

Labour Market Insight

March 2023



Unemployment – February 2023

Unemployment Data:

- The Unemployment Rate in MK was 3.5% in **February 2023**
 - The number of Claimants in Milton Keynes increased by 335 to 6,485 individuals between January 2023 and February 2023.
- The Unemployment Rate in Milton Keynes is lower than the national (UK) rate of 3.7%, but higher than the South East Midlands (SEMLEP) rate of 3.4%

Date	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
February 2022	4,020	4.4	3,125	3.3	7,145	3.8
January 2023	3,440	3.7	2,710	2.9	6,150	3.3
February 2023	3,640	4.0	2,845	3.0	6,485	3.5

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

Unemployment – February 2023

Area	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Bedford	2,460	4.2	1,965	3.3	4,425	3.8
Central Bedfordshire	2,195	2.4	1,870	2.0	4,065	2.2
Luton	4,380	5.9	3,300	4.6	7,680	5.3
Milton Keynes	3,640	4.0	2,845	3.0	6,485	3.5
North Northamptonshire	4,105	3.7	3,190	2.8	7,295	3.3
West Northamptonshire	4,730	3.5	3,590	2.6	8,320	3.1
South East Midlands	21,510	3.8	16,760	3.0	38,270	3.4
South East	92,570	3.3	71,095	2.4	163,665	2.8
United Kingdom	893,930	4.3	649,150	3.0	1,543,080	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 – February 2023

Area	Total claimants		Area	Total claimants	
	Number	Rate		Number	Rate
Milton Keynes	6,485	3.5	Monkston	235	2.6
Bletchley East	575	6.2	Newport Pagnell North & Hanslope	135	2.1
Bletchley Park	430	5.0	Newport Pagnell South	215	3.3
Bletchley West	315	3.8	Olney	135	2.1
Bradwell	330	4.3	Shenley Brook End	235	2.6
Broughton	320	2.7	Stantonbury	430	4.4
Campbell Park & Old Woughton	255	3.1	Stony Stratford	300	4.4
Central Milton Keynes	675	5.7	Tattenhoe	190	2.3
Danesborough & Walton	220	2.7	Wolverton	450	4.6
Loughton & Shenley	235	2.2	Woughton & Fishermead	795	6.9

Source: ONS, Claimant count by sex and age [from Nomis on 15/03/2023]

In February 2023, there were **nine** wards within Milton Keynes with unemployment rates above the borough average of 3.5%.

- Levels of unemployment were highest in the wards of Woughton and Fishermead (6.9%), Bletchley East (6.2%) and Central Milton Keynes (5.7%).

Youth Unemployment – February 2023

Age	Milton Keynes		SEMLEP	United Kingdom
	Number	Rate	Rate	Rate
Aged 16-17	10	-	-	-
Aged 18 to 21	525	4.8%	4.5%	4.8%
Aged 18 to 24	965	4.6%	4.5%	4.8%
Aged 25 to 49	4,025	3.8%	3.8%	4.2%
Aged 50 to 64	1,400	2.7%	2.5%	2.6%
Aged 65+	85	-	-	-

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

