

Monthly Economic Update June 2017

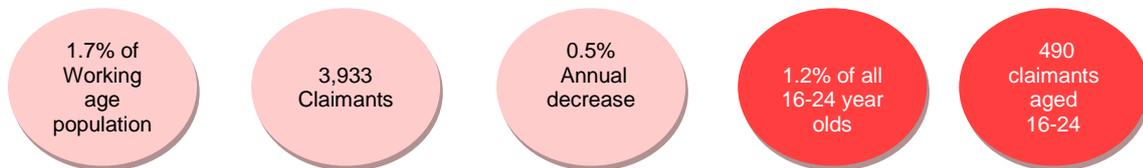
This is a monthly update on the Fife economy produced by Fife Council on behalf of the Fife Economy Partnership.

1.1 Headline results

Jobseekers Allowance (JSA)

All JSA Claimants in Fife (June 2017)

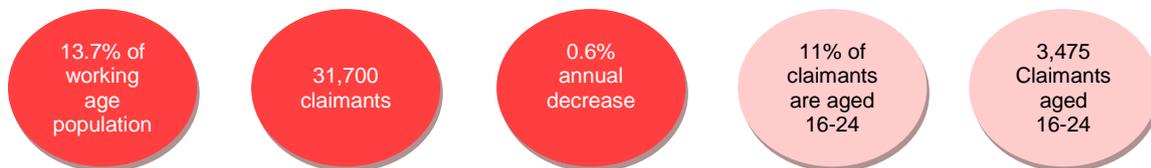
16-24 Year Old Claimants in Fife (June 2017)



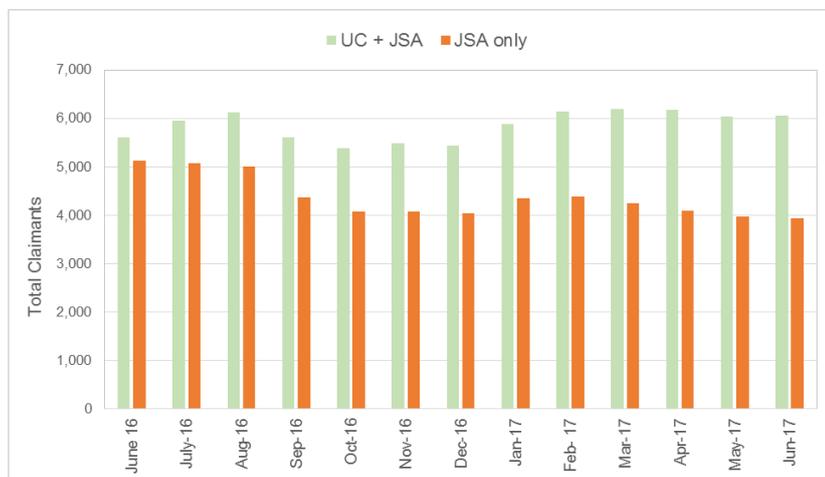
Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Benefits

All DWP Benefit Claimants in Fife (November 2016)

16-24 Year Old DWP Benefit Claimants in Fife (November 2016)



1.2 Universal Credit Claimants



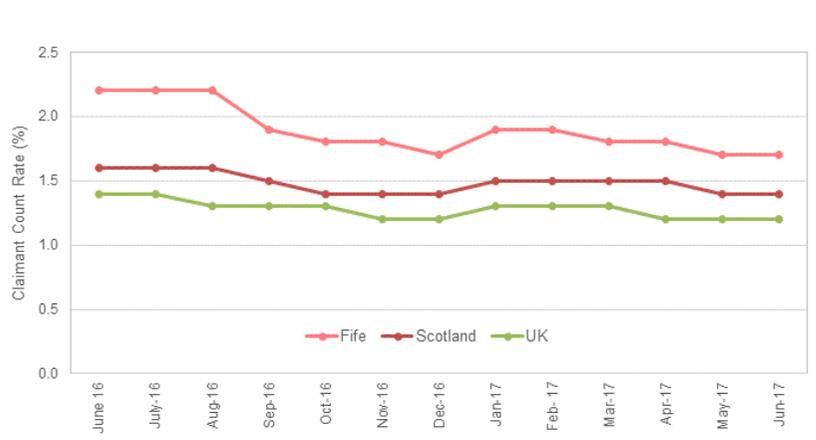
Source: Department for Work and Pensions

Universal Credit was launched in Fife in April 2016. As at June 2017, Fife had 2,121 Universal Credit claimants who were searching for work. This increases Fife's out of work claimant count rate to 2.6% or 6,054 claimants in total.

1.2 Jobs and Investment News

- Glenrothes-based **National Oilwell Varco** (NOV) Flexibles UK has marked the completion of a £500k high bay extension that already houses over £1.5m of new investment in advanced welding and numerical control (CNC) machining equipment. The new 6000ft² extension is part of an ongoing multi-million pound investment on the site by National Oilwell Varco, which also includes the installation of new welding equipment and state-of-the-art computer numerical control (CNC) machines, which will enable the company to continue to lead technical innovation across the oil and gas industry. For more information on this new investment click [here](#).
- **Zero Waste Scotland** is now inviting grant applications for projects up to £1m, as part of the £18m Circular Economy Investment Fund. The fund will help drive forward innovative, sustainable and more collaborative approaches to working in manufacturing. Project proposals for commercialisation are welcomed from small to medium sized businesses working within the Scottish manufacturing sector. Click [here](#) to find out more.
- Fife Council's Economic Development team has announced that **Fife Business Week** will run from Monday 6 to Friday 10th November 2017 at various venues across Fife. Branded under the Fife Economy Partnership, the week which is now in its 8th year, will include inspiring business seminars, workshops, masterclasses and networking opportunities which bring together private and public sector organisations to promote business opportunities. If you would like an event to be considered for Fife Business Week 2017, or to find out more, click [here](#).
- **Darley's Gin**, one of the pioneers of Britain's flourishing gin scene has brought its production home to Scotland with the opening of a new gin distillery and visitor centre at Kingsbarns. Previously distilled in London, the award winning gin will be produced exclusively at the new distillery in Fife. To complement Fife's growing food and drink tourism scene, Darley's Gin will also offer visitor tours, so guests can get a behind the scenes experience of the gin. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **Innovate UK** is running an open funding competition which aims to overcome barriers to cutting-edge, game-changing innovation becoming a successful commercial reality and/or resulting in significant, sustainable business growth. UK businesses can apply for a share of up to £15m. For more information, or to start an application, click [here](#).

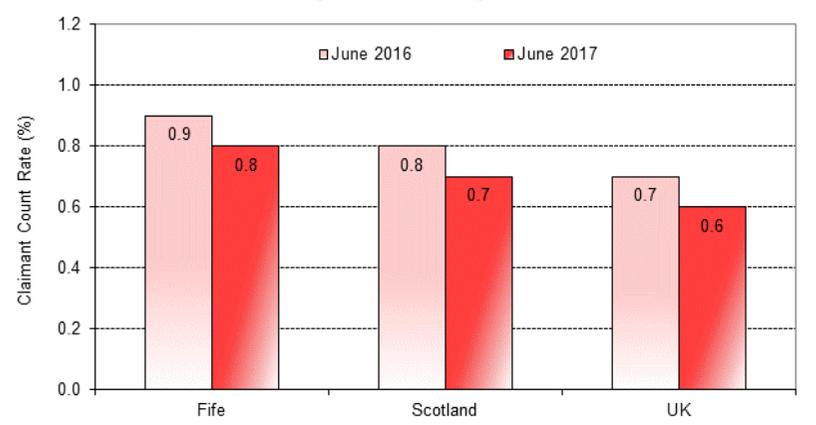
2.1 Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) Claimant Rate – Fife, Scotland & UK



Source: © ONS, Nomis (These figures do not include claimants of Universal Credit)

- In June 2017, Fife's JSA claimant rate was 1.7% - unchanged from May 2017. However, since June 2016, the number of JSA claimants in Fife has fallen by 0.5% to 3,933 claimants in the current month.

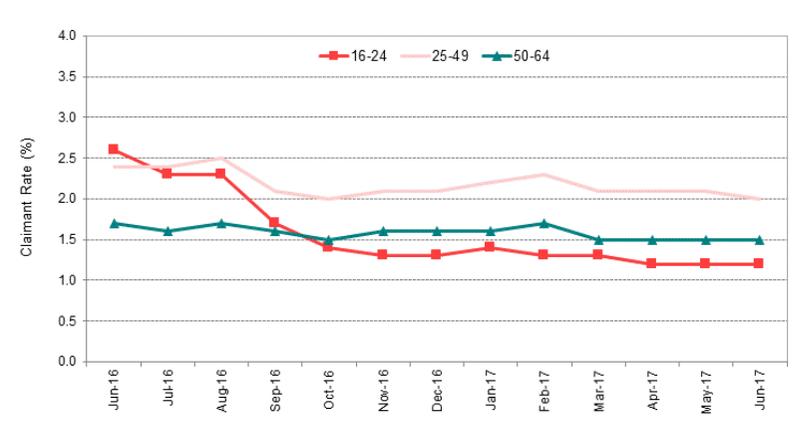
2.3 JSA Claimant Rate (6 months +), Fife, Scotland & UK



Source: © ONS, Nomis (These figures do not include claimants of Universal Credit)

- In June 2017, 1,890 people (or 0.9%) in Fife had been claiming JSA for more than 6 months. Across Fife, Scotland and the UK the annual rate reduction was 0.1% between June 2016 and June 2017.

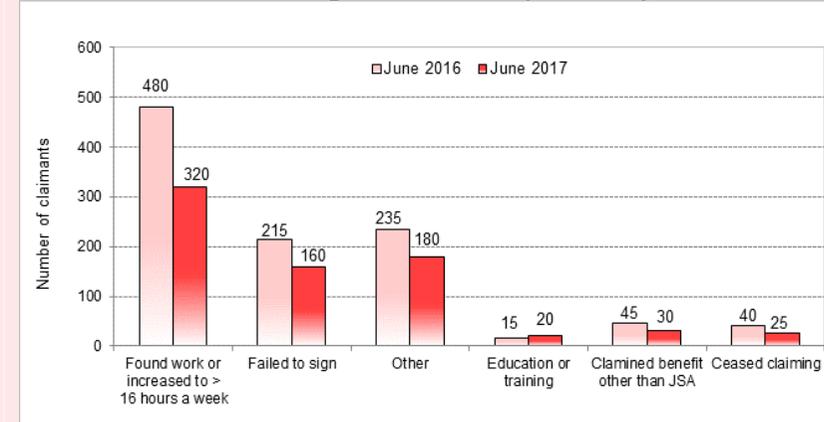
2.2 JSA Claimant Rate by Age Group, Fife



Source: © ONS, Nomis (These figures do not include claimants of Universal Credit)

- 16-24 year olds had the largest annual rate reduction, down by 1.4 percentage points to 1.2% in June 2017. The number of claimants aged 25-49 fell by 0.4 percentage points to 2%. The proportion of claimants aged 50-64 decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 1.5%.

2.4 Reasons for Ending JSA Claims (Off-flow), Fife

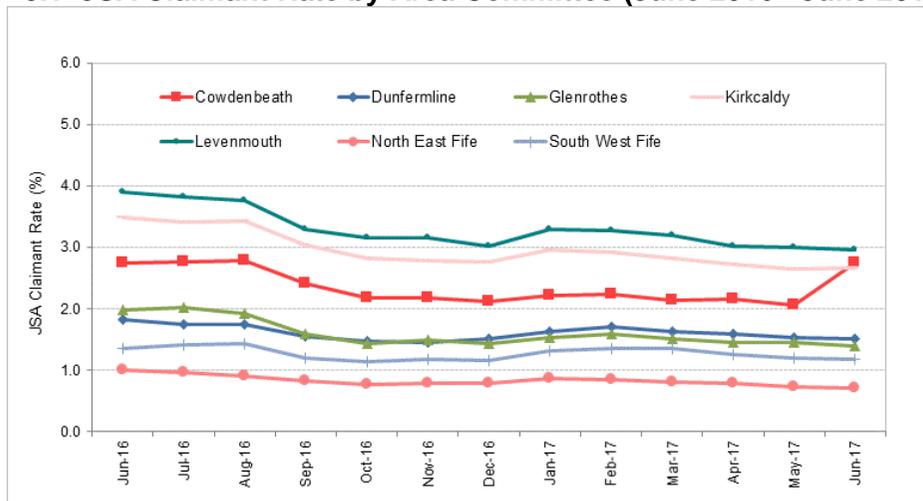


Source: © ONS, Nomis (These figures do not include claimants of Universal Credit)

- In June 2017, 730 people in Fife left the JSA register (off-flows). 44% of JSA leavers found work or increased their working hours and 22% failed to sign in. For 17% the reason for leaving the JSA register is unknown.

3. More Detailed Information on Monthly Indicators

3.1 JSA Claimant Rate by Area Committee (June 2016 - June 2017)



Source: © ONS, Nomis (these figures do not include claimants of Universal Credit)

- Between May and June 2017, 5 of the 7 areas recorded a slight decrease in the number of JSA claimants, and 2 areas recorded a marginal increase. However, all areas recorded an annual decrease with the largest changes in Kirkcaldy (-304 claimants) and in Levenmouth (-221 claimants). South West Fife recorded the smallest change with 59 fewer claimants than in June 2016.
- In June 2017, 10 of Fife's 23 Multi-Member Wards recorded claimant rates below or equal to the 1.4% Scottish average. Kirkcaldy East had the highest claimant count rate at 3.8%, whilst the St Andrews ward recorded the lowest rate in Fife at 0.2%.

For further information about the contents of this publication, or to request any bespoke economic information please contact:

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3.2 JSA Claimant Count by Area Committee as at June 2017

Area Committee	Male	Female	Total	Monthly change	Annual change
Cowdenbeath	346	193	539	9	-165
Dunfermline	336	203	539	-6	-112
Glenrothes	275	172	447	-17	-189
Kirkcaldy	667	333	1,000	6	-304
Levenmouth	447	250	697	-6	-221
North East Fife	214	123	337	-9	-137
South West Fife	229	145	374	-11	-59

Source: © ONS, Nomis (these figures do not include claimants of Universal Credit)