

Monthly Labour Market Update

June 2018

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

Universal Credit (UC) was fully introduced in Fife on 6 December 2017 after initially going live in the region in April 2016. This monthly update reports on the number of people claiming out of work benefits which is measured by the number of JSA claimants plus the experimental data on the number of people on UC who are required to look for work. A breakdown of both benefit claimants will be provided until all claimants have moved over to UC.

More information on Universal Credit can be found [here](#).

1.1 Headline Results

Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) Claimants

Total JSA Claimants in Fife (Jun 2018)

1.0% of working age population

2,298 claimants

-5.5% monthly decrease

16-24 Year Old JSA Claimants in Fife (Jun 2018)

0.4% of all 16-24 year olds

180 claimants are aged 16-24

People on Universal Credit (UC) Searching for Work

Total UC Claimants in Fife (Jun 2018)

2.4% of working age population

5,688 claimants

5.2% monthly increase

16-24 Year Old UC Claimants in Fife (Jun 2018)

3.9% of claimants are aged 16-24

1,639 claimants are aged 16-24

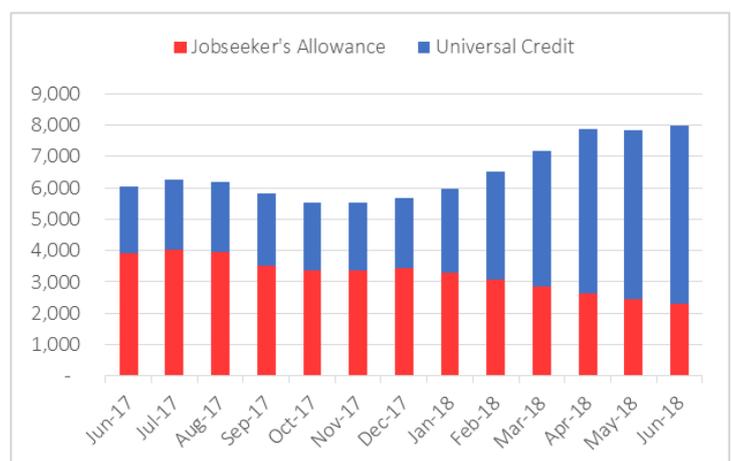
1.2 Claimant Count

In June 2018, Fife's **total** number of unemployed claimants was 7,986 – this has increased by 148 claimants since May 2018.

The number of people on UC who are searching for work increased by 5.2% or 281 claimants from 5,407 claimants in May 2018 to 5,688 claimants in June 2018.

The number of people claiming JSA decreased by 5.5% or 133 claimants from 2,431 in May 2018 to 2,298 in June 2018.

1.2 JSA and UC Claimant Counts – Fife



Source: © ONS Jobseeker's Allowance; DWP People on Universal Credit

1.3 Universal Credit

Until 6 December 2017, UC in Fife was limited to claims which were relatively simple, whereas more complex claimants were likely to remain or be added to JSA. This may have led to an increase in the overall number of claimants as UC requires more people to look for work than was the case for previous benefits and tax credits.

Currently this update provides information only on people on UC who are actively seeking work. It is hoped that, as more data becomes available, the update will be able to provide information on those who are on UC and are not able to work.

More information on Universal Credit is available [here](#).

1.4 Jobs & Investment News

- Leading agricultural specialist, [Cefetra Ltd](#), has signed a long term agreement with Forth Ports Ltd to develop a new agri-hub at the Port of Rosyth. The development will create a new purpose built facility at the Port that will be able to handle a range of agricultural products for the Scottish and Northern English markets. [Read more.](#)

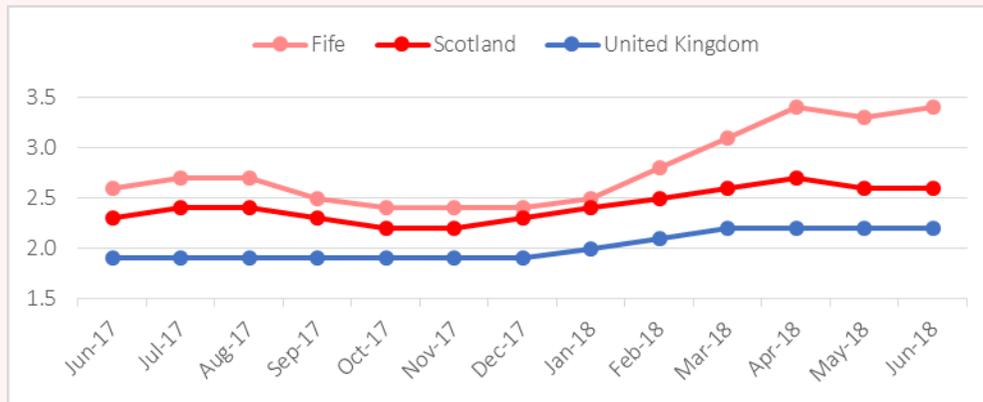


- The Enterprise Hub Fife, based in Glenrothes, has just lost its very first tenant – and it couldn't be more delighted. [Kaber Helm](#) has moved out of the new set-up into its own, larger premises at the business incubator in Mitchelston Kirkcaldy, to accommodate its growing team of software developers. [Find out more.](#)
- Fife Councillors have agreed to approve the draft Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal, which will secure more than £1.3 billion of investment for the city region over the next 15 years from the UK and Scottish governments. [Read more.](#)
- Fife-based offshore services firm [Briggs Marine](#) has boosted its global growth plans after being awarded a \$4 million contract from BP Exploration. [Read more.](#)



2.0 Statistics

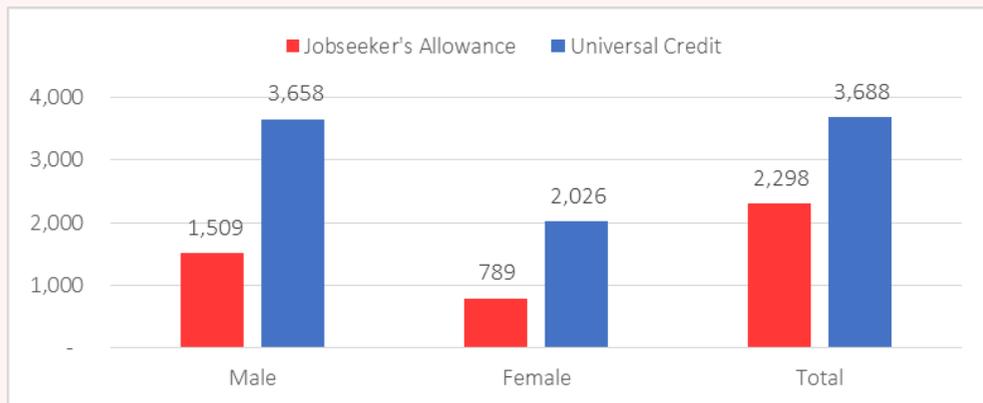
2.1 Claimant Rate – Fife, Scotland UK (Jun 2017 – Jun 2018)



Source: © ONS Claimant Count

In June 2018, Fife's claimant rate was 3.4% compared with Scotland's rate of 2.6% and the UK's 2.2%. Since June 2017, Fife's claimant rate has increased by 0.8 percentage points.

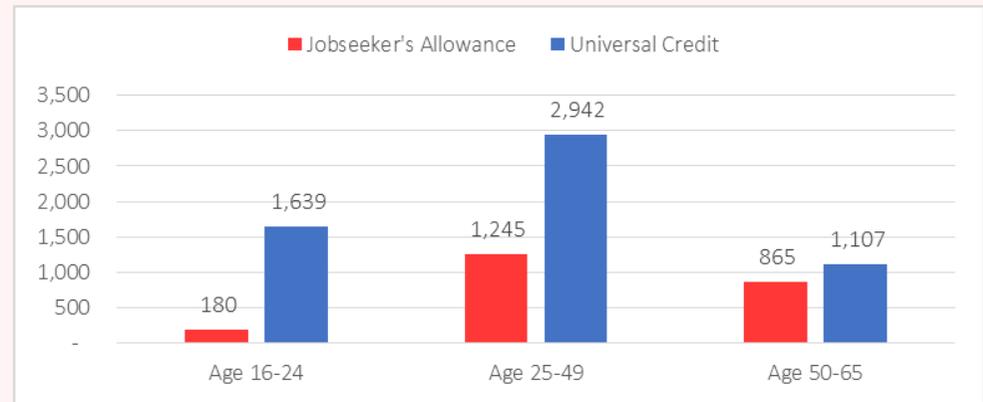
2.3 Claimants by Gender – Fife (Jun 2018)



Source: © ONS Jobseeker's Allowance; DWP People on Universal Credit

There were more men claiming benefits in Fife during June 2018 than women. 71% of people claiming out-of-work benefits in June 2018 were claiming Universal Credit rather than JSA.

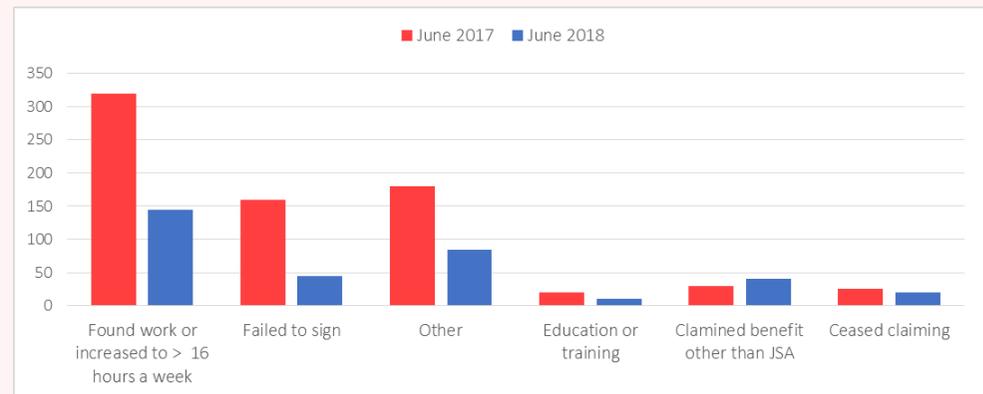
2.2 Claimant Rate by Age Group - Fife (Jun 2018)



Source: © ONS Jobseeker's Allowance; DWP People on Universal Credit

In June 2018, 4.4% of 16-24 year olds were claiming out of work benefits: JSA and UC. Although there were more claims made by the 25-49 age group compared to the younger claimants, a higher proportion of 16-24 year olds were claiming benefits in comparison.

2.4 JSA Claimant Off-flows – Fife (Jun 2018)

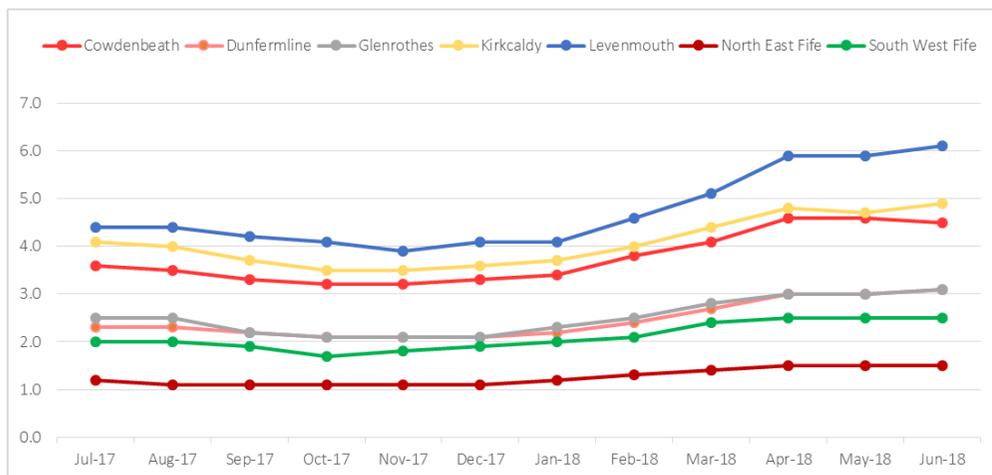


Source: © ONS Jobseeker's Allowance

There were fewer JSA off-flows in June 2018 than in June 2017. 41.4% of those leaving JSA found work or increased their hours to over 16 hours a week. 11.4% claimed a benefit other than JSA and 12.9% failed to sign.

3.0 More Detailed Information on Monthly Indicators

3.1 Claimant Count by Area Committee (Jun 2018)



Source: © ONS Claimant Count

3.2 Claimant Count by Area Committee (Jun 2018)

Area	Female	Male	Total	Monthly Change	Annual Change
Cowdenbeath	410	740	1,155	-25	300
Dunfermline	395	715	1,110	25	260
Glenrothes	360	620	980	40	215
Kirkcaldy	635	1,175	1,815	60	375
Levenmouth	505	900	1,405	30	410
North East Fife	225	460	685	-5	175
South West Fife	270	510	780	-5	175

Source: © ONS Claimant Count

Totals may not sum due to the disclosure control applied. All data are rounded to the nearest 5.

- 9 wards in Fife had claimant rates above the Fife claimant rate of 3.4% in June 2018. The ward with the highest claimant rate in June 2018 was Buckhaven, Methil and Wemyss Villages at 8%. The lowest claimant rate was in St Andrews which had a claimant rate of 0.5% in June 2018.
- Levenmouth experienced the greatest increase (+410) in its claimant count between June 2017 and June 2018. Cowdenbeath had the largest monthly decrease in its claimant count (-25) but has increased by 300 since June 2017.

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

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Visit the [Fife Economy Partnership](http://FifeEconomyPartnership) website for more information. Follow us on Twitter [@FifeEconPship](https://twitter.com/FifeEconPship)

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