

# Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 127 February 2019

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The Claimant Count is a measure of the number of people who are unemployed and claiming benefits. From 1996 until the recent introduction of Universal Credit, this was based on the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance. However, since its introduction some unemployment benefit claimants will be claiming Universal Credit instead. **To reflect this change, the Claimant Count has been expanded to include people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit and who are searching for work.**

Gloucestershire is in the process of transitioning to full Universal Credit. This means a broader span of claimants will be required to look for work than previously under Jobseekers Allowance. As more people are brought within the coverage of Universal Credit, the Claimant Count is set to rise noticeably over time. This will happen irrespective of how the economy performs and is a feature of the design of Universal Credit which brings additional groups of people into 'Searching for Work' conditionality (and therefore the Claimant Count), to help encourage and support these claimants into work.

For more information about Universal Credit please see the [ONS website](#).

## INTRODUCTION

The Unemployment Bulletin provides a monthly update on unemployment data for Gloucestershire, the South West region and the United Kingdom. It is produced by the Data & Analysis Team in the County Council's Planning, Performance and Change function. The data are sourced from the Office for National Statistics via Nomis ([www.nomis.co.uk](http://www.nomis.co.uk)). All data are rounded to the nearest 5 and may not precisely add to the sum of the number of people claiming JSA, and the number of people claiming Universal Credit required to seek work, due to independent rounding.

## PART 1: SUMMARY

**The claimant rate in Gloucestershire was 1.8% in February 2019.** The South West rate increased to 2.0% and the UK rate increased to 2.6%. Gloucestershire's rate was 0.2% lower than the South West average of 2.0%, and 0.8% lower than the UK average of 2.6%.

**The claimant count in Gloucestershire in February 2019 increased by 460 people.** The amount of people claiming in February 2019 was 7.3% higher than the number in January 2019. This compares to a 8.0% increase in the South West and a 6.5% increase for the UK.

Produced by:

Data & Analysis Team  
Planning, Performance and Change  
Gloucestershire County Council  
March 2019

## DISTRICTS AT A GLANCE

At a glance unemployment information grouped by district. Includes:

**Claim count:** Total number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work in February 2019

**Compared to last month:** How much larger/smaller February's claimant count is compared to January expressed as a %

**Claimant rate:** The % of working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work in February 2019

**Highest claiming ward:** The ward with the highest claim count in that district and the rate

### CHEL滕HAM BOROUGH

Claim count:	1,305
Compared to last month:	5.2%
Claimant rate:	1.8%
Highest claiming ward	Hester's Way (4.1%)

### GLOUCESTER CITY

Claim count:	2,035
Compared to last month:	7.7%
Claimant rate:	2.5%
Highest claiming wards	Westgate (5.2%)

### COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claim count:	665
Compared to last month:	7.3%
Claimant rate:	1.3%
Highest claiming ward	Watermoor (3.5%)

### STROUD DISTRICT

Claim count:	895
Compared to last month:	11.9%
Claimant rate:	1.3%
Highest claiming wards	Slade (3.3%)

### FOREST OF DEAN

Claim count:	1,070
Compared to last month:	4.4%
Claimant rate:	2.1%
Highest claiming ward	Lydney East (4.0%)

### TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claim count:	795
Compared to last month:	8.9%
Claimant rate:	1.5%
Highest claiming ward	Tewkesbury Prior's Park (3.6%)

## PART 2: UK, SW AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE INDICATORS

The unemployment situation in Gloucestershire compared to the South West and the UK.

### Claimant Rate

Figure 1: Claimant Rate for Gloucestershire, the South West and UK over the past year

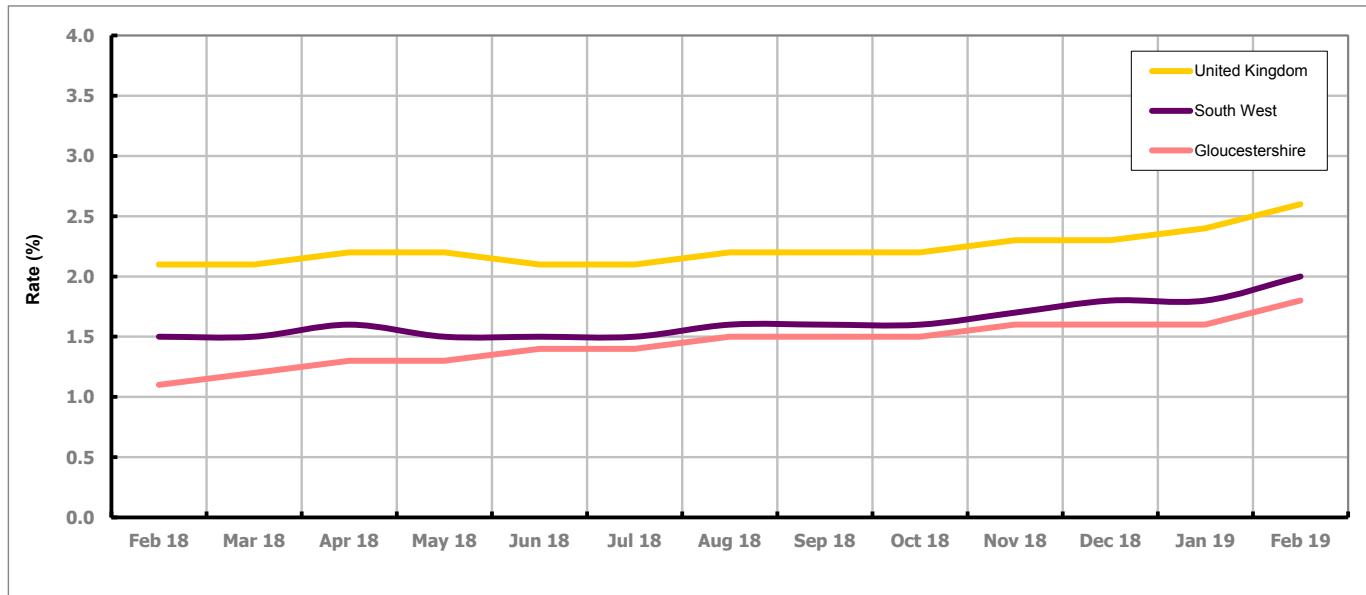


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 1.8% in February 2019. The Gloucestershire rate has been lower than the South West average since December 2015, with the exception of April and May 2016 when it was the same. It has been persistently lower by approximately 0.8% against the UK average.

### Claimant Count

Table 1: Analysis of UK, South West and Gloucestershire Claimant Counts

Area	Claimant Count in February 2019	% change on January 2019	Consecutive months increasing
UK	1,068,630	6.5%	7
South West	66,885	8.0%	7
Gloucestershire	6,765	7.3%	8

Table 1 shows that in February 2019, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 7.3% higher than the number in January 2019.

## PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 2: Claimant Rate (%) across Gloucestershire - February 2019

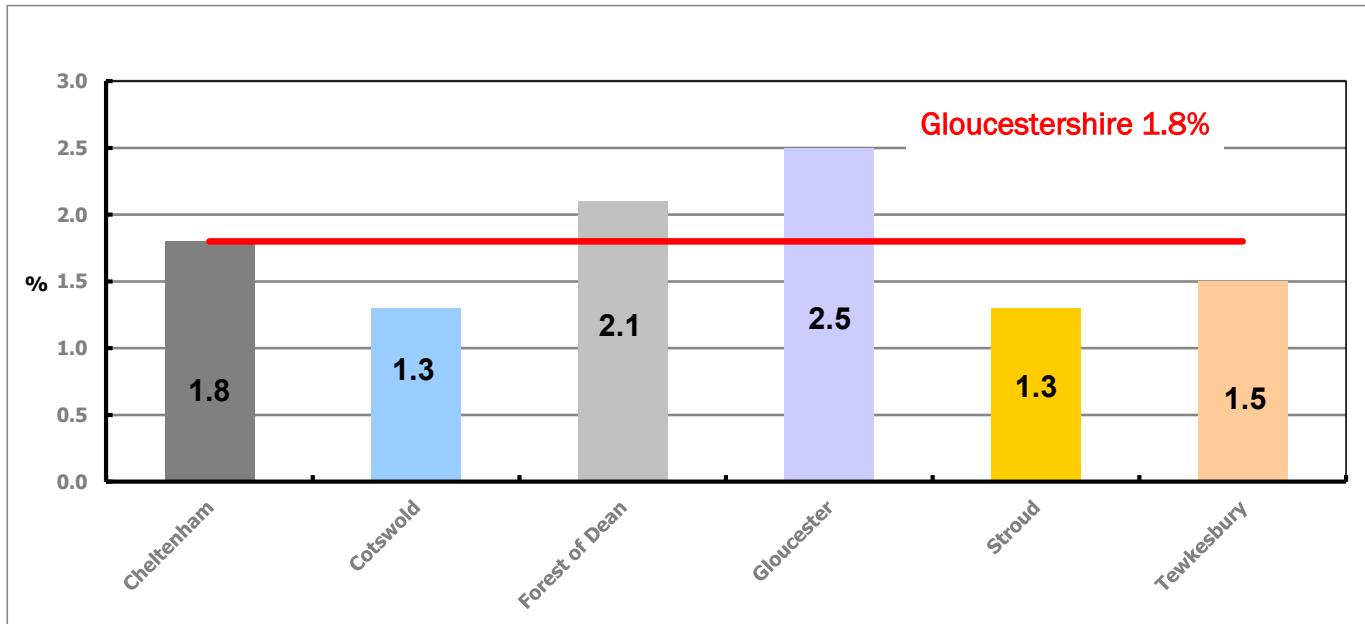


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for February 2019 in Gloucestershire. Between January 2019 and February 2019, the rate increased in all districts.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	Feb 19 Number	Feb 19 Rate	Jan 19 Number	Jan 19 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	6,765	1.8	6,305	1.6	460	7.3%	0.2
Cheltenham	1,305	1.8	1,240	1.7	65	5.2%	0.1
Cotswold	665	1.3	620	1.2	45	7.3%	0.1
Forest of Dean	1,070	2.1	1,025	2.0	45	4.4%	0.1
Gloucester	2,035	2.5	1,890	2.3	145	7.7%	0.2
Stroud	895	1.3	800	1.1	95	11.9%	0.2
Tewkesbury	795	1.5	730	1.4	65	8.9%	0.1

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in February 2019 compared to January 2019. All districts saw an increase in the number of claimants.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	Feb 19 Number	Feb 19 Rate	Jan 19 Number	Jan 19 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	3,935	2.1	3,690	1.9	245	6.6%	0.2
Cheltenham	790	2.1	760	2.1	30	3.9%	0.0
Cotswold	375	1.5	340	1.4	35	10.3%	0.1
Forest of Dean	615	2.4	605	2.4	10	1.7%	0.0
Gloucester	1,225	3.0	1,130	2.7	95	8.4%	0.3
Stroud	490	1.4	445	1.3	45	10.1%	0.1
Tewkesbury	440	1.7	405	1.5	35	8.6%	0.2

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in February 2019 compared to January 2019. All districts saw an increase in the number of male claimants.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	Feb 19 Number	Feb 19 Rate	Jan 19 Number	Jan 19 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	2,830	1.5	2,615	1.4	215	8.2%	0.1
Cheltenham	515	1.4	480	1.3	35	7.3%	0.1
Cotswold	290	1.1	280	1.1	10	3.6%	0.0
Forest of Dean	455	1.8	420	1.6	35	8.3%	0.2
Gloucester	810	2.0	760	1.9	50	6.6%	0.1
Stroud	405	1.1	355	1.0	50	14.1%	0.1
Tewkesbury	350	1.3	325	1.2	25	7.7%	0.1

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in February 2019 compared to January 2019. All districts saw an increase in the number of female claimants.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

This section covers the six districts and a comparison of their constituent wards.

### 4.1 Cheltenham Borough

#### Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 3: Cheltenham Borough claimant rate over the last year

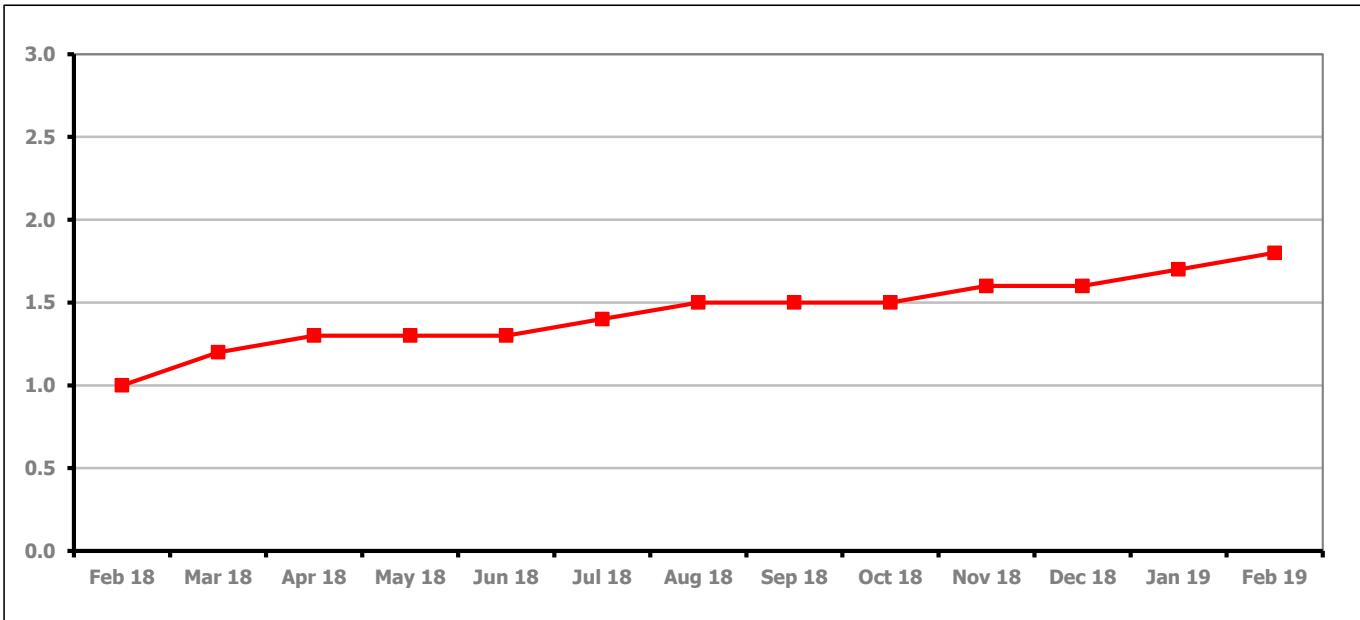


Figure 3 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham increased in February 2019 to 1.8%.

Figure 4: Claimant rates across Cheltenham Borough wards - February 2019

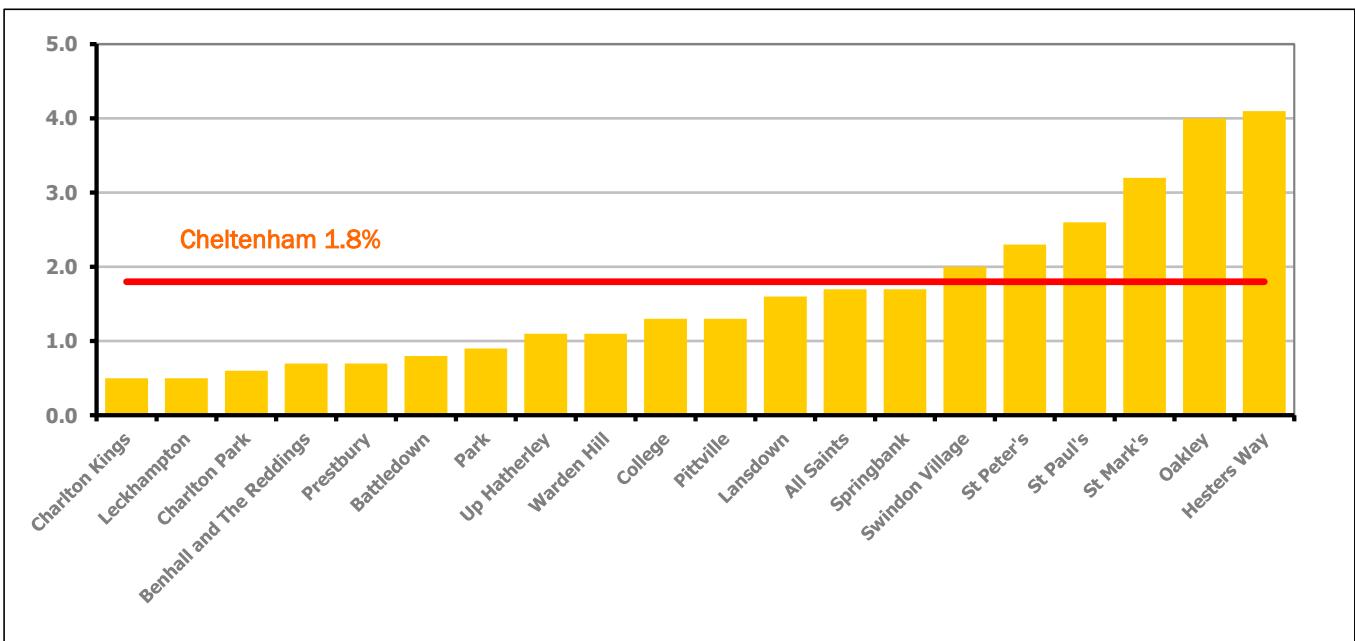


Figure 4 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 1.8%. Six wards lie above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

Table 5: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cheltenham Borough ward level - February 2019

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	0.5	4
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	0.5	4
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	0.6	12
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	0.7	16
Cheltenham	Prestbury	0.7	16
Cheltenham	Battledown	0.8	25
Cheltenham	Park	0.9	35
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	1.1	48
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	1.1	48
Cheltenham	College	1.3	70
Cheltenham	Pittville	1.3	70
Cheltenham	Lansdown	1.6	96
Cheltenham	All Saints	1.7	103
Cheltenham	Springbank	1.7	103
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	2.0	113
Cheltenham	St Peter's	2.3	121
Cheltenham	St Paul's	2.6	125
Cheltenham	St Mark's	3.2	131
Cheltenham	Oakley	4.0	139
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	4.1	141

lowest 10% of county  
 first quartile of county  
 second quartile of county  
 third quartile of county  
 fourth quartile of county  
 highest 10% of county

\* 1 = "best" and 146 = "worst"

Table 5 shows overall claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards and their position relative to all wards in Gloucestershire.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.2 Cotswold District

#### Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 5: Cotswold District claimant rate over the last year

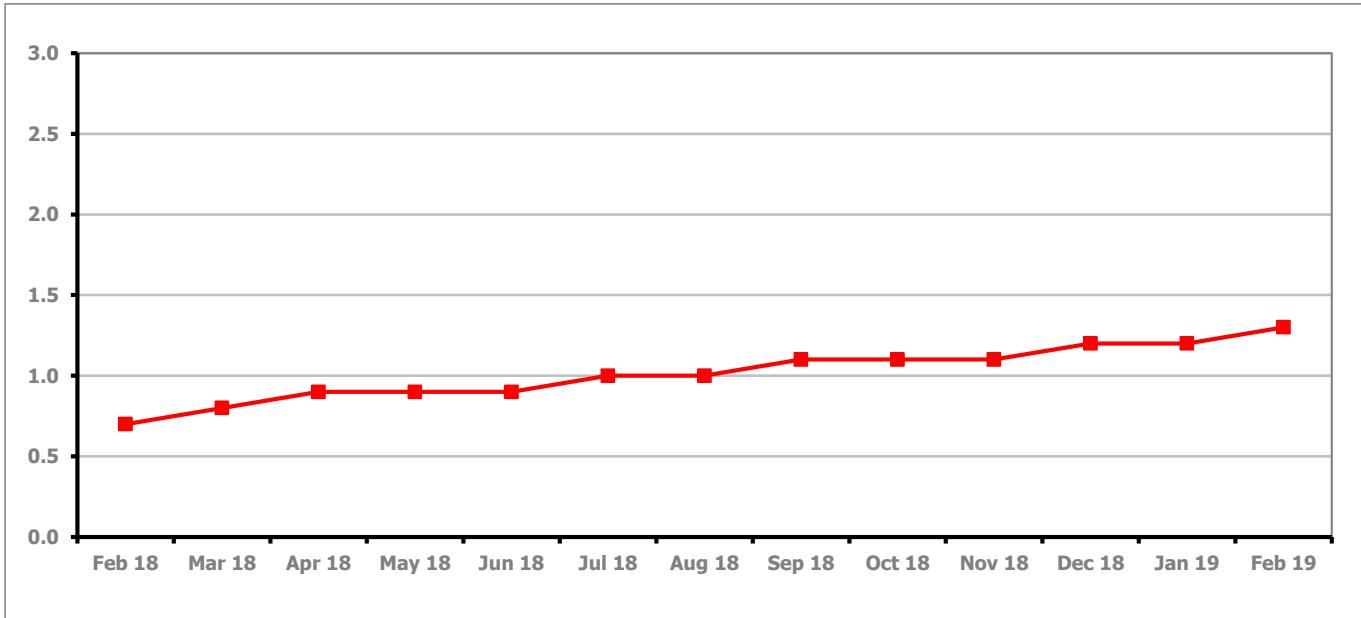


Figure 5 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District increased in February 2019 to 1.3%.

Figure 6: Claimant rates across Cotswold District wards - February 2019

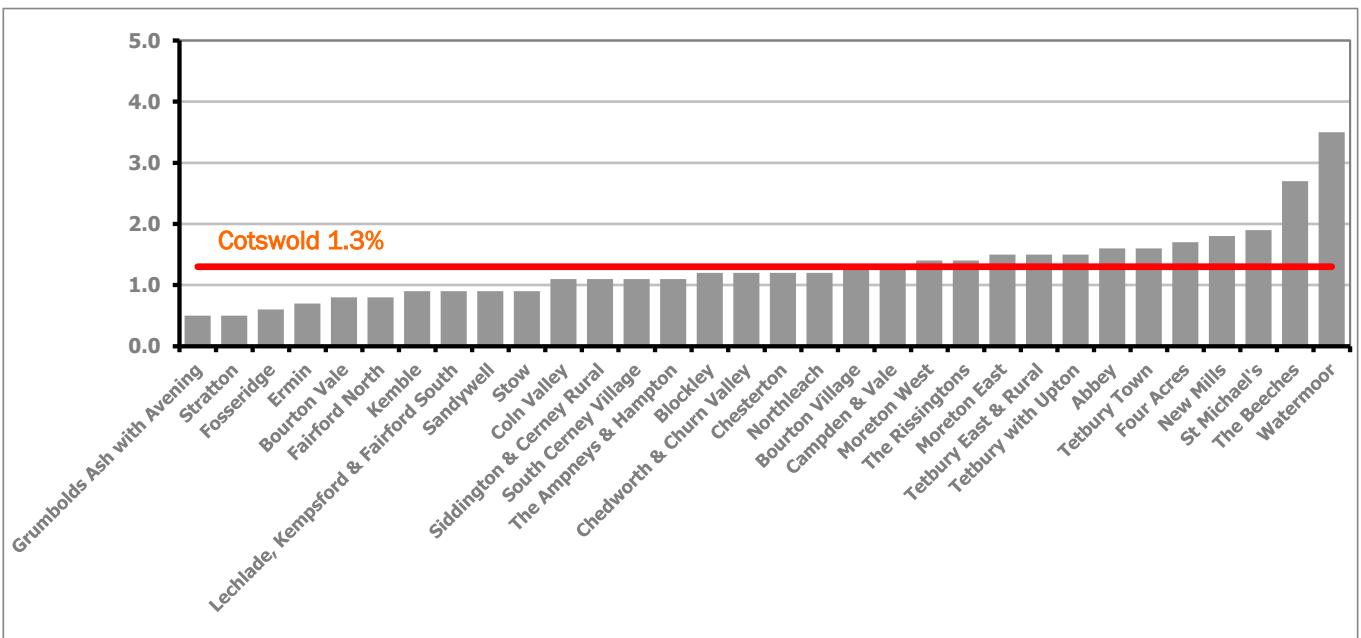


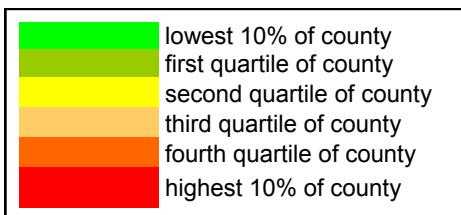
Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.3%. Twelve wards lie above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.2 Cotswold District continued...

Table 6: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cotswold District ward level - February 2019

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswolds	Grumbolds Ash with Avening	0.5	4
Cotswolds	Stratton	0.5	4
Cotswolds	Fosseridge	0.6	12
Cotswolds	Ermin	0.7	16
Cotswolds	Bourton Vale	0.8	25
Cotswolds	Fairford North	0.8	25
Cotswolds	Kemble	0.9	35
Cotswolds	Lechlade, Kempsford & Fairford South	0.9	35
Cotswolds	Sandywell	0.9	35
Cotswolds	Stow	0.9	35
Cotswolds	Coln Valley	1.1	48
Cotswolds	Siddington & Cerney Rural	1.1	48
Cotswolds	South Cerney Village	1.1	48
Cotswolds	The Ampneys & Hampton	1.1	48
Cotswolds	Blockley	1.2	59
Cotswolds	Chedworth & Churn Valley	1.2	59
Cotswolds	Chesterton	1.2	59
Cotswolds	Northleach	1.2	59
Cotswolds	Bourton Village	1.3	70
Cotswolds	Campden & Vale	1.3	70
Cotswolds	Moreton West	1.4	80
Cotswolds	The Rissingtons	1.4	80
Cotswolds	Moreton East	1.5	89
Cotswolds	Tetbury East & Rural	1.5	89
Cotswolds	Tetbury with Upton	1.5	89
Cotswolds	Abbey	1.6	96
Cotswolds	Tetbury Town	1.6	96
Cotswolds	Four Acres	1.7	103
Cotswolds	New Mills	1.8	107
Cotswolds	St Michael's	1.9	110
Cotswolds	The Beeches	2.7	128
Cotswolds	Watermoor	3.5	135



\* 1 = "best" and 146 = "worst"

Table 6 shows overall claimant rates for Cotswold District wards and their position relative to all wards in Gloucestershire.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.3 Forest of Dean District

#### Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 7: Forest of Dean District claimant rate over the last year

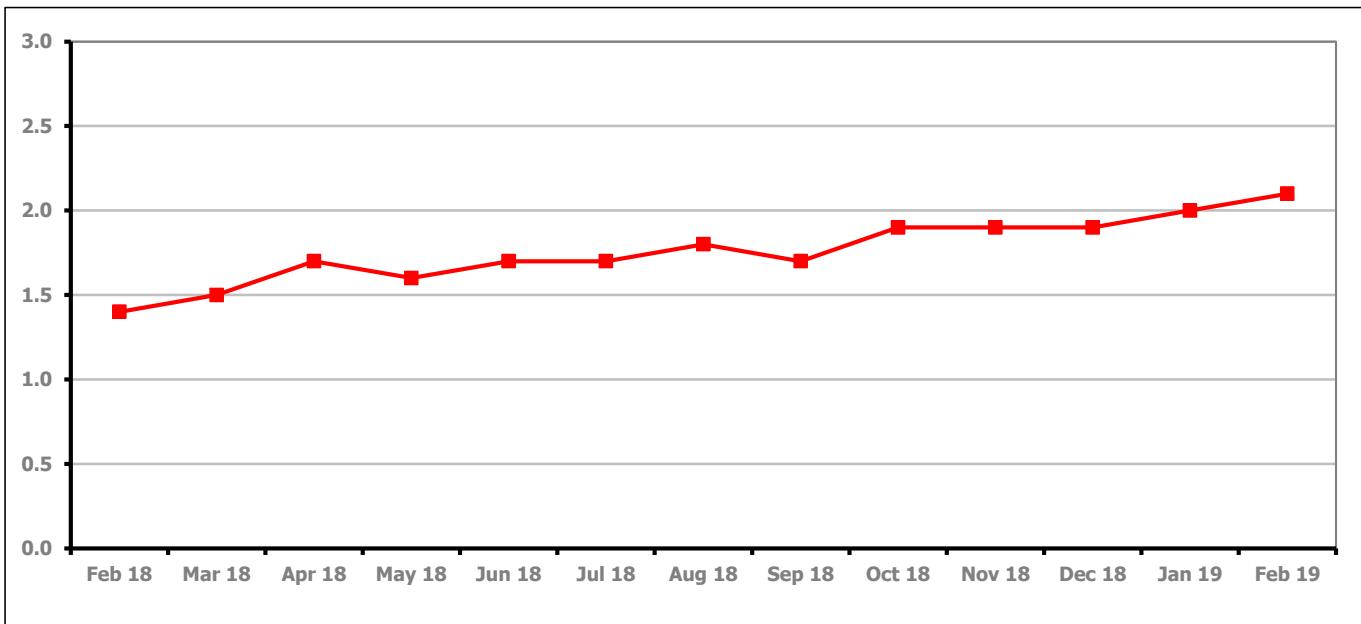


Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean increased in February 2019 to 2.1%.

Figure 8: Claimant rates across Forest of Dean District wards - February 2019

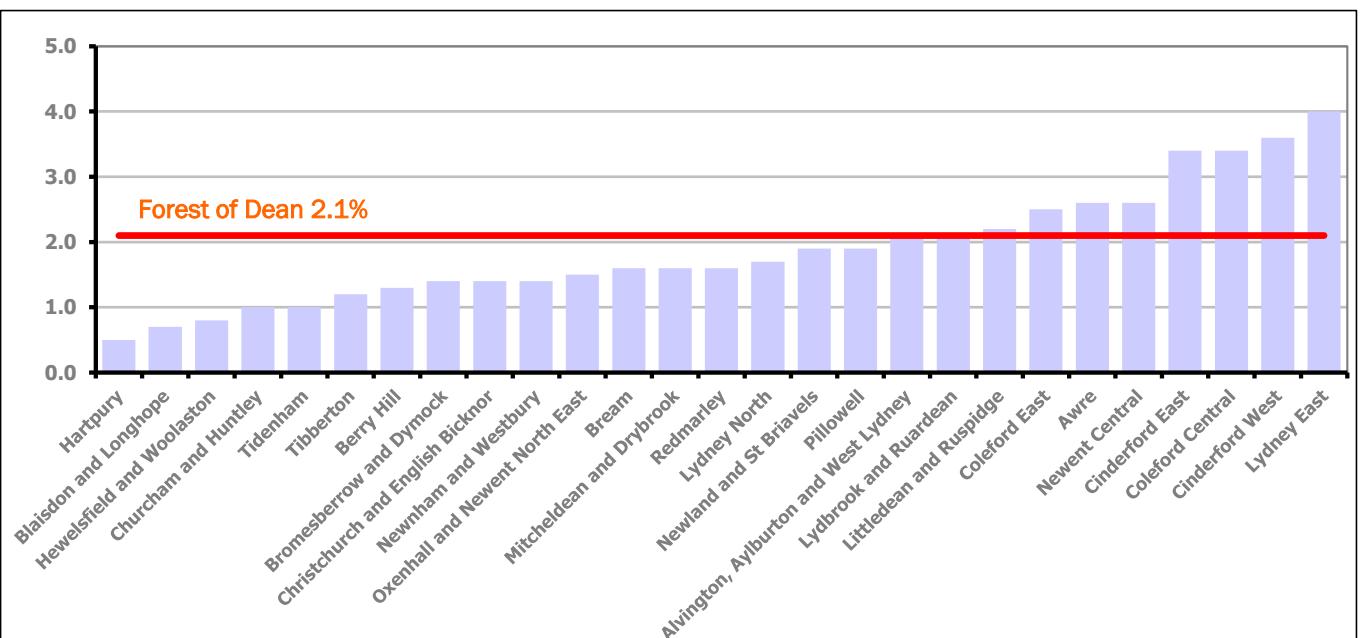


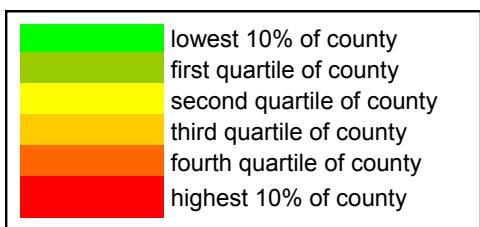
Figure 8 shows the claimant rates for the Forest of Dean District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 2.1%. Eight wards lie above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.3 Forest of Dean District continued...

Table 7: Analysis of Claimant Count at Forest of Dean District ward level - February 2019

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Hartpury	0.5	4
Forest	Blaisdon and Longhope	0.7	16
Forest	Hewelsfield and Woolaston	0.8	25
Forest	Churcham and Huntley	1.0	41
Forest	Tidenham	1.0	41
Forest	Tibberton	1.2	59
Forest	Berry Hill	1.3	70
Forest	Bromesberrow and Dymock	1.4	80
Forest	Christchurch and English Bicknor	1.4	80
Forest	Newnham and Westbury	1.4	80
Forest	Oxenhall and Newent North East	1.5	89
Forest	Bream	1.6	96
Forest	Mitcheldean and Drybrook	1.6	96
Forest	Redmarley	1.6	96
Forest	Lydney North	1.7	103
Forest	Newland and St Briavels	1.9	110
Forest	Pillowell	1.9	110
Forest	Alvington, Aylburton and West Lydney	2.1	116
Forest	Lydbrook and Ruardean	2.1	116
Forest	Littledean and Ruspidge	2.2	119
Forest	Coleford East	2.5	124
Forest	Awre	2.6	125
Forest	Newent Central	2.6	125
Forest	Cinderford East	3.4	133
Forest	Coleford Central	3.4	133
Forest	Cinderford West	3.6	136
Forest	Lydney East	4.0	139



\* 1 = "best" and 146 = "worst"

Table 7 shows overall claimant rates for the Forest of Dean District wards and their position relative to all wards in Gloucestershire.

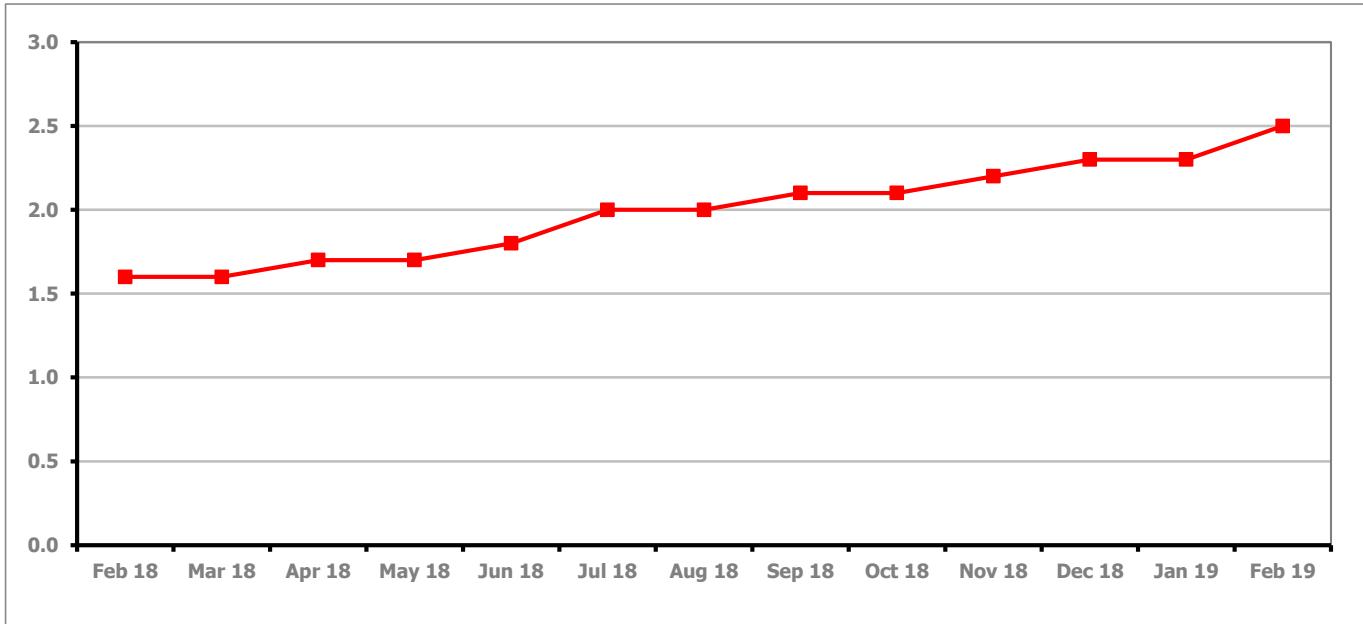
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.4 Gloucester City****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 9: Gloucester City claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 9 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City increased in February 2019 to 2.5%.

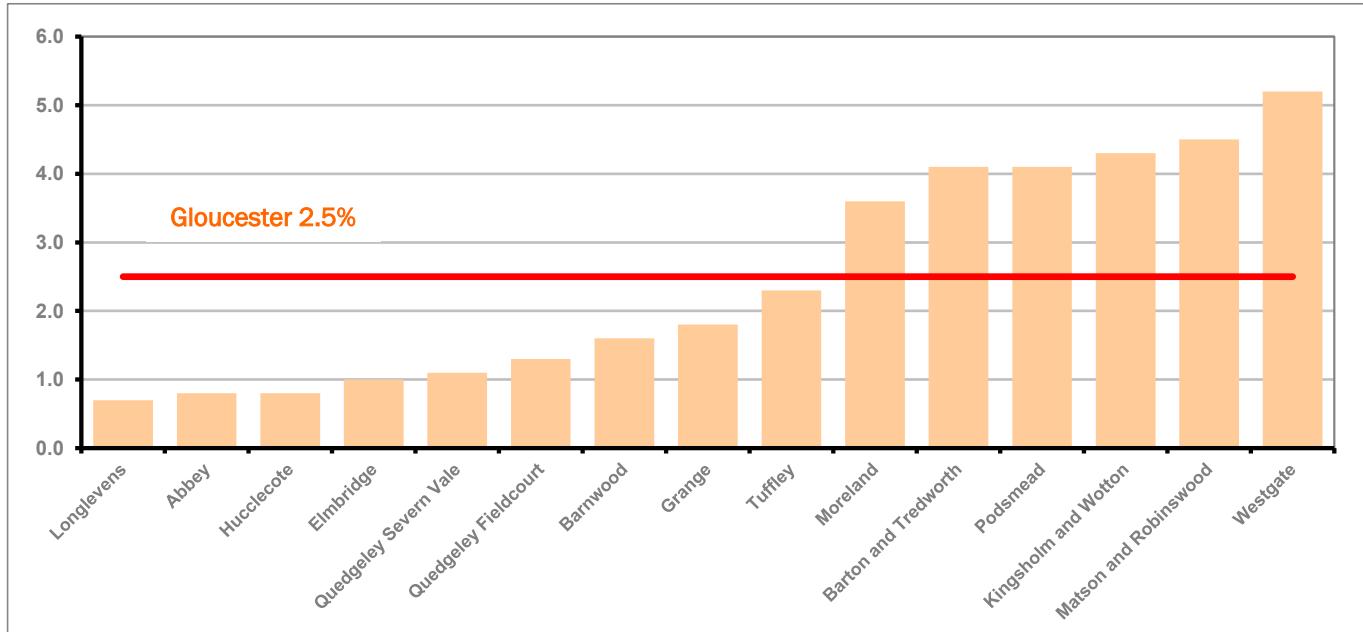
*Figure 10: Claimant rates across Gloucester City wards - February 2019*

Figure 10 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 2.5%. Six wards lie above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.4 Gloucester City continued...

Table 8: Analysis of Claimant Count at Gloucester City ward level - February 2019

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Longlevens	0.7	16
Gloucester	Abbey	0.8	25
Gloucester	Hucclecote	0.8	25
Gloucester	Elmbridge	1.0	41
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	1.1	48
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	1.3	70
Gloucester	Barnwood	1.6	96
Gloucester	Grange	1.8	107
Gloucester	Tuffley	2.3	121
Gloucester	Moreland	3.6	136
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	4.1	141
Gloucester	Podsmead	4.1	141
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	4.3	144
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	4.5	145
Gloucester	Westgate	5.2	146

lowest 10% of county  
 first quartile of county  
 second quartile of county  
 third quartile of county  
 fourth quartile of county  
 highest 10% of county

\* 1 = "best" and 146 = "worst"

Table 8 shows overall claimant rates for Gloucester City wards and their position relative to all wards in Gloucestershire.

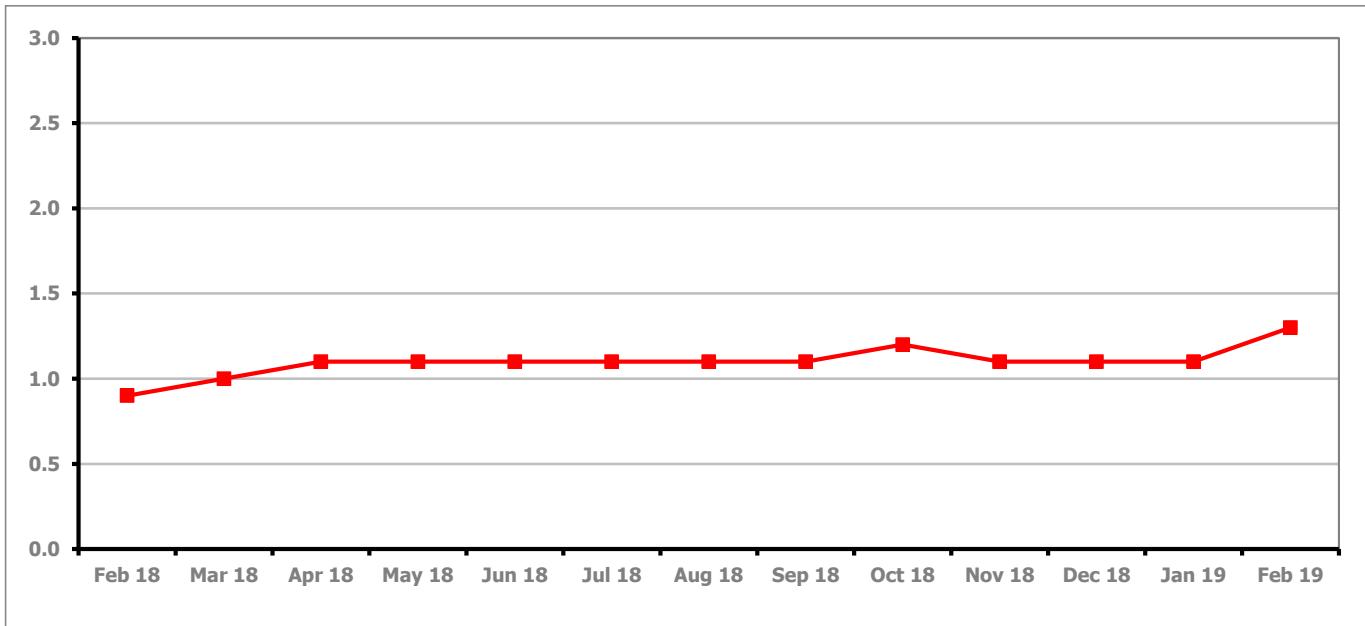
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.5 Stroud District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 11: Stroud District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 11 shows the claimant rate for Stroud increased in February 2019 to 1.3%.

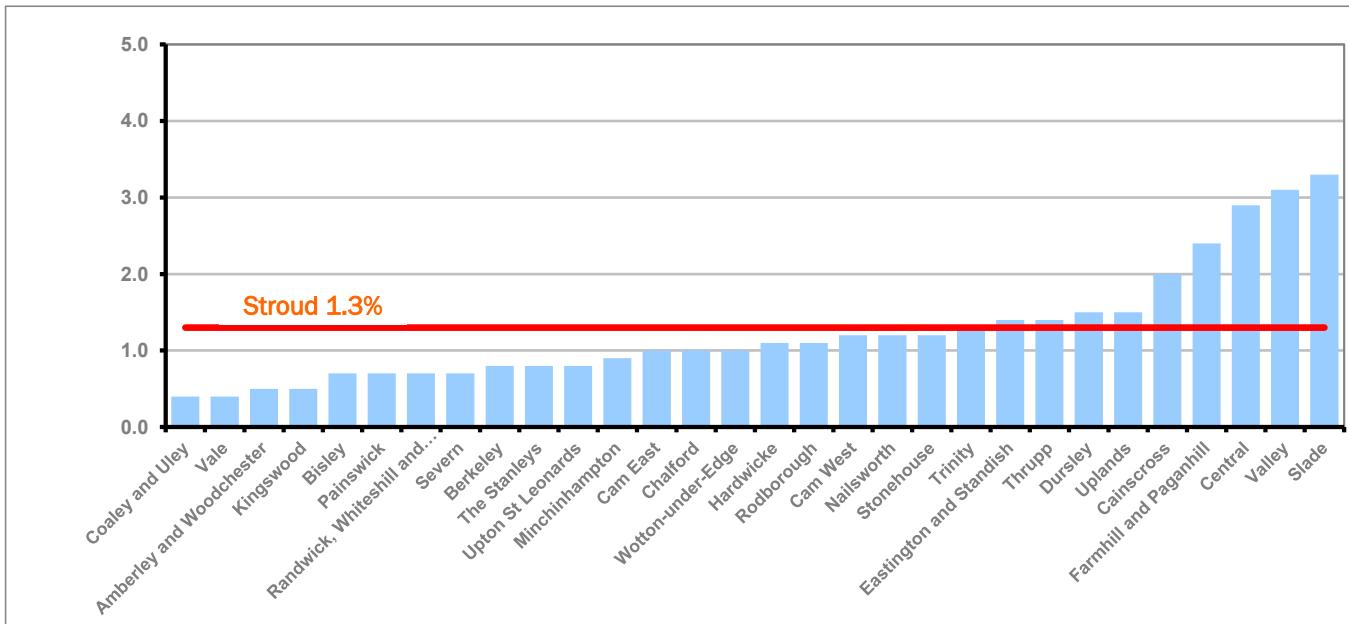
*Figure 12: Claimant rates across Stroud District wards - February 2019*

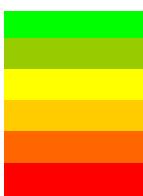
Figure 12 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.3%. Nine wards are above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### 4.5 Stroud District continued...

Table 9: Analysis of Claimant Count at Stroud District ward level - February 2019

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	0.4	1
Stroud	Vale	0.4	1
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	0.5	4
Stroud	Kingswood	0.5	4
Stroud	Bisley	0.7	16
Stroud	Painswick	0.7	16
Stroud	Randwick, Whiteshill and Ruscombe	0.7	16
Stroud	Severn	0.7	16
Stroud	Berkeley	0.8	25
Stroud	The Stanleys	0.8	25
Stroud	Upton St Leonards	0.8	25
Stroud	Minchinhampton	0.9	35
Stroud	Cam East	1.0	41
Stroud	Chalford	1.0	41
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	1.0	41
Stroud	Hardwicke	1.1	48
Stroud	Rodborough	1.1	48
Stroud	Cam West	1.2	59
Stroud	Nailsworth	1.2	59
Stroud	Stonehouse	1.2	59
Stroud	Trinity	1.3	70
Stroud	Eastington and Standish	1.4	80
Stroud	Thrupp	1.4	80
Stroud	Dursley	1.5	89
Stroud	Uplands	1.5	89
Stroud	Cainscross	2.0	113
Stroud	Farmhill and Paganhill	2.4	123
Stroud	Central	2.9	129
Stroud	Valley	3.1	130
Stroud	Slade	3.3	132


 lowest 10% of county  
 first quartile of county  
 second quartile of county  
 third quartile of county  
 fourth quartile of county  
 highest 10% of county

\* 1 = "best" and 146 = "worst"

Table 9 shows overall claimant rates for Stroud District wards and their position relative to all wards in Gloucestershire.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.6 Tewkesbury District

#### Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 13: Tewkesbury District claimant rate over the last year

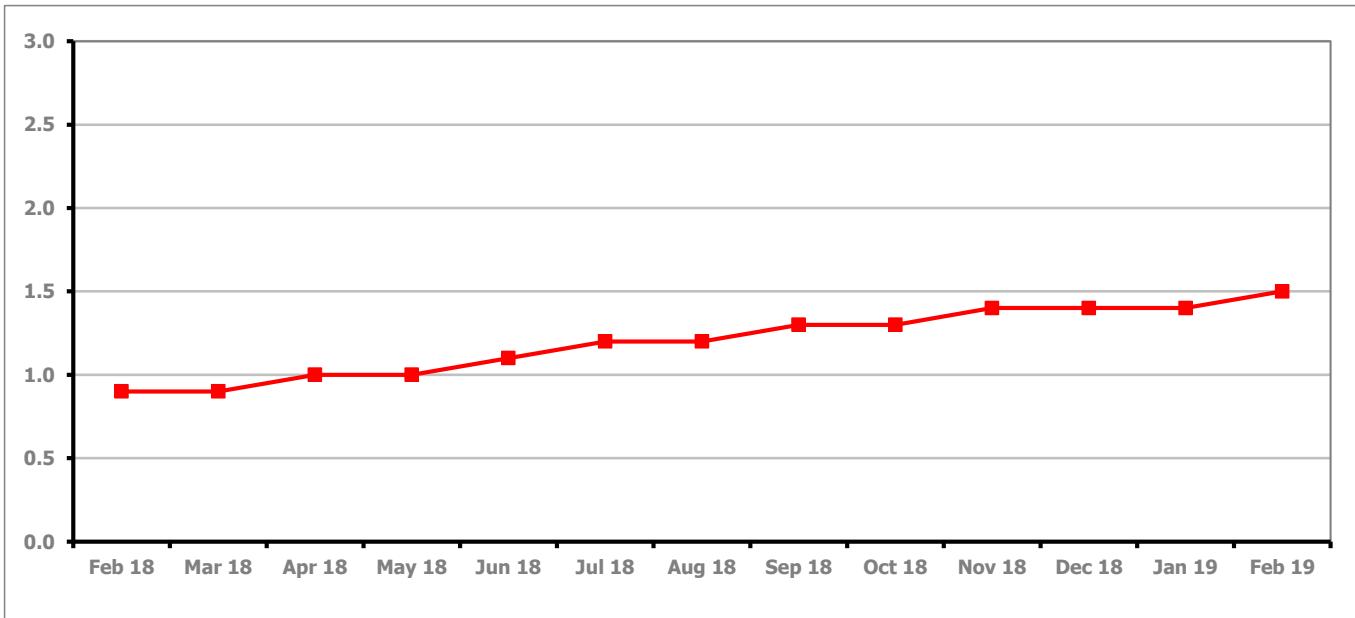


Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury District increased in February 2019 to 1.5%.

Figure 14: Claimant rates across Tewkesbury District wards - February 2019

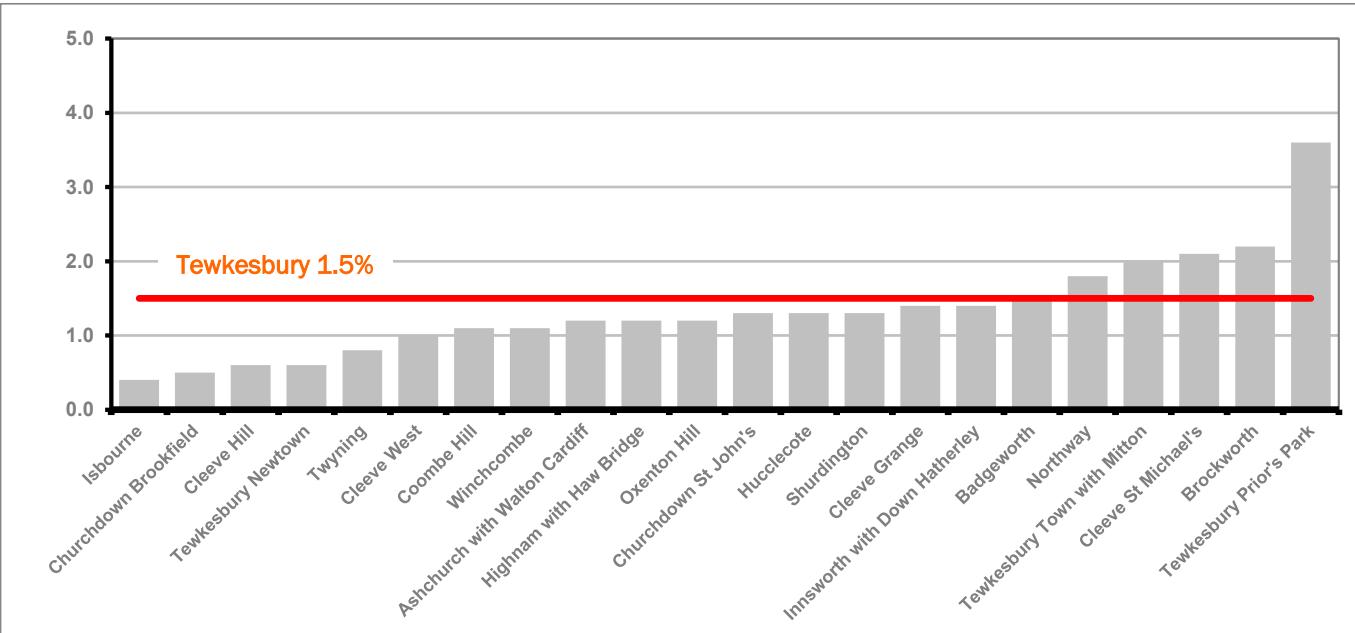


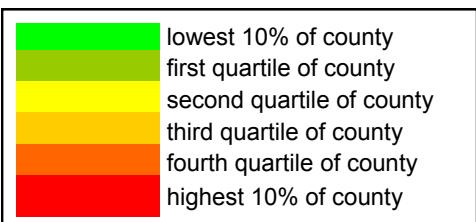
Figure 14 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.5%. Five wards are above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### 4.6 Tewkesbury District continued...

Table 10: Analysis of Claimant Count at Tewkesbury District level - February 2019

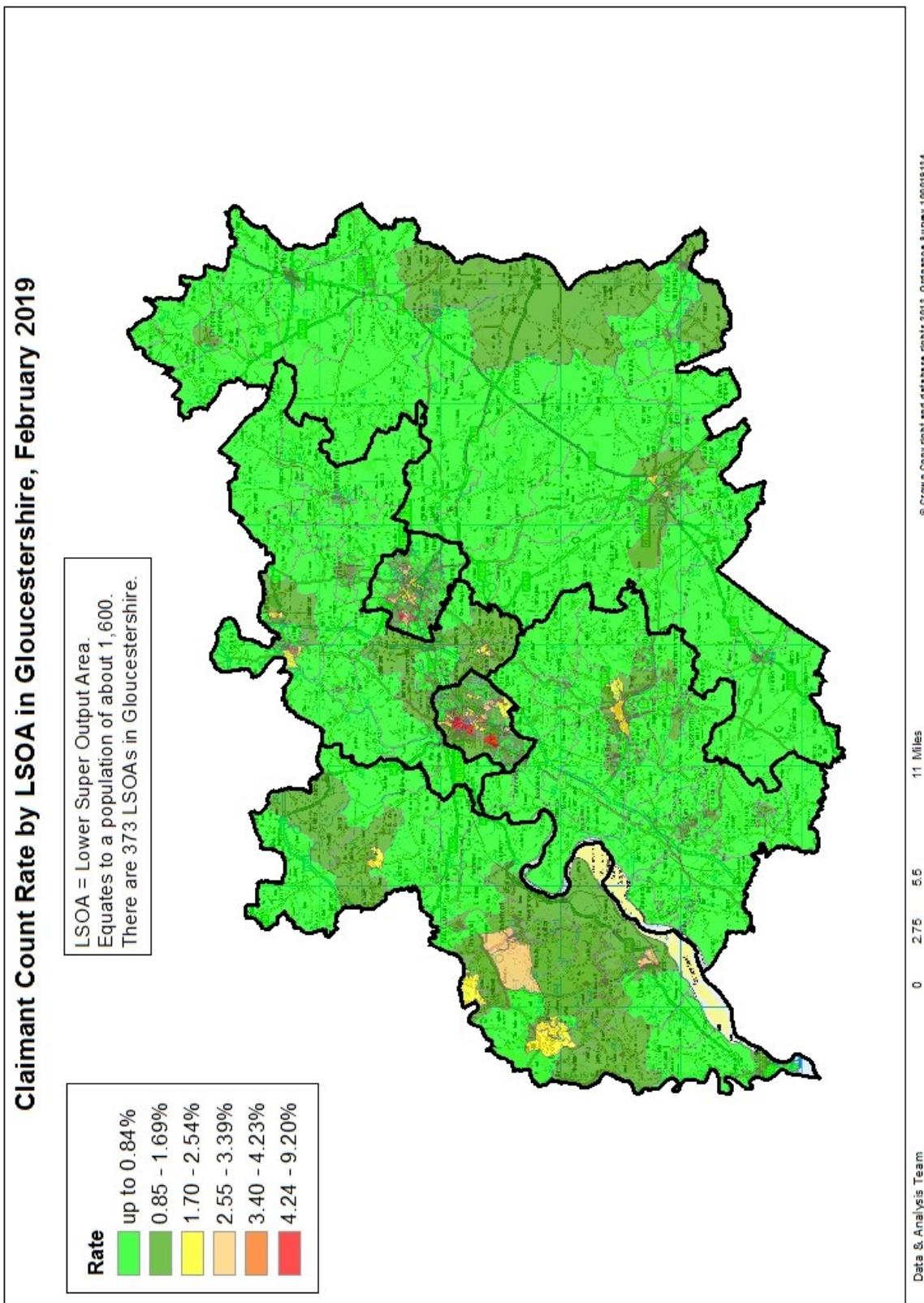
District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	0.4	1
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield	0.5	4
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	0.6	12
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Newtown	0.6	12
Tewkesbury	Twyning	0.8	25
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	1.0	41
Tewkesbury	Coombe Hill	1.1	48
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	1.1	48
Tewkesbury	Ashchurch with Walton Cardiff	1.2	59
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	1.2	59
Tewkesbury	Oxenton Hill	1.2	59
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	1.3	70
Tewkesbury	Hucclecote	1.3	70
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	1.3	70
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	1.4	80
Tewkesbury	Innsworth with Down Hatherley	1.4	80
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	1.5	89
Tewkesbury	Northway	1.8	107
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Town with Mitton	2.0	113
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	2.1	116
Tewkesbury	Brockworth	2.2	119
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Prior's Park	3.6	136



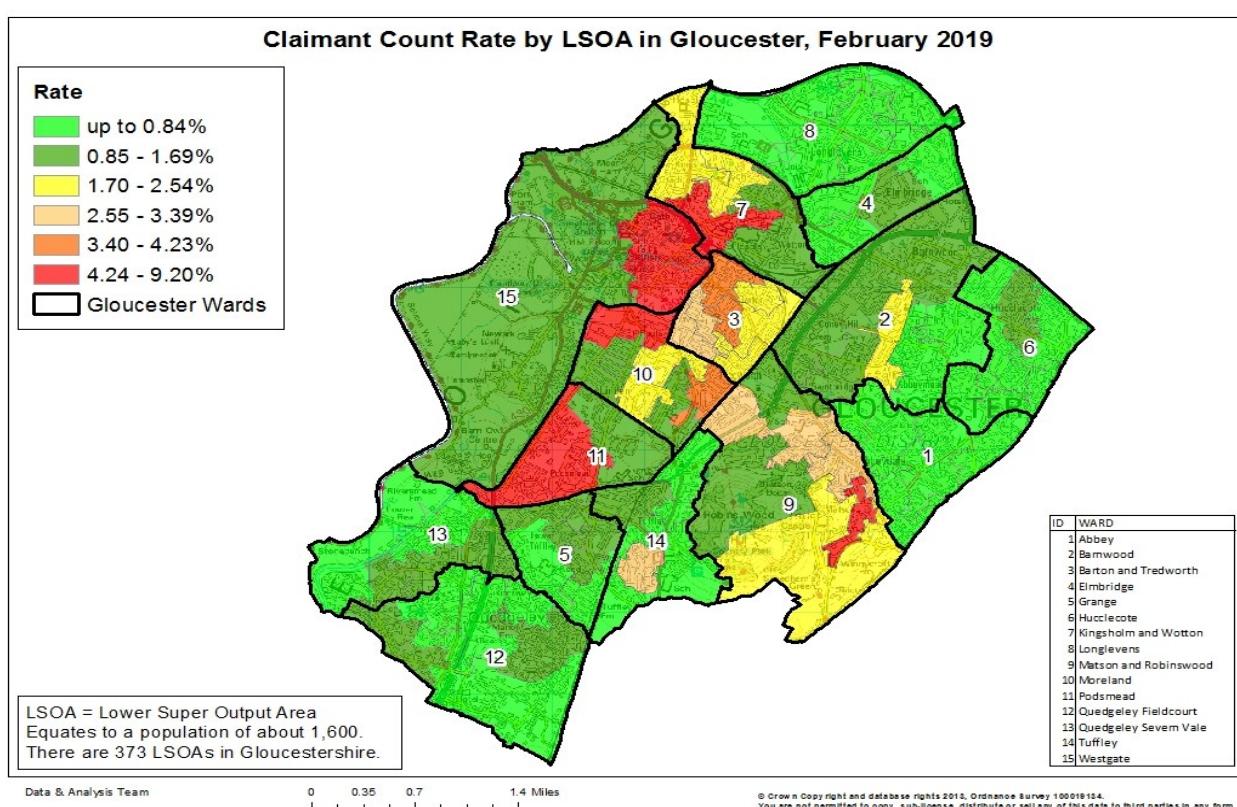
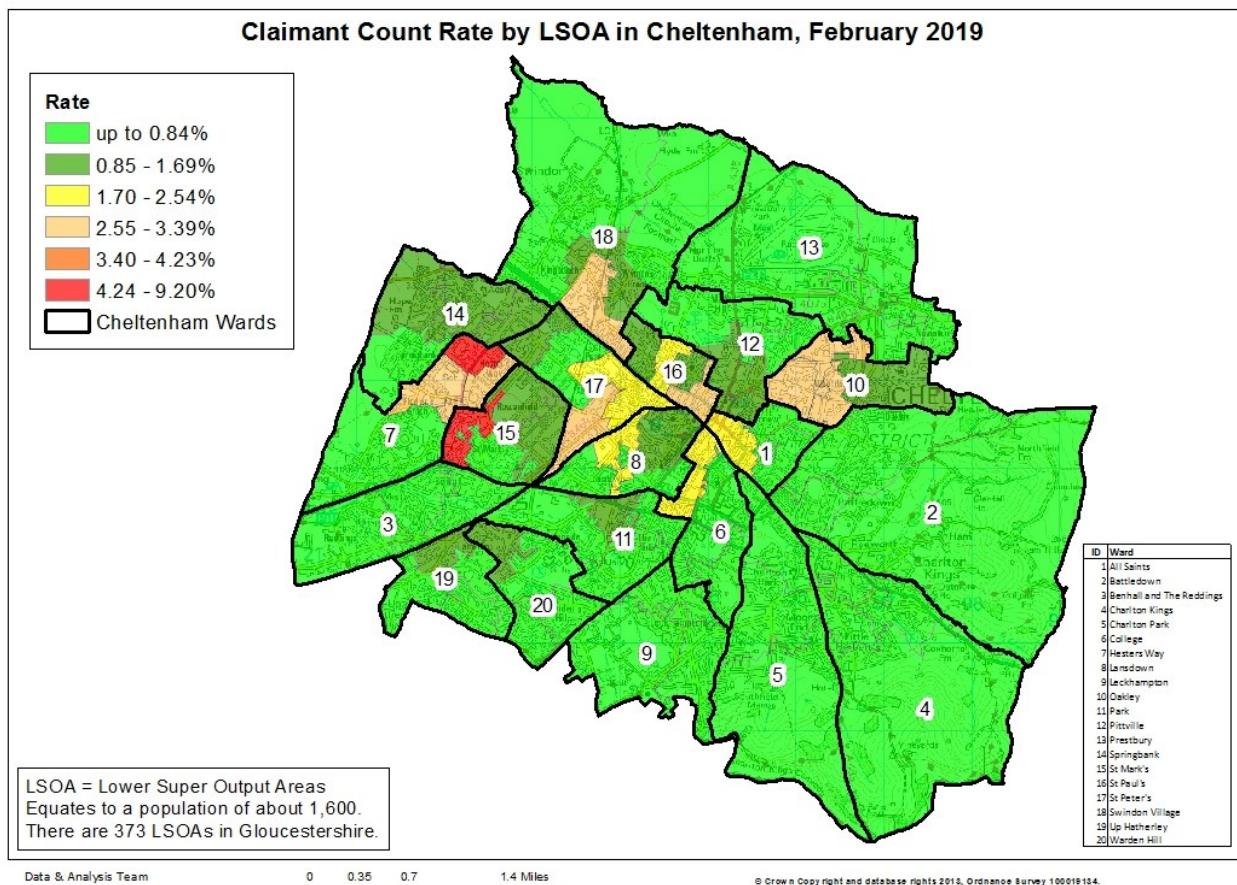
\* 1 = "best" and 146 = "worst"

Table 10 shows overall claimant rates for Tewkesbury District wards and their position relative to all wards in Gloucestershire.

## PART 5: MAP SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF CLAIMANT RATE ACROSS GLOUCESTERSHIRE



## PART 5: MAP SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF CLAIMANT RATE



## PART 6: YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT(18-24 year olds)

### Youth Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 15: Claimant Count for Gloucestershire over the past year

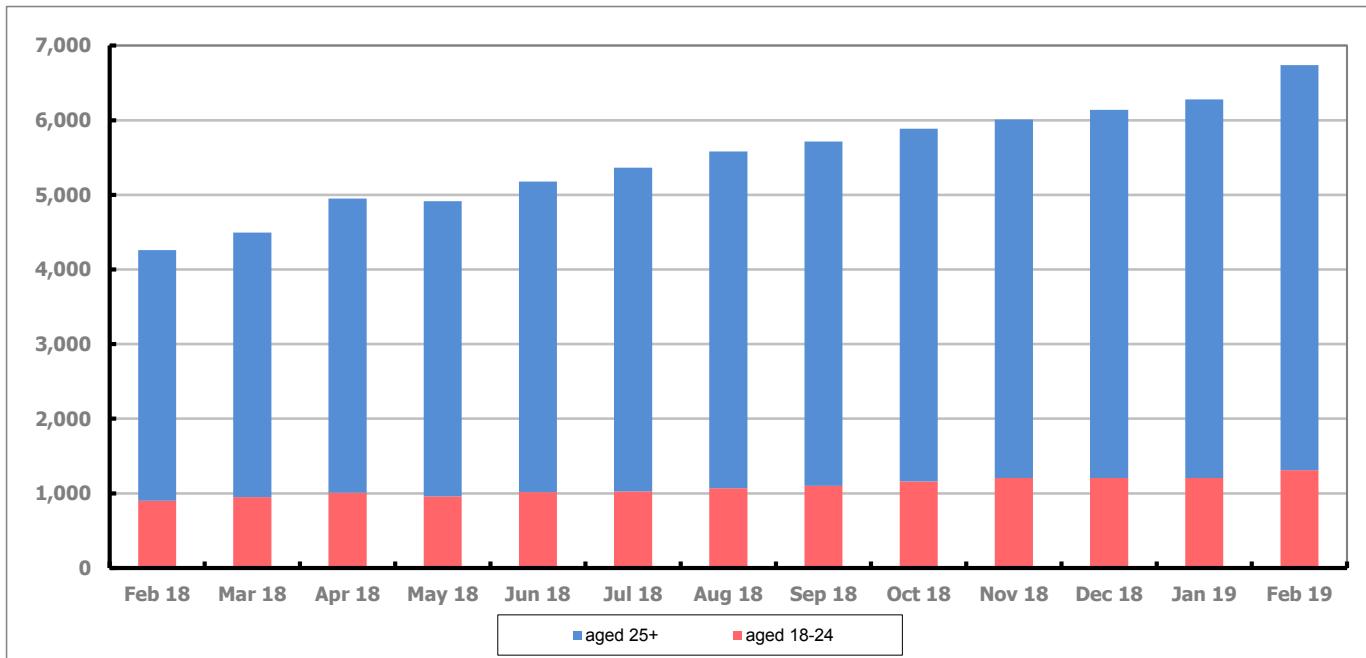


Figure 15 shows that in February 2019, 1,310 people aged 18-24 were claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who were not in work in Gloucestershire, this represents 19.4% of total working age claimants.

## PART 7: YOUNG PEOPLE NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (NEET) IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Data provided by Gloucestershire Youth Support Team on the situation of young people (16-18) in Gloucestershire who are not in education, employment or formal training.

Gloucestershire Youth Support Team is required to report performance with the 16-18 age range against nationally defined criteria for counting the NEET group. The NEET group includes young people actively seeking education, employment or training as well as those young people who are either not yet ready or who are unable to access these opportunities because of their personal circumstances. The figures quoted below include young people in both of these categories.

### Summary

At the end of February 2019 there were 377 young people aged 16-18 not in education, employment or training in Gloucestershire and this figure translates into an adjusted (\*) 16-18 NEET population of 2.53%. The total number of NEET young people decreased by 21 in February 2019 compared to January 2019, four districts saw a decrease in their figures and two districts saw an increase.

### Total NEET Group by District Area

#### February 2019 NEET data

	Cheltenham	Cotswold	Forest	Gloucester	Stroud	Tewkesbury	Total
<b>Total NEET</b>	88	25	56	114	56	38	377
<b>Cohort</b>	2665	2131	2078	3739	3208	2222	16043
<b>% NEET</b>	3.30	1.17	2.69	3.05	1.75	1.71	2.53

If you would like to receive any further information on Gloucestershire's NEET strategy then please contact [Ruth.Critchlow@Prospects.co.uk](mailto:Ruth.Critchlow@Prospects.co.uk) or telephone 01452 426900.

(\*) Adjustment includes a proportion of young people aged 16-18 whose outcomes are not known to Gloucestershire Youth Support Team.