



# SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DATA IN THE COVID-19 PERIOD

**July 2021**

A monthly digest of relevant data to assist in the Recovery Stage

Produced by: Performance, Consultation & Insight Unit,  
Stratford-on-Avon District Council in September 2021

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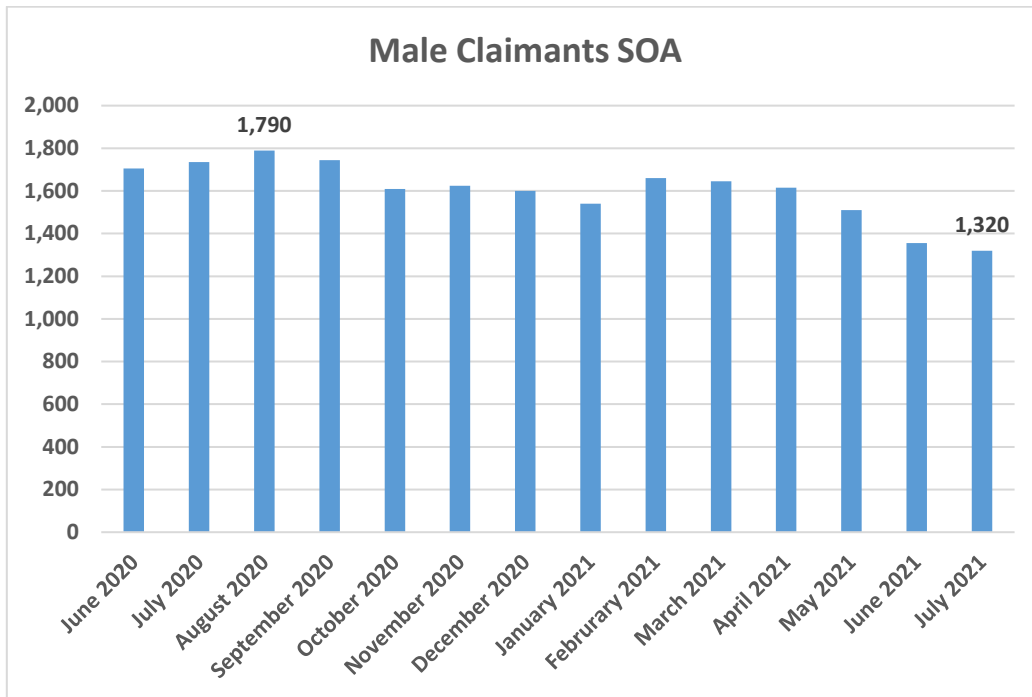
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## 1. Claimant Count Data

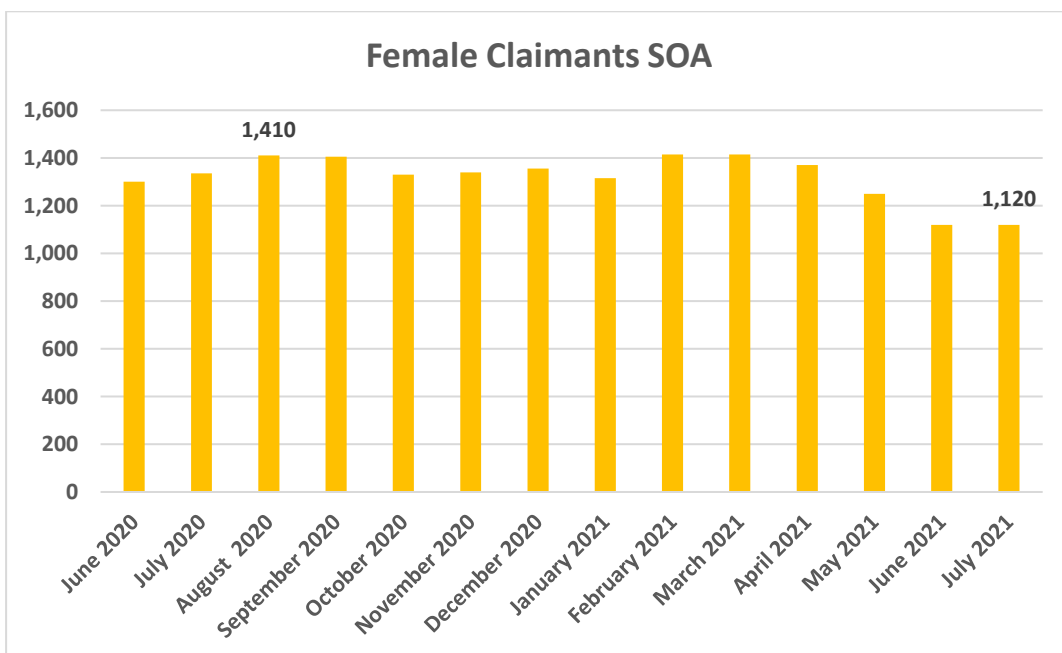
The Claimant Count is the number of people claiming benefit principally for the reason of being unemployed. This is measured by combining the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and National Insurance credits with the number of people receiving Universal Credit principally for the reason of being unemployed. Claimants declare that they are out of work, capable of, available for and actively seeking work during the week in which the claim is made. It is of the resident population aged 16 and over.

Source: NOMIS July 2021 for the following four charts.

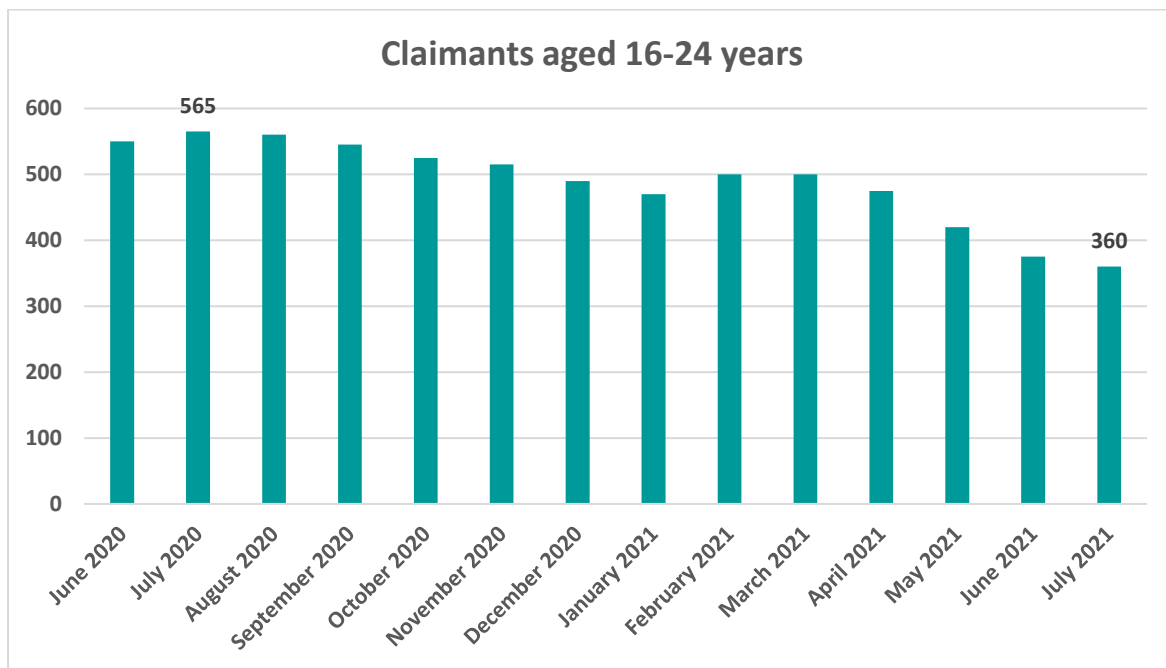
The number of male claimants in June fell by 35 to 1,320. This is 132% higher than the number of male claimants in March 2020.



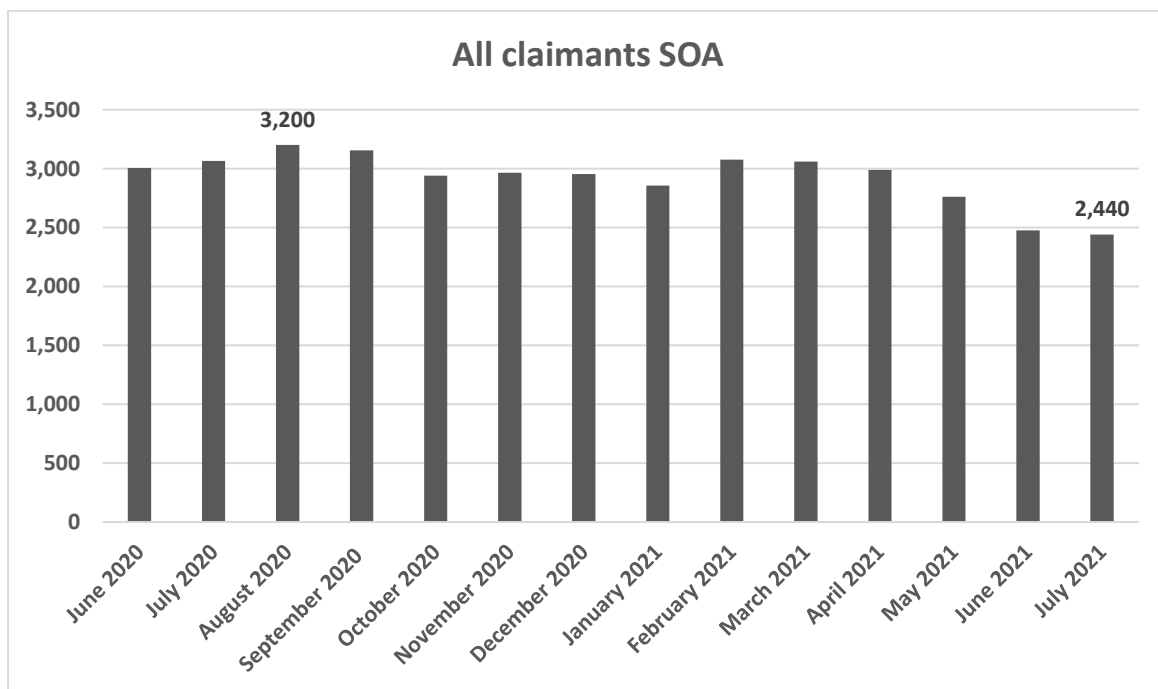
The number of female claimants saw no change from June to July, holding at 1,120. This is 133% higher than the number of female claimants in March 2020.



The number of claimants aged 16 to 24 years in July fell by 15 to 360. This is 118% higher than March 2020.



The overall number of claimants in Stratford District in July fell by 35 to 2,440. This is 132% higher than in March 2020.



## % Claimant count (unadjusted) by West Midlands Local Authorities July 2021 (16 and over)

The following table compares the claimant count across all West Midlands local authorities in July 2021.

At local authority level, the number of claimants as a proportion of residents aged 16 to 64 years old varies from 10.6% in Birmingham and 9.6% in Wolverhampton, to 2.9% in Staffordshire Moorlands, 3.2% in Warwick and **Stratford-on-Avon**.

LOCAL AUTHORITY	%
Birmingham	10.6
Wolverhampton	9.6
Sandwell	8.6
Walsall	7.8
Stoke-on-Trent	7.4
Dudley	6.4
Coventry	6.0
Nuneaton and Bedworth	5.6
Redditch	5.2
Tamworth	5.1
Telford and Wrekin	5.1
Solihull	4.9
Worcester	4.8
Wyre Forest	4.8
East Staffordshire	4.6
Cannock Chase	4.6
North Warwickshire	4.0
Newcastle-under-Lyme	3.9
Rugby	3.9
Bromsgrove	3.7
Malvern Hills	3.7
South Staffordshire	3.7
Lichfield	3.6
Shropshire	3.6
Wychavon	3.6
Herefordshire	3.4
Stafford	3.4
Stratford-on-Avon	3.2
Warwick	3.2
Staffordshire Moorlands	2.9

Source: ONS claimant count [July 2021] via NOMIS

Note: % is number of claimants as a proportion of resident population of area aged 16-64.

**Local Authority Claimant Count Levels (unadjusted) by West Midlands Local Authorities  
Comparing March 2020 against July 2021 (16 and over)**

The geographical variations at local authority level across the West Midlands is large, where increases since March 2020 range from 46.9% in Dudley, to a rise of 132.5% in **Stratford-on-Avon district**, the largest increase of any authority.

Local Authority: district / unitary	March 2020	July 2021	change	
	number	number	change	% change
Stratford-on-Avon	1,050	2,440	1,390	132.5
Wychavon	1,320	2,750	1,435	108.7
Coventry	8,000	15,320	7,320	91.5
Warwick	1,570	2,990	1,425	90.7
Bromsgrove	1,165	2,185	1,025	88.0
North Warwickshire	845	1,575	730	86.7
Herefordshire, County of	2,110	3,815	1,705	80.8
Malvern Hills	925	1,645	720	77.9
Wyre Forest	1,580	2,810	1,230	77.8
Redditch	1,535	2,720	1,185	77.1
Worcester	1,780	3,105	1,320	74.2
Shropshire	4,010	6,945	2,935	73.2
Solihull	3,650	6,315	2,665	72.9
Rugby	1,535	2,650	1,110	72.3
Telford and Wrekin	3,430	5,730	2,305	67.2
Sandwell	10,780	17,635	6,855	63.6
Walsall	8,605	13,590	4,990	58.0
Birmingham	49,370	77,565	28,195	57.1
Nuneaton and Bedworth	2,830	4,410	1,585	56.0
Wolverhampton	10,380	15,780	5,400	52.0
Dudley	8,515	12,515	3,995	46.9

Source: DWP State of the (West Midlands) Group Report August 2021

## Stratford District Council JSA + partial Universal Credit Claimant Count Levels (unadjusted) by Ward Comparing Last Two Months (16 and over)

See page 2 for the definition in detail.

7 wards in Stratford-on-Avon District saw a rise in the number of people claiming benefits over the past month; 15 remained static while 13 saw a small decrease. The highest claimant count levels whilst comparing Stratford District Council wards are in Avenue (6.8%) and Hathaway (5.8%). The lowest levels are in Wellesbourne West (1.4%) and Ettington (1.4%).

Ward Name	Claimant Count June 21	Claimant % June 21	Claimant Count July 21	Claimant % July 21
Alcester & Rural	35	1.7%	35	1.7%
Alcester Town	85	3.8%	90	4%
Avenue	180	7.2%	170	6.8%
Bidford East	110	4.6%	110	4.6%
Bidford West & Salford	70	3.0%	65	2.8%
Bishop's Itchington	65	2.5%	65	2.5%
Bishopton	75	3.6%	65	3.2%
Brailes & Compton	55	3.1%	55	3.1%
Bridgetown	100	3.3%	100	3.3%
Ettington	35	1.6%	30	1.4%
Guildhall	55	2.8%	50	2.5%
Harbury	75	3.6%	85	4.1%
Hathaway	90	5.2%	100	5.8%
Henley-in-Arden	65	3.0%	60	2.8%
Kineton	65	3.4%	55	2.8%
Kinwarton	45	2.9%	45	2.9%
Long Itchington & Stockton	80	3.2%	75	3%
Napton & Fenny Compton	65	3.1%	65	3.1%
Quinton	105	5.1%	100	4.9%
Red Horse	35	1.9%	40	2.1%
Shipston North	70	3.2%	75	3.4%
Shipston South	55	2.8%	55	2.8%
Shottery	65	3.3%	65	3.3%
Snitterfield	65	3.2%	65	3.2%
Southam North	60	2.8%	60	2.8%
Southam South	85	4.1%	75	3.6%
Studley with Mappleborough Green	70	3.2%	65	2.9%
Studley with Sambourne	95	4.3%	100	4.6%
Tanworth-in-Arden	50	2.9%	45	2.6%
Tiddington	55	3.2%	55	3.2%
Welcombe	90	4.2%	90	4.2%
Welford-on-Avon	55	2.5%	65	3%
Wellesbourne East	100	4.5%	90	4.1%
Wellesbourne West	30	1.4%	30	1.4%
Wotton Wawen	40	2.2%	40	2.2%

Source: DWP via LG Inform Plus (August 2021)

## Youth Claimant Count Levels

### Number of Youth Claimants and Change by Selected Months across the WMCA (16-24)

All local authorities across the West Midlands saw another fall in the number of people aged 16-24 years claiming benefits in the past month. 3.3% of those aged 16-24 years are claiming in Stratford-on-Avon District. Only Warwick and Staffordshire Moorlands had a smaller percentage of their youth population claiming benefits, at 2.7% and 3.2% respectively.

Source: ONS/DWP via LGInform Plus, July 2021

Local Authority	December 2019	March 2020	June 2021	July 2021	%	Change in claimant no's June - July 2021
Birmingham	8,740	9,220	15,145	14,620	8.6	-525
Bromsgrove	210	220	430	425	5.2	-5
Cannock Chase	325	370	605	590	6.3	-15
Coventry	1,445	1,550	2,995	2,750	4.4	-245
Dudley	1,720	1,755	2,620	2,495	8	-125
East Staffordshire	275	320	635	615	5.5	-20
Herefordshire, County of	390	415	715	650	4.1	-65
Lichfield	245	275	420	390	4.2	-30
Malvern Hills	180	185	300	285	4.6	-15
Newcastle-under-Lyme	405	430	655	610	3.7	-45
North Warwickshire	165	165	315	290	5	-25
Nuneaton and Bedworth	540	570	850	845	7	-5
Redditch	310	310	540	510	6.5	-30
Rugby	250	245	495	470	4.7	-25
Sandwell	1,995	2,130	3,610	3,445	10	-165
Shropshire	795	830	1,260	1,190	4.3	-70
Solihull	820	830	1,400	1,320	6.4	-80
South Staffordshire	230	250	510	475	4.7	-35
Stafford	280	320	515	465	4	-50
Staffordshire Moorlands	180	180	295	270	3.2	-25
Stoke-on-Trent	1,275	1,415	2,190	2,125	7.4	-65
Stratford-on-Avon	150	160	375	360	3.3	-15
Tamworth	275	305	555	520	7	-35
Telford and Wrekin	740	780	1,300	1,265	6.7	-35
Walsall	1,790	1,940	2,935	2,845	9.5	-90
Warwick	235	230	570	520	2.7	-50
Wolverhampton	1,840	1,925	3,045	2,920	10.9	-125
Worcester	315	325	620	570	4.6	-50
Wychavon	250	265	535	505	4.8	-30
Wyre Forest	310	315	525	510	5.9	-15

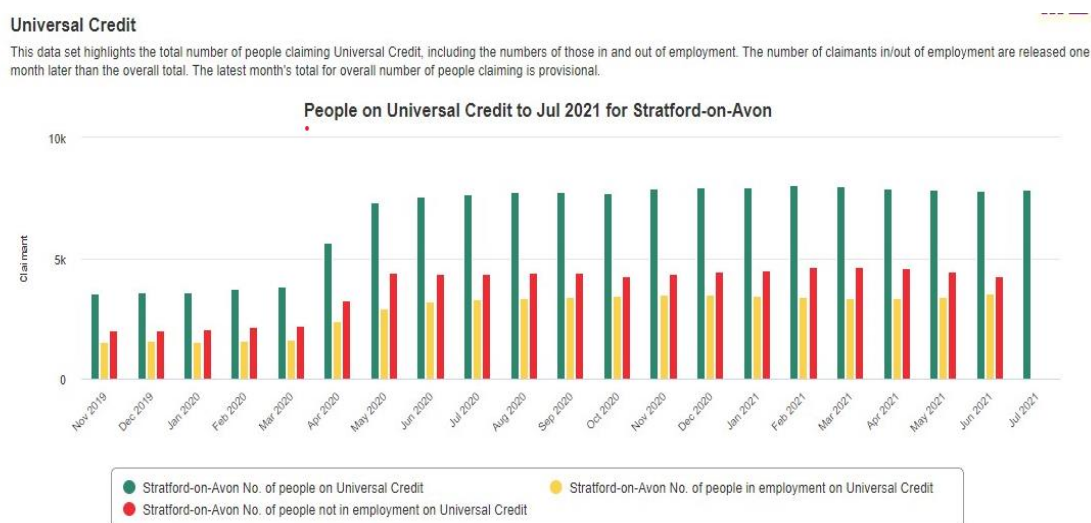


## 2. Universal Credit Claimants in Stratford District

Number of people claiming Universal Credit. This total includes both claimants who are not in employment and those eligible who are in employment. Figures are a count of the number of people on Universal Credit on the second Thursday of each month (completed the Universal Credit claim process and accepted their Claimant Commitment) and have not had a closure of their claim recorded for this spell.

Source: Dept for Work and Pensions

7,827 people were claiming Universal Credit in Stratford-on-Avon district in July 2021. For the latest month available with a breakdown (June 2021), 4,263 of these claimants were not in employment, whilst 3,532 were in employment. The total number of claims has changed by 2% compared to July 2020.



10.2% of people are on universal credit compared with the working age population in Stratford district.

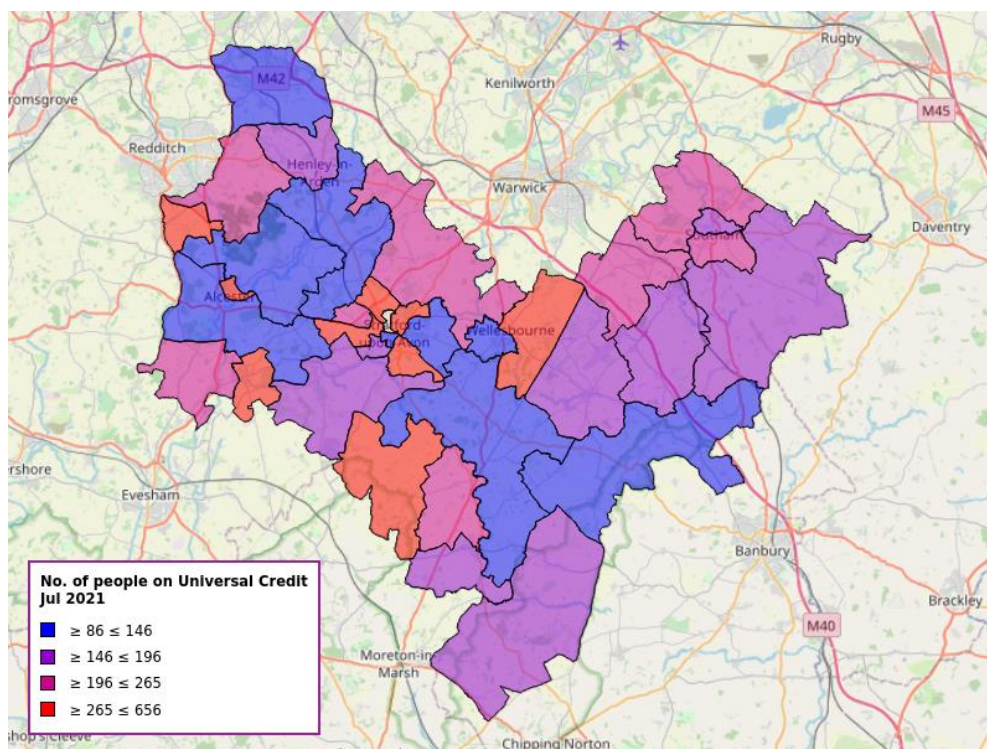
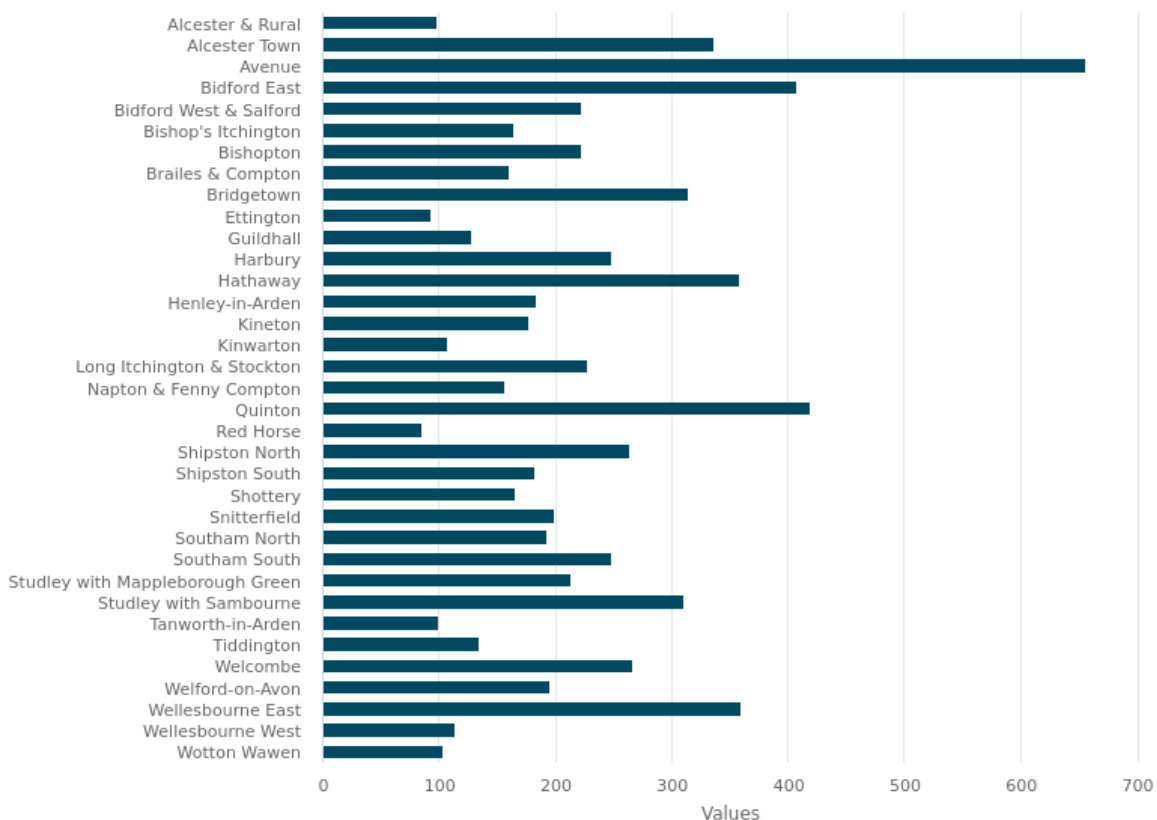
### Percentage of Working Age Population Compared with Universal Credit Claimants for Selected Authorities – July 2021

Local Authority	Number of people on Universal Credit	Working Age Population (16-64)	The % of People on Universal Credit compared with Working Age Population
Stratford-on-Avon	7,827	76,600	10.2
North Warwickshire	4,881	39,700	12.3
Nuneaton	12,768	79,500	16.1
Rugby	8,938	67,300	13.3
Warwick	8,143	92,700	8.8
Coventry	36,826	255,900	14.4

The chart below shows the total number of people claiming Universal Credit across the wards of Stratford District. Clopton is the only ward not listed, due to the population level not being high enough. Stratford Avenue ward has by far the most number of people claiming Universal Credit. Data is available to LSOA level if required.

Source: Stat-Explore: People on Universal Credit via LG Inform

No. of people on Universal Credit Jul 2021 for Wards of Stratford-on-Avon



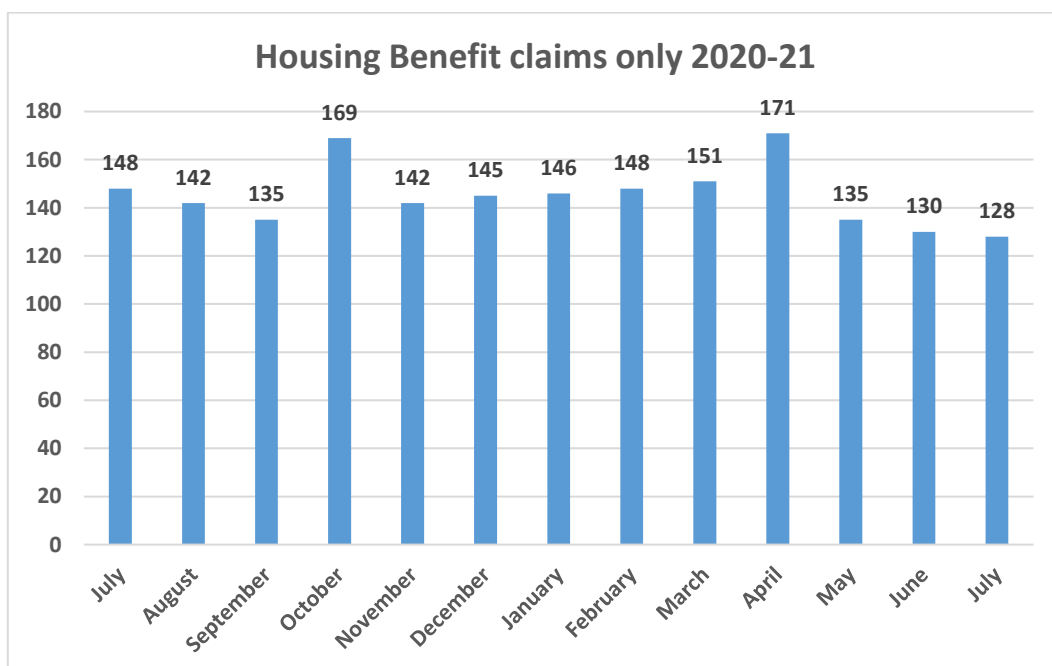
### 3. Housing Benefit/Council Tax Reduction Claims

Source: Stratford-on-Avon District Council

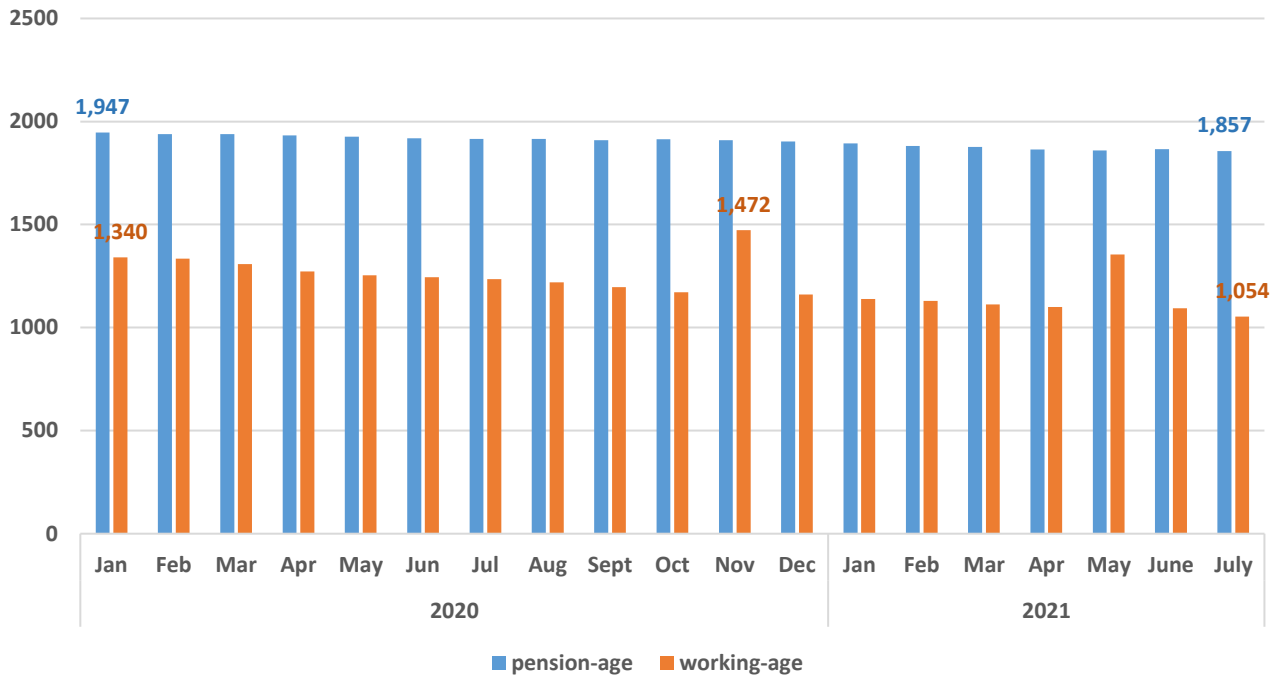
Housing benefit only claims for July stood at 128, down 2 from June. The figures exclude cases where the claim fails to qualify for benefit. This is the lowest number since September 2020.

The joint Housing Benefit and Local Council Tax Reduction claims for pension-age residents have continued to fall gradually over the past year. Those from working-age residents have fluctuated more over the year, with a peak in November 2020. After a sharp climb in May, numbers fell back over June and July, to 1,054 at the end of July 2021.

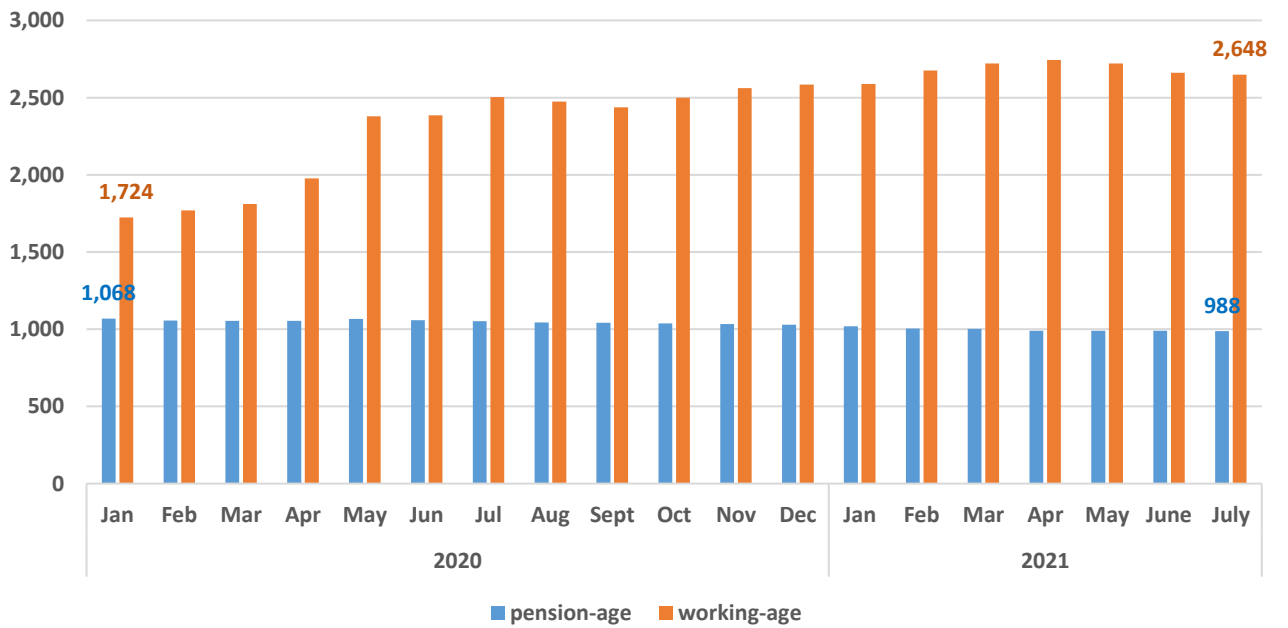
Council Tax Reduction only claims again have fallen gradually over the past year for those of pension-age from 1,068 in January 2020 to 988 in July 2021. However, those for working-age residents rose consistently over the year to a peak of 2,743 in April 2021, and falling back since then to 2,648 in July 2021.



### Housing Benefit and Council tax reduction claims 2020-21



### Council Tax Reduction claims only 2020-21



## 4. Furlough Data

### Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) Statistics: July 2021

Claims received up to 16 August 2021, **Date published:** 9 September 2021

Source: HM Revenue & Customs

Figures for furloughing supported by the Job Retention Scheme - provisional figures as at 31 July 2021.

Based on claims made by 16 August. The July figures are provisional and may be revised due to late and amended claims. A high percentage figure is more of a concern.

#### For Stratford District

Female employments eligible for furlough	Male employments eligible for furlough	Total employments eligible for furlough
29,300	28,800	58,100

As at 30 June 2021 (Actual)

Female employments furloughed	Female take up-rate	Male employments furloughed	Male take up-rate	Total employments furloughed	Total take up-rate
2,200	7%	1,900	7%	4,100	7%

- Compared with all UK authorities (including unitaries, London boroughs etc.) the 7% **total** take up rate is the 45<sup>th</sup> highest percentage. Compared with all English districts it is the 13<sup>th</sup> highest percentage. The average for England is 7%.
- The **female** furloughed take up rate of 7% is 35<sup>th</sup> highest compared with all UK authorities and 14<sup>th</sup> highest compared with all English districts. The average for England is 6%.
- The **male** furloughed take up rate of 7% is 73<sup>rd</sup> highest compared with the UK and 25<sup>th</sup> when compared with all districts. The average for England is 7%.

As at 30 July 2021 (Provisional)

Female employments furloughed	Female take up-rate	Male employments furloughed	Male take up-rate	Total employments furloughed	Total take up-rate
1,800	6%	1,600	5%	3,400	6%

- Compared with all UK authorities (including unitaries, London boroughs etc.) the 6% **total** take up rate is the 42<sup>nd</sup> highest. Compared with all English districts it is the 12<sup>th</sup> highest percentage. The average for England is 6%.
- The **female** furloughed take up rate of 6% is 29<sup>th</sup> highest compared with all UK authorities and 10<sup>th</sup> highest compared with all English districts. The average for England is 5%.
- The **male** furloughed take up rate of 5% is 148<sup>th</sup> highest compared with the UK and 47<sup>th</sup> when compared with all districts. The average for England is 6%.

## 5. Homeless Applications

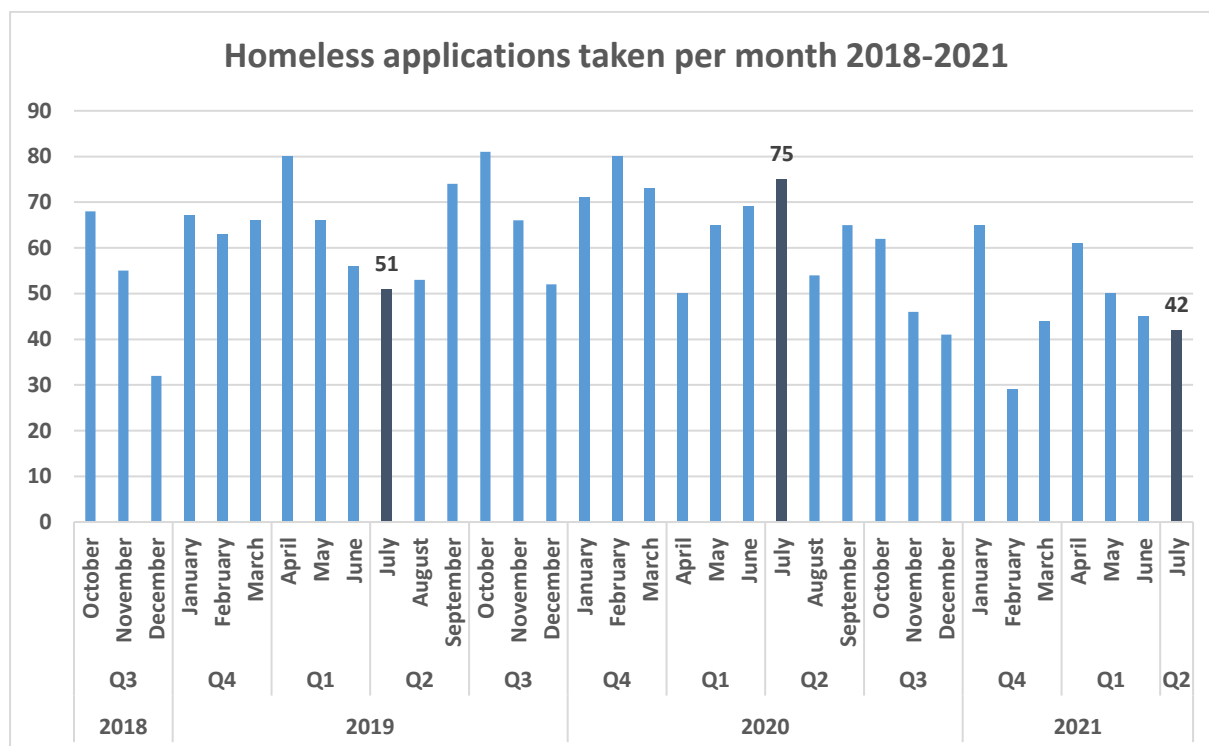
### Homeless Applications Since October 2018

Source: Stratford-on-Avon District Council

July saw another drop in the number of homeless applications received, down 3 in June to 42. This is lower than the July number seen in 2019 and 2020.

The mean average number of applications per month for the financial year 2021-22 so far stands at 49.5, lower than the average for 2020-21 (55), 2019-20 (67), and 2018-19 (56).

Ending of tenancies has historically been one of our main reasons for homelessness, and since the pandemic hit, and with the government effectively banning evictions, it has meant that we will have seen a big reduction in this type of homelessness. The ban on evictions which the government put in place over the course of the pandemic came to an end on May 31<sup>st</sup> 2021, and so we are still expecting to start to see an increase in homeless applications over the next few months.



## 6. Covid-19 in Stratford District

Source: Coventry City Council

<https://coventry-city-council.github.io/covid-19/dashboard/>

The number of Covid-19 cases for the month of July rose steeply to 1,609. The rate per 100,000 at the end of the month also rose to 222.14

### Covid-19 Cases and Rate per 100,000 by Month for Stratford District

Month	Lab-confirmed cases for the month	Rate per 100,000 population as at end of the month
March 2020	73	33.82
April 2020	311	66.87
May 2020	116	9.99
June 2020	18	4.61
July 2020	14	3.07
August 2020	26	6.92
September 2020	125	35.36
October 2020	646	157.57
November 2020	674	58.42
December 2020	974	312
January 2021	1,356	149.89
February 2021	444	69.95
March 2021	307	32.28
April 2021	75	8.46
May 2021	57	10.76
June 2021	485	205.23
July 2021	1,609	222.14

### Covid-19 Cases and Rate per 100,000 by Month for Warwickshire Districts

District/Borough Council	Lab-confirmed Cases for July 2021	Rate per 100,000 population as at end of the month
North Warwickshire	1,554	286.53
Warwick	2,537	208.00
Nuneaton & Bedworth	2,533	264.08
Stratford-on-Avon	1,609	222.14
Rugby	1,788	247.85

**Total cases in Stratford District March 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 to July 31st 2021 = 7,338**

Number of people with at least one lab-confirmed positive COVID-19 test result, by specimen date. Individuals tested positive more than once are only counted once, on the date of their first positive test.

**Total number of deaths in Stratford District since pandemic started up until July 31st 2021 = 311**

Total number of deaths since the start of the pandemic of people who had had a positive test result for COVID-19 and died within 28 days of the first positive test. The actual cause of death may not be COVID-19 in all cases. People who died from COVID-19 but had not tested positive are not included and people who died from COVID-19 more than 28 days after their first positive test are not included.

## 7. Social Studies

### Covid-19 Social Study – Results Release 38

This report provides data from the last 76 weeks of the UK COVID-19 Social Study run by University College London: a panel study of over 70,000 respondents focusing on the psychological and social experiences of adults living in the UK during the Covid-19 pandemic (21/03/20 to 05/09/21).

The full report can be found via this link <https://www.covidsocialstudy.org/results> and clicking Week 73-76. This report focuses on psychological responses to the first 76 weeks since just before the UK Lockdown was first announced.

#### Findings

- Nearly half of adults (44%) reported having experienced some kind of discrimination (e.g., due to gender, age, race/ethnicity, or some other characteristic) since the start of the pandemic. Having been treated with less courtesy or respect than others was the most common type of discrimination (28%), followed by having been threatened or harassed (14%), having had people act as if they were afraid of them (13%), and having received poorer service for deliveries/in stores (12%) or in a medical setting (11%).
- People from ethnic minority groups (61% vs 41% of people with white ethnicity) and younger adults (60% aged 18-30 vs 29% of people aged 60+) were most likely to have experienced discrimination. Such experiences were also slightly higher amongst women (48% vs men 39%) and more common in urban areas (45% vs 40% reported in rural areas).
- Across the pandemic, levels of social support (e.g., the extent to which participants have experienced understanding and support from others, whether emotional or physical) have been relatively constant. There has been a slight increase since the end of April 2021, perhaps as people have been able to move around more and receive in-person support more easily.
- However, people living alone, those with lower household income, and people with a mental or physical health diagnosis have consistently experienced much lower levels of social support. Support has also been slightly lower amongst people in urban areas, people from ethnic minority groups, and people with lower educational qualifications, but with no differences related to age, living in different countries, being a keyworker, or whether or not people live with children.
- Depression and anxiety symptoms have generally continued to decrease as they have been since the end of February 2021. However, depression and anxiety symptoms are still highest in young adults, people living alone, people with lower household income, people living with children, women, people from ethnic minority groups, and those with a physical or mental health diagnosis.
- The proportion of people concerned about catching or becoming seriously ill from Covid-19 increased over the month preceding the ending of the latest restrictions in England but appears to have levelled off. It is now similar to what it was in late February 2021.
- Confidence in government to handle the pandemic remains lower in England than in Wales and Scotland, as it has been since the end of April 2020.

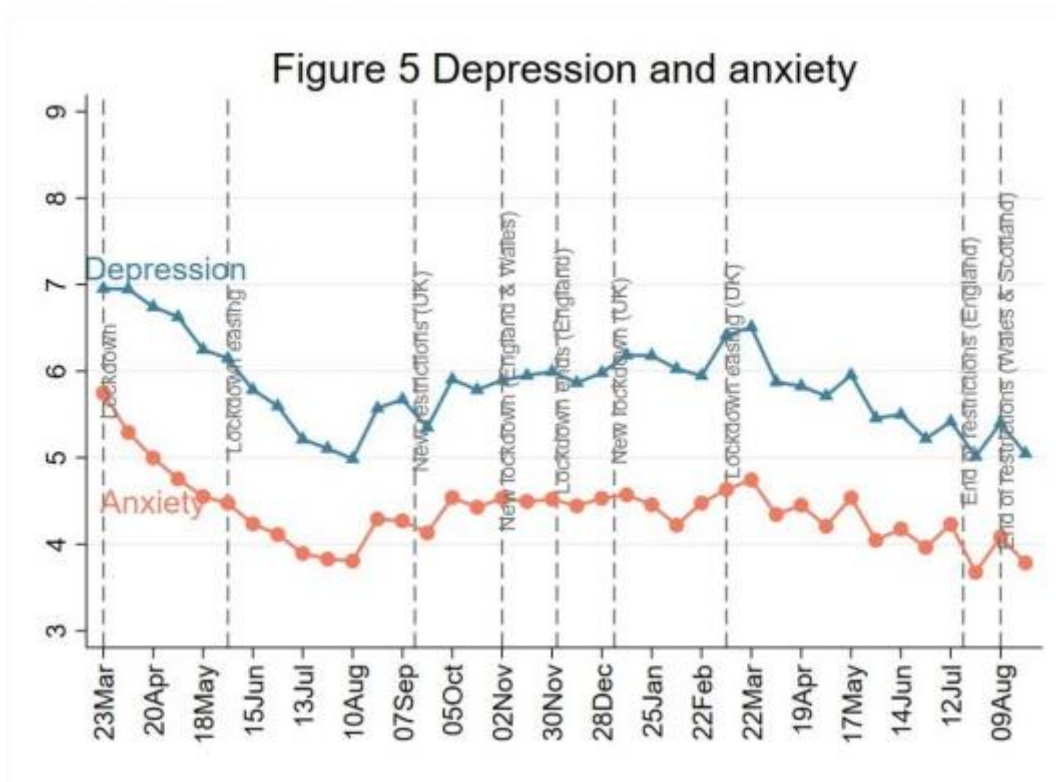


## Mental Health

Respondents were asked about depression levels during the past week using the Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9) and anxiety using the Generalised Anxiety Disorder assessment (GAD-7); standard instruments for screening for depression and anxiety in primary care. There are 9 and 7 items respectively with 4-point responses ranging from “not at all” to “nearly every day”, with higher overall scores indicating more symptoms. Scores higher than 10 can indicate major depression or moderate anxiety.

Depression and anxiety symptoms have generally continued to decrease over the past month as they have been since the end of February and are now similar to what they were in the summer of 2020. Although this study focuses on trajectories rather than prevalence, the levels overall are higher than usual reported averages using the same scales (2.7-3.2 for anxiety and 2.7-3.7 for depression).

Depression and anxiety are still highest in young adults, people living alone, people with lower household income, people living with children, those living in urban areas, women, people from ethnic minority groups, and those with a physical health diagnosis. People with a mental health diagnosis continue to report higher levels of depression and anxiety symptoms (as might be expected) (see Figures 6d and 7d). None of these differences appear to be narrowing as the pandemic continues.



## Stress

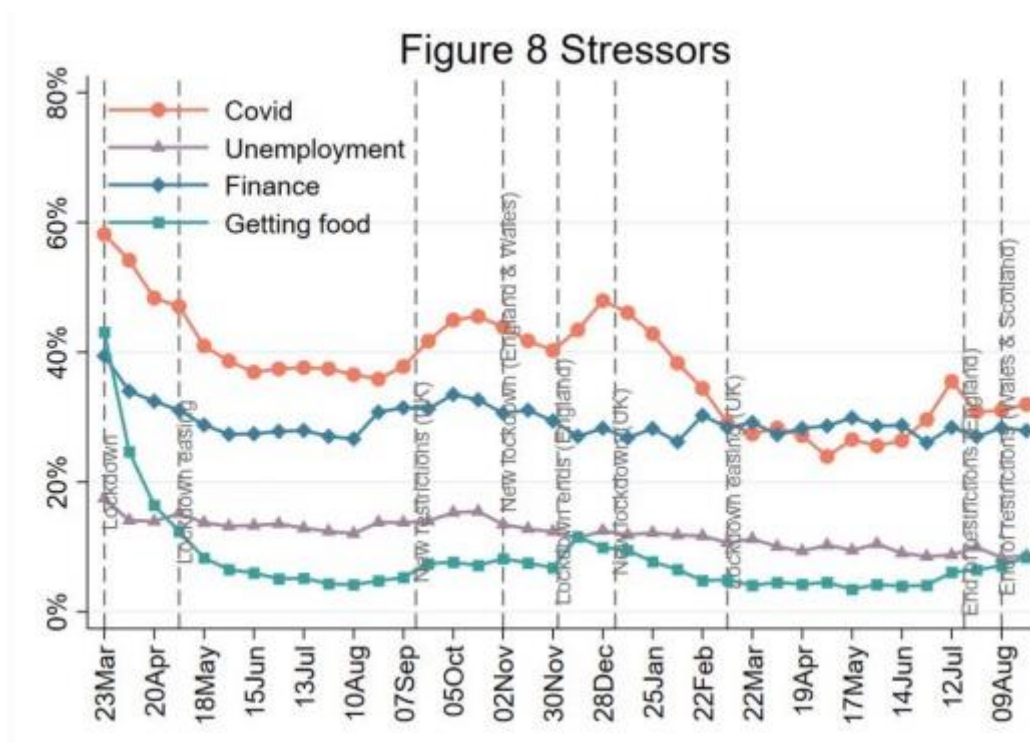
We asked participants to report which factors were causing them stress in the last week, either minor stress or major stress (which was defined as stress that was constantly on their mind or kept them awake at night).

The proportion of people concerned about catching or becoming seriously ill from Covid-19 increased during the month of July 2021 but appears to have levelled off. A greater proportion of young adults have been expressing this concern than adults over the age of 30 over the past few months. Women and people with a physical or mental health diagnosis remain more worried about catching or becoming seriously ill from Covid-19.

Worries about unemployment continue to concern around 1 in 10 people. Unemployment stress is higher in people under the age of 60, people with a mental diagnosis, in urban areas and amongst people from ethnic minority groups.

Worries about finance have remained relatively stable since the beginning of the year and are comparable to their lowest levels of around 1 in 3 people over the summer of 2020. Concerns about finances remain highest amongst adults of working age (18-59 years), people with low household incomes, those with a mental health diagnosis, people living with children, and people from ethnic minority groups. Financial stress has been higher in young adults than in other age groups since the end of March 2021.

Worries about being able to access sufficient food have been increasing slightly over the past two months and are now similar to what they were at the end of 2020 (in line with current news on potential upcoming food shortages). Most groups are reporting similar concern about accessing food, although these concerns are higher in people with a mental health diagnosis and people with lower household incomes. People with physical health conditions are also more concerned about accessing food, which may be due to greater concerns about going to supermarkets.



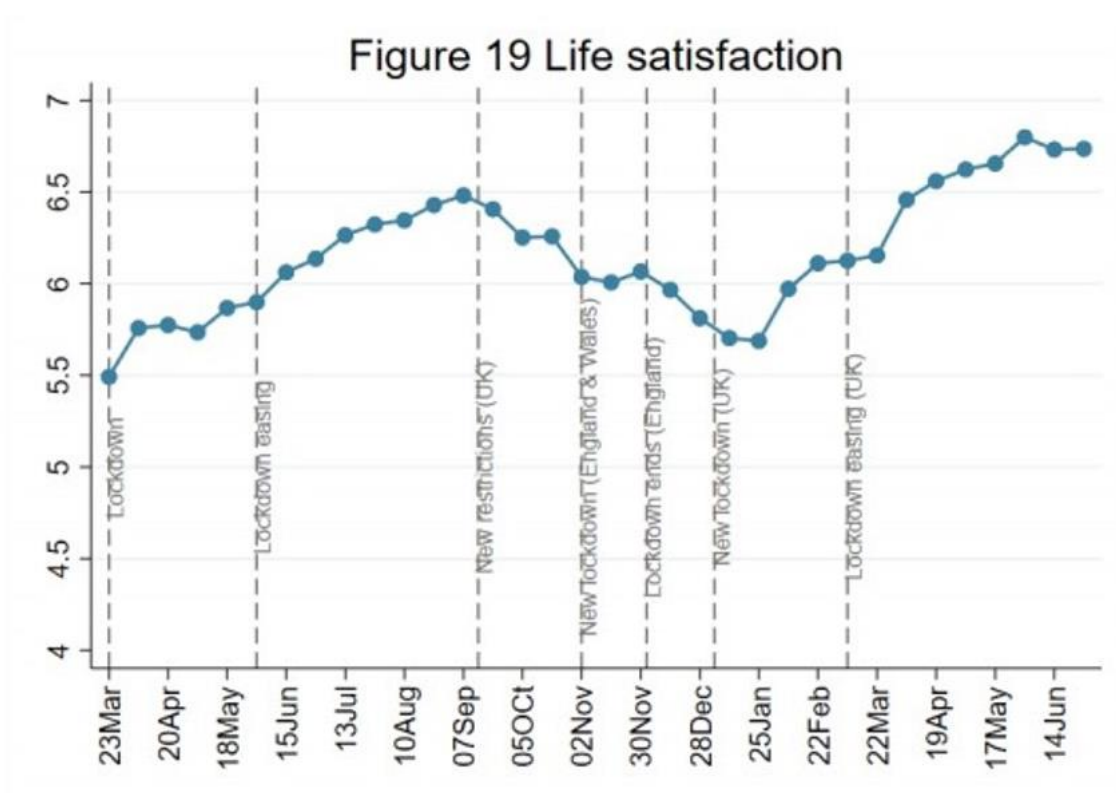
## Life Satisfaction

Respondents were asked to rate their life satisfaction during the past week using the Office of National Statistics (ONS) wellbeing scale, which asks respondents about how satisfied they are with their life, using a scale from 0 (not at all) to 10 (completely).

Life satisfaction has been increasing since the ending of restrictions in July of 2020 and is now higher than it ever has been during this study. These increases in life satisfaction have generally been seen across all demographic groups.

People living alone, young adults, those with a mental health diagnosis, those with lower household incomes, people living in urban areas, people with a physical health diagnosis, and those from ethnic minority groups (although smaller sample sizes compared to people with white ethnicity mean there has been greater volatility in these data) continue to report lower levels of life satisfaction.

Although this study focuses on trajectories rather than prevalence, the levels of life satisfaction remain slightly lower than usual reported averages using the same scale.

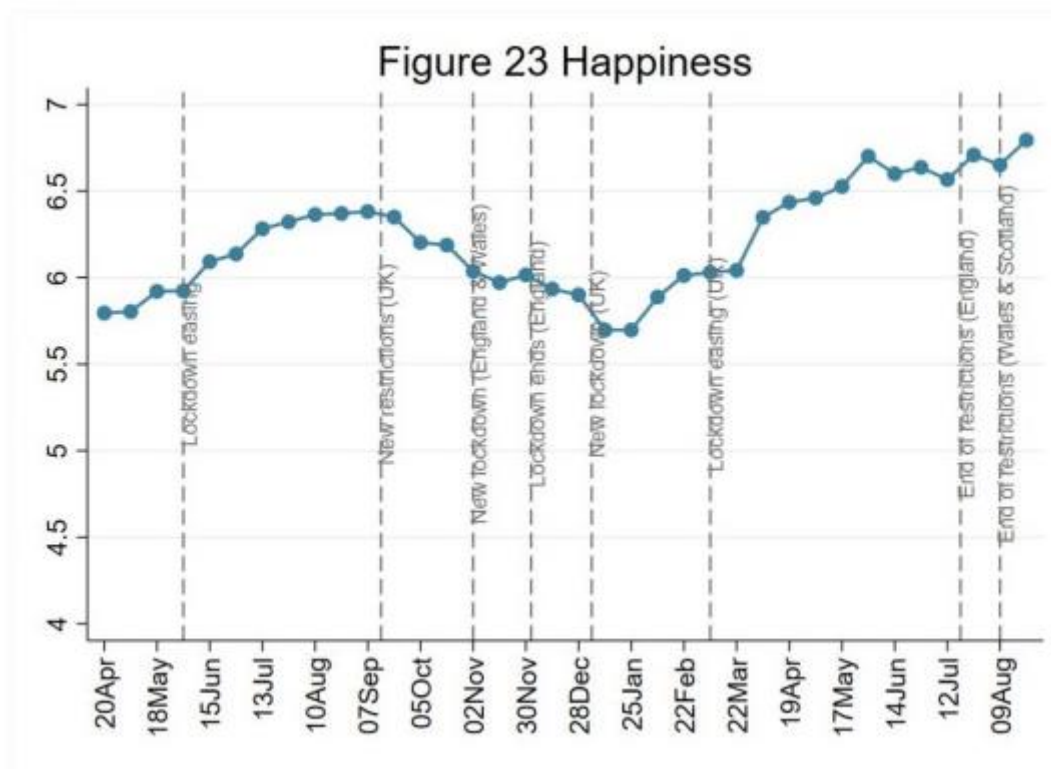


## Happiness

Respondents were asked to rate to what extent they felt happy during the past week using the Office for National Statistics (ONS) wellbeing scale on a scale from 0 (not at all) to 10 (completely). Happiness ratings are only available from 21st April 2020 onwards.

Happiness levels have generally been increasing since the end of March 2021 and are now higher than they ever have been during this study.

There continue to be differences in reported levels of happiness across demographic groups. Levels of happiness remain lower in adults under the age of 60, people living alone, people with low household incomes, people with a mental or physical health diagnosis, in urban areas, and people from ethnic minority groups.



## Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain: 27 August 2021

This contains data and indicators from the Office for National Statistics' (ONS's) Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OPN) to understand the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on British society.

The statistics below are based on a survey of 3,189 adults aged 16 years and over in Great Britain conducted between 18 to 22 August 2021 (inclusive). 65% response rate.

*Source: ONS*

[Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk)

### Main Points

- The proportion of adults reporting to wear face coverings when outside their home (90%) was similar to last week (89%), as was the proportion of adults who always or often maintain social distancing (45% this week, 46% last week).
- A high proportion of adults still felt that measures to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) were either very important or important; the measures included wearing a face covering (88% this week, 86% last week) and socially distancing from others not in their household (86% this week, 84% last week).
- The proportion of adults that reported self-isolating in the last seven days remained relatively stable (4% this week, 3% last week).
- The main reasons adults self-isolated in the last seven days were because of testing positive for COVID-19 (28%), being in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 (22%) and being notified by the NHS app to self-isolate (18%).
- The proportion of adults meeting up indoors (68%) and outdoors (65%) with others outside their household in the past seven days was higher than before the introduction of step four guidance in England (47% indoors, 58% outdoors, in the period 14 to 18 July), although was relatively stable in the latest week (69% and 67% last week respectively).
- Personal well-being measures remained stable compared with last week, with life satisfaction (7.1), feeling that the things done in life are worthwhile (7.3), happiness (7.1), and anxiety (3.8) all remaining unchanged from the previous week.
- Following a gradual decline since mid-July (57% in the period 14 to 18 July), the proportion of adults that felt very or somewhat worried about the effect of COVID-19 on their life right appears to have stabilised (48% this week, 46% last week).

This week we looked at the attitudes of adults who have had two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine towards a vaccine booster:

- Over 9 in 10 (94%) people who have received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine would be very or fairly likely to have a booster vaccine if offered; 1 in 50 (2%) were very or fairly unlikely to do so.
- The main reasons among those who reported they were unlikely to have a booster COVID-19 vaccine were thinking the first and second vaccine will be enough to keep them safe (58%), not thinking the booster jab will offer any extra protection (37%) and being worried about the long-term effects on health (36%).

## 8. Other Studies – Business Impact of Coronavirus

### Office for National Statistics – Business Impact of Coronavirus Survey: 26 August 2021

Source: ONS

[Business insights and impacts on the UK economy - Office for National Statistics \(ons.gov.uk\)](https://ons.gov.uk/business-and-productivity/articles/articles/business-insights-and-impacts-on-the-uk-economy)

The business indicators are based on responses from the voluntary, fortnightly BICS, which captures businesses' views on the impact on turnover, workforce, prices, trade and business resilience. The Wave 37 survey was live for the period 9 to 22 August 2021, and businesses were asked about their experience for the two-week survey reference period, 26 July to 8 August 2021.

Wave 37 of BICS saw a sample of 38,517, with 8,879 businesses responding, a response rate of 23.1%.

#### Main Points

- Transportation and storage remained the industry with the lowest percentage of businesses currently trading, at 82%, compared with 90% businesses in all industries.
- The proportion of businesses' workforce reported to be on full or partial furlough leave (the HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS)) was 7% in early August 2021, in line with the estimate in late July 2021.
- More than three-quarters of businesses have high or moderate confidence they will meet their debt obligations.
- Of businesses not permanently stopped trading, 18% intend to use increased homeworking as a permanent business model going forward; this percentage has remained generally stable since April 2021.