

Bradford Metropolitan District Council Intelligence Bulletin

Understanding Bradford District:

Unemployment Claimant Count monthly update September 2021

(Please note: the August 2021 claimant count figures released last month were provisional and have been revised and finalised in the latest release by the Office for National Statistics, and therefore differ slightly from those in last month's bulletin update.)

Date: 19 October 2021

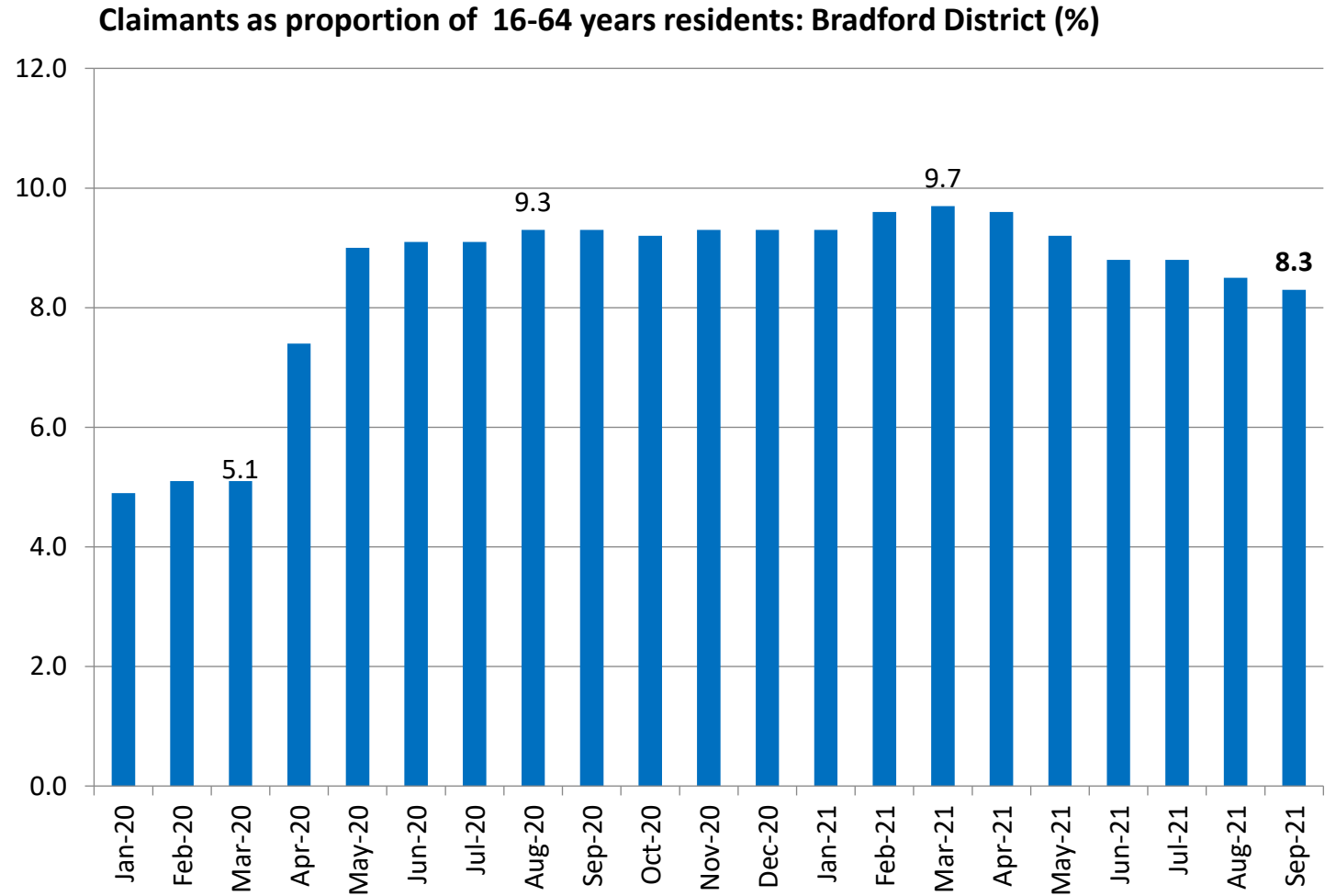


District Headlines

- The September 2021 unemployment-related claimant count rate for the District is **8.3%**. This is the lowest the District rate has been since March 2020. It reached a peak of 9.7% in March 2021, and has been falling since then. It was 5.2% in March 2020 before the impact of the pandemic – therefore there has been a **3.2** percentage point increase overall.
- The claimant count number for September 2021 is **27,705**. This is 595 less than the number for August, and 4,485 lower than the peak in March 2021. It is **10,615** more than in March 2020, a **62.1%** increase in total.
- Bradford West has the highest 16-64 years claimant rate at **11.5%** and Shipley the lowest at **4.1%**.
- In terms of all local authorities in the UK, Bradford District has the 10th highest rate in the country; excluding the London Boroughs, the 6th. In terms of cities - the 3rd after Birmingham and Wolverhampton. The district rate is higher than the West Yorkshire rate of 6.1% and the UK rate of 5.0%.
- The 18-24 year old claimant count rate is falling, but is still high at **12.2%**. It was 7.8% in March 2020, a **4.4** percentage point increase. The September 2021 number is **5,635**; 165 claimants lower than August 2021. The number of 18-24 years claimants increased substantially during the first lockdown of the pandemic and continued to increase gradually last year and early this year to a peak in March 2021 of 6,930. It has fallen since, and the September 2021 count is the lowest since April 2020. In total 18-24 years claimant numbers have increased by **2,035** since March 2020, when there were 3,600 youth claimants, an increase of **56.5%**.
- Bradford East has the highest 18-24 years claimant rate at **14.9%** and Shipley the lowest at **7.8%**.
- In terms of all local authorities in the UK, Bradford District still has the 3rd highest 18-24 years rate in the country. In terms of cities - the 2nd after Wolverhampton. It is significantly above the falling UK rate of 6.5% and some Bradford wards have the highest rates in the country.

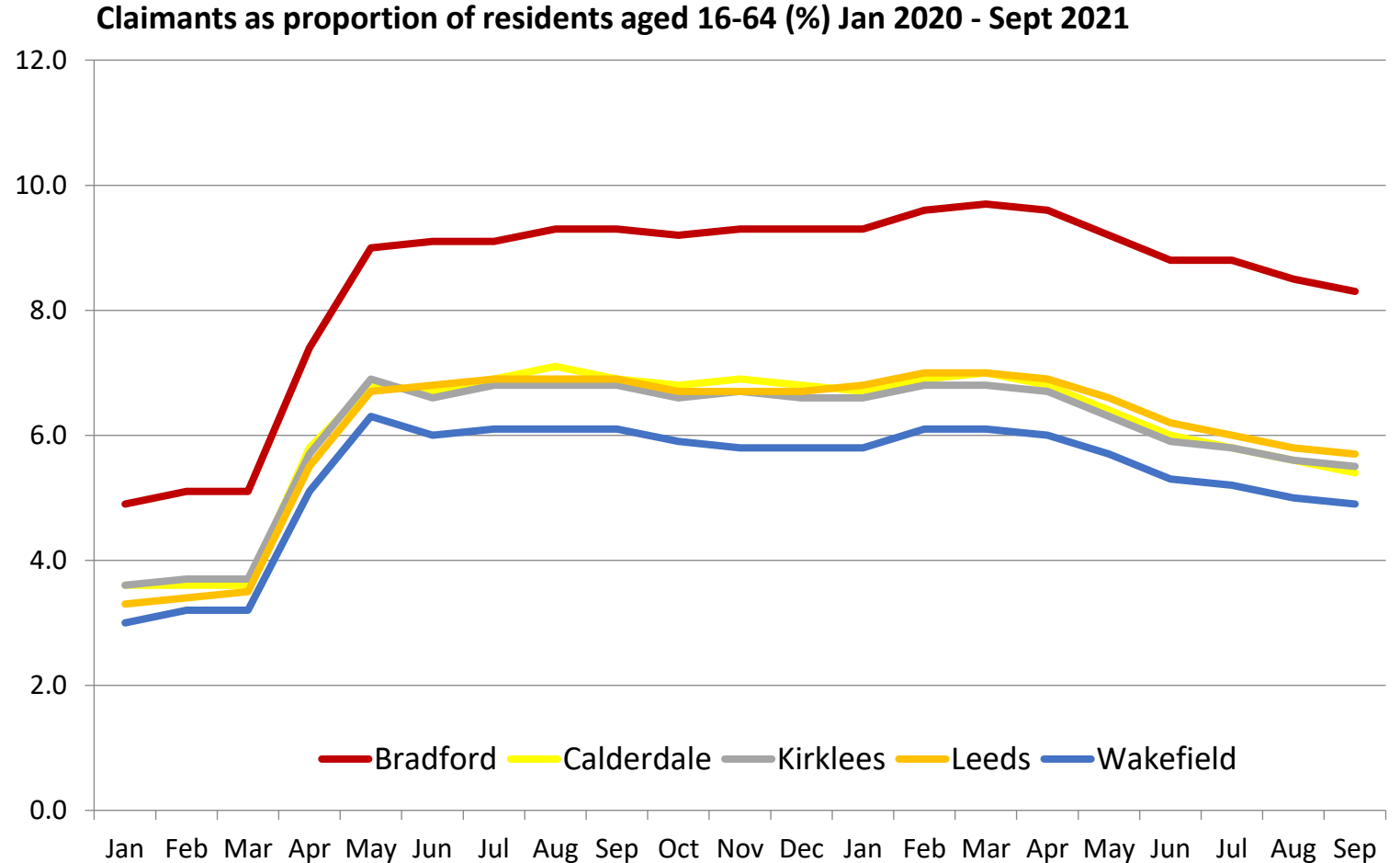
Bradford District 16-64 years claimant rate

- The September 2021 Bradford District unemployment-related claimant rate (percentage of 16-64 year old residents) is **8.3%**. This is the lowest claimant rate since the start of the pandemic. The September 2021 rate of 8.3% is a **3.2** percentage point increase since March 2020, when it was **5.2%**.
- In terms of all local authorities in the UK, Bradford District has the 10th highest rate in the country; excluding the London Boroughs, the 6th. In terms of cities - the 3rd after Birmingham and Wolverhampton. The district rate is significantly above the UK rate of 5.0%.



West Yorkshire 16-64 years claimant rates

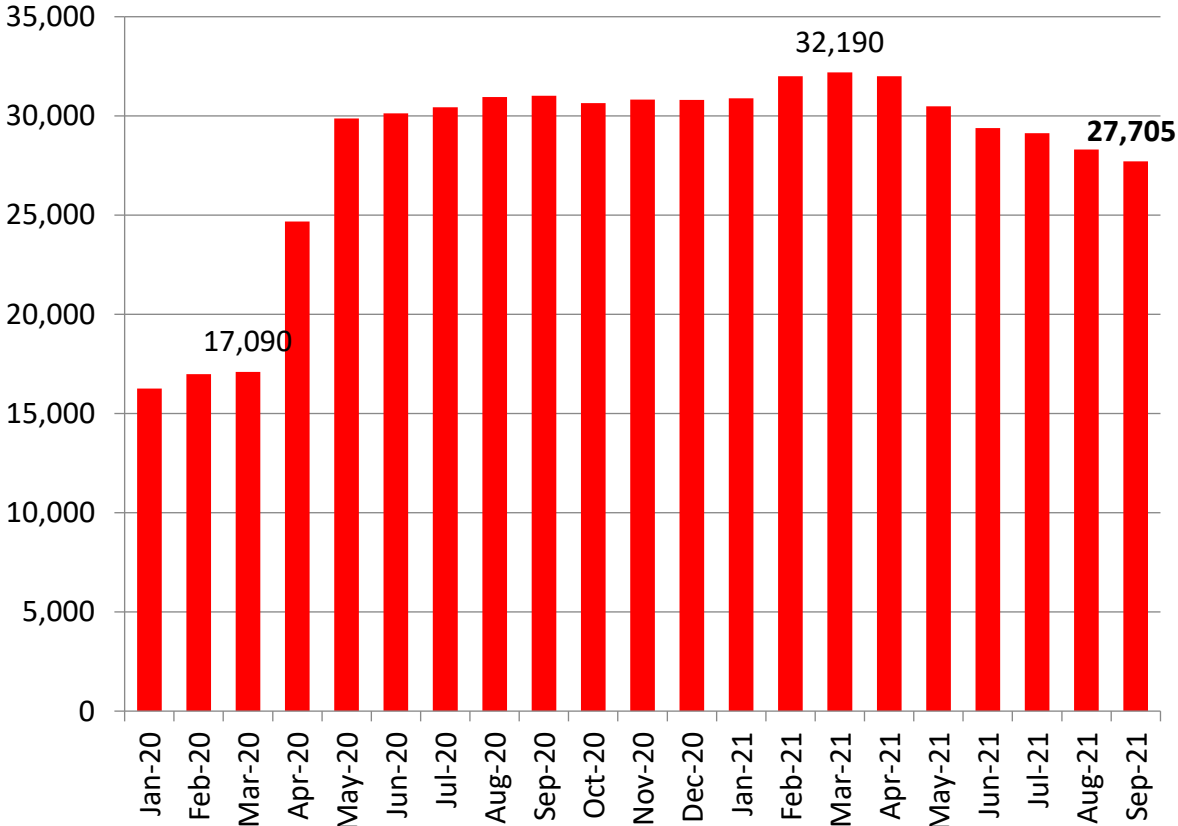
- The Bradford District unemployment-related claimant rate at **8.3%** is the highest in West Yorkshire, which has an average rate of **6.1%** in September 2021. It is significantly above the UK rate of **5.0%**.
- At **3.2**, the District has experienced the highest percentage point increase in West Yorkshire since March 2020. The average for West Yorkshire is a 2.2 percentage point increase.



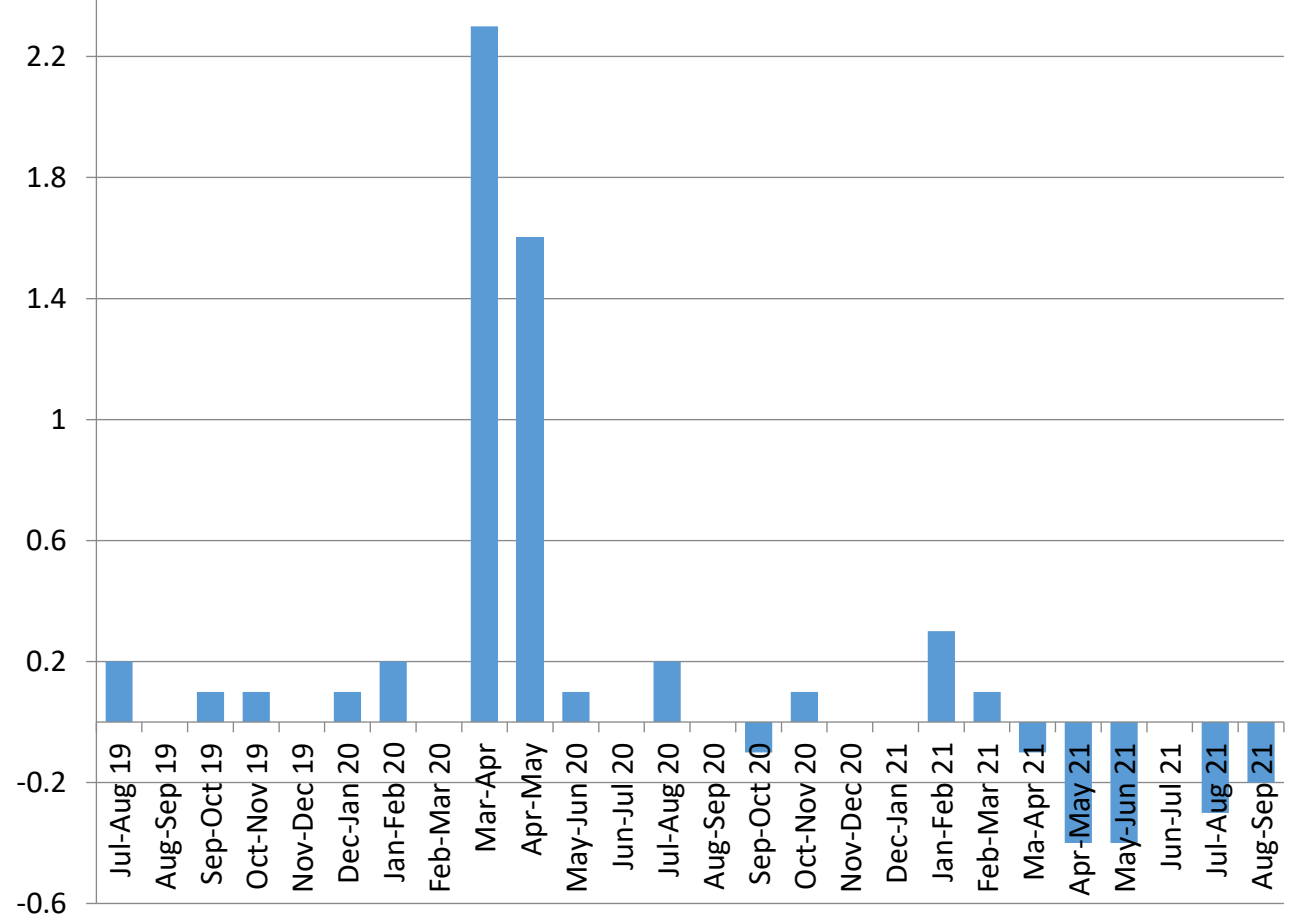
Bradford District claimant numbers and rate - monthly increase

Since March 2020 claimant numbers have increased by 10,615, a rise of 62.1%. In terms of the monthly change in the claimant rate, the highest increases were in the spring of 2020, although there was an increase earlier this year during the lockdown. Since April there has been a fall in the claimant rate.

Claimant Count numbers: Bradford District

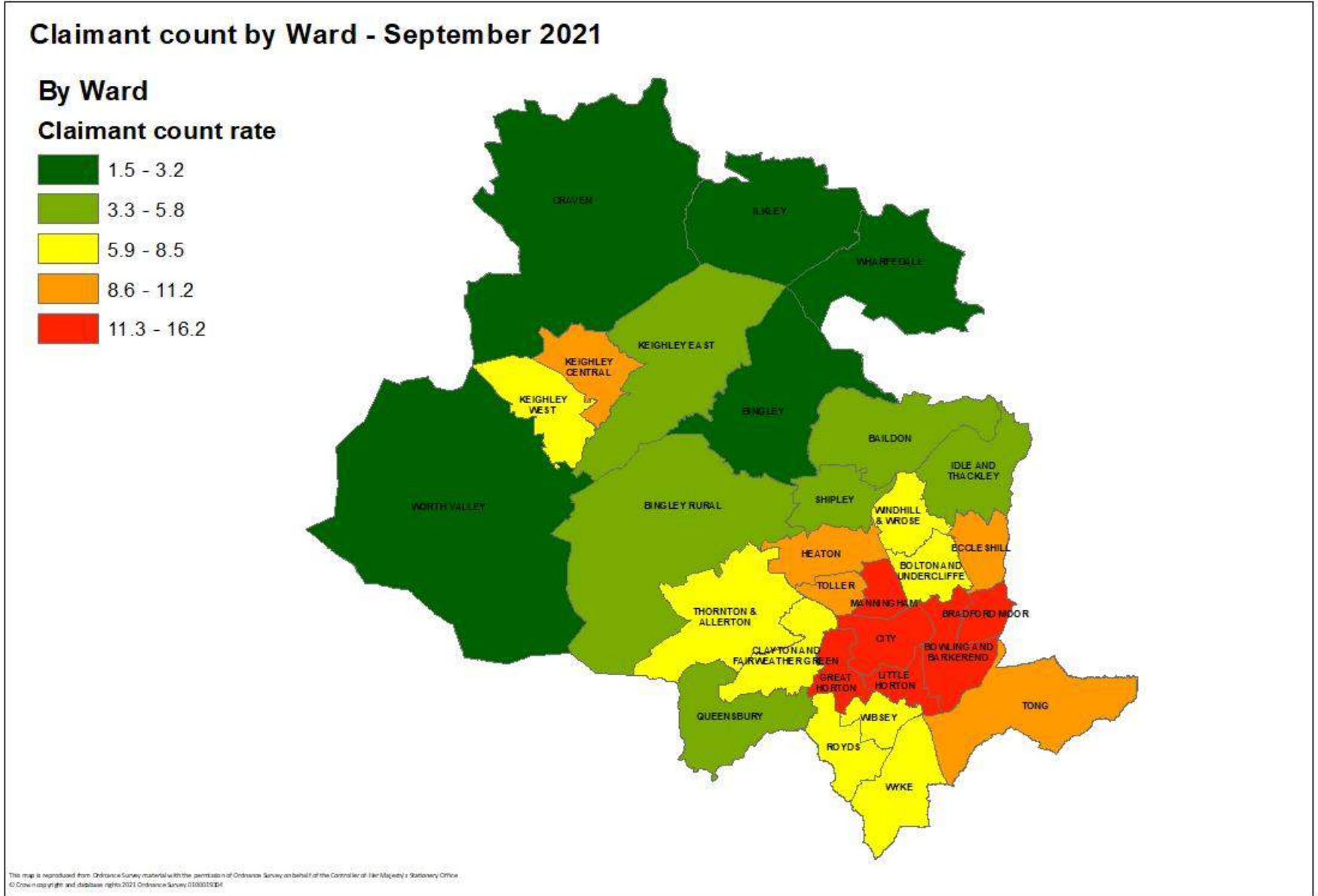


Claimant count rate - % point monthly change: Bradford District



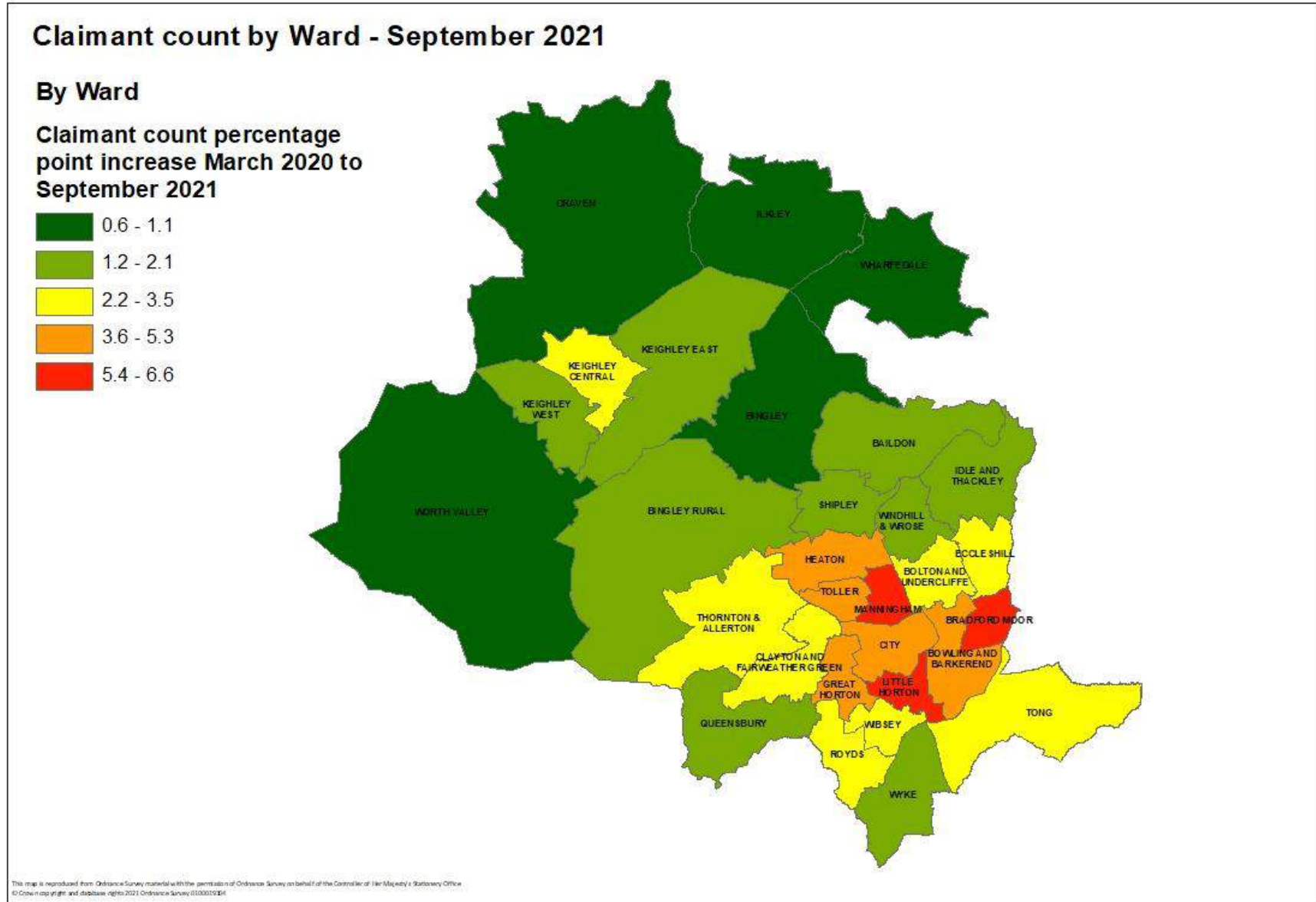
Ward claimant rate Claimant rates range from 16.2% in Manningham to 1.5% in Wharfedale, both lower than for August 2021. The rates in the Bradford inner city wards are amongst the highest rates in the UK. 21 of the District's wards have rates above the UK average.

Ward	%
Manningham	16.2
Little Horton	14.4
Bowling and Barkerend	13.4
City	13.3
Bradford Moor	12.7
Great Horton	12.3
Toller	11.2
Heaton	10.4
Tong	10.3
Keighley Central	9.7
Eccleshill	9.3
Bolton and Undercliffe	8.5
Royds	8.2
Clayton and Fairweather Green	8.1
Thornton and Allerton	7.9
Wibsey	7.8
Keighley West	6.9
Windhill and Wrose	6.8
Wyke	6.6
Keighley East	5.8
Shipley	5.2
Queensbury	4.8
Idle and Thackley	4.2
Baildon	3.6
Bingley Rural	3.6
Bingley	3.2
Worth Valley	2.6
Craven	2.1
Ilkley	1.8
Wharfedale	1.5



Ward claimant rate percentage point increase March 2020 - Sept 2021 Some of the highest increases have been in the wards not affected by highest unemployment levels pre-COVID, for example Toller & Heaton. Toller has seen an increase in it's 16-64 years claimant rate from 6.1% to 11.2% in Sept 2021.

Ward	PP inc.
Manningham	6.6
Bradford Moor	5.8
Little Horton	5.6
City	5.3
Great Horton	5.2
Toller	5.1
Heaton	4.8
Bowling and Barkerend	4.5
Tong	3.5
Clayton and Fairweather Green	3.4
Bolton and Undercliffe	3.3
Eccleshill	3.1
Keighley Central	3.1
Thornton and Allerton	2.9
Wibsey	2.8
Royds	2.8
Wyke	2.1
Keighley East	2.1
Keighley West	2
Shipley	1.9
Queensbury	1.9
Idle and Thackley	1.8
Windhill and Wrose	1.8
Baildon	1.6
Bingley Rural	1.4
Bingley	1.1
Worth Valley	1.1
Ilkley	0.7
Wharfedale	0.7
Craven	0.6

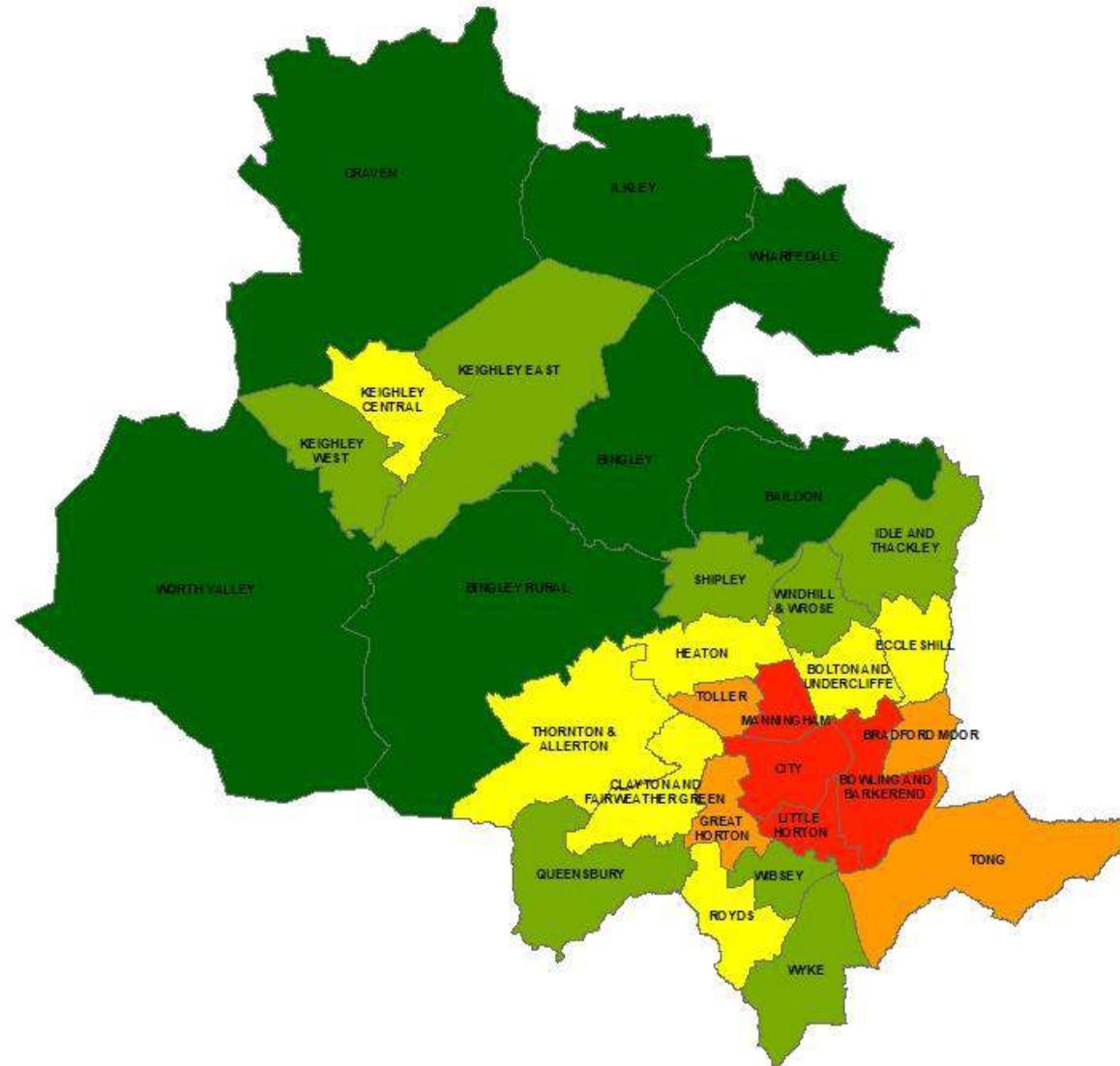
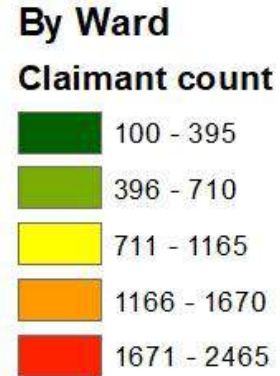


Ward claimant numbers September 2021

Claimant counts range from 2,465 in City ward to 100 in Wharfedale.

Ward	Count
City	2,465
Manningham	2,095
Little Horton	2,005
Bowling and Barkerend	1,860
Bradford Moor	1,670
Toller	1,450
Great Horton	1,430
Tong	1,425
Heaton	1,165
Eccleshill	1,095
Keighley Central	1,070
Bolton and Undercliffe	890
Royds	870
Clayton and Fairweather Green	850
Thornton and Allerton	850
Wibsey	710
Keighley West	695
Windhill and Wrose	685
Wyke	610
Keighley East	585
Shipley	530
Queensbury	515
Idle and Thackley	440
Bingley Rural	395
Bingley	345
Baildon	320
Worth Valley	235
Craven	205
Ilkley	145
Wharfedale	100

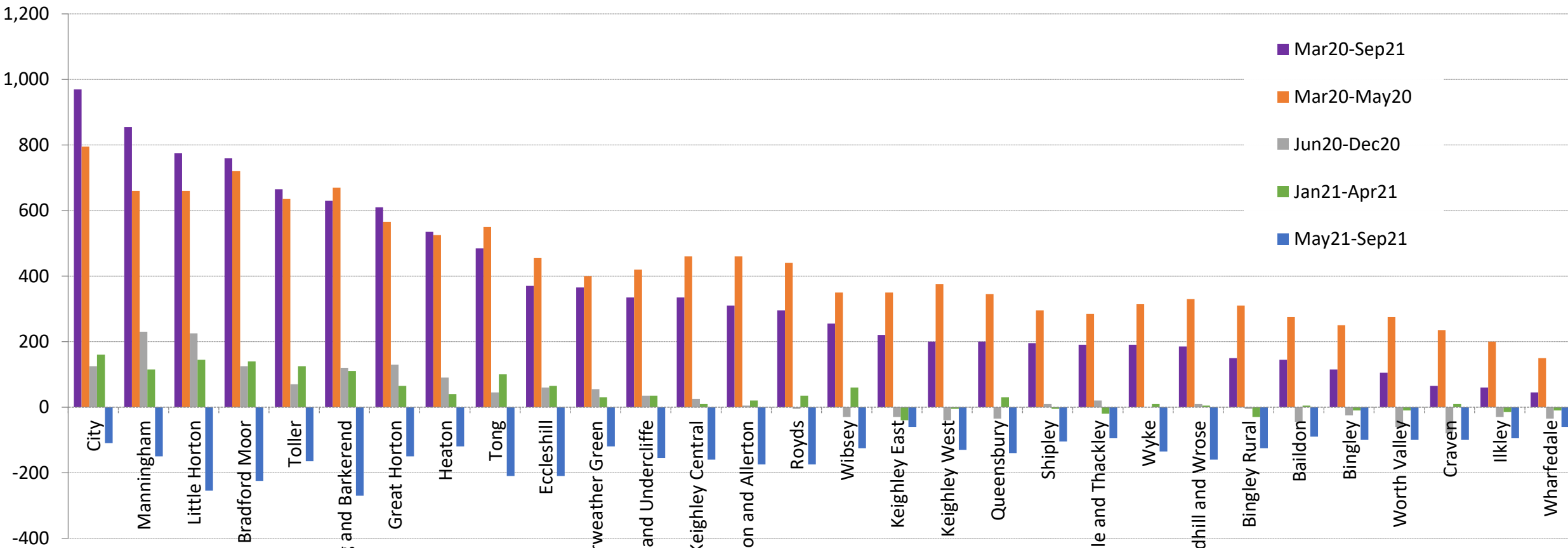
Claimant count by Ward - September 2021



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Ward claimant number change March 2020 - Sept 2021 Most of the increase in the claimant count came during the first lockdown, between March and May 2020. Despite increases in the early part of 2021 in many wards, over recent months all wards have seen a fall in numbers.

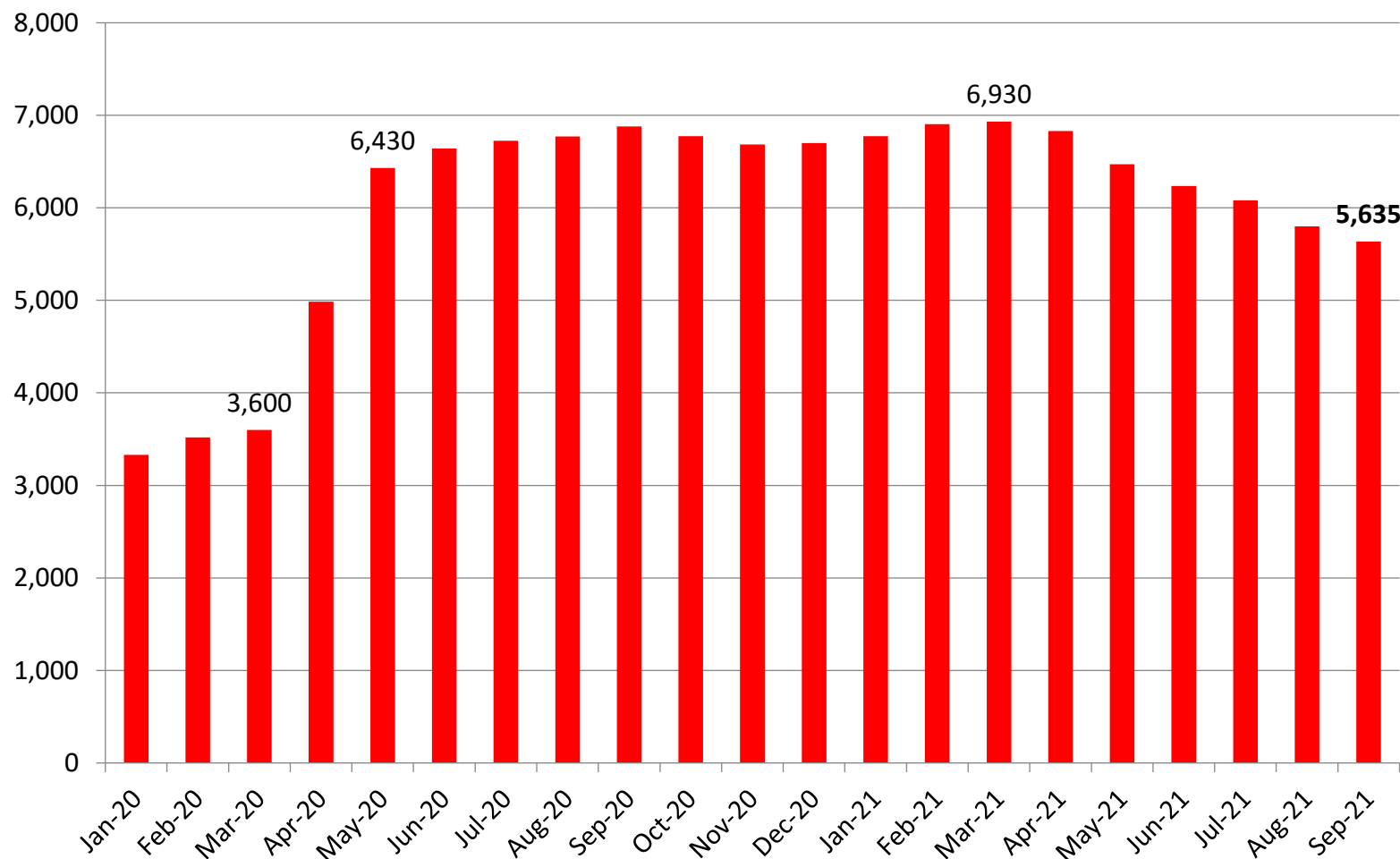
Claimant number change March 2020 - September 2021 : Bradford District wards



Bradford District 18-24 years claimant numbers

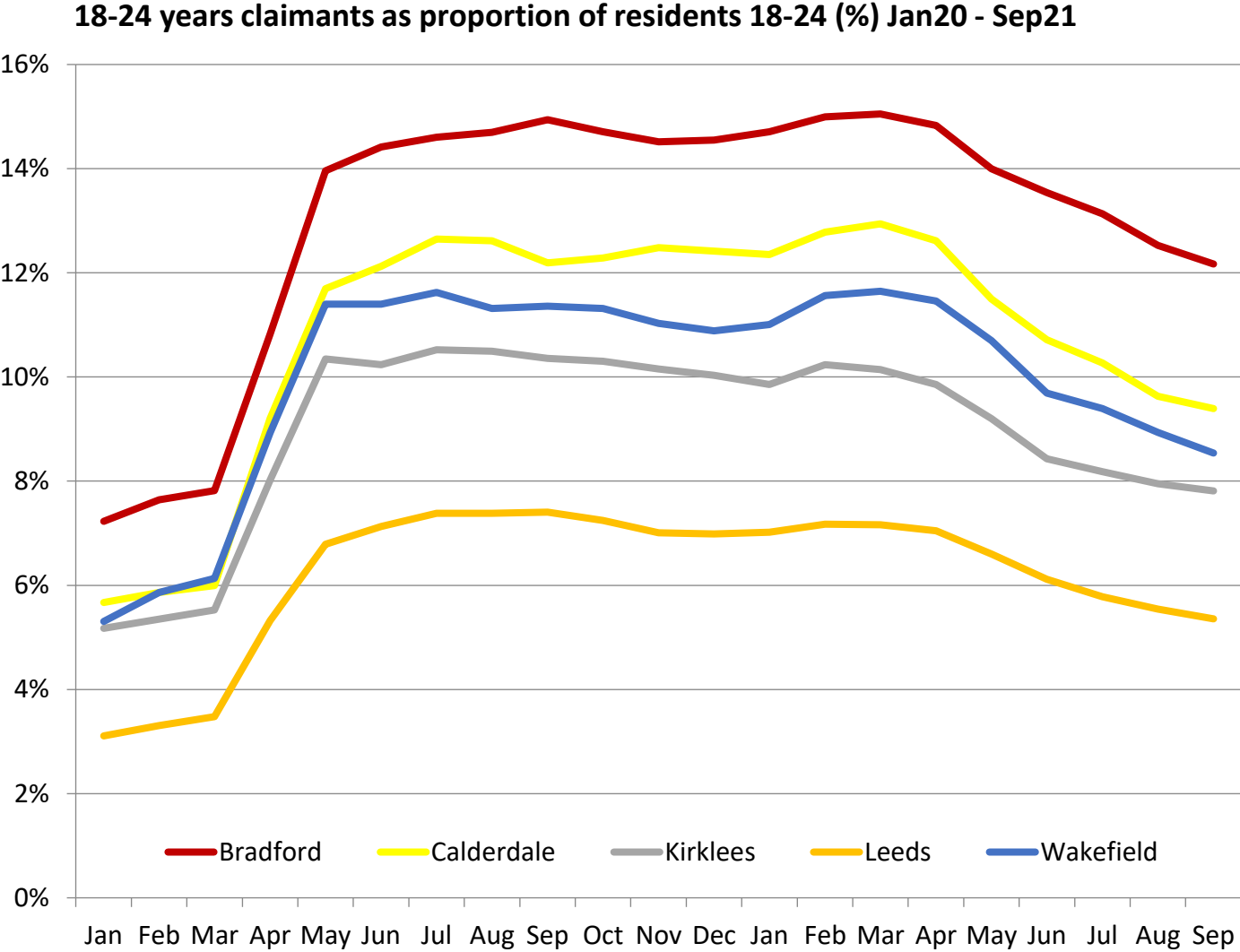
- The number of 18-24 years claimants for September 2021 is **5,635**. This is 165 claimants lower than for August 2021.
- The number of 18-24 years claimants increased significantly during the first lockdown of the pandemic and continued to increase gradually last year to a peak in March 2021 of 6,930.
- The September 2021 number is the lowest since April 2020. In total, 18-24 years claimant numbers have increased by **2,035** since March 2020, this is a **56.5%** increase overall. As numbers fall, the percentage increase is falling.

18-24 years claimant count numbers: Bradford District



Bradford District 18-24 years claimant rate

- The September 2021 Bradford District 18-24 years claimant rate is **12.2%**. This is lower than the rate in June 2021 of 12.5%. It was 7.8% in March 2020, therefore there has been a **4.4** percentage point increase since the start of the pandemic.
- It is significantly above the West Yorkshire average of 7.8% and the UK rate of 6.5%.
- Despite a falling rate, in terms of all local authorities in the UK, Bradford now has the 3rd highest 18-24 years claimant rate in the country. In terms of cities - the 2nd after Wolverhampton
- The Bradford East constituency has the highest 18-24 years rate at **14.9%** and Shipley the lowest at **7.8%**.



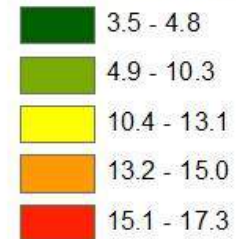
Ward 18-24 years claimant rate Youth claimant rates range from around one in six 18-24 year olds in wards such as Little Horton, Tong and Manningham, to one in twenty-five in more outlying wards such as Craven, Ilkey and Worth Valley.

Ward	%
Little Horton	17.3
Tong	17.0
Manningham	16.9
Eccleshill	16.7
Great Horton	16.7
Bradford Moor	15.0
Bowling and Barkerend	14.8
Heaton	14.4
Toller	13.7
Royds	13.5
Bolton and Undercliffe	13.1
Thornton and Allerton	13.1
Wibsey	12.9
Windhill and Wrose	12.2
Keighley West	12.1
Keighley Central	11.9
Clayton and Fairweather Green	11.8
Wyke	10.3
Keighley East	9.7
City	9.3
Shipley	9.1
Idle and Thackley	9.0
Queensbury	8.8
Baildon	7.4
Bingley Rural	6.8
Bingley	4.8
Wharfedale	4.4
Worth Valley	4.2
Ilkey	3.9
Craven	3.5

Claimant count by Ward - September 2021

By Ward

Youth claimant rate



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18-24 years claimant rate percentage point increase March 2020 - Sept 2021

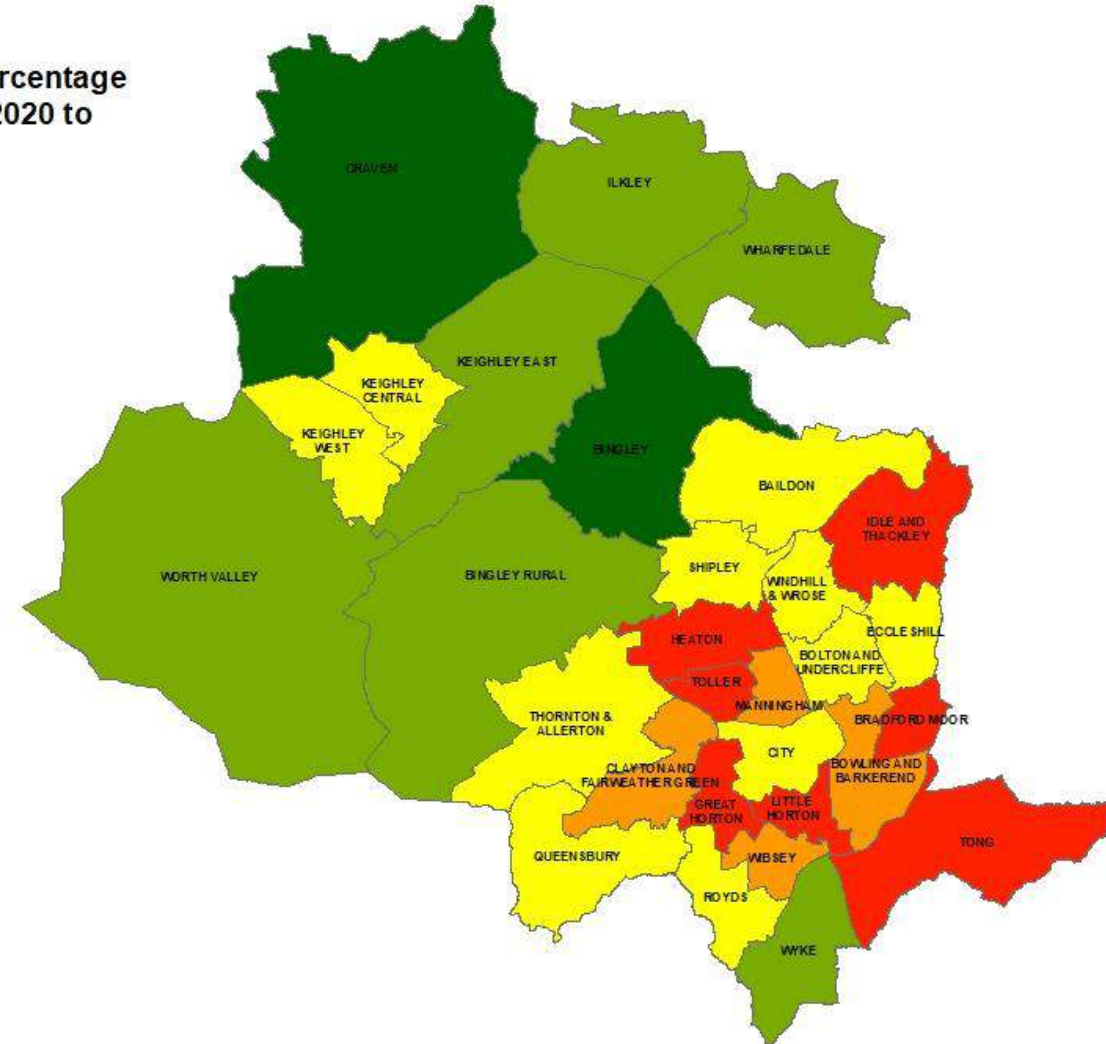
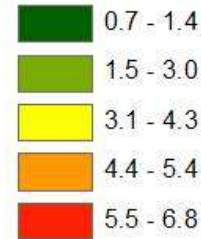
Some of the highest rate increases in wards not affected by highest youth unemployment pre-COVID e.g. Bradford Moor, Heaton and Idle and Thackley.

Ward	PP inc.
Bradford Moor	6.8
Heaton	5.9
Great Horton	5.8
Toller	5.8
Idle and Thackley	5.7
Little Horton	5.6
Tong	5.6
Manningham	5.4
Bowling and Barkerend	5.1
Wibsey	5.0
Clayton and Fairweather Green	4.8
Baildon	4.3
Eccleshill	4.3
Keighley Central	3.9
Thornton and Allerton	3.9
Bolton and Undercliffe	3.8
Shipley	3.8
Queensbury	3.6
Keighley West	3.5
Royds	3.5
City	3.4
Windhill and Wrose	3.4
Bingley Rural	3.0
Keighley East	2.9
Ilkley	2.6
Wharfedale	2.6
Wyke	2.2
Worth Valley	1.9
Bingley	1.4
Craven	0.7

Claimant count by Ward - September 2021

By Ward

Youth claimant rate percentage point increase March 2020 to September 2021

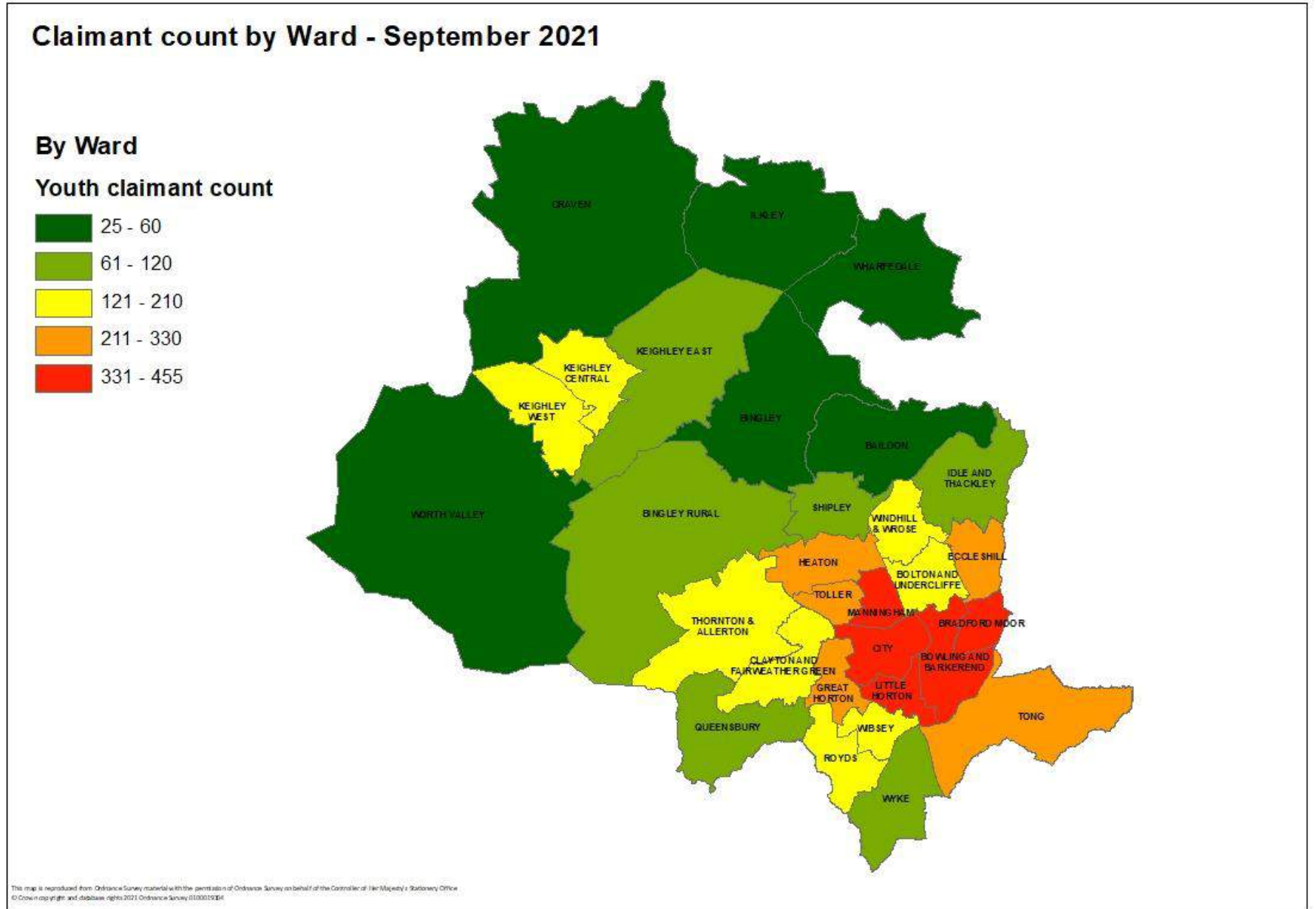


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Ward 18-24 years claimant numbers September 2021 Youth claimant counts

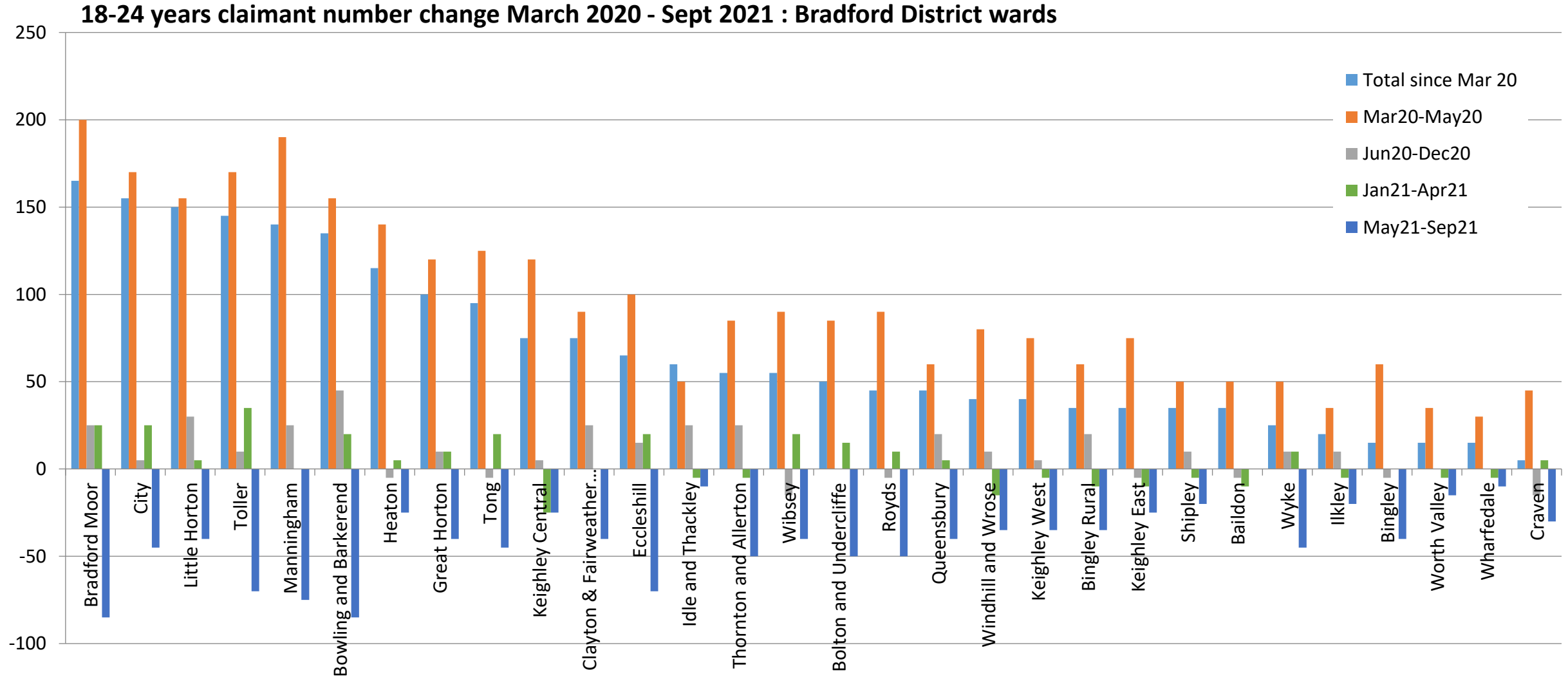
vary significantly, ranging from 455 in City ward to 25 in Wharfedale.

Ward	Count
City	455
Little Horton	425
Manningham	410
Bowling and Barkerend	365
Bradford Moor	355
Toller	330
Tong	295
Great Horton	290
Heaton	270
Eccleshill	250
Keighley Central	210
Bolton and Undercliffe	185
Clayton and Fairweather Green	180
Royds	175
Thornton and Allerton	170
Keighley West	150
Wibsey	145
Windhill and Wrose	145
Keighley East	120
Wyke	110
Queensbury	105
Idle and Thackley	95
Shipley	90
Bingley Rural	80
Baildon	60
Bingley	50
Worth Valley	35
Craven	30
Ilkley	30
Wharfedale	25



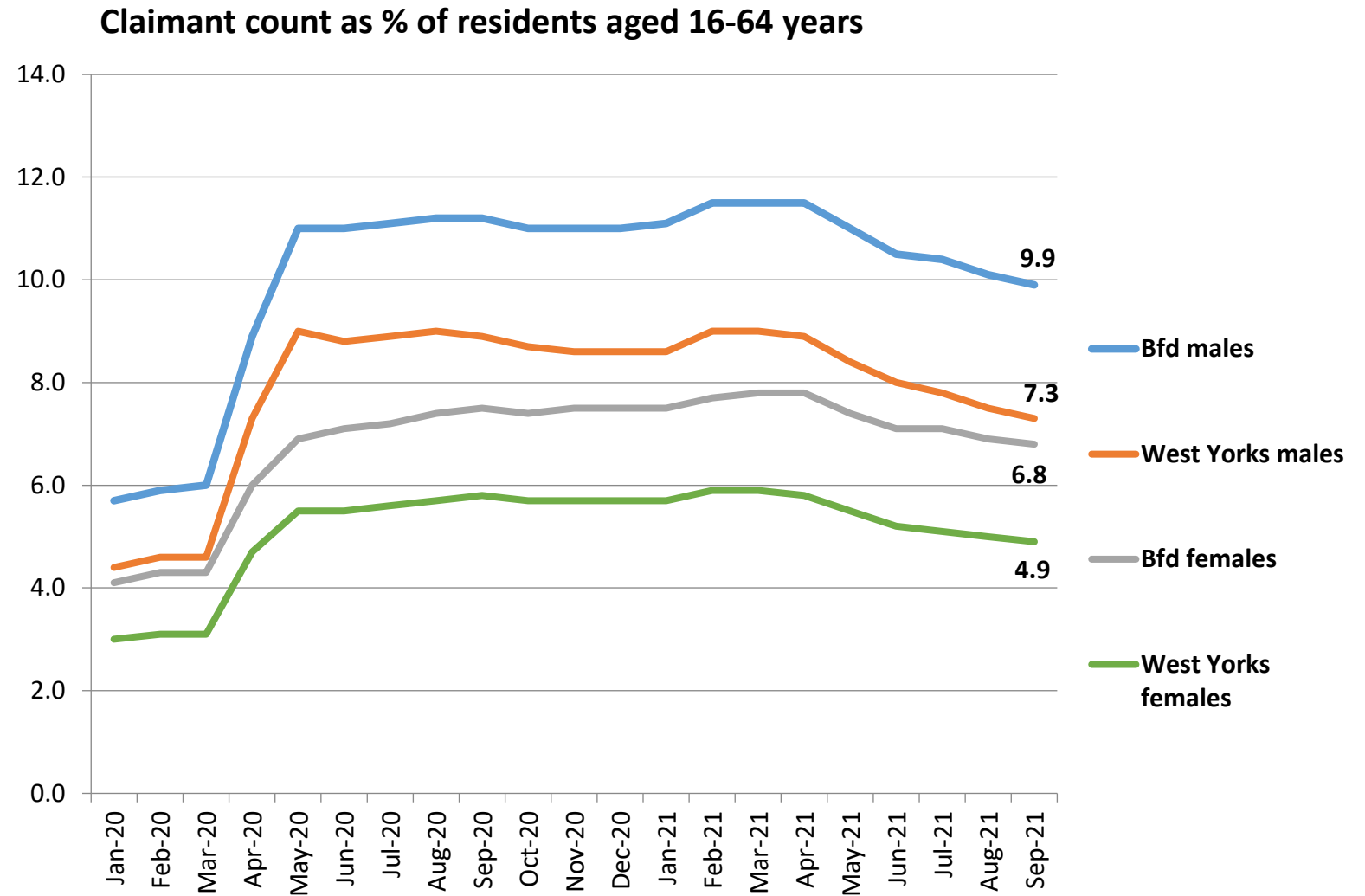
Ward 18-24 years claimant number change March 2020 - Sept 2021

The vast majority of the increase was between March and May 2020. All wards have seen a reduction in numbers this year, with the largest fall taking place other the past few months.



Bradford District male and female claimant rates

- Claimant numbers for males as a proportion of working-age residents is **9.9%** for September 2021, an increase of **3.9** percentage points since March 2020. It was 6.1% in March 2020. Although falling, the current rate is still above the average for West Yorkshire, 7.3% and the UK rate of 5.8%.
- For women the claimant rate is **6.8%**, an increase of **2.5** percentage points since March 2020. It was 4.3% in March 2020. Currently it is also the highest in West Yorkshire, the average being 4.9% and above the UK average of 4.1%.



Definition:

The claimant count is a measure released monthly of the number of people claiming unemployment related benefits and gives a timely sense of how the local labour market is performing. It gives a good indication of the places hardest hit economically by the COVID-19 crisis and how an area is recovering.

It includes those claiming Job Seekers Allowance and those claiming the unemployment-related element of Universal Credit. In some cases claimants are not unemployed but are eligible because of low wages and hours. This is increasingly so as more people are moved onto Universal Credit and because of recent changes to Universal Credit eligibility as part of the COVID-19 response.

Within the data it is not possible to identify the different circumstances of claimants. Hence it includes some people claiming benefits while working, as well as the self-employed who have seen work dry-up and employees who have lost jobs.

The Office for National Statistics point out that although the claimant count is used as a proxy measure for unemployment, it is increasingly more difficult to make comparisons with historical data.

Data sources and further information:

Centre for Cities:

<https://www.centreforcities.org/data/uk-unemployment-tracker/>

West Yorkshire Combined Authority Economic Monitor:

<https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/documents/economic-monitor/>

Unemployment data:

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>

Labour market economic commentary:

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/bulletins/uklabourmarket/october2021>

More information about Bradford District:

<https://ubd.bradford.gov.uk/>

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