

Labour Market Insight

April 2023



Unemployment – March 2023

Unemployment Data:

- The Unemployment Rate in MK was 3.7% in **March 2023**
 - The number of Claimants in Milton Keynes increased by 465 to 6,800 individuals between February 2023 and March 2023.
- The Unemployment Rate in Milton Keynes is equal to the national (UK) rate of 3.7%, but higher than the South East Midlands (SEMLEP) rate of 3.5%

Date	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
March 2022	3,870	4.2	3,000	3.2	6,870	3.7
February 2023	3,570	3.9	2,765	2.9	6,335	3.4
March 2023	3,755	4.1	3,045	3.2	6,800	3.7

Data for the previous month is also subject to revision so figures may differ to those shown in earlier briefing reports

Unemployment – March 2023

Area	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Bedford	2,515	4.3	2,035	3.4	4,550	3.9
Central Bedfordshire	2,200	2.4	1,945	2.1	4,145	2.2
Luton	4,515	6.1	3,510	4.9	8,025	5.5
Milton Keynes	3,755	4.1	3,045	3.2	6,800	3.7
North Northamptonshire	4,185	3.8	3,355	3.0	7,545	3.4
West Northamptonshire	4,895	3.6	3,715	2.7	8,610	3.2
South East Midlands	22,065	3.9	17,605	3.1	39,670	3.5
South East	92,305	3.3	73,215	2.5	165,525	2.9
United Kingdom	902,895	4.3	673,500	3.1	1,576,390	3.7

Milton Keynes has a **lower** unemployment rate than Bedford and Luton

But **higher** than Central Beds, North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire

Ward Unemployment – March 2023

Area	Total claimants	
	Number	Rate
Milton Keynes	6,800	3.7
Bletchley East	595	6.5
Bletchley Park	460	5.4
Bletchley West	335	4.0
Bradwell	330	4.3
Broughton	350	3.0
Campbell Park & Old Woughton	285	3.5
Central Milton Keynes	730	6.2
Danesborough & Walton	255	3.1
Loughton & Shenley	240	2.2

Area	Total claimants	
	Number	Rate
Monkston	245	2.7
Newport Pagnell North & Hanslope	130	2.0
Newport Pagnell South	220	3.3
Olney	130	2.1
Shenley Brook End	270	3.0
Stantonbury	440	4.5
Stony Stratford	285	4.2
Tattenhoe	185	2.2
Wolverton	460	4.7
Woughton & Fishermead	850	7.4

Source: ONS, Claimant count by sex and age [from Nomis on 18/04/2023]

In March 2023, there were **nine** wards within Milton Keynes with unemployment rates above the borough average of 3.7%.

- Levels of unemployment were highest in the wards of Woughton and Fishermead (7.4%), Bletchley East (6.5%) and Central Milton Keynes (6.2%).

Youth Unemployment – March 2023

Age	Milton Keynes		SEMLEP	United Kingdom
	Number	Rate	Rate	Rate
Aged 16-17	10	-	-	-
Aged 18 to 21	545	5.0%	4.7%	5.0%
Aged 18 to 24	995	4.8%	4.7%	4.9%
Aged 25 to 49	4,225	4.0%	3.9%	4.3%
Aged 50 to 64	1,475	2.9%	2.5%	2.6%
Aged 65+	90	-	-	-

Unemployment rate by age calculated using the latest population estimates (2021)

