

## **CPP Dataset**

### **1. Purpose of Report**

The purpose of the report is to provide an update to the CPP Board on the CPP dataset.

### **2. Recommendations**

The CPP Board is asked to;

- Note the updated dataset,
- Highlight any areas that should be explored further by the Board due to the trend in the data in appendix one,
- Note the locality level data and trends emerging by Locality.

### **3. Discussion**

The CPP Dataset is being updated on a regular basis as part of a wider approach in considering how the CPP can maximise the use of data to inform and influence the actions of the CPP more generally, and how the dataset is used in conjunction with other relevant data sources. Taking a more data-driven approach would enable more analysis of the data itself - using the data to shape discussions at CPP meetings and address key issues at a partnership level.

The team have been working in consultation with key officers and partners to have discussions around the most appropriate measure for inclusion. Other data sources have also been explored to ensure that a wide range of locally available measure have been considered, particularly those measures that are available at local authority level and below.

Where possible, data has been broken down by locality to highlight the local picture. The CPP Team have now met with Police Scotland and have identified data to be included in relation to community safety.

An additional four measures in relation to employment and economic activity have been included in order to further demonstrate the current economic position in West Lothian. These indicators are part of West Lothians Poverty Profile and provide additional information in relation to; In Work Universal Credit Claimants; Economically Inactive Universal Credit Claimants; Low Income Employment & Zero Hours; Household Incomes. These were considered and agreed for inclusion at the CPP Steering Group on 6 November.

The dataset as a whole shows key trends emerging at locality level. It was agreed at the Steering Group that data should be presented at locality level to demonstrate where issues are presenting in relation to geographic areas. Data for key areas has been extracted and is presented by locality in Appendix 3.

The Board are asked to highlight any other key measures that are either missing from the data, or areas where data may be available at more local level.

#### **4. Summary of Implications**

<b>Relevant LOIP outcome (s)</b>	ALL
<b>Relevant LOIP performance indicator (s)</b>	ALL
<b>Resources</b>	N/A
<b>Link to prevention/community engagement</b>	The dataset will help the CPP to shape future activity which will have a focus on prevention
<b>Impact on inequalities</b>	The dataset will help the CPP identify areas of inequality in relation to the indicators that are included.
<b>Key risks</b>	N/A

#### **5. Consultations**

The CPP was consulted in the development of the dataset. Partners have been involved in discussions around potential additional indicators for inclusion.

#### **6. Conclusions**

The CPP Board are asked to note the updated dataset.

#### **Report written by/contact details/date**

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#### **References – N/A**

#### **Appendices**

Appendix 1: CCP Dataset Slides

Appendix 2: CPP Dataset Narrative

Appendix 3: Locality Profile Data- Whitburn and Blackburn Ward and Fauldhouse and Breich Valley Ward



# **Community Planning Partnership Data Set update**

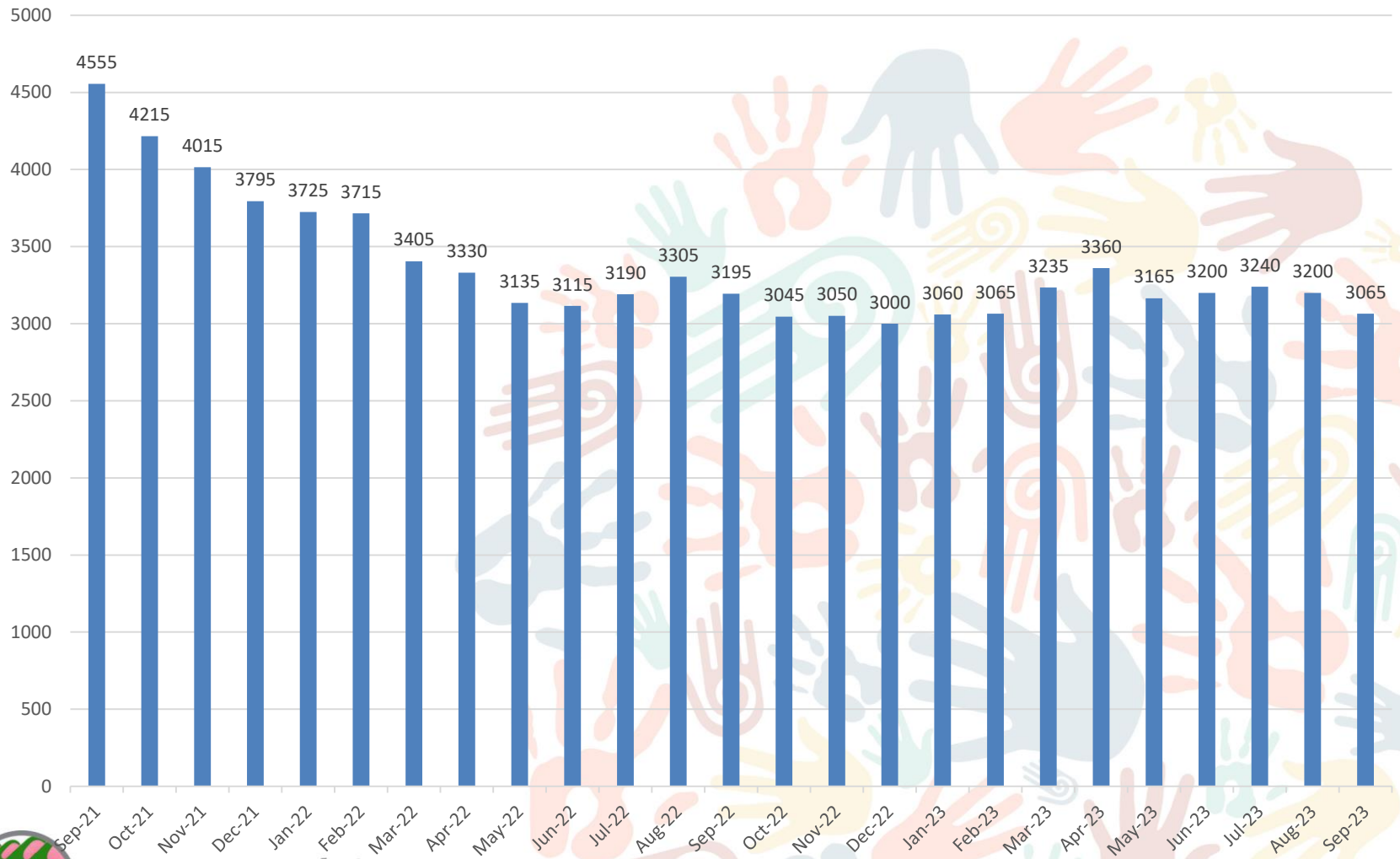


**West Lothian**  
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**November 2023**

# Claimant Count

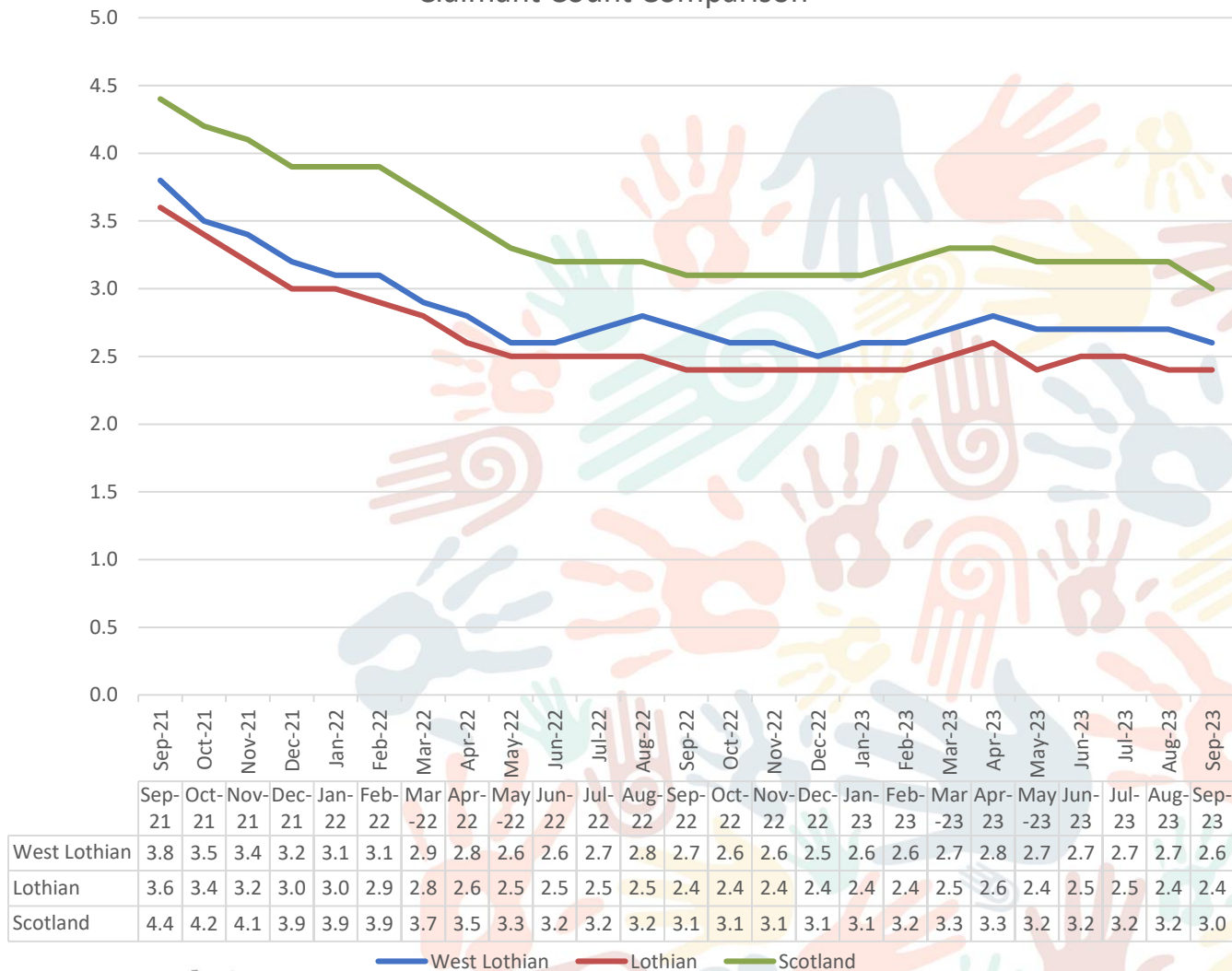
West Lothian Claimant Count



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# Claimant Count

Claimant Count Comparison

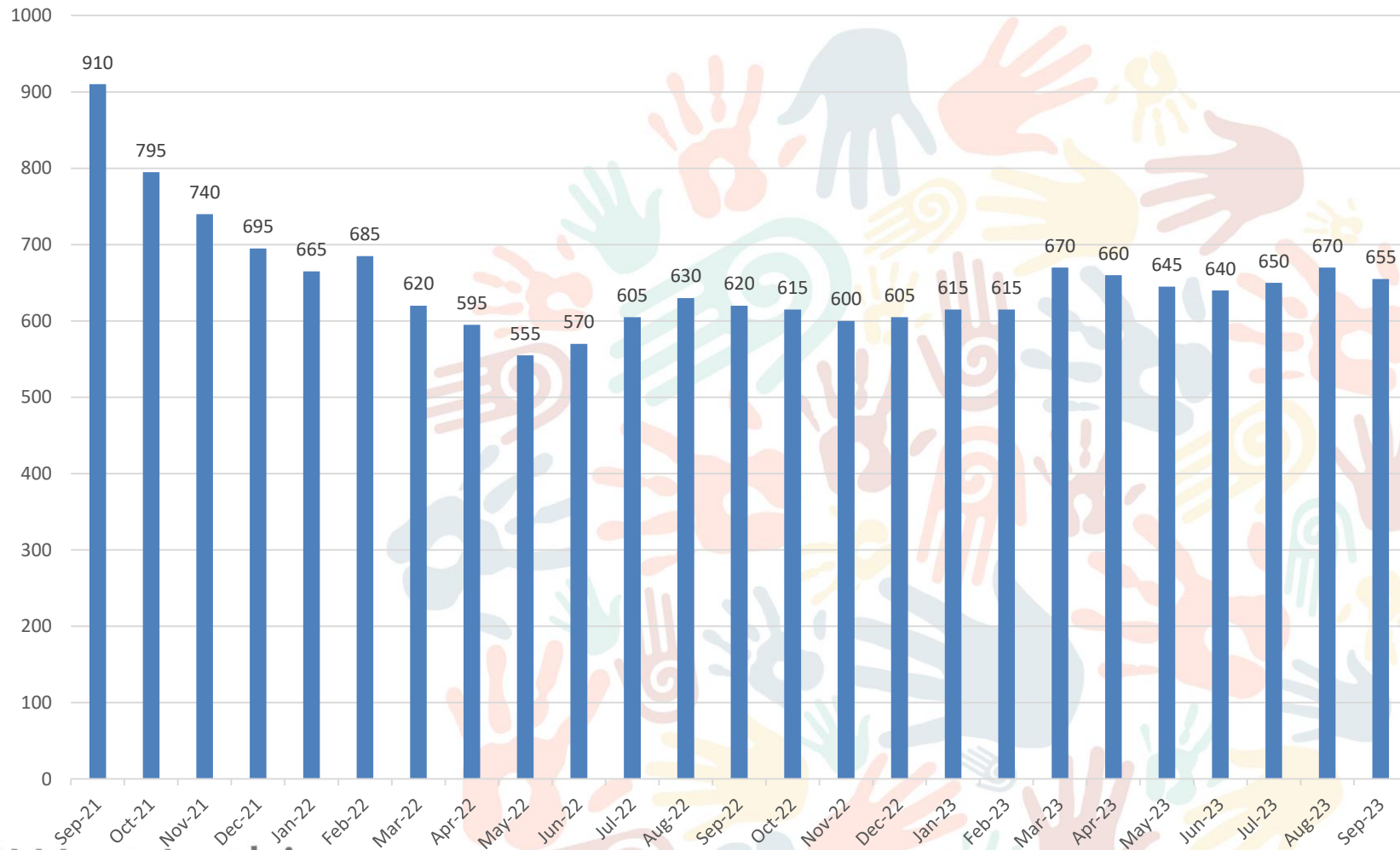


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# Youth Claimant Count

West Lothian Youth Claimant Count

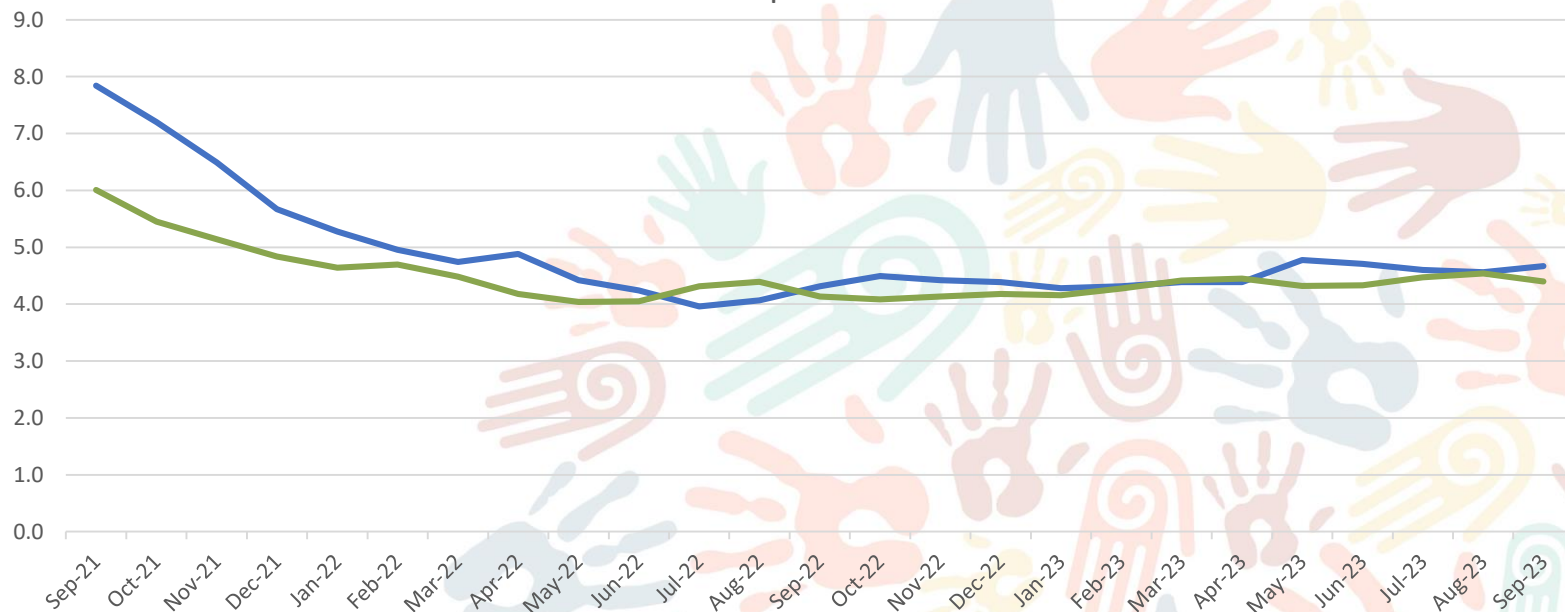


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# Youth Claimant Count

Claimant Count Comparison



	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23
West Lothian	7.8	7.2	6.5	5.7	5.3	5.0	4.7	4.9	4.4	4.2	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.7
Scotland	6.0	5.5	5.1	4.8	4.6	4.7	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.0	4.3	4.4	4.1	4.1	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.4

— West Lothian — Scotland



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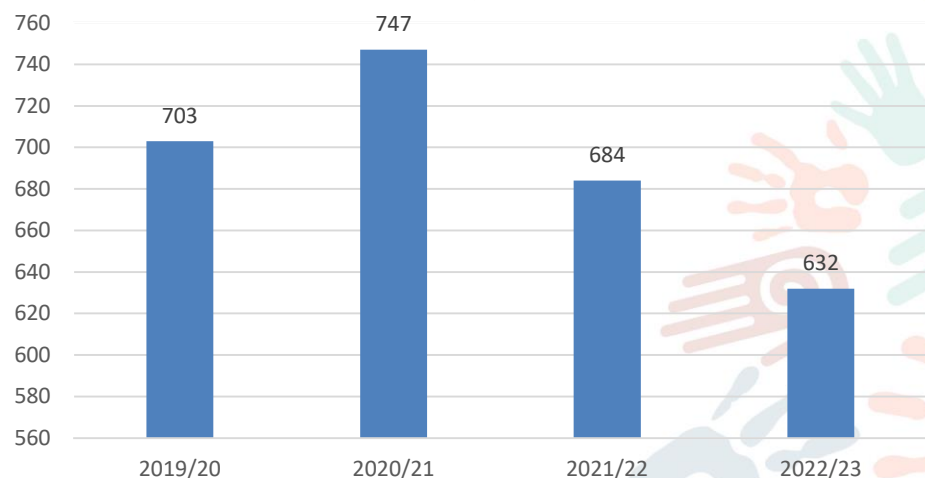
# Claimant Count by Ward

	Armadale and Blackridge		Bathgate		Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh		East Livingston and East Calder		Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley		Linlithgow		Livingston North		Livingston South		Whitburn and Blackburn		West Lothian	
Month	Claimant Count	Rate %	Claimant Count	Rate %	Claimant Count	Rate %	Claimant Count	Rate %	Claimant Count	Rate %	Claimant Count	Rate %	Claimant Count	Rate %	Claimant Count	Rate %	Claimant Count	Rate %	Claimant Count	Rate %
Sep-21	375	3.8	615	4.0	475	3.8	530	3.6	535	5.3	195	1.9	485	3.2	585	3.7	755	5.4	4555	3.8
Oct-21	365	3.7	575	3.7	455	3.6	470	3.2	500	4.9	180	1.8	420	2.8	540	3.4	710	5.1	4215	3.5
Nov-21	330	3.3	540	3.5	450	3.6	465	3.2	480	4.7	175	1.8	385	2.5	520	3.3	675	4.8	4015	3.4
Dec-21	320	3.3	490	3.2	430	3.4	445	3.1	465	4.6	160	1.6	365	2.4	480	3.1	635	4.5	3795	3.2
Jan-22	310	3.2	485	3.1	420	3.4	445	3.1	460	4.5	160	1.6	365	2.4	455	2.9	625	4.5	3725	3.1
Feb-22	310	3.2	500	3.2	410	3.3	440	3	435	4.3	150	1.5	375	2.5	480	3	610	4.4	3715	3.1
Mar-22	275	2.8	465	3.0	375	3.0	395	2.7	405	4	145	1.5	355	2.3	415	2.6	575	4.1	3405	2.9
Apr-22	280	2.8	435	2.8	365	2.9	380	2.6	385	3.8	150	1.5	325	2.1	415	2.6	595	4.3	3330	2.8
May-22	260	2.7	410	2.6	345	2.8	380	2.6	375	3.7	125	1.2	295	1.9	390	2.5	550	3.9	3135	2.6
Jun-22	255	2.6	425	2.7	335	2.7	365	2.5	355	3.5	130	1.3	295	1.9	410	2.6	545	3.9	3115	2.6
Jul-22	275	2.8	430	2.8	350	2.8	350	2.4	345	3.4	145	1.4	315	2.1	425	2.7	550	3.9	3190	2.7
Aug-22	295	3.0	445	2.9	410	3.3	340	2.3	360	3.5	145	1.4	320	2.1	435	2.8	560	4	3305	2.8
Sep-22	275	2.8	455	2.9	375	3.0	320	2.2	350	3.4	130	1.3	315	2.1	405	2.6	565	4.1	3195	2.7
Oct-22	280	2.8	455	2.9	325	2.6	320	2.2	330	3.3	125	1.2	280	1.8	380	2.4	550	3.9	3045	2.6
Nov-22	295	3.0	445	2.9	320	2.6	310	2.1	340	3.4	115	1.2	285	1.9	375	2.4	565	4.1	3050	2.6
Dec-22	285	2.9	425	2.7	320	2.5	315	2.2	355	3.5	130	1.3	260	1.7	350	2.2	565	4.1	3000	2.5
Jan-23	280	2.8	425	2.7	315	2.5	340	2.3	370	3.6	125	1.2	275	1.8	370	2.4	555	4	3060	2.6
Feb-23	285	2.9	430	2.8	320	2.5	340	2.3	380	3.7	120	1.2	245	1.6	360	2.3	580	4.2	3065	2.6
Mar-23	285	2.9	475	3.0	335	2.7	360	2.5	405	4	125	1.2	275	1.8	375	2.4	595	4.2	3235	2.7
Apr-23	295	3.0	485	3.1	355	2.8	380	2.6	425	4.2	125	1.2	290	1.9	395	2.5	615	4.4	3360	2.8
May-23	280	2.8	455	2.9	350	2.8	340	2.4	395	3.9	120	1.2	285	1.9	380	2.4	555	4	3165	2.7
Jun-23	275	2.8	465	3.0	340	2.7	360	2.5	390	3.8	120	1.2	285	1.9	400	2.6	565	4	3200	2.7
Jul-23	285	2.9	450	2.9	345	2.8	360	2.5	405	3.9	125	1.2	280	1.8	415	2.6	575	4.1	3240	2.7
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Sep-23	285	2.9	420	2.7	325	2.6	360	2.5	345	3.4	120	1.2	295	2	395	2.5	510	3.7	3065	2.6

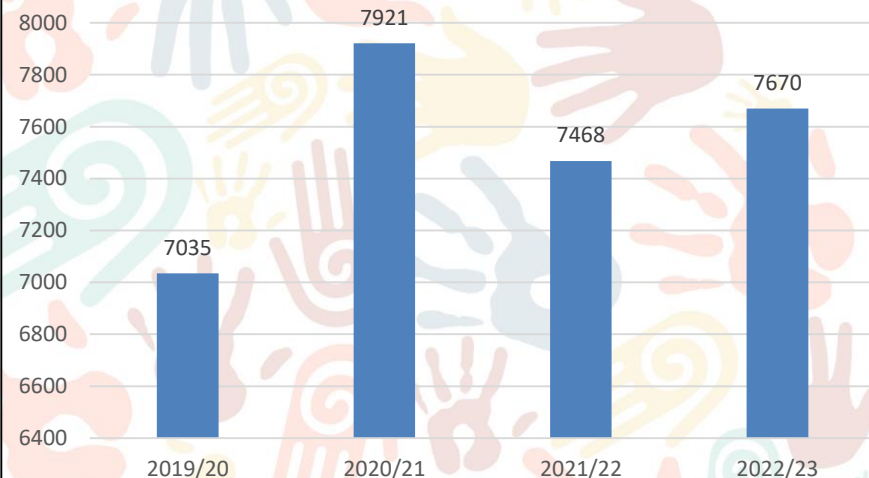


# School Support

EMA Payments

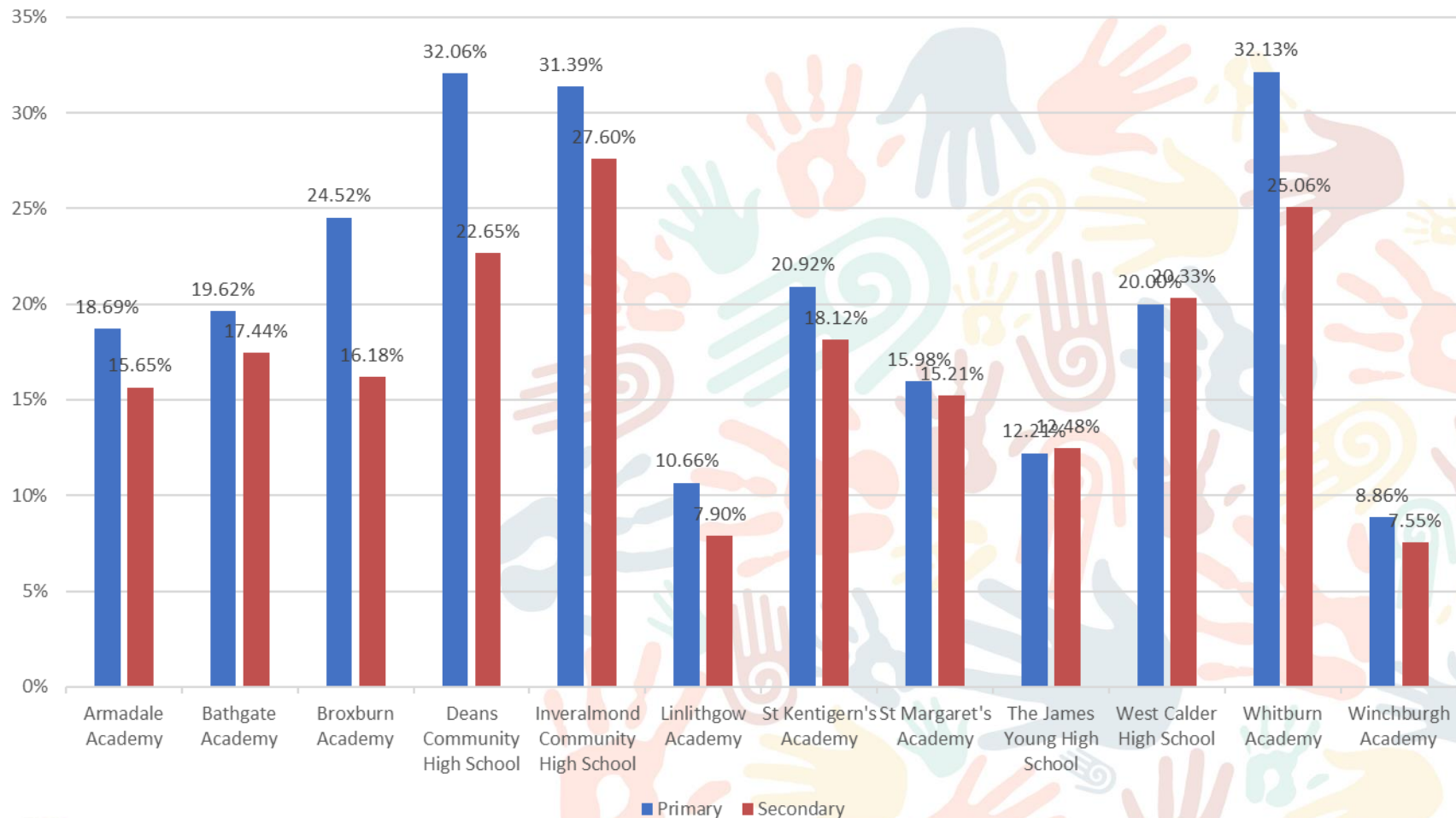


Clothing Grant



# School Support

## Free School Meals

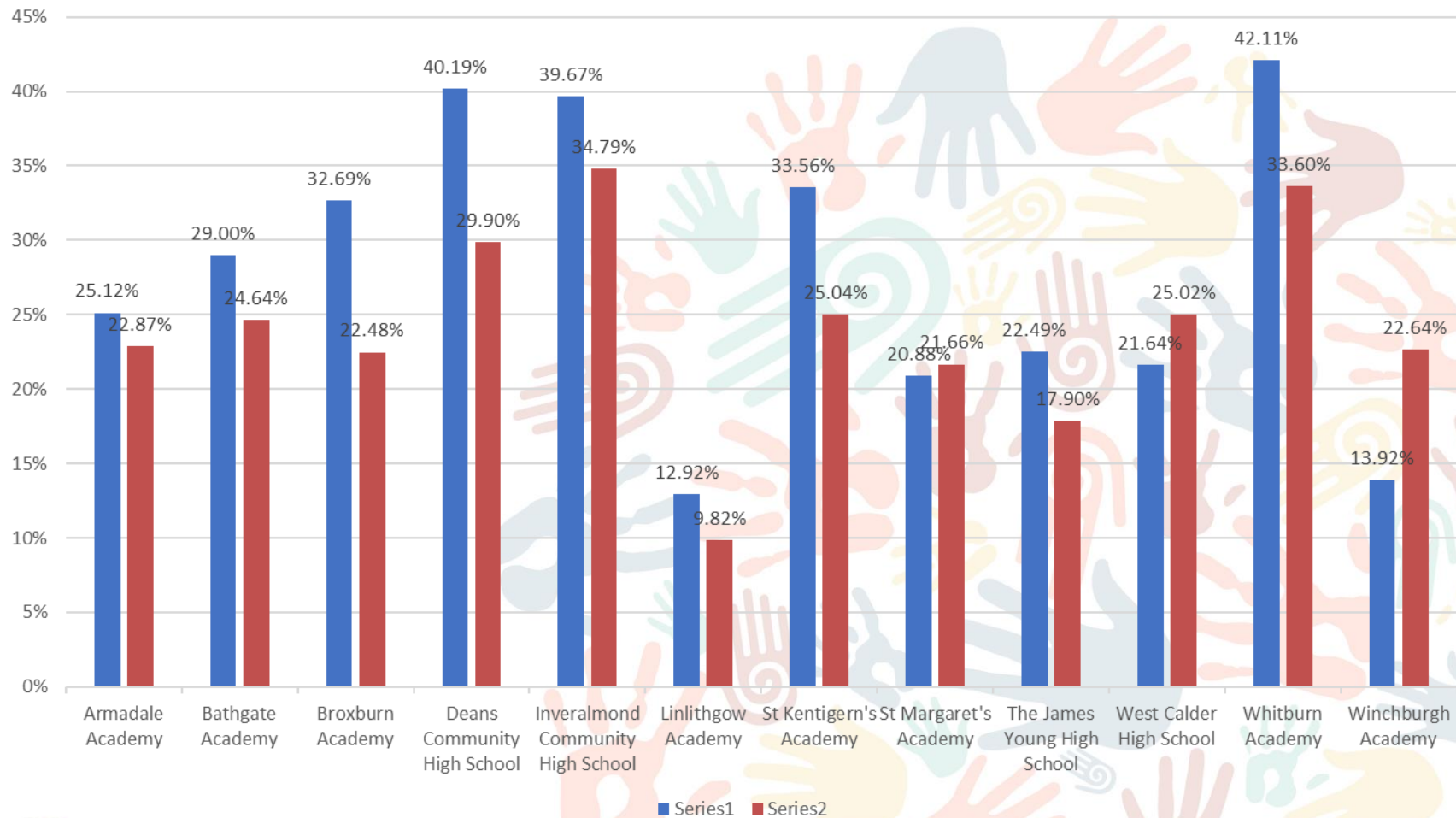


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# School Support

Clothing Grant



# Rent Arrears

## Current Arrears Overall (Mainstream + Temporary Accommodation)

	2021	2022	2023
Jan	£3,988,322	£4,155,825	£4,599,880
Feb	£3,300,988	£4,146,209	£4,553,121
Mar	£3,516,718	£3,496,679	£3,824,264
Apr	£3,156,370	£3,780,062	£4,018,844
May	£3,306,635	£4,051,193	£4,191,943
Jun	£3,488,182	£4,206,734	£4,348,700
Jul	£3,730,450	£4,362,509	£4,366,438
Aug	£3,917,470	£4,552,071	£4,552,388
Sep	£4,150,768	£4,780,804	£4,666,987
Oct	£4,252,776	£4,853,361	
Nov	£4,371,137	£4,927,178	
Dec	£3,833,032	£4,305,323	



# Rent Arrears

## Temporary Accommodation - WARD (Average Debt)

Temporary Accommodation - WARD (Average Debt)

	ARB1	BAT1	FAB1	BRW1	ELC1	LIN1	LVN1	LVS1	WHB1
	Armadale	Bathgate	Breich Valley	Broxburn	Livi East	Linlithgow	Livi North	Livi South	Whitburn
April	£565	£333	£829	£875	£2,413	£78	£735	£546	£537
May	£690	£391	£926	£898	£2,364	£169	£674	£518	£589
June	£545	£402	£1,045	£933	£2,563	£287	£673	£461	£624
July	£510	£414	£1,143	£933	£1,661	£253	£760	£410	£630
August	£603	£517	£1,211	£835	£1,404	£376	£832	£540	£614
September	£707	£557	£1,167	£717	£1,521	£386	£916	£553	£507

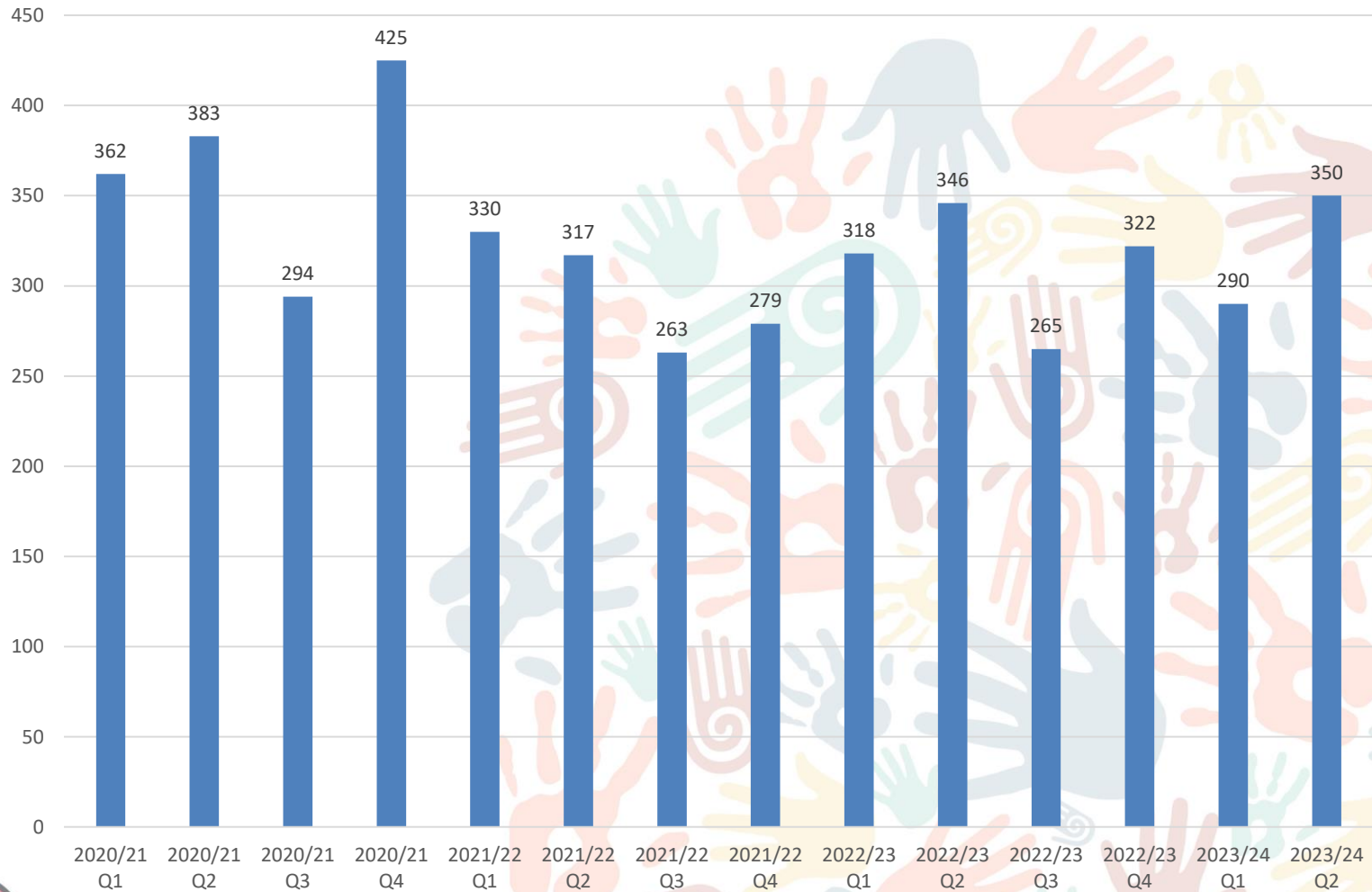


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# Homeless Applications

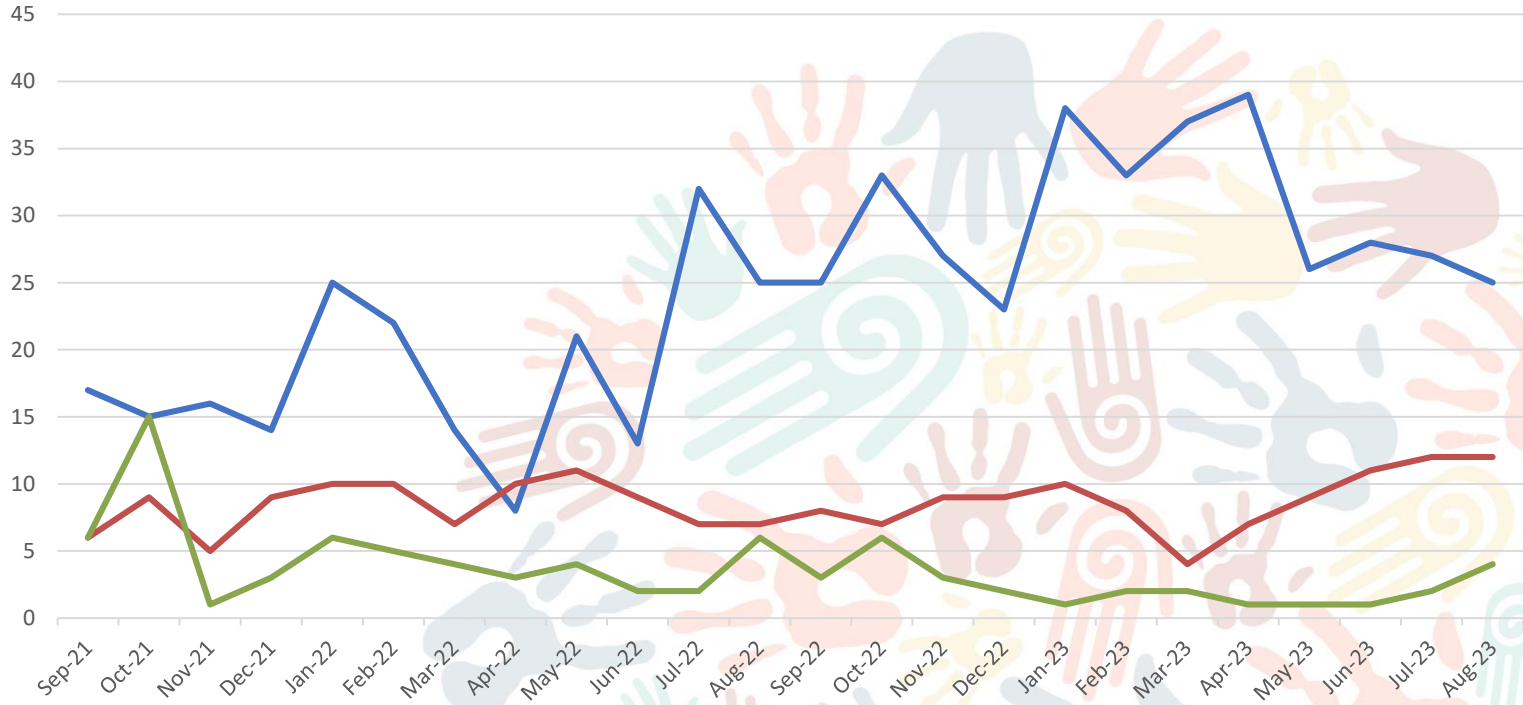
Homeless Applications



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# Delayed Discharge

Delayed Discharge



	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23
Standard	17	15	16	14	25	22	14	8	21	13	32	25	25	33	27	23	38	33	37	39	26	28	27	25
Code 9 awi	6	9	5	9	10	10	7	10	11	9	7	7	8	7	9	9	10	8	4	7	9	11	12	12
Code 9 other	6	15	1	3	6	5	4	3	4	2	2	6	3	6	3	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	4

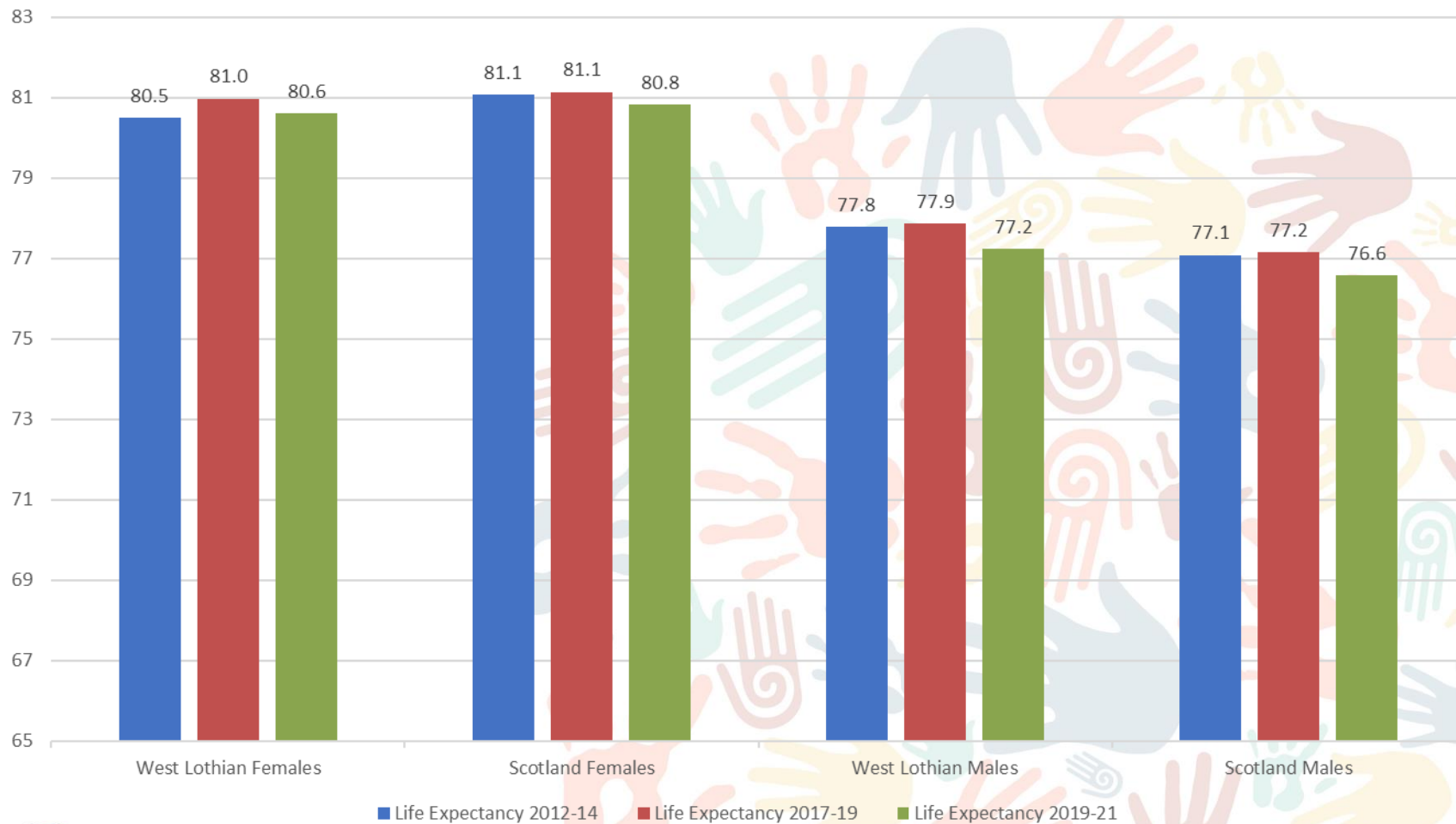
Standard Code 9 awi Code 9 other



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# Life Expectancy

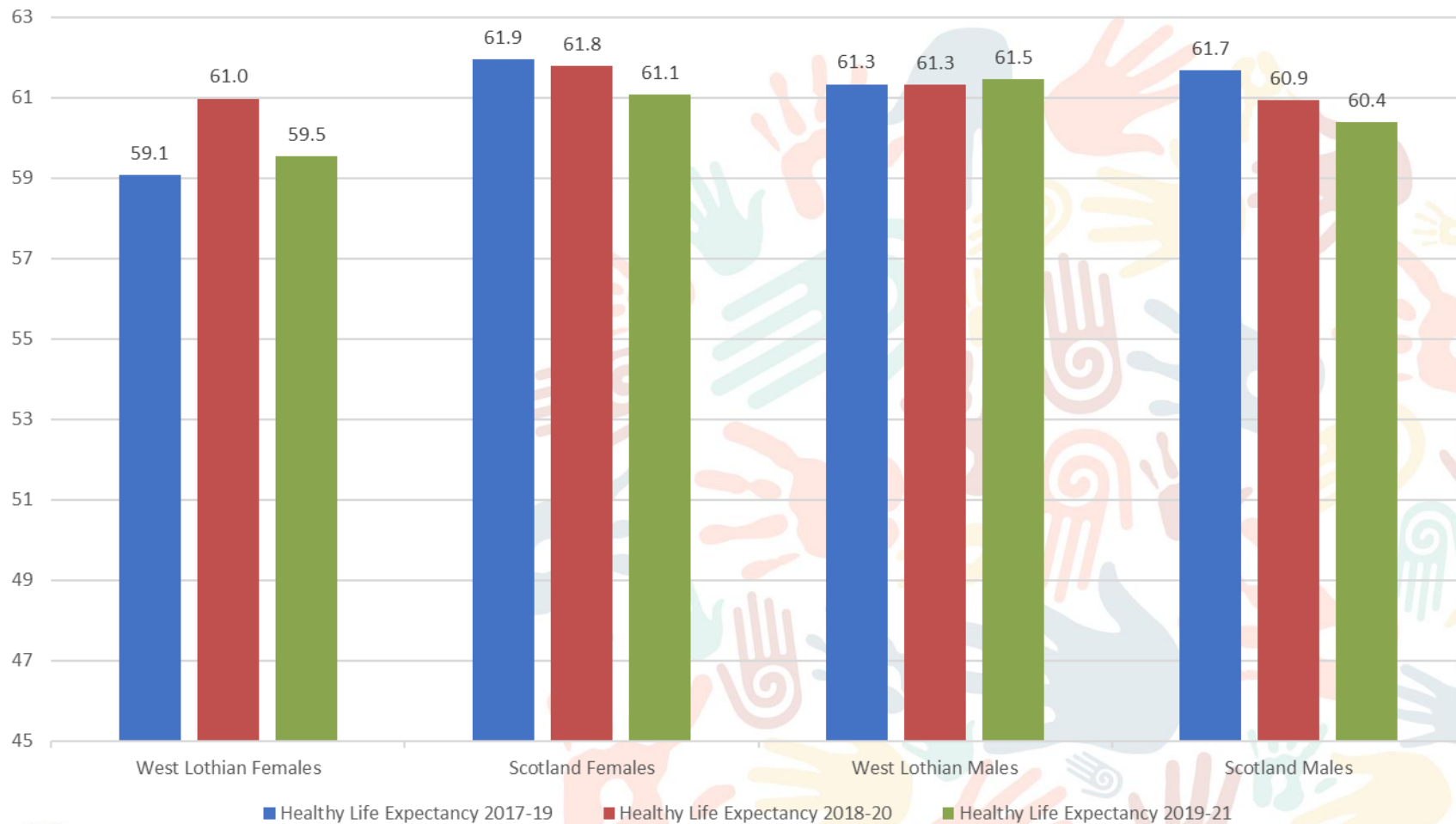
Life Expectancy



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# Healthy Life Expectancy

Healthy Life Expectancy



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# Life Expectancy

	Armadale and Blackridge	Broxburn	Bathgate	East Livingston and East Calder	Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	Linlithgow	Livingston North	Livingston South	Whitburn and Blackburn
<b>Female Life Expectancy:</b>									
Lowest	78.6	80.6	77.9	79.8	77.3	84	79.6	78.8	76.7
Highest	80.7	83.9	85.5	86.5	82.9	87.5	84.9	84.3	80.1
Gap	2.1	3.3	7.6	6.7	5.6	3.5	5.3	5.5	3.4
<b>Male Life Expectancy:</b>									
Lowest	75.3	75.9	74.6	74.2	73.7	77.0	74.7	73.2	73.3
Highest	79.4	82	81.8	81.4	77.3	85.0	82.6	83.4	78.3
Gap	4.1	6.1	7.3	7.2	3.6	8.0	7.9	10.1	5.0

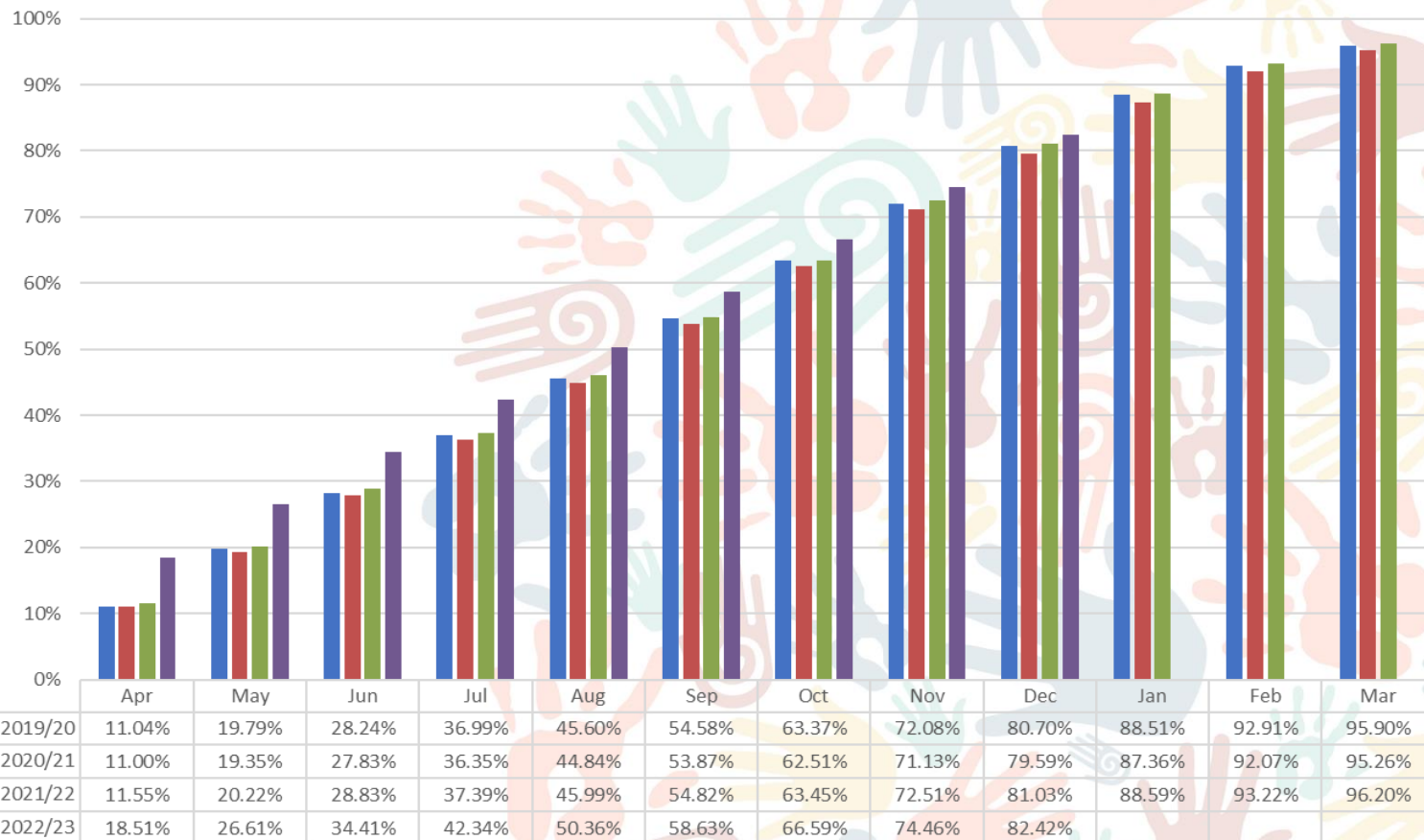
- Lowest female life expectancy intermediate zone: Blackburn
- Highest female life expectancy intermediate zone: Linlithgow South
- 10.8 year gap between those two extremes
- Lowest male life expectancy intermediate zone: Dedridge East
- Highest male life expectancy intermediate zone: Linlithgow North
- 11.8 year gap between those two extremes





# Council Tax Collection

Cumulative Council Tax Collection Rate



# Child Poverty

Children in Low Income Families



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# Children in Low Income Families

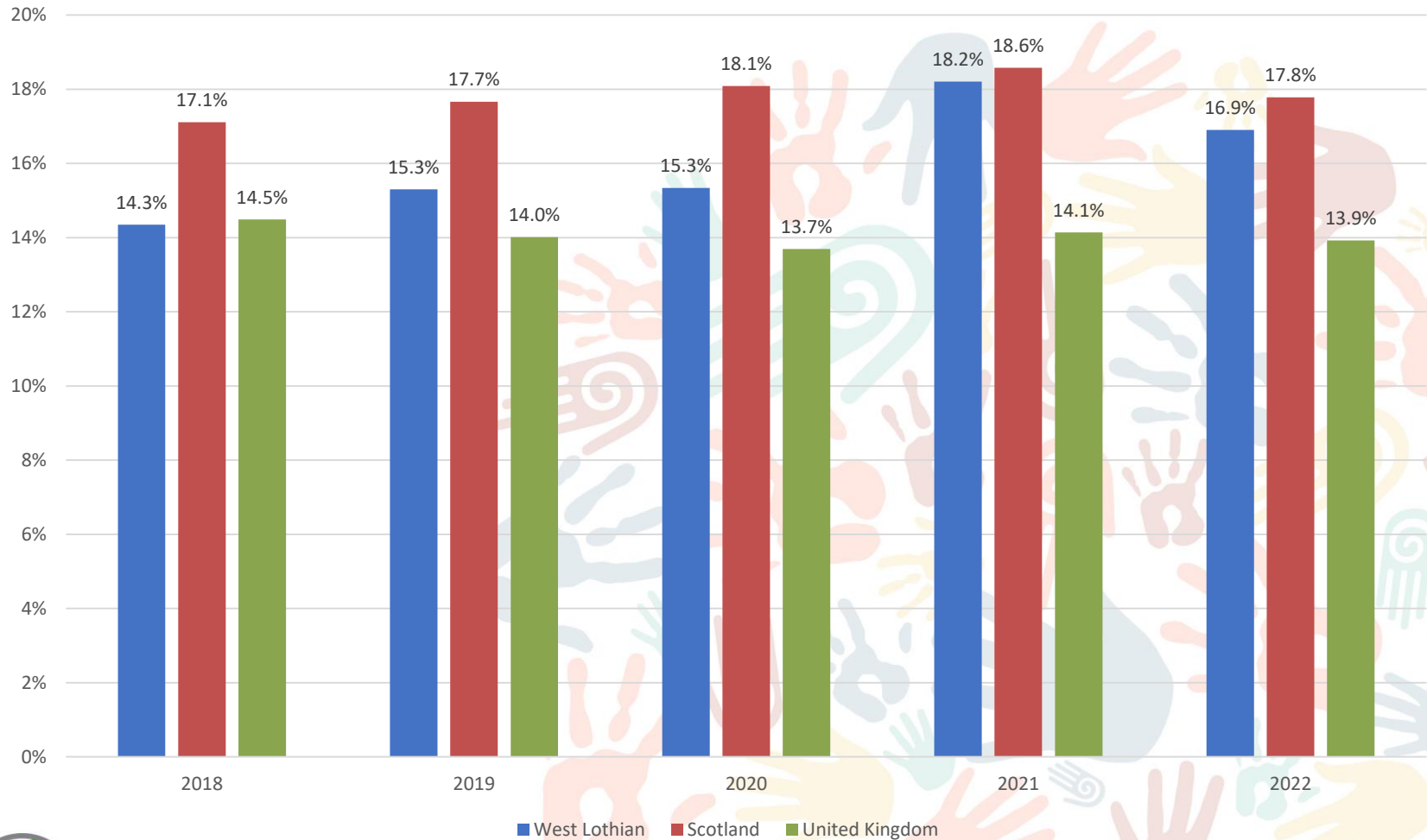
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Armadale and Blackridge	17.8%	16.1%	18.3%	16.1%	20.6%
Bathgate	16.2%	15.8%	16.1%	13.3%	18.9%
Broxburn, Uphall and Winchburgh	15.0%	16.5%	17.8%	16.2%	20.1%
East Livingston and East Calder	16.3%	16.5%	17.1%	16.1%	17.7%
Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley	20.6%	20.9%	25.4%	20.2%	27.4%
Linlithgow	6.8%	8.1%	8.0%	6.5%	7%
Livingston North	15.6%	16.4%	18.2%	15.6%	20.4%
Livingston South	17.9%	19.8%	19.4%	15.3%	20.1%
Whitburn and Blackburn	22.0%	23.5%	23.0%	20.0%	24.9%
West Lothian	16.6%	17.2%	18.2%	15.5%	19.9%
Scotland	17.9%	18.9%	15.9%	18.0%	20.8%
United Kingdom	18.0%	18.2%	19.3%	18.7%	20.1%



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# Workless Households

Workless Households



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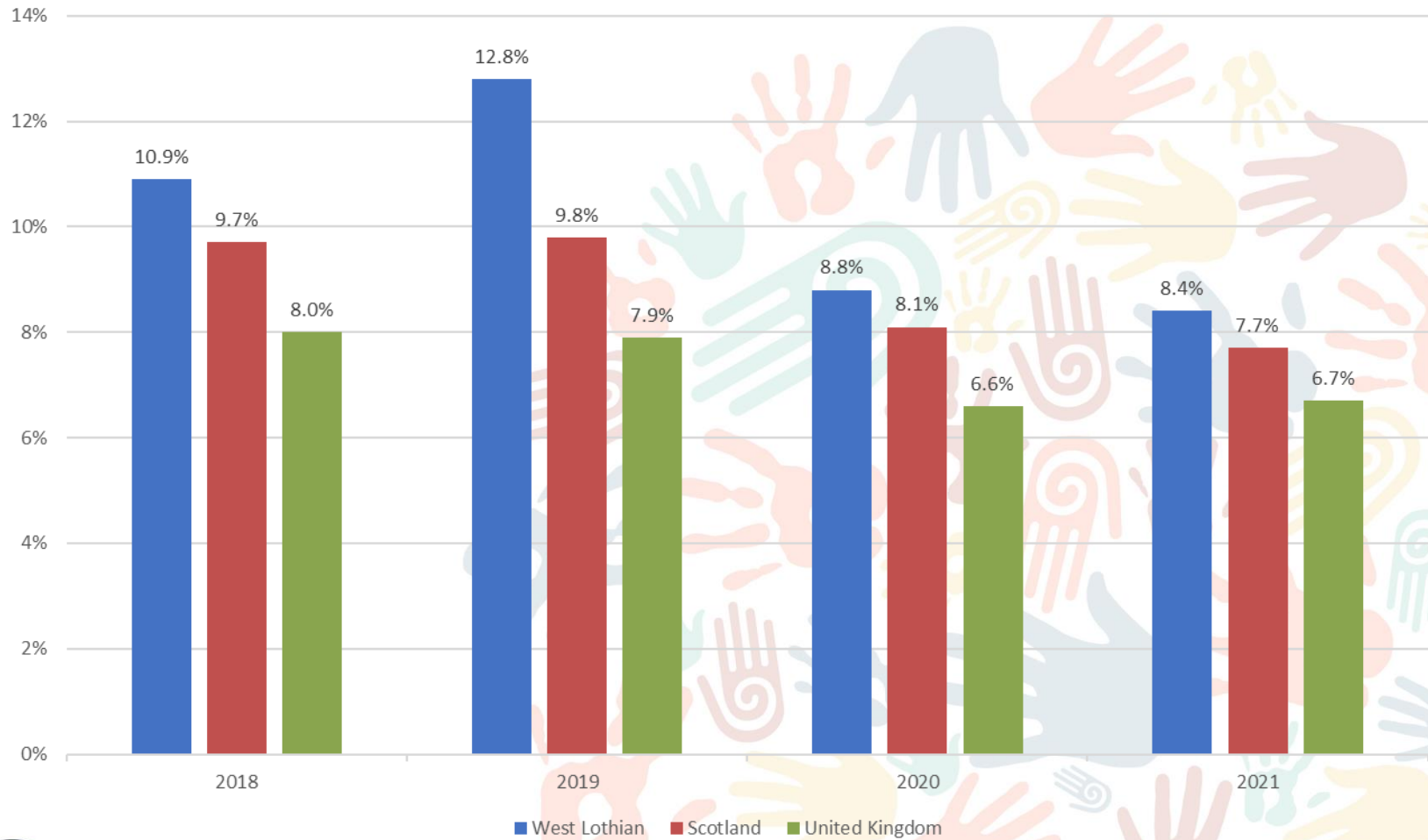
# Positive Destinations

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Armadale Academy	92.62%	95.95%	92.13%	93.55%	97.02%	94.53%
Bathgate Academy	90.91%	91.95%	95.51%	91.43%	92.36%	96.17%
Broxburn Academy	93.24%	94.44%	95.45%	85.07%	95.65%	93.37%
Deans Community High School	91.63%	93.25%	93.71%	91.98%	93.87%	89.94%
Inveralmond Community High School	93.41%	94.22%	95.11%	92.57%	94.61%	96.95%
Linlithgow Academy	97.72%	98.12%	96.57%	91.60%	94.86%	95.41%
St Kentigern's Academy	94.71%	95.87%	96.17%	92.55%	97.09%	95.92%
St Margaret's Academy	95.16%	95.69%	95.91%	95.48%	96.55%	93.75%
The James Young High School	96.00%	95.24%	95.12%	96.84%	95.89%	94.23%
West Calder High School	93.18%	92.26%	91.24%	95.74%	93.44%	96.45%
Whitburn Academy	92.26%	87.86%	94.62%	94.53%	95.65%	93.85%
West Lothian	93.93%	94.36%	94.81%	92.88%	95.27%	94.64%
Scotland	93.72%	94.40%	95.05%	93.36%	95.48%	95.74%



# No Qualifications

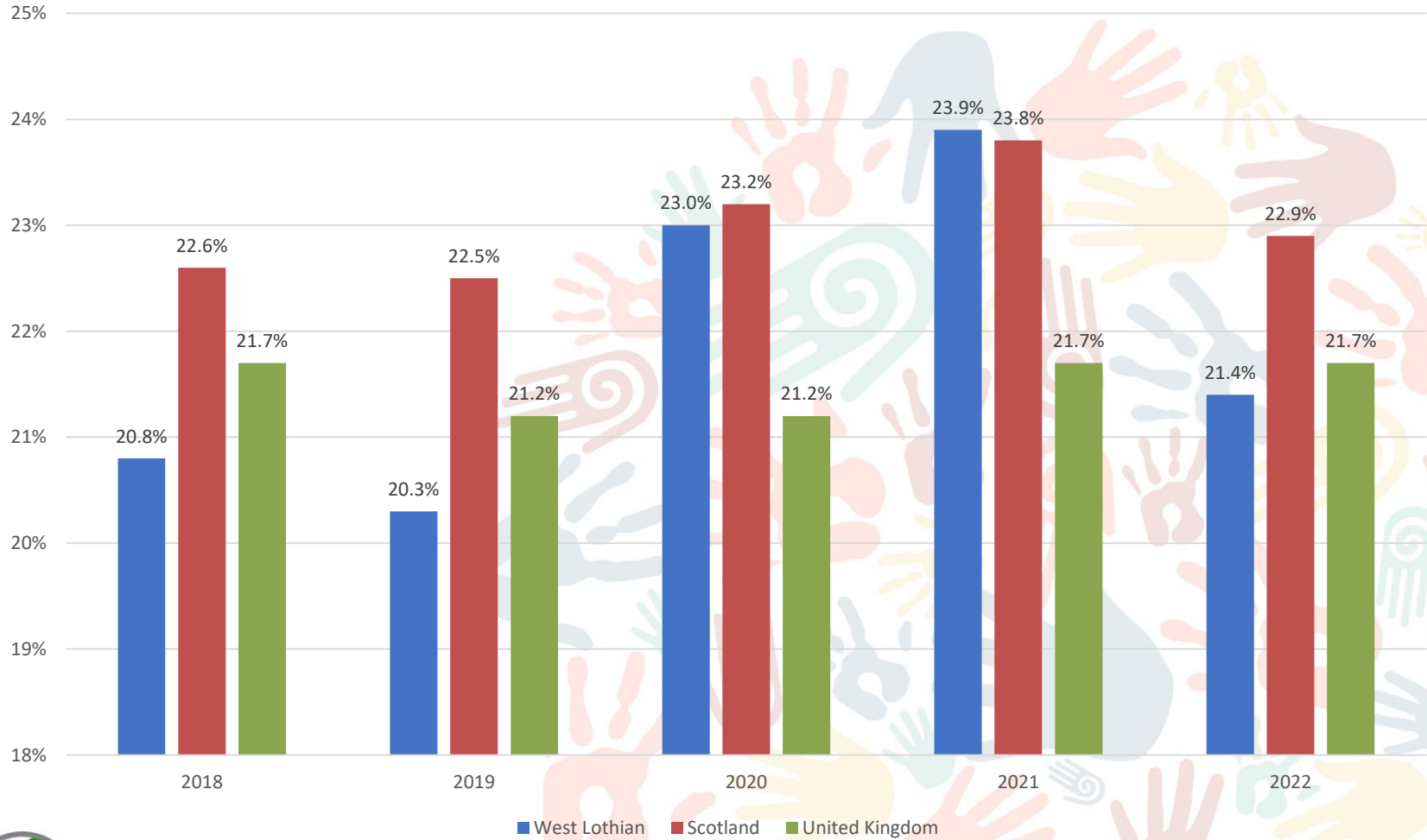
No Qualifications



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# Economic Inactivity

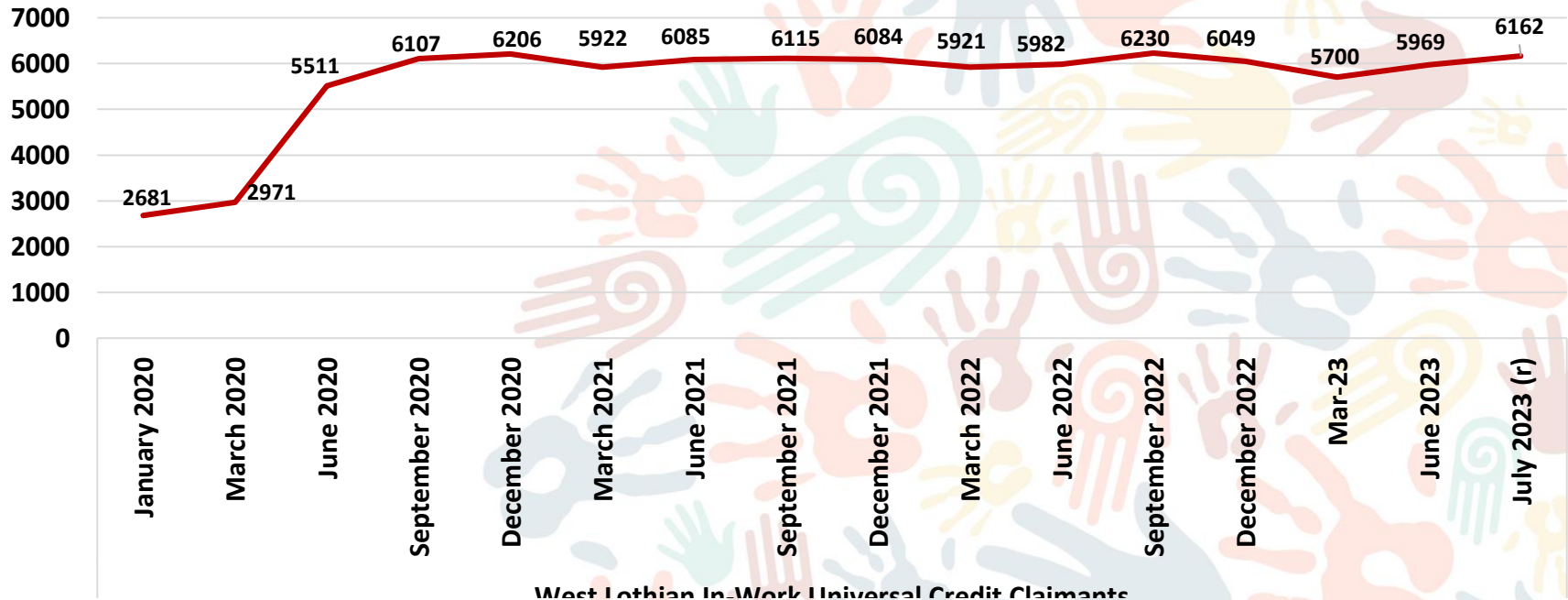
Economic Inactivity



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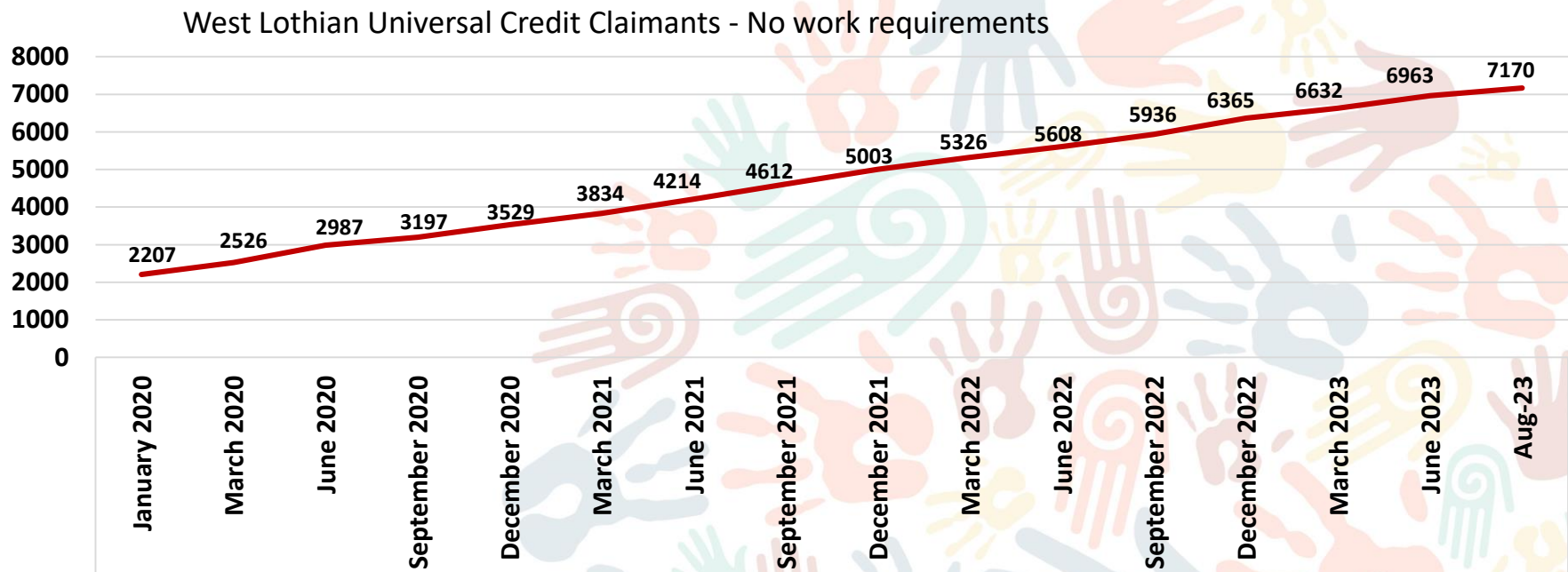
# In Work Universal Credit Claimants

West Lothian In-Work Universal Credit Claimants





# Economically Inactive Universal Credit Claimants





# Low Income Employment and Zero Hours

Low Pay Employment and Zero Hours Contracts		
<b>LGBF Family Group 3</b>	<b>Low pay (% of employees) 2021</b>	<b>Zero-hour contracts (% of employees) 2021</b>
Angus	16.1	3.2
Clackmannanshire	10.8	*
Midlothian	11.1	*
South Lanarkshire	9.9	0.8
Inverclyde	13.5	1.0
Renfrewshire	9.8	2.1
<b>West Lothian</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>
East Renfrewshire	6.3	1.8
<b>Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>2.3</b>
<b>Scotland</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>2.2</b>



# Household Incomes

## Median Household Income Estimates – 10 DZs with lowest median weekly income

Datazone Names	Median Weekly income
Whitburn War Memorial	£282
Whitburn Whitdale School	£283
Livingston Dedridge West	£306
Livingston Ladywell Banks South East	£314
Uphall Station West	£322
Livingston Ladywell Banks Central	£325
Livingston Eliburn South East	£326
Armadale Drove Road	£327
Greenrigg East	£330
Livingston Deans South	£331





**Claimant Count (Slides 2-6)**

The Claimant count for West Lothian is 3063 at 2.6% for September 2023, which is lower than the Scottish rate (3%) and the UK rate (3.7%). The latest rate is lower than it was in August (2.7%) which was 3,200 count and is lower than the rate in September 2022 (2.7%) which was 3,195. The jobs market has continued to be buoyant, but the changing economic climate may impact on employment levels with increasing concern on the impact of the cost of doing business crisis, high inflation, recession and high competition to fill skilled/experienced vacancies.

Youth unemployment figures for West Lothian in September were (4.7%), higher than the rate for Scotland (4.4%) The latest rate is lower than August 23 which was 670 count and continues with the trend in West Lothian of a reducing Youth Claimant number from September 21 (7.8%). Key sectors such as services, hospitality, and retail who generally are the largest employers of young people are still actively recruiting.

Overall, as the number of job vacancies continued to reach record levels, the general trend for unemployment has been a levelling off towards the end of 2021, which continued through 2022 until summer, where we have then seen a small rise in out-of-work claimants but has now levelled off at around 2.6% for West Lothian in 2023. It is worth noting that the figure includes individuals who are not in work and not looking for a job - those who are unable to look for work due to disability, long-term health issues, or caring responsibilities. DWP are currently looking at ways to help support some of these individuals to return to work by working with employers to provide a more flexible approach to working hours and in-work support.

It is likely that this increase in in-work claimants has resulted from a variety of different factors over the last few years including the high cost of living and reduced working hours. West Lothian Advice Shop has also noted increased numbers of individuals seeking advice and support related on money issues and budgeting. These figures should continue to be carefully monitored given the squeeze on household income through inflation and increased prices.

**School Support (Slide 7-9)**

For EMA the number of applications in West Lothian and in Scotland are falling. The reduction in payments of EMA has been linked to the increasing number of young people leaving school early to pursue employment opportunities rather than further education. However, it should be noted that for the 2020/2021 academic year numbers are higher because West Lothian Council carried forward applications due to the start of the pandemic.

As at 03 March 2023, there are 5,628 pupils in receipt of free school meals and 833 P1 to P5 pupils in receipt of the school clothing grant, who are eligible for the £3 meal payments while schools were on strike.

Whitburn Academy, Deans Community High School and Inveralmond have the highest levels of pupils in receipt of free school meals and clothing grants in both Primary and Secondary.

**Rent arrears and Homelessness (Slides 10-12)**

The value of current tenant arrears at 30 September 2023 was £4.667 million (6,909 cases), with the equivalent position in 2022/23 of £4.781 million. Arrears and their impact will continue to be closely monitored. It is likely that the value of current rent arrears is due to a number of factors including the current cost of living crisis and reduced working hours.

This is also reflected in 5 of West Lothian Council's Multi Member Ward Areas where the average debt for those in temporary accommodation has risen. The highest rates of average debt increase for those in temporary accommodation is in Bathgate (67%) where the average debt has increased from £333 in March 2023 to £545 in September. Although the highest levels of average debt for temporary accommodation are in Livingston East and East Calder (£1,521) and Fauldhouse and Breich Valley (£1,167).

It should also be noted that there has been an increase of homelessness applications in West Lothian in Q2 2023/24 (350) compared to Q1 2023/24 (290) which is an increase of 60. This again is likely to be due to a number of different factors including the cost of living crisis and the increases in inflation since 2021.

#### **Delayed Discharge (Slide 13)**

A delayed discharge occurs when a patient, clinically ready for discharge, cannot leave hospital because the other necessary care, support or accommodation for them is not readily accessible and/or funding is not available, for example to purchase a care home place. The rate in West Lothian for September 2023 was 0.01% lower than the Scottish average which was 3.22%

Slide 13 shows the number of discharges relating to standard reasons (health & social care or patient & family related); Delays for code 9 - Adults with Incapacity (AWI) reasons; Delays for code 9 - Non-AWI reasons. It should be noted that the rates of delayed discharge for standard reasons has decreased throughout 2023 from 38 in January to 25 in August.

#### **Life Expectancy (Slide 14-16)**

Life Expectancy estimates are based on the mortality probabilities indicated by the death records for the three years prior to the date of publication. Healthy life expectancy is defined as the number of years that someone could expect to spend in 'good' or 'very good' health. General Life Expectancy data shows similar performance across the Local Authority over the last 3 years and consistently lower Life Expectancy for males than females, which compares similarly to Scotland overall. Healthy Life Expectancy shows greater variance with data for females as lower than wider Scotland and falling from previous year whereas male data is slightly improving while this has continually fallen over the last 3-years Nationally.

- Lowest female life expectancy intermediate zone: Blackburn
- Highest female life expectancy intermediate zone: Linlithgow South
- 10.8-year gap between those two extremes
- Lowest male life expectancy intermediate zone: Dedridge East
- Highest male life expectancy intermediate zone: Linlithgow North
- 11.8-year gap between those two extremes

#### **Council Tax Collection (Slide 17)**

Council Tax income collection has increased in 2022/23 mainly due to the Scottish Governments £150 Cost of Living Award being credited to the Council Tax accounts of eligible households in April 2022. To be eligible, the householder must have been liable for

Council Tax on 14 February 2022 and be living in a property in band A-D or in receipt of a specific Council Tax reduction.

The effect of the £150 credit to Council Tax accounts of eligible households was to reduce the Council Tax due for the year and therefore the amount that had to be paid each month to the Council Tax account. As all credits were applied in April 2022 the reduction in the increase in Council Tax collection naturally reduced in each subsequent month of the financial year.

### **Child Poverty, Low Income Families and Workless Households (Slide 18-20)**

The percentage of children in poverty after housing costs demonstrates a consistently lower rate than in Scotland and wider United Kingdom. Once data for Low Income Families is broken down per Multi-Member Ward Fauldhouse & Breich Valley (27.4%) and Whitburn & Blackburn (25.1%) have a higher rate of Children in Low Income Families in West Lothian, significantly higher than the West Lothian, Scotland and UK average. The recent rise in the data demonstrates the impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic and the Cost of Living Crisis. The gap between the highest and lowest rate per MMW in 2021/22 is 20.0 percentage points.

The percentage of workless households in West Lothian has decreased between 2021 and 2022 by 1.3% points which is a greater decrease than Scotland (1.2%) and the United Kingdom (0.2%). Despite the decrease in Workless Households the data demonstrates an increase in Children in Low Income Families in 2021/2022 which is likely to be due to a variety of different factors over the last few years including the high cost of living and reduced working hours.

### **Positive Destinations (Slide 21)**

Each category of destination is classified as either positive or non-positive. Each leaver's category will be determined by Skills Development Scotland (SDS) staff in direct discussion with the school leaver. SDS staff make the decision on the most appropriate category to be used for any given situation. The following destinations are considered as non-Positive; Unemployed not seeking, Unemployed seeking and not know destination.

Almost all Schools showed an increase in performance over the 5-year period from 2017/18 to 2021/22, West Lothian performance this year was slightly lower than in 2020/21 which was the highest ever for proportion of pupils entering a Positive Destination.

### **No Qualification Rate (Slide 22)**

People are classed as having low or no qualifications if they have SCQF level 4 or below. The ratio is the number of people who reported having low or no qualification divided by the number of people in employment (16-64 years). A small number with unknown qualifications is excluded from this calculation.

Latest performance across the Authority has fallen over the last two years but is still above the proportion of people with no qualifications across Scotland and the UK.

### **Economic Inactivity (Slide 23)**

Economically inactive people are those not in employment, but do not satisfy the internationally agreed definition of unemployment. This group covers people without a job who: want a job but have not been seeking work in the last four weeks; or want a job and

are seeking work but not available to start work in the next two weeks; or do not want a job. Headline Inactivity levels and rates cover all workers aged 16-64 for both men and women. This excludes many people who would be inactive due to retirement.

Although performance improved in 2022, the proportion of people who are economically inactive has increased over the 5-year period from 2018 and still higher in West Lothian than Scotland and the UK.

#### **In-work Universal Credit Claimants (Slide 24)**

This indicator highlights the number of people In-Work who claim Universal Credit. The number of people in West Lothian who are in work but required financial support from Universal Credit (UC), has increased by 130% (6,162 July), since January 2020 (2,681).

In-work claims have remained consistently high since the start of the Covid Pandemic. The Cost of Living crisis continues to impact with higher costs and wages failing to keep up with inflation. Underemployment and insecure jobs are key factors for creating potential for higher levels of 'in work poverty'.

#### **Economically Inactive Universal Credit Claimants (Slide 25)**

This indicator further demonstrates Economic Inactivity in West Lothian. An estimated 15% (18,200) of the West Lothian working age population are 'economically inactive', discounting those retired.

'No work requirements' group is largest Universal Credit claim group and are defined as people who cannot do paid work due to health conditions / caring responsibilities. Universal Credit Claims have increased by around 225% (5,000) since pre-Covid period (Jan '20) which is 42% of the total UC caseload in August 2023 (7,170). A contributing factor to this has been the significant rise in long-term sickness figures, since early 2020 and the COVID-19 Pandemic.

#### **Low Income Employment and Zero Hours Contracts (Slide 26)**

This indicator demonstrates the number of people in West Lothian who are in Low Income Employment. At 2021 1 in 10 West Lothian residents are in low paid jobs (10,600), but less than 1% (800) are experiencing zero-hours contracts. West Lothian's proportion of Low Paid employees is close to the national and SE Scotland City Region rates. Employees on a zero hours contract are lower than the regional and national rates.

#### **Household Incomes (Slide 27)**

This indicator highlights the median household income estimates of the 10 datazones with the lowest average income in West Lothian. Latest estimates for average gross disposable household income (after housing costs) suggests that average income per household in West Lothian at £580 per week (around £30,200 per annum). An estimated 18% of West Lothian Households were in relative low income (when an income is below 60% of the average (median))



## **Appendix three**

### **Whitburn and Blackburn Area Profile**

#### **Overview**

Whitburn and Blackburn are former mining towns located in the western part of West Lothian, to the south of the M8 motorway. Whitburn, one of West Lothian's five traditional towns, is the larger of the two communities, with a population of 11,805. Blackburn, with a population of 5,775, is an older mining community that has recently undergone a transformation, marked by new housing developments to the south and additional planned developments to the west.

West Lothian encompasses 35 data zones falling within the bottom two deciles of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). Four of these data zones are in Whitburn, while five are in Blackburn. Further analysis of the SIMD data reveals:

Whitburn contains two data zones within the lowest 10% overall in Scotland, with all four ranking in the lowest 10% for employment and health.

In Blackburn, two data zones are in the lowest 10% overall in Scotland, with four ranking in the lowest 10% for health, three for education, employment, and crime.

Consequently, within Whitburn and Blackburn, four of the most deprived areas in Scotland can be identified.

#### **Claimant Count and Rent Arrears**

<b>Claimant Count Data- September 2023</b>		
	<b>Claimant Count</b>	<b>Rate %</b>
<b>Whitburn and Blackburn</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>3.7</b>
West Lothian	3,065	2.4
Scotland	106,805	3.0

The current tenant arrears as of September 30, 2023, in West Lothian amounted to £4.667 million, involving 6,909 cases. This figure represents a slight decrease from the equivalent position in the 2022/23 financial year, which was £4.781 million. Notably, the Whitburn and Blackburn Multi-Member Ward showed the highest level of mainstream tenant arrears in West Lothian, totalling £861,652. A closer examination of this data reveals that £495,452 of the arrears effect tenancies in Whitburn, while £286,707 are associated with Blackburn. In the Whitburn and Blackburn Ward, the average tenant debt stands at £663, slightly exceeding the figure for Blackburn, which is £699.

#### **Children in Low-Income Families and Accessing School Meals**

The average percentage of children in low-income families in West Lothian stands at 19.9%. However, within Whitburn and Blackburn, 16 out of 21 data zones surpass this West Lothian average, and in two data zones the level is twice the West Lothian average:

- Blackburn (S01013361) - 39.4%
- Whitburn Central (S01013374) - 41.6%

In the financial year 2022/23, 10,962 foodbank vouchers were distributed in Multi-Member wards throughout West Lothian, with 5.7% of West Lothian's population benefiting from these

vouchers. Notably, nearly a fifth of these vouchers, totalling 2,181, were distributed in Whitburn and Blackburn, helping 15.8% of the child population and 7.8% of the adult population through food vouchers.

The average percentage of children in West Lothian receiving non-universal free school meals in 2022/23 was 18.82%. In contrast, within Whitburn and Blackburn, the average percentage of children receiving non-universal free school meals was higher at 22.61%.

<b>Children Accessing non-Universal Free School Meals- 2022/2023</b>		
	<b>Free School Meals</b>	<b>Rate %</b>
<b>Whitburn and Blackburn</b>	<b>1,897</b>	<b>22.61%</b>
West Lothian	16,581	16.81%

### **School Leaver Destinations**

In West Lothian, 94.64% of school leavers found themselves leaving school to positive destinations in the 2021/22 academic year, slightly higher than Whitburn and Blackburn Multi-Member Ward, where the rate was 93.31%. Among these school leavers in West Lothian, 39% chose to pursue Higher Education, while in Whitburn and Blackburn, the corresponding rate was 34%.

## **Fauldhouse and Breich Valley Area Profile**

### **Overview**

The Fauldhouse and Breich Valley ward is comprised of seven distinct villages. Fauldhouse, with an estimated population of 4,900 in mid-2020, stands as a substantial village located at the very heart of Scotland's central belt. Surprisingly, despite this central positioning, it is a remote locality owing to its upland rural surroundings, making it one of the highest-elevated villages in West Lothian.

Addiewell and Loganlea, with a combined estimated population of 1,280 in mid-2020, are former mining villages also nestled within the same ward.

Polbeth, situated in the central belt, is approximately one mile from West Calder and three miles from Livingston. Notably, the village boasts a historic local landmark, the Five Sisters shale bing, located just a mile west of its boundaries.

Within West Lothian, there are 35 data zones situated within the bottom two deciles of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). Among these, three data zones are in Fauldhouse, one is in Addiewell, and another one in Stoneyburn. A more detailed breakdown of the SIMD data highlights that one data zone in Fauldhouse falls within the bottom 10% overall in Scotland, emphasising its unique socioeconomic characteristics.

### **Claimant Count and Rent Arrears**

<b>Claimant Count Data- September 2023</b>		
	<b>Claimant Count</b>	<b>Rate %</b>
<b>Fauldhouse and Breich Valley</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>3.4</b>
West Lothian	3,065	2.4
Scotland	106,805	3.0

The current tenant arrears, as of September 30, 2023, in West Lothian, amounted to £4.667 million, encompassing 6,909 cases. This figure signifies a slight decrease compared to the equivalent position in the 2022/23 financial year when it stood at £4.781 million. The Fauldhouse and Breich Valley Multi-Member Ward displayed the second-highest level of mainstream tenant arrears in West Lothian, totalling £785,166. A closer examination of this data reveals that £285,556 of the arrears relate to tenancies in Fauldhouse, £144,037 to Polbeth, and £135,639 to Addiewell.

In the Fauldhouse and Breich Valley Ward, the average tenant debt is the highest in West Lothian, reaching £848, with the highest average rates observed in Breich, at £1,143.

### **Children in Low-Income Families and Accessing School Meals**

The average percentage of children in low-income families in West Lothian stands at 19.9%. However, within Fauldhouse and Breich Valley, 15 out of 21 data zones surpass this West Lothian average, and in two data zones the level is twice the West Lothian average:

- West Calder and Polbeth (S01013261) - 39.5%
- Breich Valley (S01013254) – 40.7%

In the 2022/23 financial year, a total of 10,962 food bank vouchers were distributed across Multi-Member Wards of West Lothian. A significant proportion of these vouchers, approximately 1,288, were provided to individuals in the Fauldhouse and Breich Valley ward.

Approximately 5.7% of West Lothian's population relied on food bank vouchers for support. In contrast, within the Fauldhouse and Breich Valley, a significant 14.1% of the child population and 6.6% of the adult population depended on food vouchers to meet their essential needs.

The average percentage of children in West Lothian receiving non-universal free school meals in 2022/23 was 18.82%. In contrast, within Fauldhouse and Breich Valley, the average percentage of children receiving non-universal free school meals was notably higher at 22.84%.

<b>Children Accessing non-Universal Free School Meals- 2022/2023</b>		
	<b>Free School Meals</b>	<b>Rate %</b>
<b>Fauldhouse and Breich Valley</b>	<b>1,353</b>	<b>22.84%</b>
West Lothian	16,581	16.81%

### **School Leaver Destinations**

In West Lothian, 94.64% of school leavers found themselves leaving school to positive destinations in the 2021/22 academic year, slightly lower than Fauldhouse and Breich Valley Multi-Member Ward, where the rate was 95.59%. Among these school leavers in West Lothian, 39% chose to pursue Higher Education, while in Fauldhouse and Breich Valley, the corresponding rate was 34%.