

Monthly Unemployment Update – May 2020

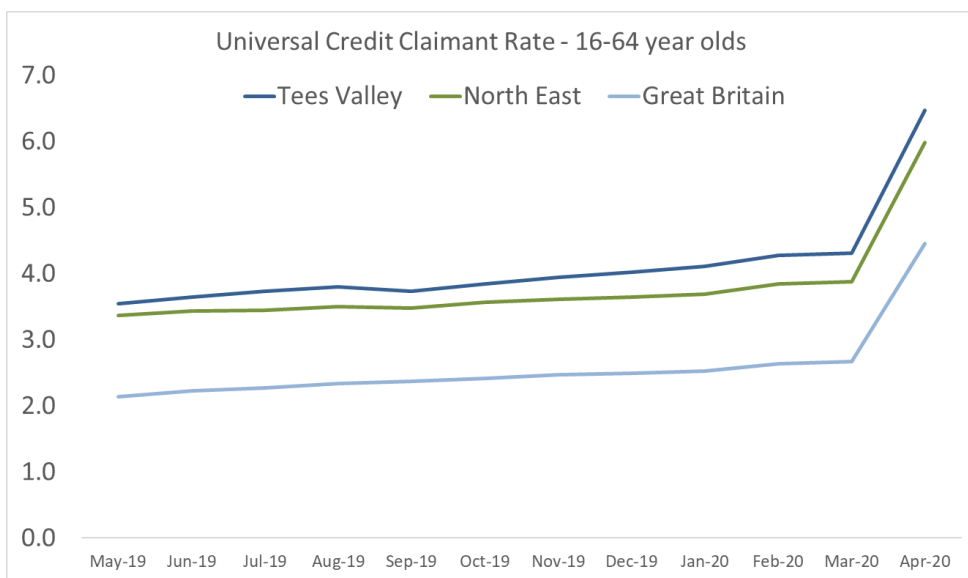
Universal Credit – Searching for Work¹

- 6.5% of the working age population in Tees Valley are claiming Universal Credit (UC) and searching for work, compared to 4.5% nationally.
- The number of people on UC in Tees Valley has risen by 8,923 claimants over the past month, with the rate rising by 2.2 percentage points from 4.3% in March to 6.5% in April, compared to a rise of 1.8 nationally. This rise can be attributed to the effects of Covid-19 pandemic with unprecedented levels of demand for Universal Credit. Following the Chancellor’s announcement on additional support for the self-employed, nationally declarations peaked at over 100,000 per day in late March. DWP have stated that although future declaration volumes are highly uncertain, high volumes can be expected to continue in the short term.

Area	Previous Year		Previous Month		Most recent		Change			
	Apr-19	%	Mar-20	%	Apr-20	%	Since last month		Since last year	
Darlington	2,101	3.2	2,642	4.1	3,902	6.0	1,260	1.9	1,801	2.8
Hartlepool	3,435	6.0	3,159	5.5	4,484	7.8	1,325	2.3	1,049	1.8
Middlesbrough	3,245	3.7	4,601	5.2	7,045	8.0	2,444	2.8	3,800	4.3
Redcar & Cleveland	1,924	2.4	3,075	3.8	4,729	5.8	1,654	2.0	2,805	3.4
Stockton-on-Tees	3,532	2.9	4,401	3.6	6,641	5.4	2,240	1.8	3,109	2.5
Tees Valley	14,237	3.4	17,878	4.3	26,801	6.5	8,923	2.2	12,564	3.1
North East	55,040	3.3	64,402	3.9	99,240	6.0	34,838	2.1	44,200	2.7
Great Britain	847,407	2.1	1,078,875	2.7	1,801,468	4.5	722,593	1.8	954,061	2.4

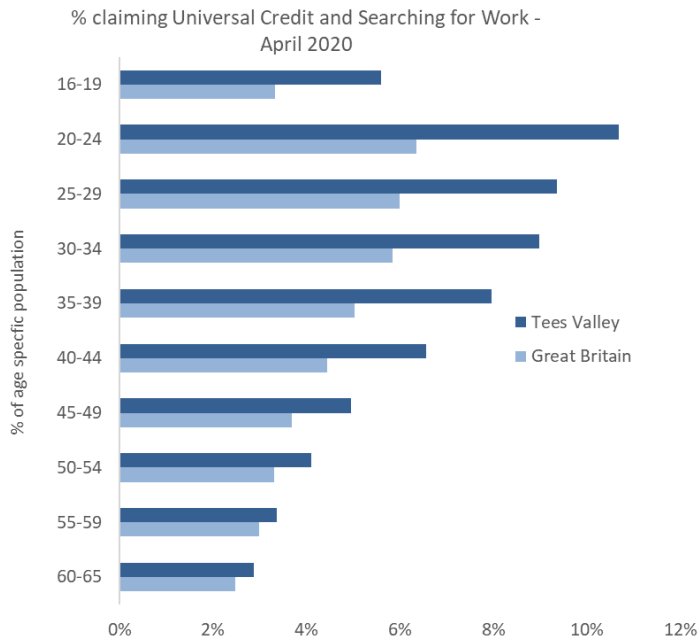
Source: DWP Stat Xplore. Date of latest release: 19th May for provisional April 2020 data (as of 9th April). Percentages are calculated from the 2018 ONS mid-year population estimates for 16-64 year olds unless otherwise stated.

- Middlesbrough has seen the largest rise in claimants over the past month, rising from 5.2% in March to 8% in April. Stockton-on-Tees has seen the lowest rise, rising from 3.6% in March to 5.4% in April.



¹ Searching for work includes those who are not working, or with very low earnings. Claimant is required to take action to secure work - or more / better paid work. Universal Credit has been rolled out to all new claimants in stages across Tees Valley in the following order: Hartlepool - December 2016, Darlington - June 2018, Stockton - July 2018, Middlesbrough - October 2018 and Redcar & Cleveland - November 2018. It is expected that DWP will begin moving all remaining existing benefit claimants to the Universal Credit full service between July 2019 and December 2023.

Age breakdown



- 5.6% of 16-19 year olds in Tees Valley are claiming UC and searching for work compared to 3.3% nationally. This has risen by 1.3 percentage points over the last month compared to a rise of 1 nationally.
- 10.7% of 20-24 year olds are claiming compared to 6.4% nationally. This has risen by 3 percentage points over the last month compared to a rise of 2.4 nationally.
- 9.4% of 25-29 year olds are claiming compared to 6% nationally. This has risen by 2.9 percentage points over the last month compared to a rise of 2.5 nationally.
- 9% of 30-34 year olds are claiming compared to 5.8% nationally. This has risen by 3.1 percentage points over the last month compared to a rise of 2.4 nationally.
- 8% of 35-39 year olds are claiming compared to 5% nationally. This has risen by 2.8 percentage points over the last month compared to a rise of 2.1 nationally.

Age breakdown by Local Authority

Percentage of age specific population claiming Universal Credit and searching for work April 2020							
Age Group	Darlington	Hartlepool	Middlesbrough	Redcar & Cleveland	Stockton-on-Tees	Tees Valley	Great Britain
16-19	5.6%	6.5%	6.1%	4.7%	5.2%	5.6%	3.3%
20-24	12.1%	13.3%	9.4%	10.8%	10.0%	10.7%	6.4%
25-29	9.2%	11.2%	10.2%	9.0%	8.2%	9.4%	6.0%
30-34	7.4%	11.1%	12.0%	8.5%	7.0%	9.0%	5.8%
35-39	6.5%	9.4%	11.2%	7.2%	6.4%	7.9%	5.0%
40-44	5.8%	7.9%	8.6%	6.1%	5.3%	6.6%	4.4%
45-49	4.9%	5.7%	6.8%	4.3%	4.0%	5.0%	3.7%
50-54	3.9%	5.1%	5.3%	3.6%	3.3%	4.1%	3.3%
55-59	3.2%	4.3%	4.3%	2.9%	2.7%	3.4%	3.0%
60-65	2.9%	3.9%	3.5%	2.3%	2.3%	2.9%	2.5%

- 13.3% of 20-24 year old Hartlepool residents are claiming UC and searching for work, compared to 10.7% across Tees Valley and 6.4% nationally. However UC has been rolled out to all new claimants in Hartlepool since December 2016 with new claimants likely to be in the younger age ranges.
- The 20-24 age range has the highest percentage of claimants across all local authorities with the exception of Middlesbrough, in which the 30-34 age range has the highest percentage of claimants, followed by the 35-39 age range.

Next update of DWP Universal Credit statistics is due on 16th June 2020 and will be a count of those claiming as of 14th May 2020.

Alternative ONS claimant count

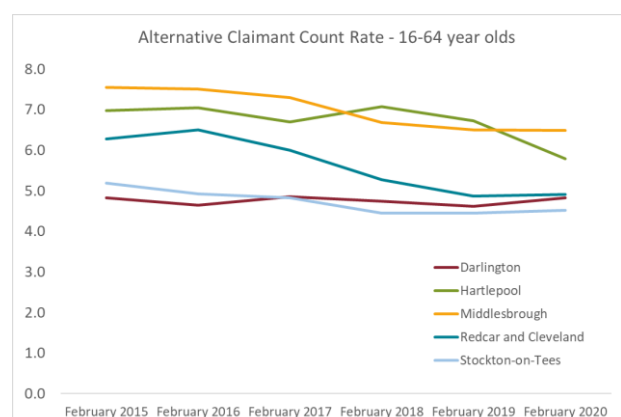
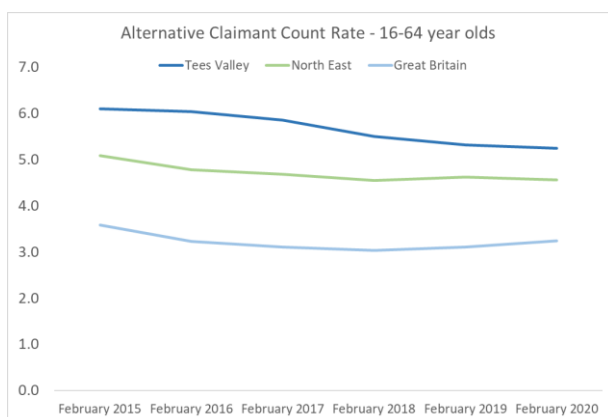
Designed to measure the number of people claiming unemployment related benefits (Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit and available to work) by modelling what the count would have been if Universal Credit had been fully rolled out since 2013 (when Universal Credit began) with the broader span of people this covers.

Estimates of headline unemployment are sourced from the Labour Force Survey, which is not available at a local level or the Annual Population Survey which is unreliable at a local level due to sampling variability.

- 5.2% of the working age population in Tees Valley are claiming unemployment benefits, compared to 3.2% nationally.
- There are 598 extra people claiming unemployment benefits in Tees Valley compared to the previous month, with the rate rising slightly from 5.1% in January 2020 to 5.2% in February 2020 matching the rise seen nationally.
- Compared to February 2019 the number of people claiming unemployment benefits has fallen by 306 people, with the rate falling slightly by 0.1 percentage point from 5.3% in February 2019, compared to a 0.1 rise nationally.

Area	Aged 16-64									
	Previous Year		Previous month		Most recent		Change			
	Feb-19	%	Jan-20	%	Feb-20	%	Since last month	Since last year	Since last month	Since last year
Darlington	2,995	4.6	3,004	4.6	3,124	4.8	120	0.2	129	0.2
Hartlepool	3,856	6.7	3,211	5.6	3,325	5.8	114	0.2	-531	-0.9
Middlesbrough	5,753	6.5	5,600	6.3	5,739	6.5	139	0.2	-14	0.0
Redcar & Cleveland	3,971	4.9	3,914	4.8	4,008	4.9	94	0.1	37	0.0
Stockton-on-Tees	5,449	4.5	5,391	4.4	5,522	4.5	131	0.1	73	0.0
Tees Valley	22,024	5.3	21,120	5.1	21,718	5.2	598	0.1	-306	-0.1
Great Britain	1,255,618	3.1	1,256,569	3.1	1,309,340	3.2	52,771	0.1	53,722	0.1

Source: ONS. Date of latest release: 21st April for February 2019 data. Percentages are calculated from the 2018 ONS mid-year population estimates for 16-64 year olds.



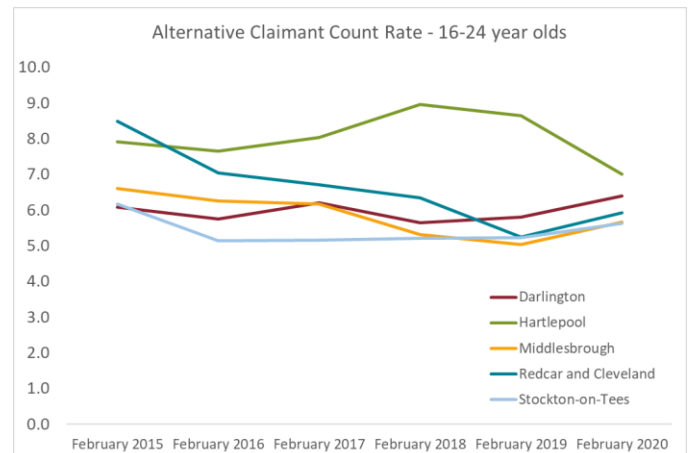
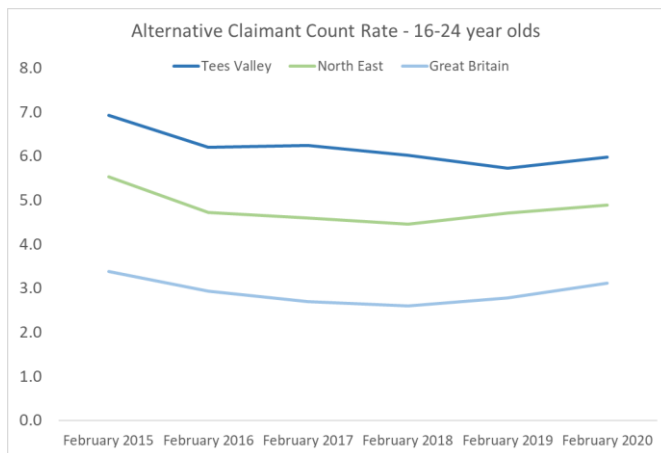
- Over the past 5 years claimant unemployment has fallen from 6.1% in 2015 to 5.2% in 2020, a drop of 0.9 percentage points compared to a 0.5 drop regionally and a 0.3 nationally.
- All Tees Valley local authorities have seen a fall in claimant unemployment over the past 5 years. Redcar and Cleveland have seen the largest fall, from 6.3% in Feb 2015 to 4.9% in Feb 2020.

Youth Unemployment

- 6% of 16-24 year olds in Tees Valley are claiming unemployment benefits, compared to 3.1% nationally.
- There are an extra 140 16-24 year olds claiming unemployment benefits compared to the previous month, with the rate rising slightly from 5.8% in January 2020 to 6% in February 2020, matching the 0.2 rise seen nationally.
- Compared to February 2019 the number of 16-24 year old Tees Valley residents claiming unemployment benefits has risen by 183 people, with the rate rising from 5.7% to 6% in February 2020, a rise of 0.3 percentage points, again matching the rise seen nationally.

Area	Aged 16-24									
	Previous Year		Previous month		Most recent		Change			
	Feb-19	%	Jan-20	%	Feb-20	%	Since last month	Since last year	Since last month	Since last year
Darlington	574	5.8	621	6.3	631	6.4	10	0.1	57	0.6
Hartlepool	827	8.6	670	7.0	671	7.0	1	0.0	-156	-1.6
Middlesbrough	931	5.0	1,008	5.5	1,045	5.7	37	0.2	114	0.7
Redcar & Cleveland	684	5.2	731	5.6	773	5.9	42	0.3	89	0.7
Stockton-on-Tees	1,017	5.2	1,046	5.4	1,096	5.6	50	0.2	79	0.4
Tees Valley	4,033	5.7	4,076	5.8	4,216	6.0	140	0.2	183	0.3
Great Britain	192,673	2.8	203,460	2.9	215,725	3.1	12,265	0.2	23,052	0.3

Source: ONS. Percentages are calculated from the 2018 ONS mid-year population estimates for 16-24 year olds.



- Over the past 5 years claimant unemployment for 16-24 year olds has fallen from 6.9% in February 2015 to 6% in February 2020, a drop of 0.9 percentage points compared to a drop of 0.6 percentage points regionally and 0.3 nationally.
- Although the percentage of 16-24 year olds claiming unemployment benefits is highest in Hartlepool, the rate has dropped over the past year, from 8.6% in February 2019 to 7% in February 2020.

The next update of ONS Alternative Claimant Count is due on 14th July 2020.