0.9%	+475	+3.3%
Total	33,215	3.4%	+455	+1.4%	+970	+3.0%

Table 4: District unemployment by sex, May 2025

Area	Male claimants	Male claimant rate	Female claimants	Female claimant rate
Ashford	1,410	3.4%	1,195	2.8%
Canterbury	1,910	4.0%	1,410	2.8%
Dartford	1,240	3.3%	1,185	3.0%
Dover	1,380	4.1%	1,010	2.9%
Folkestone & Hythe	1,495	4.7%	1,110	3.4%
Gravesham	1,670	5.2%	1,365	4.1%
Maidstone	1,990	3.5%	1,695	3.0%
Sevenoaks	745	2.2%	765	2.1%
Swale	1,975	4.2%	1,430	3.0%
Thanet	2,655	6.8%	1,865	4.4%
Tonbridge & Malling	1,035	2.6%	930	2.2%
Tunbridge Wells	975	2.8%	775	2.2%
Kent	18,475	3.9%	14,740	3.0%
Medway	4,110	4.7%	3,460	3.8%

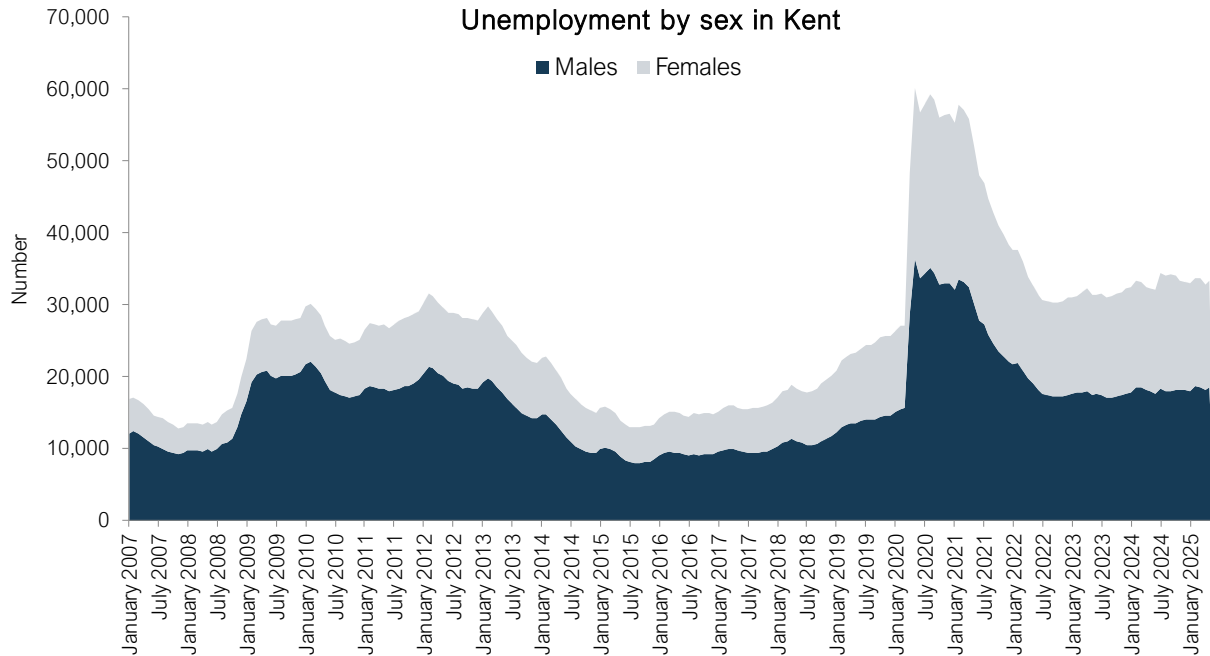
Chart 1: Unemployment by sex in Kent


Table 5: Unemployment by age group in Kent, May 2025

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	6,560	5.9%	+5	+0.1%	+560	+9.3%
25-49	18,925	3.8%	+400	+2.2%	+160	+0.9%
50-64	7,685	2.4%	+60	+0.8%	+260	+3.5%

Table 6: District unemployment by age group, May 2025

Area	18-24 claimants	25-49 claimants	50-64 claimants	18-24 claimant rate	25-49 claimant rate	50-64 claimant rate
Ashford	490	1,515	590	5.5%	3.5%	2.1%
Canterbury	730	1,810	770	3.5%	4.1%	2.6%
Dartford	445	1,480	495	5.9%	3.3%	2.4%
Dover	525	1,290	570	7.5%	3.8%	2.2%
Folkestone & Hythe	510	1,390	700	7.6%	4.5%	2.9%
Gravesham	640	1,780	610	8.6%	5.0%	3.0%
Maidstone	705	2,165	805	6.1%	3.5%	2.2%
Sevenoaks	215	950	350	3.1%	2.7%	1.4%
Swale	710	1,945	745	6.7%	3.9%	2.4%
Thanet	980	2,445	1,095	11.4%	5.9%	3.8%
Tonbridge & Malling	345	1,140	475	4.1%	2.7%	1.7%
Tunbridge Wells	260	1,010	485	4.0%	2.8%	2.0%
Kent	6,560	18,925	7,685	5.9%	3.8%	2.4%
Medway	1,515	4,455	1,590	7.1%	4.6%	3.0%

Table 7: 18 to 24 year old unemployment, May 2025

Area	Number	Rate	Number change since last month	Percentage change since last month	Number change since last year	Percentage change since last year
Kent	6,560	5.9%	+5	+0.1%	+560	+9.3%
Great Britain	297,725	5.4%	+240	+0.1%	+26,695	+9.8%

Table 8: Unemployment by age group in Kent - % of all unemployed, May 2025

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	6,560	19.8%	297,725	17.5%
25-49	18,925	57.0%	1,002,395	59.1%
50-64	7,685	23.1%	393,235	23.2%

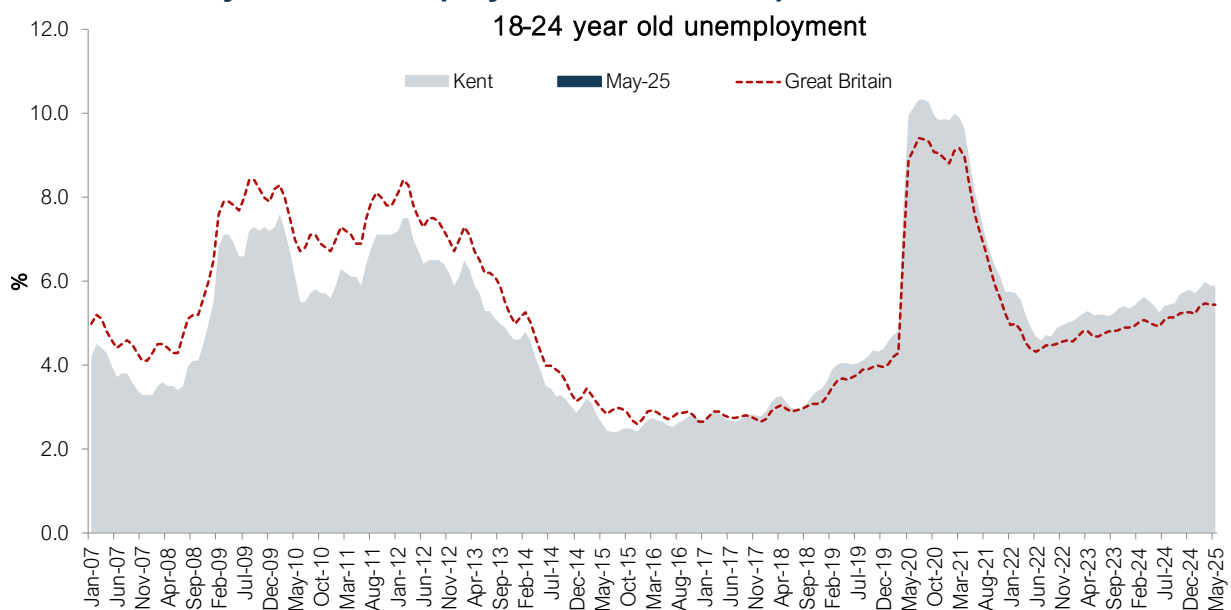
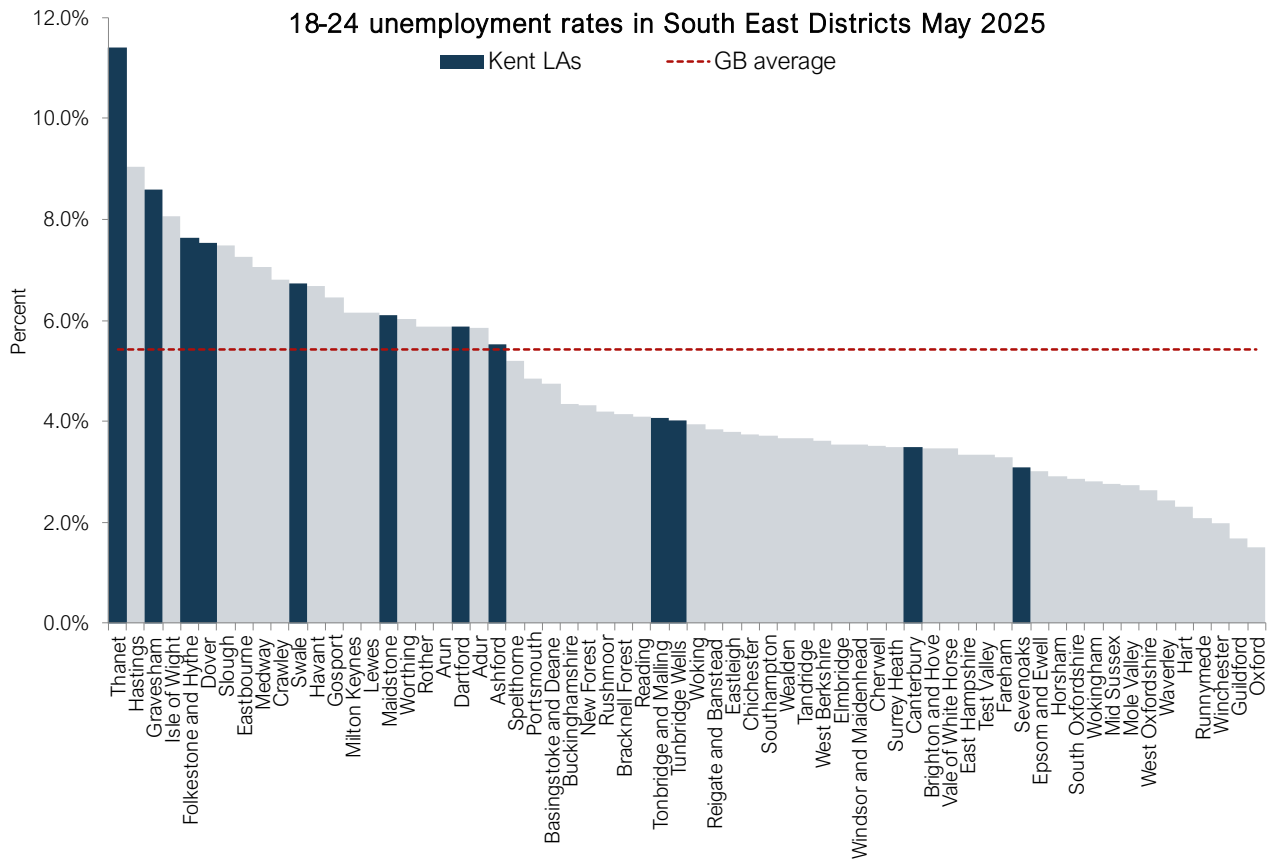
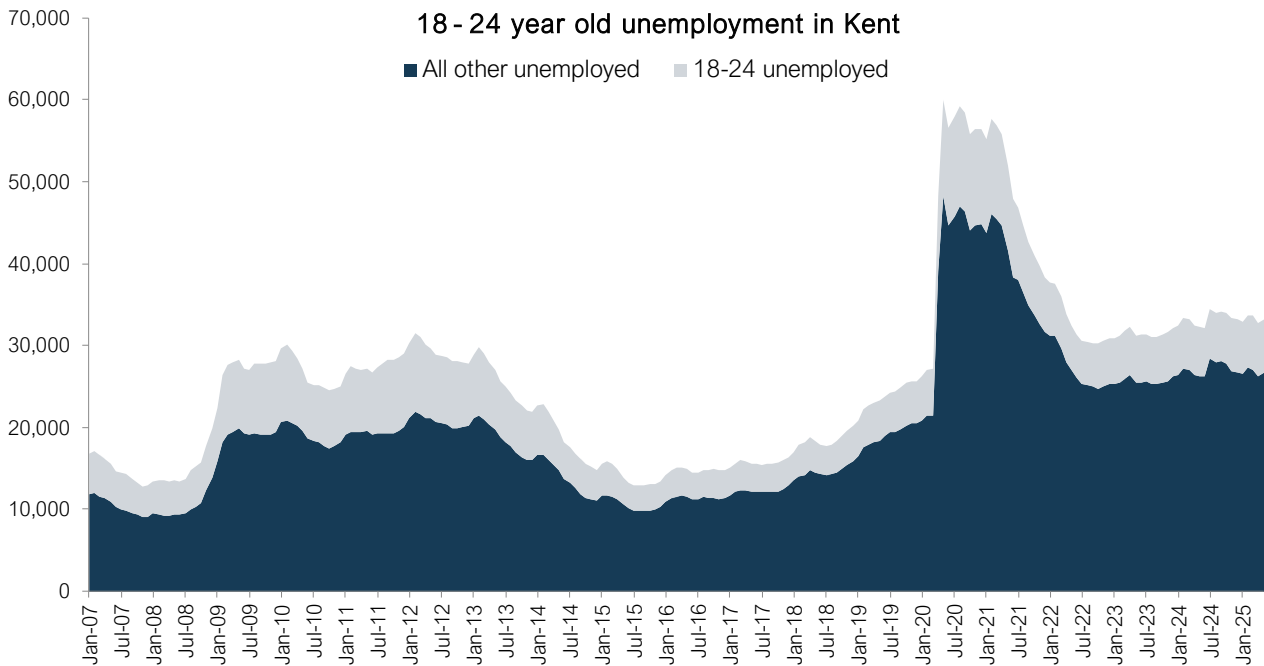
Chart 2: 18-24 year old unemployment in Kent compared to Great Britain


Chart 3: 18 to 24 unemployment rates in South East local authorities, May 2025

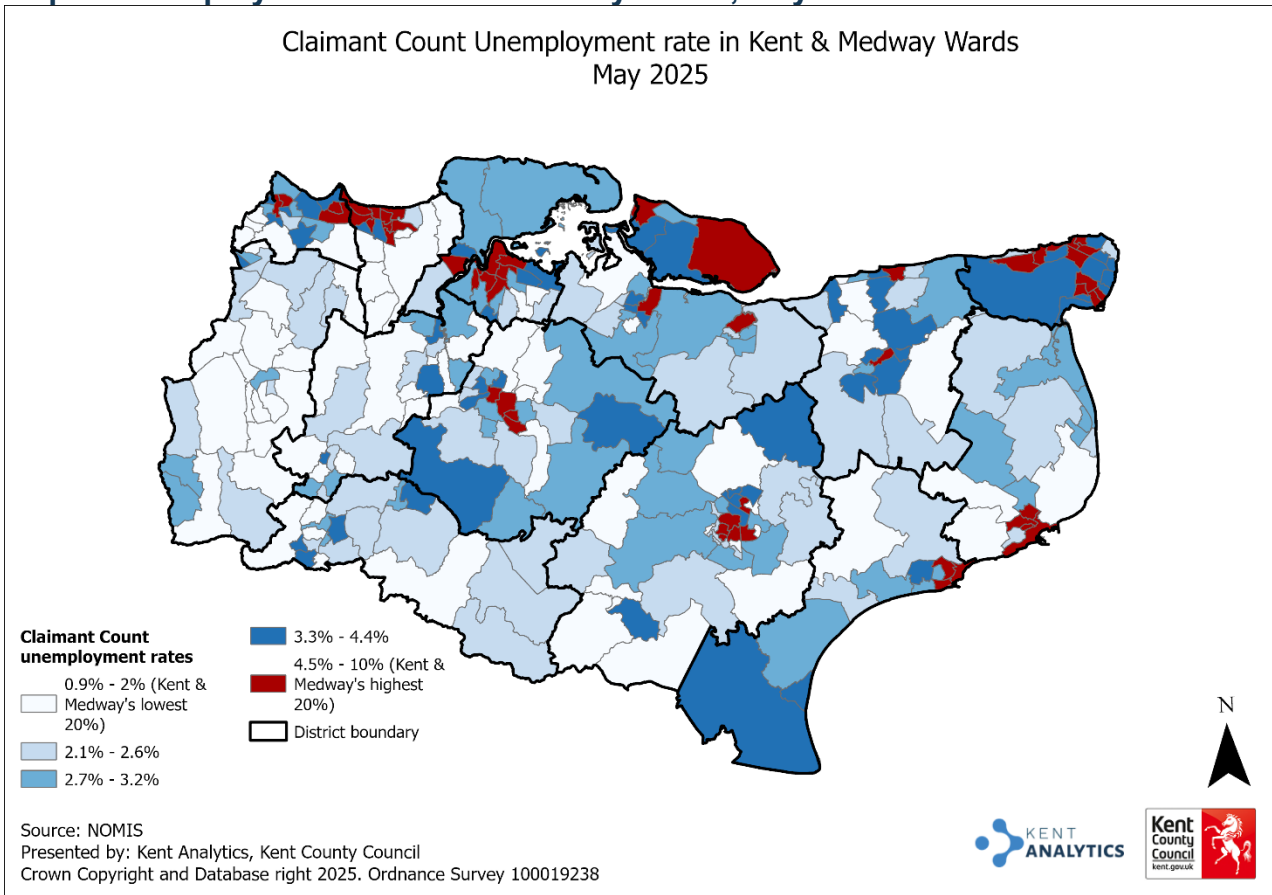


A table showing 18 to 24 year old unemployment in South East local authorities can be found in the annexe at the end of this bulletin.

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



Map 1: Unemployment in Kent & Medway wards, May 2025



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

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Ashford District	2,600	3.1	10	0.4%	45	1.8%
Aylesford & East Stour	215	4.8	5	2.4%	25	13.2%
Beaver	225	5.2	0	0.0%	-20	-8.2%
Biddenden	35	2.5	0	0.0%	-10	-22.2%
Bircholt	35	2.1	5	16.7%	0	0.0%
Bockhanger	70	4.3	-5	-6.7%	10	16.7%
Bybrook	100	5.3	5	5.3%	25	33.3%
Charing	45	3.1	-10	-18.2%	5	12.5%
Conningbrook & Little Burton Farm	25	2.0	0	0.0%	5	25.0%
Downs North	55	3.7	10	22.2%	15	37.5%
Downs West	15	1.0	5	50.0%	0	0.0%
Furley	185	4.3	0	0.0%	-15	-7.5%
Goat Lees	60	3.8	5	9.1%	10	20.0%
Godinton	60	2.2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Highfield	20	1.2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Isle of Oxney	25	1.8	0	0.0%	-5	-16.7%
Kennington	40	3.4	0	0.0%	15	60.0%
Kingsnorth Village & Bridgefield	50	3.1	-5	-9.1%	-5	-9.1%
Mersham, Sevington South with Finberry	35	2.8	0	0.0%	-5	-12.5%
Norman	100	5.0	0	0.0%	5	5.3%
Park Farm North	35	1.9	0	0.0%	5	16.7%
Park Farm South	40	2.1	10	33.3%	5	14.3%
Repton	55	3.1	-5	-8.3%	5	10.0%
Rolvenden & Tenterden West	25	1.8	0	0.0%	-10	-28.6%
Roman	45	2.2	0	0.0%	5	12.5%
Saxon Shore	25	1.7	0	0.0%	5	25.0%
Singleton East	45	2.5	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Singleton West	40	2.0	0	0.0%	5	14.3%
Stanhope	145	6.4	-5	-3.3%	-10	-6.5%
Tenterden North	15	1.5	0	0.0%	-10	-40.0%
Tenterden South	35	3.3	5	16.7%	-5	-12.5%
Tenterden St Michael's	15	1.1	-5	-25.0%	-15	-50.0%
Upper Weald	45	3.0	0	0.0%	5	12.5%
Victoria	275	6.7	10	3.8%	10	3.8%
Washford	45	2.3	0	0.0%	-5	-10.0%
Weald Central	85	3.0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Weald North	25	3.8	-5	-16.7%	10	66.7%
Weald South	75	2.6	0	0.0%	10	15.4%
Willesborough	105	0.9	10	10.5%	-5	-4.5%
Wye with Hinxhill	35	2.6	-5	-12.5%	-5	-12.5%

Canterbury

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Canterbury District	3,320	3.4	35	1.1%	95	2.9%
Barton	385	3.8	-10	-2.5%	10	2.7%
Beltinge	90	2.6	-5	-5.3%	5	5.9%
Blean Forest	75	0.9	0	0.0%	10	15.4%
Chartham & Stone Street	120	2.6	5	4.3%	20	20.0%
Chestfield	70	1.9	0	0.0%	-5	-6.7%
Gorrell	215	3.3	-10	-4.4%	0	0.0%
Greenhill	80	3.4	5	6.7%	-30	-27.3%
Herne & Broomfield	140	2.4	5	3.7%	5	3.7%
Heron	365	4.6	5	1.4%	50	15.9%
Little Stour & Adisham	45	1.8	0	0.0%	-10	-18.2%
Nailbourne	60	2.6	5	9.1%	10	20.0%
Northgate	335	5.2	5	1.5%	-15	-4.3%
Reculver	65	2.7	-5	-7.1%	0	0.0%
Seasalter	95	2.2	0	0.0%	-20	-17.4%
St Stephen's	300	3.7	25	9.1%	35	13.2%
Sturry	180	3.8	-5	-2.7%	15	9.1%
Swalecliffe	60	2.9	0	0.0%	5	9.1%
Tankerton	30	1.6	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
West Bay	80	3.3	-10	-11.1%	-10	-11.1%
Westgate	245	3.1	15	6.5%	10	4.3%
Wincheap	275	3.9	5	1.9%	10	3.8%

Dartford

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Dartford District	2,425	3.2	85	3.6%	125	5.4%
Bean & Village Park	45	2.8	-10	-18.2%	5	12.5%
Brent	90	2.6	0	0.0%	-5	-5.3%
Bridge	55	3.0	5	10.0%	15	37.5%
Burnham	75	3.4	0	0.0%	-5	-6.3%
Darenth	65	3.6	-5	-7.1%	5	8.3%
Ebbsfleet	40	5.2	5	14.3%	5	14.3%
Greenhithe & Knockhall	230	3.3	35	17.9%	15	7.0%
Heath	65	1.9	5	8.3%	0	0.0%
Joyden's Wood	40	1.4	0	0.0%	-15	-27.3%
Longfield, New Barn & Southfleet	70	1.9	10	16.7%	5	7.7%
Maypole & Leyton Cross	35	1.7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Newtown	145	3.3	5	3.6%	-15	-9.4%
Princes	150	4.4	5	3.4%	0	0.0%
Stone Castle	190	3.5	15	8.6%	20	11.8%
Stone House	135	3.2	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Swanscombe	235	5.0	-10	-4.1%	15	6.8%
Temple Hill	385	5.0	20	5.5%	25	6.9%
Town	105	7.9	0	0.0%	10	10.5%
West Hill	180	3.2	15	9.1%	50	38.5%
Wilmington, Sutton-at-Hone & Hawley	90	2.0	-5	-5.3%	-5	-5.3%

Dover

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Dover District	2,390	3.5	40	1.7%	-245	-9.3%
Alkham & Capel-le-Ferne	30	1.7	0	0.0%	-10	-25.0%
Aylesham, Eythorne & Shepherdswell	210	3.2	5	2.4%	15	7.7%
Buckland	240	4.8	10	4.3%	0	0.0%
Dover Downs & River	45	1.2	-5	-10.0%	-10	-18.2%
Eastry Rural	85	2.1	0	0.0%	-15	-15.0%
Guston, Kingsdown & St Margaret's-at-Cliffe	80	2.0	5	6.7%	-15	-15.8%
Little Stour & Ashstone	105	2.5	5	5.0%	0	0.0%
Maxton & Elms Vale	60	2.3	0	0.0%	-10	-14.3%
Middle Deal	120	2.9	-5	-4.0%	-25	-17.2%
Mill Hill	135	2.9	5	3.8%	-20	-12.9%
North Deal	135	3.0	10	8.0%	20	17.4%
Sandwich	100	2.8	5	5.3%	-20	-16.7%
St Radigunds	280	6.0	10	3.7%	-20	-6.7%
Tower Hamlets	155	5.0	-15	-8.8%	-95	-38.0%
Town & Castle	425	7.3	-5	-1.2%	-45	-9.6%
Walmer	80	2.2	5	6.7%	0	0.0%
Whitfield	110	3.0	10	10.0%	10	10.0%

Folkestone & Hythe

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Folkestone & Hythe District	2,605	4.0	-5	-0.2%	85	3.4%
Broadmead	70	3.2	0	0.0%	5	7.7%
Cheriton	330	3.9	0	0.0%	60	22.2%
East Folkestone	400	5.4	-25	-5.9%	5	1.3%
Folkestone Central	515	6.5	0	0.0%	-20	-3.7%
Folkestone Harbour	275	6.6	-10	-3.5%	-20	-6.8%
Hythe	165	2.8	0	0.0%	-5	-2.9%
Hythe Rural	80	2.3	0	0.0%	20	33.3%
New Romney	135	3.5	5	3.8%	5	3.8%
North Downs East	180	2.4	20	12.5%	15	9.1%
North Downs West	55	1.5	5	10.0%	-10	-15.4%
Romney Marsh	105	2.9	-5	-4.5%	-15	-12.5%
Sandgate & West Folkestone	110	3.2	5	4.8%	5	4.8%
Walland & Denge Marsh	185	4.0	-5	-2.6%	45	32.1%

Gravesham

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Gravesham District	3,040	4.6	20	0.7%	120	4.1%
Central	275	5.7	15	5.8%	30	12.2%
Chalk	30	2.3	0	0.0%	-5	-14.3%
Coldharbour	140	4.7	0	0.0%	5	3.7%
Higham	45	2.0	0	0.0%	-5	-10.0%
Istead Rise	20	1.2	5	33.3%	5	33.3%
Meopham North	35	1.5	-5	-12.5%	-5	-12.5%
Meopham South and Vigo	35	1.4	0	0.0%	-10	-22.2%
Northfleet North	390	7.0	5	1.3%	30	8.3%
Northfleet South	265	4.7	-5	-1.9%	25	10.4%
Painters Ash	105	3.4	-5	-4.5%	-5	-4.5%
Pelham	380	7.0	15	4.1%	30	8.6%
Riverside	445	6.6	0	0.0%	15	3.5%
Riverview	40	1.7	5	14.3%	-15	-27.3%
Shorne, Cobham and Luddesdown	35	1.6	-5	-12.5%	-15	-30.0%
Singlewell	290	5.8	10	3.6%	40	16.0%
Westcourt	240	5.8	-10	-4.0%	0	0.0%
Whitehill	120	4.5	0	0.0%	20	20.0%
Woodlands	145	3.4	0	0.0%	-20	-12.1%

Maidstone

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Maidstone District	3,680	3.3	85	2.4%	235	6.8%
Allington	85	2.1	10	13.3%	25	41.7%
Barming and Teston	25	2.0	5	25.0%	-5	-16.7%
Bearsted	60	1.4	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Boughton Monchelsea and Chart Sutton	35	2.1	0	0.0%	5	16.7%
Boxley	90	1.7	15	20.0%	20	28.6%
Bridge	150	3.5	0	0.0%	5	3.4%
Coxheath and Hunton	125	2.6	5	4.2%	0	0.0%
Detling and Thurnham	30	1.5	0	0.0%	-10	-25.0%
Downswood and Otham	60	3.2	0	0.0%	5	9.1%
East	180	3.3	-5	-2.7%	-5	-2.7%
Fant	320	4.4	10	3.2%	50	18.5%
Harrietsham and Lenham	140	3.7	15	12.0%	25	21.7%
Headcorn	110	3.0	10	10.0%	20	22.2%
Heath	110	2.4	5	4.8%	10	10.0%
High Street	660	8.2	15	2.3%	75	12.8%
Leeds	35	2.4	0	0.0%	5	16.7%
Loose	45	3.0	5	12.5%	5	12.5%
Marden and Yalding	180	3.4	-5	-2.7%	20	12.5%
North	215	3.2	10	4.9%	-20	-8.5%
North Downs	40	2.9	5	14.3%	5	14.3%
Park Wood	275	4.8	-5	-1.8%	-5	-1.8%
Shepway North	250	4.6	15	6.4%	45	22.0%
Shepway South	165	4.7	15	10.0%	-10	-5.7%
South	170	2.8	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Staplehurst	100	2.7	-10	-9.1%	-10	-9.1%
Sutton Valence and Langley	40	1.9	-5	-11.1%	-15	-27.3%

Sevenoaks

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Sevenoaks District	1,510	2.1	10	0.7%	70	4.9%
Ash and New Ash Green	80	2.4	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Brasted, Chevening and Sundridge	60	1.6	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Cowden and Hever	25	1.9	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Crockenhill and Well Hill	30	2.4	5	20.0%	10	50.0%
Dunton Green and Riverhead	70	1.8	-5	-6.7%	0	0.0%
Edenbridge North and East	90	2.9	0	0.0%	15	20.0%
Edenbridge South and West	90	3.2	0	0.0%	10	12.5%
Eynsford	15	1.5	0	0.0%	-5	-25.0%
Farningham, Horton Kirby and South Darenth	80	2.6	-5	-5.9%	5	6.7%
Fawkham and West Kingsdown	80	2.5	5	6.7%	0	0.0%
Halstead, Knockholt and Badgers Mount	25	1.2	-5	-16.7%	5	25.0%
Hartley and Hodsoll Street	60	1.9	0	0.0%	5	9.1%
Hextable	45	1.8	5	12.5%	10	28.6%
Kemsing	30	1.4	0	0.0%	-5	-14.3%
Leigh and Chiddingstone Causeway	25	1.9	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Otford and Shoreham	35	1.3	0	0.0%	-5	-12.5%
Penshurst, Fordcombe and Chiddingstone	35	2.4	5	16.7%	5	16.7%
Seal and Weald	40	1.7	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Sevenoaks Eastern	55	2.2	-5	-8.3%	10	22.2%
Sevenoaks Kippington	25	0.9	5	25.0%	-5	-16.7%
Sevenoaks Northern	75	2.7	10	15.4%	10	15.4%
Sevenoaks Town and St John's	75	1.7	0	0.0%	15	25.0%
Swanley Christchurch and Swanley Village	80	2.1	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Swanley St Mary's	105	3.7	5	5.0%	-30	-22.2%
Swanley White Oak	120	3.2	5	4.3%	5	4.3%
Westerham and Crockham Hill	60	2.2	-5	-7.7%	10	20.0%

Swale

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Swale District	3,405	3.6	60	1.8%	-50	-1.4%
Abbey	95	3.0	0	0.0%	-15	-13.6%
Bobbing, Iwade and Lower Halstow	65	1.7	0	0.0%	-10	-13.3%
Borden and Grove Park	85	2.3	5	6.3%	-5	-5.6%
Boughton and Courtenay	90	2.1	15	20.0%	-15	-14.3%
Chalkwell	95	4.3	10	11.8%	5	5.6%
East Downs	40	2.4	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Hartlip, Newington and Upchurch	90	2.5	-10	-10.0%	5	5.9%
Homewood	110	2.8	-5	-4.3%	-25	-18.5%
Kemsley	130	2.8	10	8.3%	10	8.3%
Milton Regis	160	4.1	-5	-3.0%	-10	-5.9%
Minster Cliffs	135	3.1	5	3.8%	10	8.0%
Murston	200	4.6	-5	-2.4%	-20	-9.1%
Priory	75	4.6	0	0.0%	-20	-21.1%
Queenborough and Halfway	210	4.4	10	5.0%	30	16.7%
Roman	175	4.2	-5	-2.8%	5	2.9%
Sheerness	640	8.0	5	0.8%	0	0.0%
Sheppey Central	195	3.5	10	5.4%	5	2.6%
Sheppey East	350	7.8	20	6.1%	25	7.7%
St Ann's	85	2.4	5	6.3%	-20	-19.0%
Teynham and Lynsted	125	3.2	5	4.2%	10	8.7%
The Meads	60	2.3	-5	-7.7%	-5	-7.7%
Watling	100	2.8	-10	-9.1%	0	0.0%
West Downs	45	2.8	-10	-18.2%	5	12.5%
Woodstock	45	1.3	5	12.5%	-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
May 2025						
Thanet District	4,520	5.5	55	1.2%	205	4.8%
Beacon Road	115	4.1	5	4.5%	10	9.5%
Birchington North	40	2.4	5	14.3%	0	0.0%
Birchington South	175	5.5	0	0.0%	20	12.9%
Bradstowe	70	3.4	0	0.0%	5	7.7%
Central Harbour	390	7.4	-10	-2.5%	30	8.3%
Cliffsend and Pegwell	85	3.4	15	21.4%	0	0.0%
Cliftonville East	120	3.8	5	4.3%	15	14.3%
Cliftonville West	610	9.2	0	0.0%	-35	-5.4%
Dane Valley	345	7.6	10	3.0%	35	11.3%
Eastcliff	370	7.3	0	0.0%	15	4.2%
Garlinge	115	4.2	0	0.0%	10	9.5%
Kingsgate	30	2.4	5	20.0%	5	20.0%
Margate Central	400	10.0	5	1.3%	15	3.9%
Nethercourt	90	3.3	-10	-10.0%	-20	-18.2%
Newington	240	7.2	5	2.1%	-5	-2.0%
Northwood	210	5.5	0	0.0%	10	5.0%
Salmestone	180	5.0	5	2.9%	25	16.1%
Sir Moses Montefiore	135	4.4	0	0.0%	-5	-3.6%
St Peters	140	3.7	0	0.0%	5	3.7%
Thanet Villages	190	4.3	-5	-2.6%	15	8.6%
Viking	135	3.5	10	8.0%	20	17.4%
Westbrook	130	4.8	0	0.0%	10	8.3%
Westgate-on-Sea	200	4.5	5	2.6%	20	11.1%

Tonbridge & Malling

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Tonbridge & Malling District	1,965	2.4	20	1.0%	195	11.0%
Aylesford North and Walderslade	75	1.9	0	0.0%	20	36.4%
Aylesford South	85	2.7	0	0.0%	5	6.3%
Borough Green and Long Mill	100	2.2	5	5.3%	15	17.6%
Burham and Wouldham	60	3.0	0	0.0%	5	9.1%
Cage Green	60	2.4	-5	-7.7%	-10	-14.3%
Castle	55	1.8	0	0.0%	15	37.5%
Ditton	60	1.9	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Downs and Mereworth	40	1.3	5	14.3%	5	14.3%
East Malling	135	4.1	5	3.8%	25	22.7%
Hadlow and East Peckham	95	2.3	-5	-5.0%	10	11.8%
Higham	45	1.7	-5	-10.0%	0	0.0%
Hildenborough	35	1.1	-5	-12.5%	5	16.7%
Judd	115	3.1	5	4.5%	25	27.8%
Kings Hill	110	1.8	-5	-4.3%	20	22.2%
Larkfield North	80	2.5	0	0.0%	-10	-11.1%
Larkfield South	50	2.0	-5	-9.1%	10	25.0%
Medway	145	3.1	0	0.0%	5	3.6%
Snodland East and Ham Hill	155	4.4	10	6.9%	55	55.0%
Snodland West and Holborough Lakes	115	2.8	10	9.5%	5	4.5%
Trench	105	3.9	0	0.0%	-15	-12.5%
Vauxhall	85	2.4	5	6.3%	0	0.0%
Wateringbury	20	1.7	0	0.0%	-5	-20.0%
West Malling and Leybourne	90	2.2	5	5.9%	5	5.9%
Wrotham, Ightham and Stansted	50	1.9	5	11.1%	0	0.0%

Tunbridge Wells

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Tunbridge Wells District	1,755	2.5	35	2.0%	90	5.4%
Benenden and Cranbrook	110	2.5	10	10.0%	5	4.8%
Brenchley and Horsmonden	65	2.1	0	0.0%	-5	-7.1%
Broadwater	100	3.6	5	5.3%	20	25.0%
Capel	35	2.4	10	40.0%	5	16.7%
Culverden	130	2.1	0	0.0%	-10	-7.1%
Frittenden and Sissinghurst	25	2.2	0	0.0%	10	66.7%
Goudhurst and Lamberhurst	50	1.6	-5	-9.1%	-10	-16.7%
Hawkhurst and Sandhurst	85	2.3	5	6.3%	-10	-10.5%
Paddock Wood East	100	4.2	0	0.0%	35	53.8%
Paddock Wood West	75	3.0	5	7.1%	5	7.1%
Pantiles and St Mark's	55	1.3	5	10.0%	5	10.0%
Park	100	2.1	0	0.0%	5	5.3%
Pembury	70	2.1	-5	-6.7%	15	27.3%
Rusthall	100	3.4	0	0.0%	20	25.0%
Sherwood	195	3.8	-10	-4.9%	5	2.6%
Southborough North	50	2.0	5	11.1%	-5	-9.1%
Southborough and High Brooms	140	2.7	5	3.7%	5	3.7%
Speldhurst and Bidborough	35	1.0	0	0.0%	-5	-12.5%
St James'	140	2.9	0	0.0%	5	3.7%
St John's	100	2.0	0	0.0%	0	0.0%

Medway

	Number unemployed	Percentage unemployed (%)	Number change since previous month	% change since previous month	Number change since previous year	% change since previous year
May 2025						
Medway District	7,565	4.2	70	0.9%	500	7.1%
Chatham Central	785	6.9	5	0.6%	75	10.6%
Cuxton and Halling	85	2.1	0	0.0%	10	13.3%
Gillingham North	815	6.0	30	3.8%	60	7.9%
Gillingham South	740	6.3	15	2.1%	45	6.5%
Hempstead and Wigmore	60	1.3	5	9.1%	5	9.1%
Lordswood and Capstone	145	2.6	-5	-3.3%	10	7.4%
Luton and Wayfield	715	7.2	0	0.0%	35	5.1%
Peninsula	275	3.2	-15	-5.2%	5	1.9%
Princes Park	205	3.0	5	2.5%	15	7.9%
Rainham Central	130	1.9	-5	-3.7%	10	8.3%
Rainham North	180	3.6	0	0.0%	-5	-2.7%
Rainham South	195	2.4	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
River	620	7.1	15	2.5%	0	0.0%
Rochester East	350	5.1	5	1.4%	15	4.5%
Rochester South and Horsted	240	2.9	5	2.1%	65	37.1%
Rochester West	225	3.1	0	0.0%	-20	-8.2%
Strood North	355	3.9	-15	-4.1%	15	4.4%
Strood Rural	245	2.7	5	2.1%	30	14.0%
Strood South	460	4.5	5	1.1%	25	5.7%
Twydall	335	4.2	5	1.5%	60	21.8%
Walderslade	220	3.9	0	0.0%	25	12.8%
Watling	175	2.9	-5	-2.8%	5	2.9%

Annexe

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

May 2025	18 to 24 number unemployed	18 to 24 unemployment rate
Adur	215	5.9%
Arun	600	5.9%
Ashford	490	5.5%
Basingstoke and Deane	570	4.7%
Bracknell Forest	350	4.1%
Brighton and Hove	1,360	3.5%
Buckinghamshire	1,535	4.3%
Canterbury	730	3.5%
Cherwell	360	3.5%
Chichester	365	3.7%
Crawley	580	6.8%
Dartford	445	5.9%
Dover	525	7.5%
East Hampshire	250	3.3%
Eastbourne	525	7.3%
Eastleigh	330	3.8%
Elmbridge	265	3.5%
Epsom and Ewell	170	3.0%
Fareham	240	3.3%
Folkestone and Hythe	510	7.6%
Gosport	380	6.5%
Gravesham	640	8.6%
Guildford	325	1.7%
Hart	150	2.3%
Hastings	535	9.0%
Havant	525	6.7%
Horsham	240	2.9%
Isle of Wight	625	8.1%
Lewes	380	6.2%
Maidstone	705	6.1%
Medway	1,515	7.1%
Mid Sussex	245	2.8%

	18 to 24 number unemployed	18 to 24 unemployment rate
May 2025		
Milton Keynes	1,260	6.2%
Mole Valley	140	2.7%
New Forest	415	4.3%
Oxford	500	1.5%
Portsmouth	1,320	4.8%
Reading	865	4.1%
Reigate and Banstead	350	3.8%
Rother	300	5.9%
Runnymede	255	2.1%
Rushmoor	320	4.2%
Sevenoaks	215	3.1%
Slough	940	7.5%
South Oxfordshire	260	2.9%
Southampton	1,410	3.7%
Spelthorne	345	5.2%
Surrey Heath	190	3.5%
Swale	710	6.7%
Tandridge	200	3.7%
Test Valley	255	3.3%
Thanet	980	11.4%
Tonbridge and Malling	345	4.1%
Tunbridge Wells	260	4.0%
Vale of White Horse	310	3.5%
Waverley	205	2.4%
Wealden	340	3.7%
West Berkshire	360	3.6%
West Oxfordshire	200	2.6%
Winchester	250	2.0%
Windsor and Maidenhead	335	3.5%
Woking	255	3.9%
Wokingham	345	2.8%
Worthing	420	6.0%

Related documents

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