

Monthly Unemployment Update – February 2023

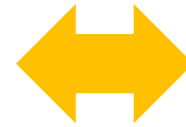
Tees Valley										
Unemployment Metric	Previous Year			Previous			Latest			Change
	Universal Credit	Jan-22	20,843	5.0%	Dec-22	18,394	4.4%	Jan-23	18,273	
Annual Population Survey*	Sep-21	20,400	6.5%	Jun-22	19,100	6.2%	Sep-22	14,900	4.9%	-1.3%
Claimant Count	Jan-22	22,905	5.5%	Dec-22	19,735	4.8%	Jan-23	19,625	4.7%	-0.1%

Great Britain										
Unemployment Metric	Previous Year			Previous			Latest			Change
	Universal Credit	Jan-22	1,621,509	4.0%	Dec-22	1,389,657	3.4%	Jan-23	1,394,492	
Annual Population Survey*	Sep-21	1,566,300	4.8%	Jun-22	1,256,100	3.8%	Sep-22	1,205,500	3.7%	-0.1%
Claimant Count	Jan-22	1,738,270	4.2%	Dec-22	1,479,460	3.6%	Jan-23	1,486,580	3.6%	0.0%

***Note that APS data is presently being rebased and so present estimates should be viewed with caution. Next Releases: UC and CC 14 Mar, APS 18 Apr.** Multiple official rates of unemployment are produced at different times by various Government departments. Universal Credit (DWP) and Claimant Count (ONS) figures are released monthly, whilst Annual Population Survey (ONS) are quarterly. 'Latest' refers to the most recent data release, whilst 'Previous' indicates the second most recent figures. APS figures relate to all those aged 16+ and actively seeking work and uses the economically active population to calculate a rate. The Claimant Count is an administrative measure of the number of people claiming benefit principally for the reason of being unemployed and includes Job Seekers Allowance claimants in addition to UC Searching for Work claimants.



Month-on-month **UC Searching for Work claimants** in Tees Valley **decreased by 121** with the rate unchanged at **4.4% in January 2023**. The **Claimant Count** decreased slightly by **0.1%** on the month to stand at **4.7% in January 2023**.



For Great Britain, month-on-month **UC Searching for Work Claimants** increased slightly. However, the claimant rate was unchanged at **3.4% in January 2023**. Similarly, the **Claimant Count** was unchanged at **3.6% in January 2023**.

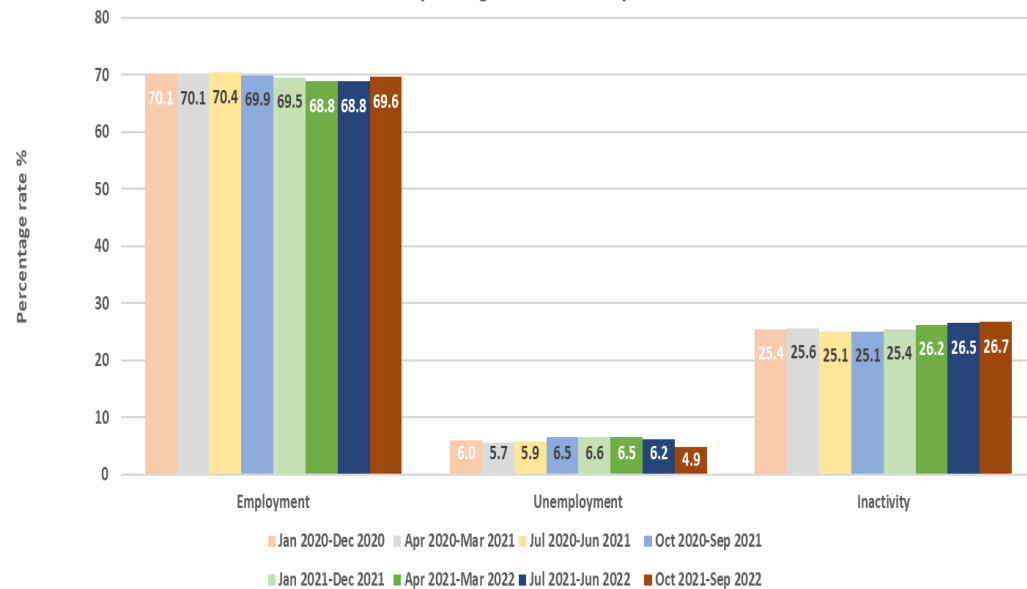


The Unemployment measure in the Annual Population Survey (APS) was down **1.3 percentage points** for the year ending September 2022 compared to the reading for June 2022.



GB APS unemployment fell by **0.1 percentage points** for the year ending September 2022, compared to the previous quarter.

Quarterly Changes in Tees Valley Rates

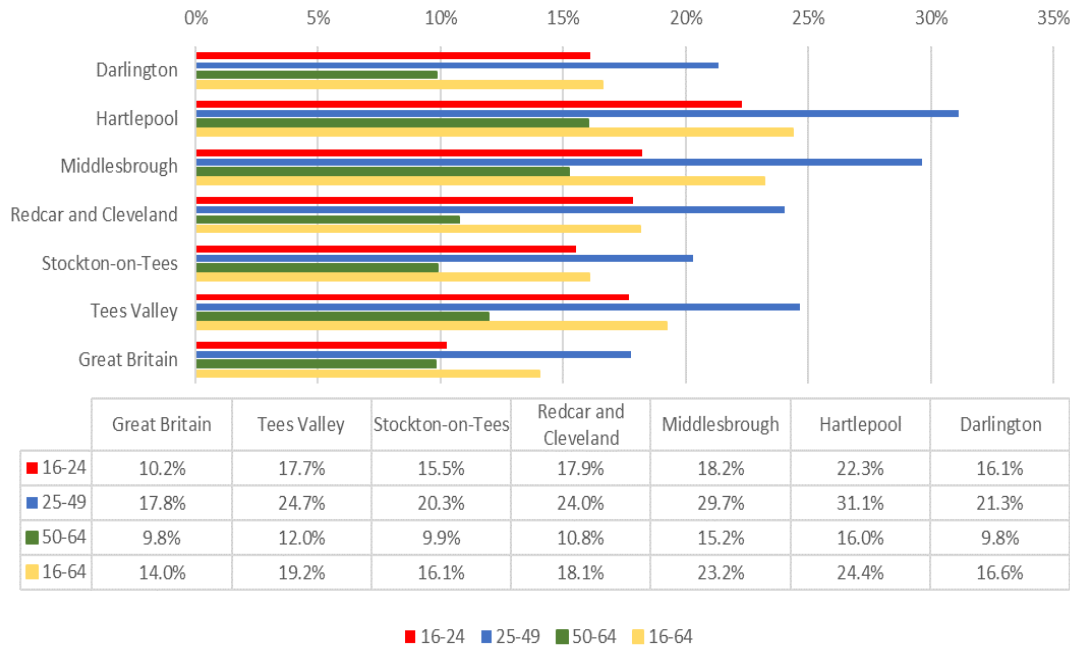


Source – APS/ONS: Tees Valley Employment and Economic Inactive rates of those aged 16-64 and Unemployment rate of those aged 16+ as a percentage of the economically active population.

- Tees Valley quarterly Unemployment rate is **4.9%**.
- Whilst this is a **decrease of 1.3 percentage points** from the previous quarter the rate is still 1.2% above that observed nationally. Compared to last year, the Tees Valley employment rate is **0.3 percentage points** below Oct'20-Sep'21 (GB up 0.9), Tees Valley unemployment is **down 1.6 percentage points** (GB down 1.1) and Tees Valley economic inactivity **up 1.6 percentage points** (GB unchanged).
- North East regional data provides more up to date analysis for a wider geography. The **NE unemployment rate stands at 4.7%** for Sep-Nov'22 (0.3% up on the Jun-Aug'22 reading). The previous trend of falling unemployment has been halted for now with the Sep-Nov'22 rate up by 0.5% on the Jul-Sep'22 quarter low point of 4.2%. With the ongoing challenging economic outlook and increasing economic inactivity, this suggests that the latest Tees Valley APS unemployment figure for Oct-Sep'22 of 4.9% may be the lowest we see for some time.
- The economic inactivity rate of those aged 16-64 in Tees Valley has risen over the past year, up **1.6 percentage points** since Oct'20-Sep'21. However, NE economic inactivity peaked in the Jun-Aug'22 quarter and has since fallen back slightly. A similar picture has been observed nationally where falling inactivity has been driven by both the 16-24 and 50-64 age groups.

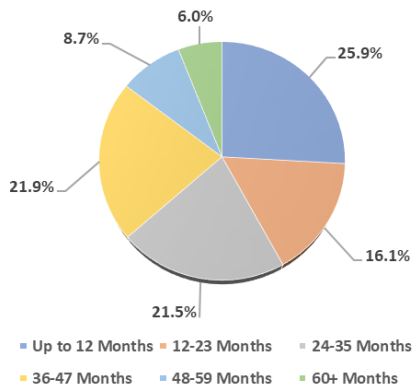
Universal Credit – Tees Valley All Claimants Breakdown

Local Authority by Age



- **80,981** Tees Valley residents were claiming Universal Credit in January 2023.
- The 16-64 rate (yellow) was unchanged at **19.2% in January** with the gap above the GB average steady at **5.2 percentage points**.
- Tees Valley's 16-24 rate (red) is **above GB average by 7.5 percentage points**, which is **unchanged on December 2022** and the 50-64 rate (green) is **2.2 percentage points** above the GB level, also unchanged on the month.
- At **24.7%**, the Tees Valley 25-49 rate (blue) increased by **0.1 percentage point** on December 2022 and currently sits at **6.9 percentage points** above the GB average.
- Those on UC searching for work accounted for **22.6%** of all claimants in the Tees Valley in December, **down by 0.3% on the month**.
- Those in employment make up **30.5%** of those claiming UC. This proportion was **down by 0.1% on December**.
- Following the January decrease of 0.3% in those on **UC Searching for Work to 22.6%**, this rate stands well below the **31.0% observed in December 2021**. This difference is largely explained by the increase of **5.9 percentage points** for those with **no work requirements** over the past year.

Length of Time on Universal Credit

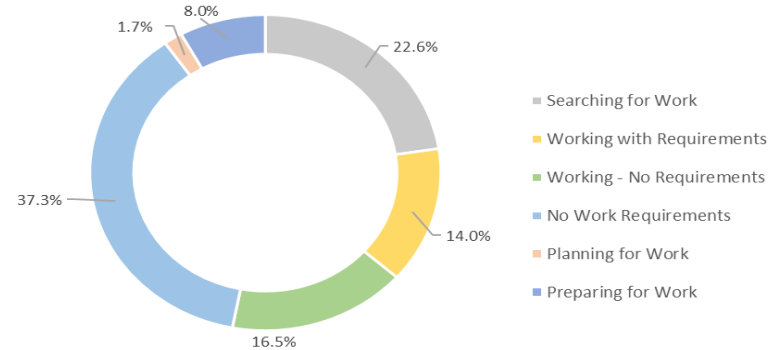


- The average length of UC claims in Tees Valley increased again in January.
- January UC claimants for over 2 years rose to 58.0% of claimants as opposed to 57.8% in December 2022.
- For GB, claimants over 2 years also increased, up from 57.5% in December to 57.8% in January.

Proportion of claimants on UC for more than 2 years



Employment Status of Claimants



Searching for Work: Not working, or very low earnings, required to secure better work.
Working with Requirements: In work but could earn more, or not working but has a partner with low earnings
No Work Requirements: Health or caring responsibility prevents claimant from working.
Workings – No Requirements: Earnings over the level at which considered low.
Planning for Work: Expected to work in the future. Claimant required to attend periodic interviews to plan for their return to work.
Preparing for Work: Expected to start preparing for future even with limited capability for work at the present time or a child aged 2.