

Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 91 February 2016

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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 out of work. For more information about Universal Credit please see the [ONS website](http://www.ons.gov.uk).

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 Strategic Needs Analysis Team in the County Council's Strategy and Challenge function. The data is sourced from the Office for National Statistics via Nomis (www.nomis.co.uk).

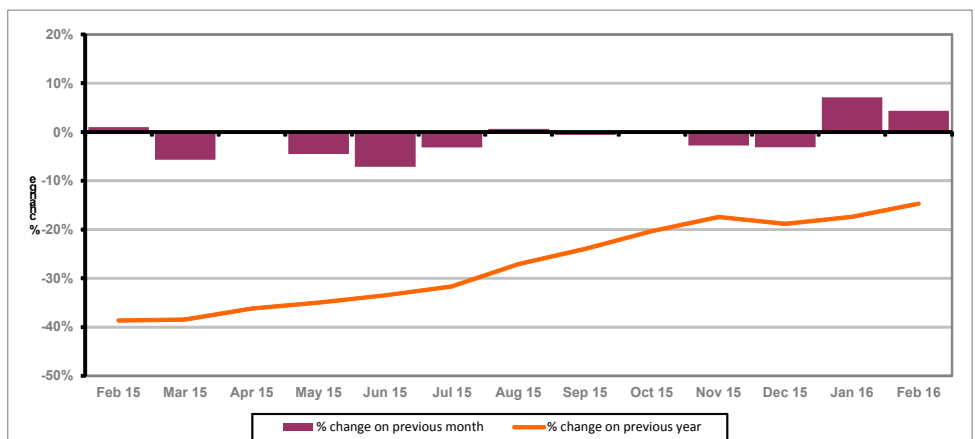
PART 1: SUMMARY

The claimant rate in Gloucestershire was 1.1% in February 2016. This remained the same as the January 2016 figure. The UK and the South West rate also remained the same as the previous month at 1.9% and 1.2% respectively. Gloucestershire's rate was 0.1% lower than the South West average of 1.2%, and 0.8% lower than the UK average of 1.9%.

The claimant count in Gloucestershire in February 2016 increased by 175 people. The amount of people claiming in February 2016 was 4.4% higher than the number in January 2016. This compares to a 3.5% increase in the South West and a 2.5% increase for the UK.

The year on year claimant count in Gloucestershire has increased since last month. The count was 14.7% lower in February 2016 than at the same point in the previous year as shown in the graph below.

Gloucestershire claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change:
February 2015 to February 2016



Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

Produced by:

Strategic Needs Analysis Team
Strategy and Challenge
Gloucestershire County Council
March 2016

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 2016

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 2016

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

CHELTEMHAM BOROUGH

Claim count:	805
Compared to last month:	8.1%
Claimant rate:	1.1%
Highest claiming ward	Hesters Way (2.3%)

GLOUCESTER CITY

Claim count:	1,365
Compared to last month:	4.6%
Claimant rate:	1.7%
Highest claiming wards	Westgate (3.6%)

COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claim count:	325
Compared to last month:	3.2%
Claimant rate:	0.7%
Highest claiming ward	Cirencester Watermoor (1.7%)

STROUD DISTRICT

Claim count:	535
Compared to last month:	2.9%
Claimant rate:	0.8%
Highest claiming wards	Central (1.8%)

FOREST OF DEAN

Claim count:	645
Compared to last month:	0.8%
Claimant rate:	1.3%
Highest claiming ward	Lydney East (2.6%)

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claim count:	505
Compared to last month:	4.1%
Claimant rate:	1.0%
Highest claiming ward	Tewkesbury Prior's Park (2.8%)

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

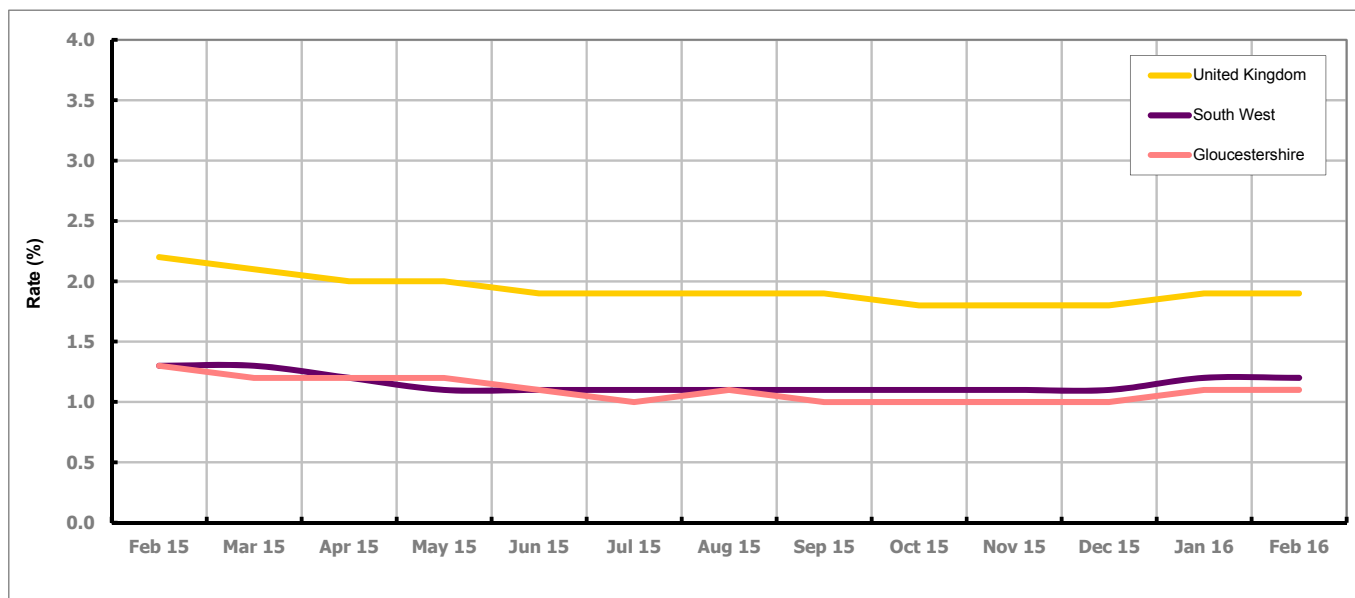


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 1.1% in February 2016. The Gloucestershire rate has been lower than the South West average since August 2015. It has been persistently lower by approximately 0.8% against the UK average.

Claimant Count

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

Area	Claimant Count in February 2016	% change on January 2016	Average % change over the last six months	Consecutive months decreasing
UK	784,005	2.5%	0.5%	0
South West	40,790	3.5%	1.9%	0
Gloucestershire	4,185	4.4%	0.9%	0

Table 1 shows that in February 2016, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 4.4% higher than the number in January 2016.

The average change in claimants in Gloucestershire for the six months to February 2016 was 0.9%.

PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 2: Claimant Rate (%) across Gloucestershire - February 2016

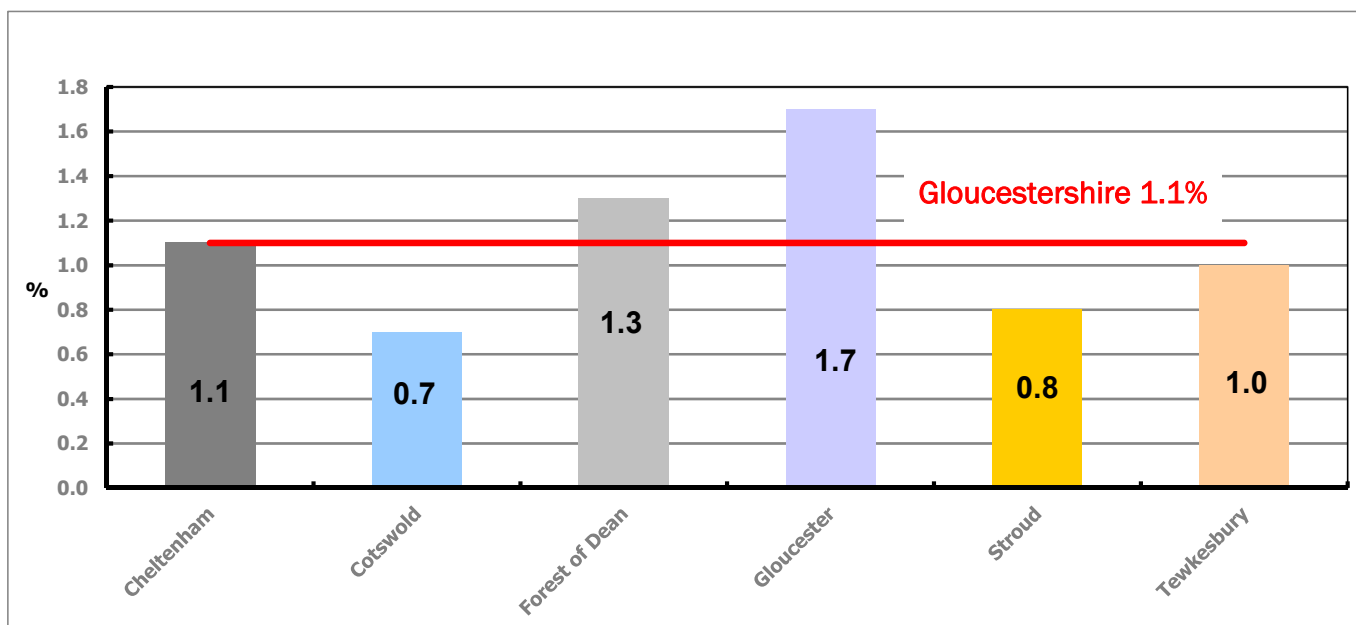


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for February 2016 in Gloucestershire. Between January and February 2016, the rate increased in all districts except Forest of Dean which remained the same.

Figure 3: Total claimants over the past year across Gloucestershire Districts

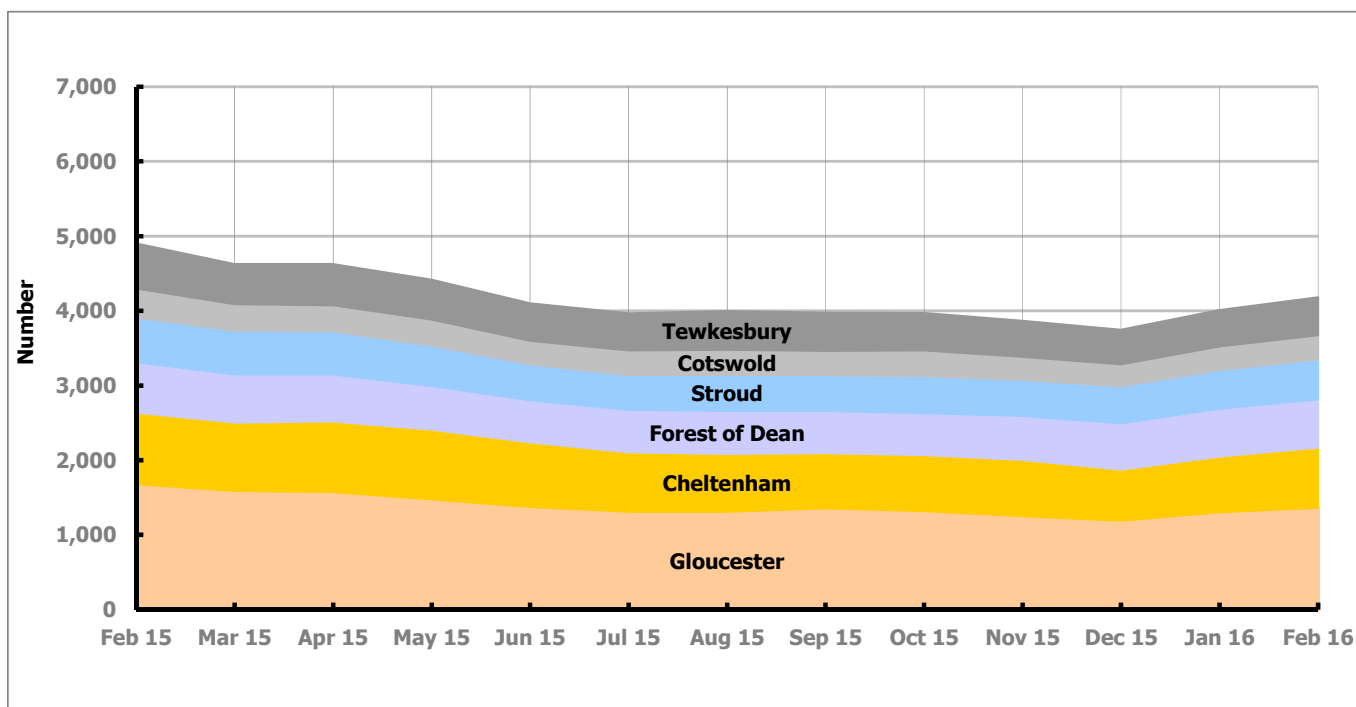


Figure 3 shows the overall claimant count by district over the past year. The number of claimants has decreased over the last year, with the exception of August, October, January and February 2016 when there was an increase, and April when the number of claimants stayed the same.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	Feb 16 Number	Feb 16 Rate	Jan 16 Number	Jan 16 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	4,185	1.1	4,010	1.1	175	4.4%	0.0
Cheltenham	805	1.1	745	1.0	60	8.1%	0.1
Cotswold	325	0.7	315	0.6	10	3.2%	0.1
Forest of Dean	645	1.3	640	1.3	5	0.8%	0.0
Gloucester	1,365	1.7	1,305	1.6	60	4.6%	0.1
Stroud	535	0.8	520	0.7	15	2.9%	0.1
Tewkesbury	505	1.0	485	0.9	20	4.1%	0.1

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in February 2016 compared to January 2016. All districts saw an increase in the number of claimants.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	Feb 16 Number	Feb 16 Rate	Jan 16 Number	Jan 16 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	2,750	1.5	2,650	1.4	100	3.8%	0.1
Cheltenham	540	1.4	505	1.3	35	6.9%	0.1
Cotswold	210	0.9	200	0.8	10	5.0%	0.1
Forest of Dean	420	1.7	415	1.6	5	1.2%	0.1
Gloucester	900	2.2	880	2.2	20	2.3%	0.0
Stroud	350	1.0	340	1.0	10	2.9%	0.0
Tewkesbury	330	1.3	315	1.2	15	4.8%	0.1

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in February 2016 compared to January 2016. All districts saw an increase in the number of male claimants.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	Feb 16 Number	Feb 16 Rate	Jan 16 Number	Jan 16 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	1,435	0.8	1,360	0.7	75	5.5%	0.1
Cheltenham	265	0.7	240	0.8	25	10.4%	-0.1
Cotswold	120	0.5	115	0.4	5	4.3%	0.1
Forest of Dean	220	0.9	225	0.9	-5	-2.2%	0.0
Gloucester	465	1.2	430	1.1	35	8.1%	0.1
Stroud	185	0.5	180	0.5	5	2.8%	0.0
Tewkesbury	175	0.7	170	0.7	5	2.9%	0.0

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in February 2016 compared to January 2016. All districts saw an increase in the number of female claimants, except Forest of Dean which saw a decrease.

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 4: Cheltenham Borough claimant rate over the last year

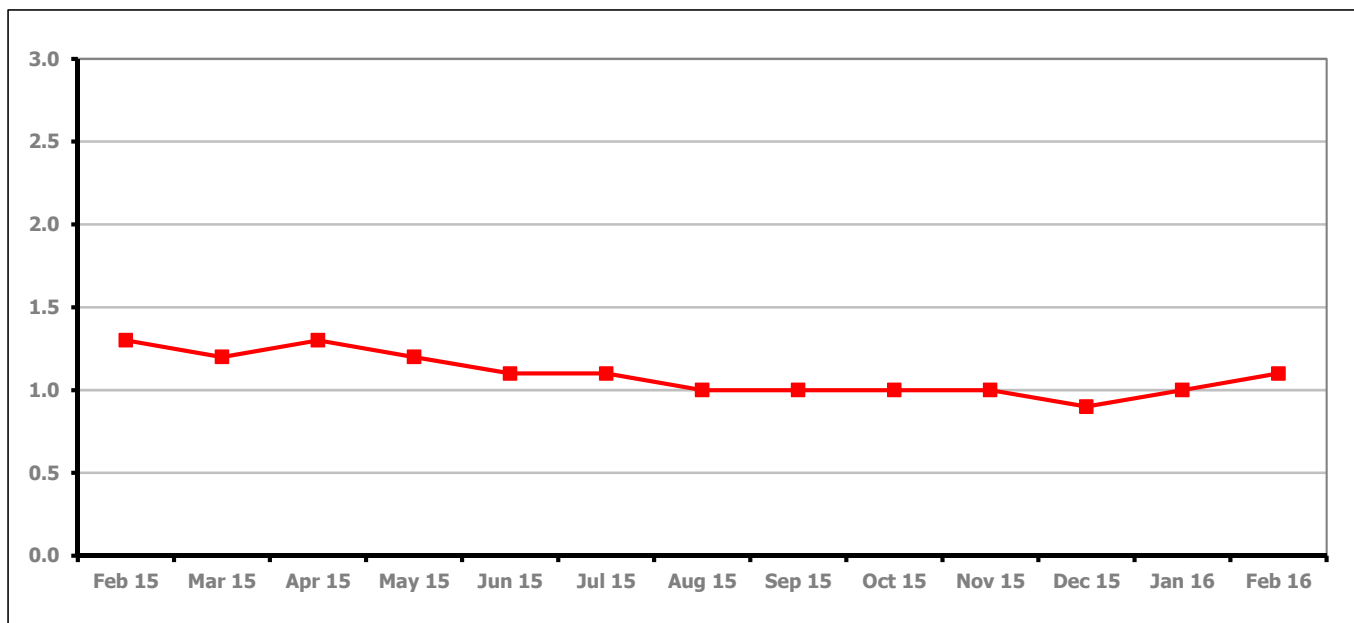


Figure 4 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham increased in February 2016 to 1.1%.

Figure 5: Cheltenham Borough claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

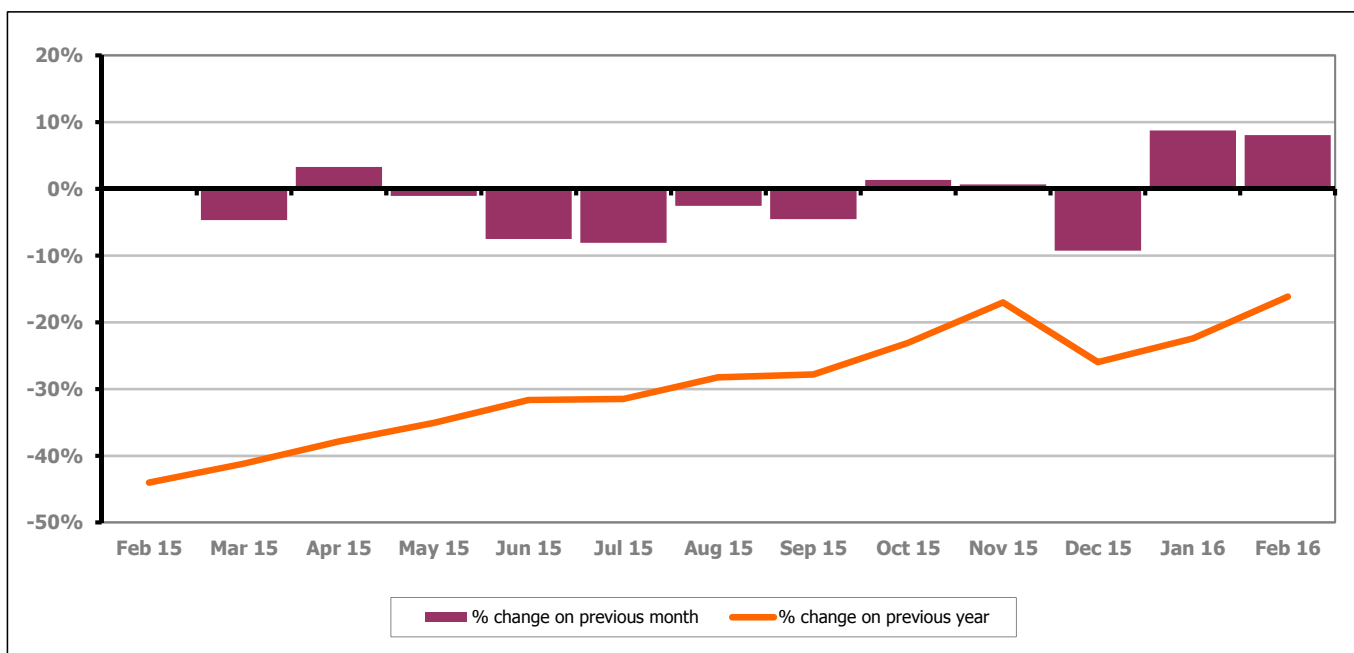


Figure 5 shows the claimant count increased by 8.1% since last month. The change on the previous year has increased between January and February 2016 to -16.1%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

Figure 6: Claimant rates across Cheltenham Borough wards - February 2016

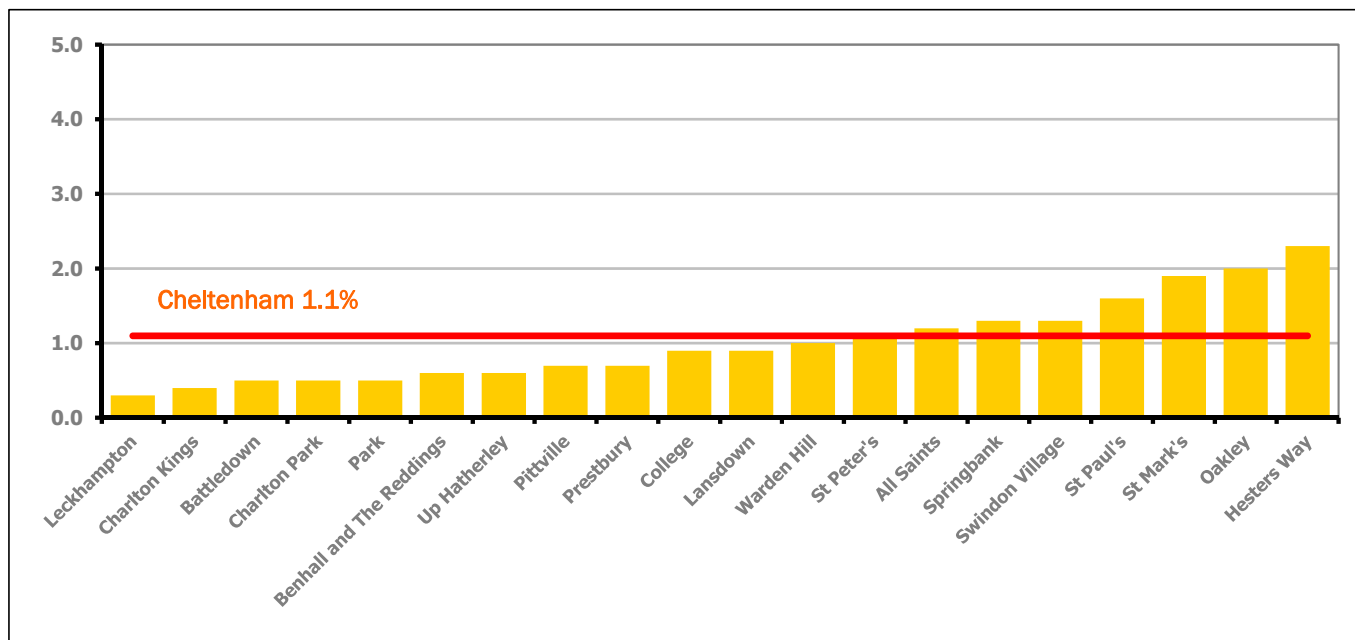


Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 1.1%. Seven wards lie above the average.

Table 5: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cheltenham Borough ward level - February 2016

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	0.3	8
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	0.4	16
Cheltenham	Battledown	0.5	28
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	0.5	28
Cheltenham	Park	0.5	28
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	0.6	36
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	0.6	36
Cheltenham	Pittville	0.7	52
Cheltenham	Prestbury	0.7	52
Cheltenham	College	0.9	82
Cheltenham	Lansdown	0.9	82
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	1.0	97
Cheltenham	St Peter's	1.1	102
Cheltenham	All Saints	1.2	108
Cheltenham	Springbank	1.3	114
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	1.3	114
Cheltenham	St Paul's	1.6	123
Cheltenham	St Mark's	1.9	129
Cheltenham	Oakley	2.0	130
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	2.3	135

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 142 = "worst"

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

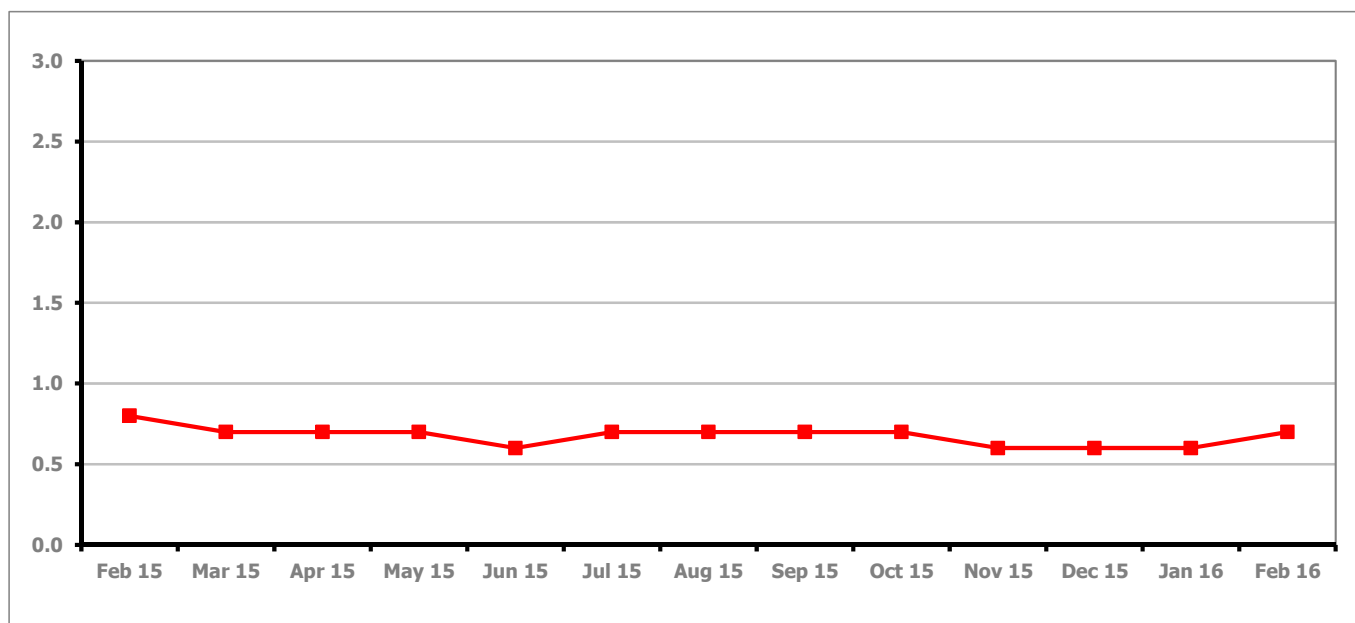
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.2 Cotswold District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 7: Cotswold District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District increased in February 2016 to 0.7%.

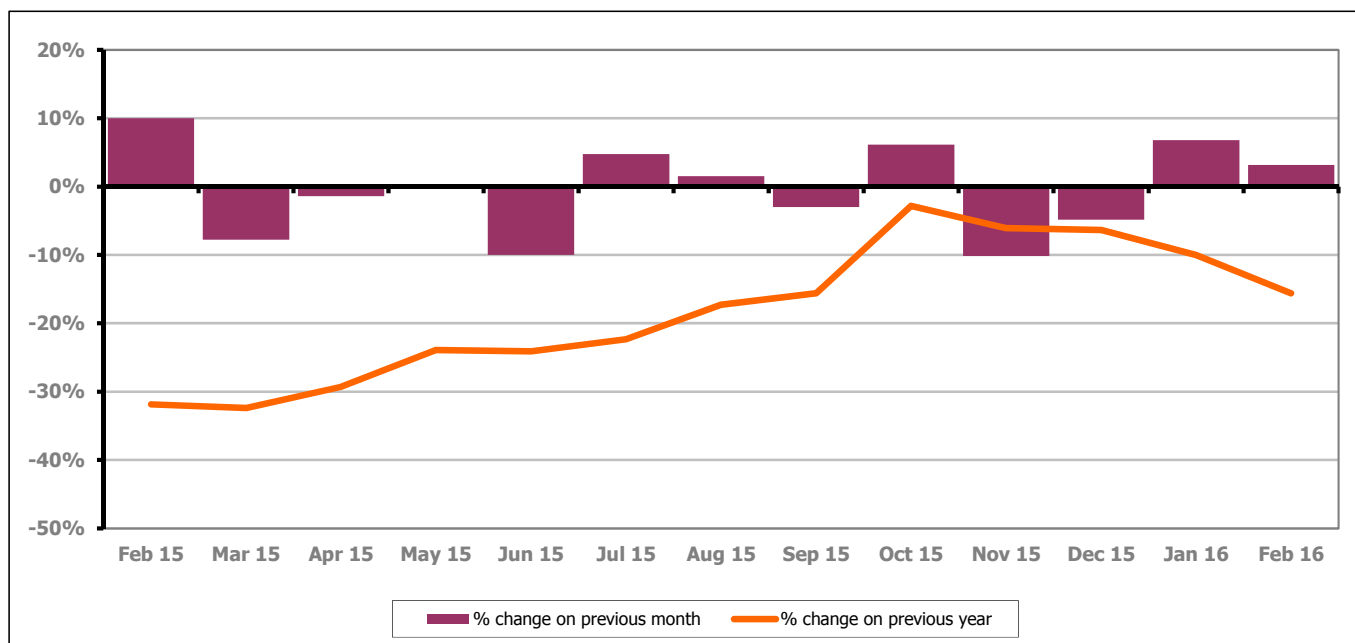
Figure 8: Cotswold District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 8 shows the claimant count increased by 3.2% since last month. The change on the previous year has decreased between January and February 2016 to -15.6%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.2 Cotswold District continued...

Figure 9: Claimant rates across Cotswold District wards - February 2016

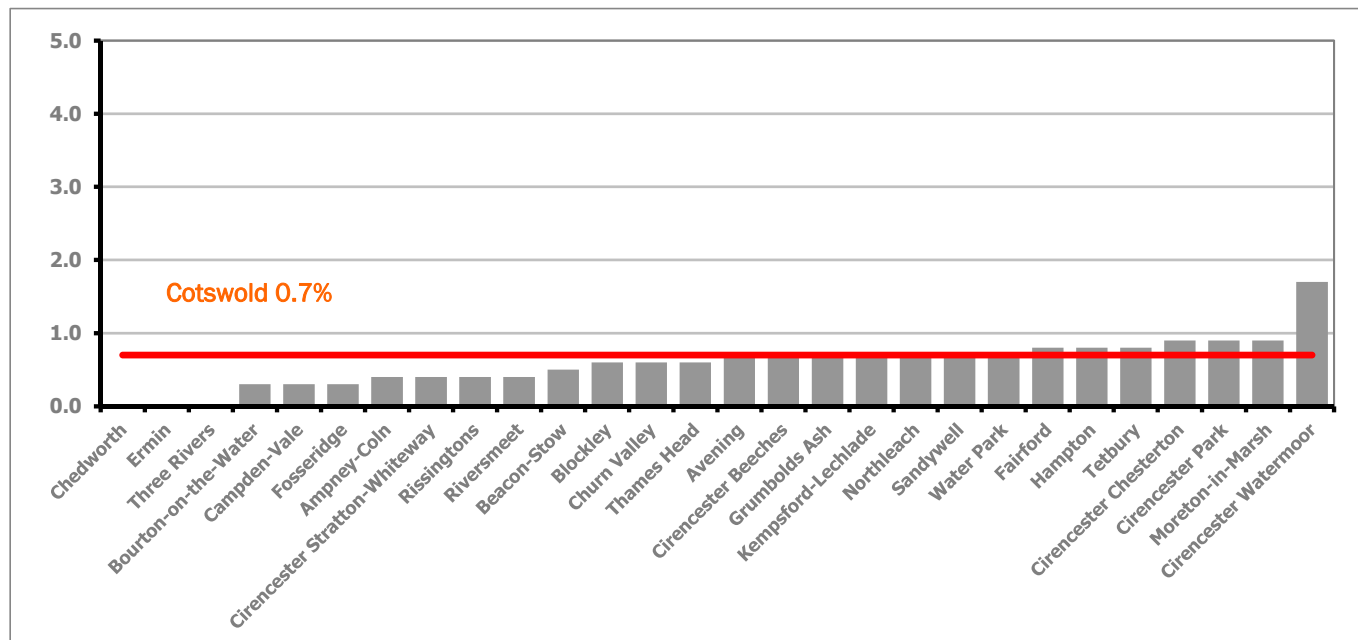
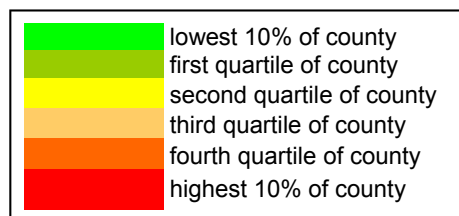


Figure 9 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 0.7%. Seven wards lie above the average.

Table 6: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cotswold District ward level - February 2016

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswolds	Chedworth	0.0	1
Cotswolds	Ermin	<0.3	1
Cotswolds	Three Rivers	<0.3	1
Cotswolds	Bourton-on-the-Water	0.3	8
Cotswolds	Campden-Vale	0.3	8
Cotswolds	Fosseridge	0.3	8
Cotswolds	Ampney-Coln	0.4	16
Cotswolds	Cirencester Stratton-Whiteway	0.4	16
Cotswolds	Rissingtons	0.4	16
Cotswolds	Riversmeet	0.4	16
Cotswolds	Beacon-Stow	0.5	28
Cotswolds	Blockley	0.6	36
Cotswolds	Churn Valley	0.6	36
Cotswolds	Thames Head	0.6	36
Cotswolds	Avening	0.7	52
Cotswolds	Cirencester Beeches	0.7	52
Cotswolds	Grumbolds Ash	0.7	52
Cotswolds	Kempsford-Lechlade	0.7	52
Cotswolds	Northleach	0.7	52
Cotswolds	Sandywell	0.7	52
Cotswolds	Water Park	0.7	52
Cotswolds	Fairford	0.8	67
Cotswolds	Hampton	0.8	67
Cotswolds	Tetbury	0.8	67
Cotswolds	Cirencester Chesterton	0.9	82
Cotswolds	Cirencester Park	0.9	82
Cotswolds	Moreton-in-Marsh	0.9	82
Cotswolds	Cirencester Watermoor	1.7	125



* 1 = "best" and 142 = "worst"

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

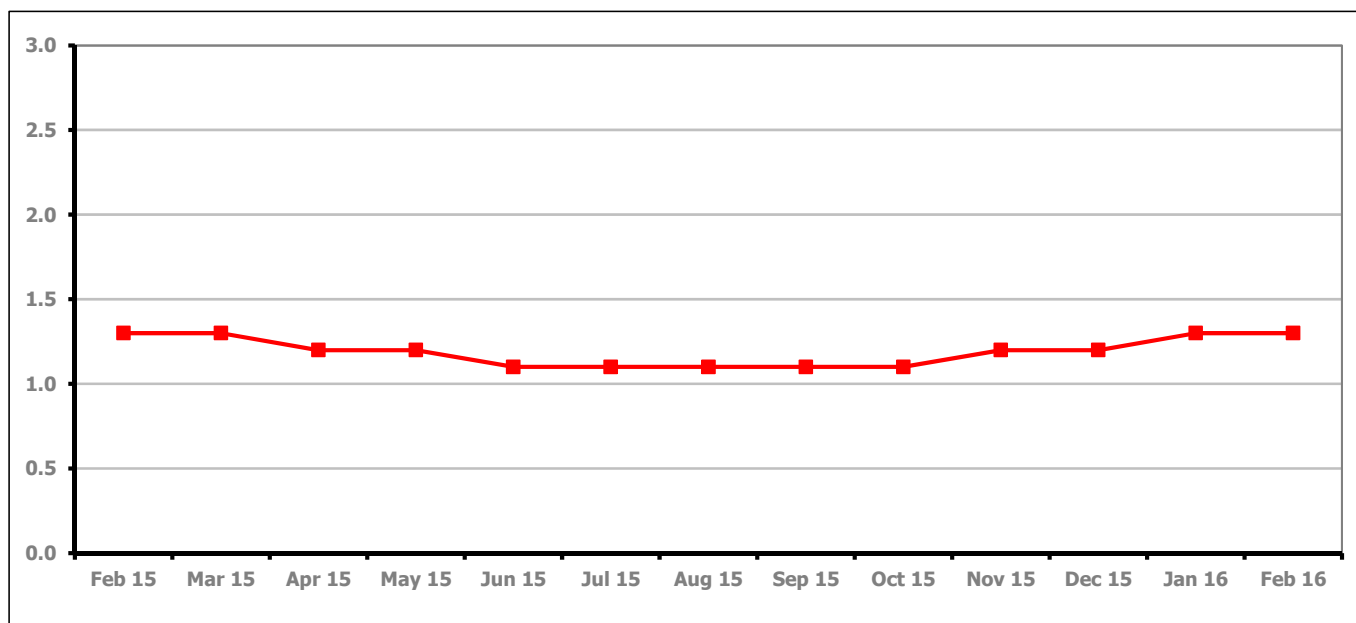
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.3 Forest of Dean District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 10: Forest of Dean District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 10 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean stayed the same as last month at 1.3%.

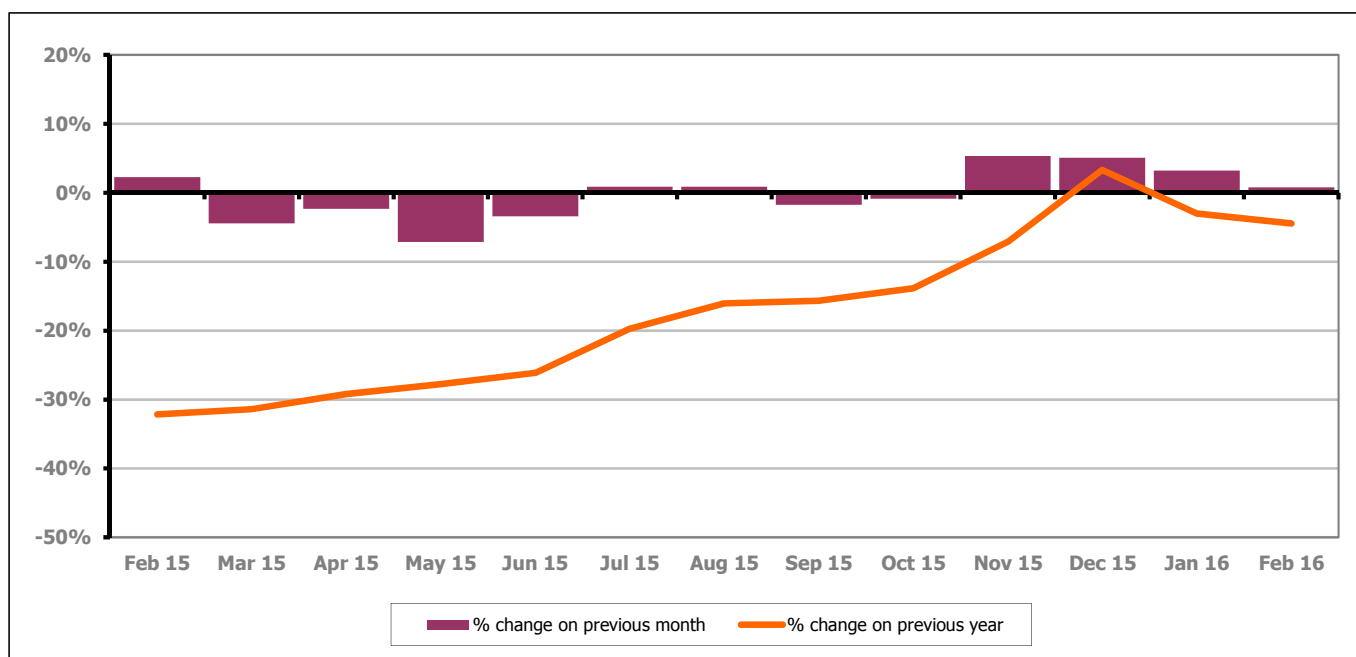
Figure 11: Forest of Dean District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 11 shows the claimant count increased by 0.8% since January 2016. The change on the previous year has decreased between January and February 2016 to -4.4%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.3 Forest of Dean District continued...

Figure 12: Claimant rates across Forest of Dean District wards - February 2016

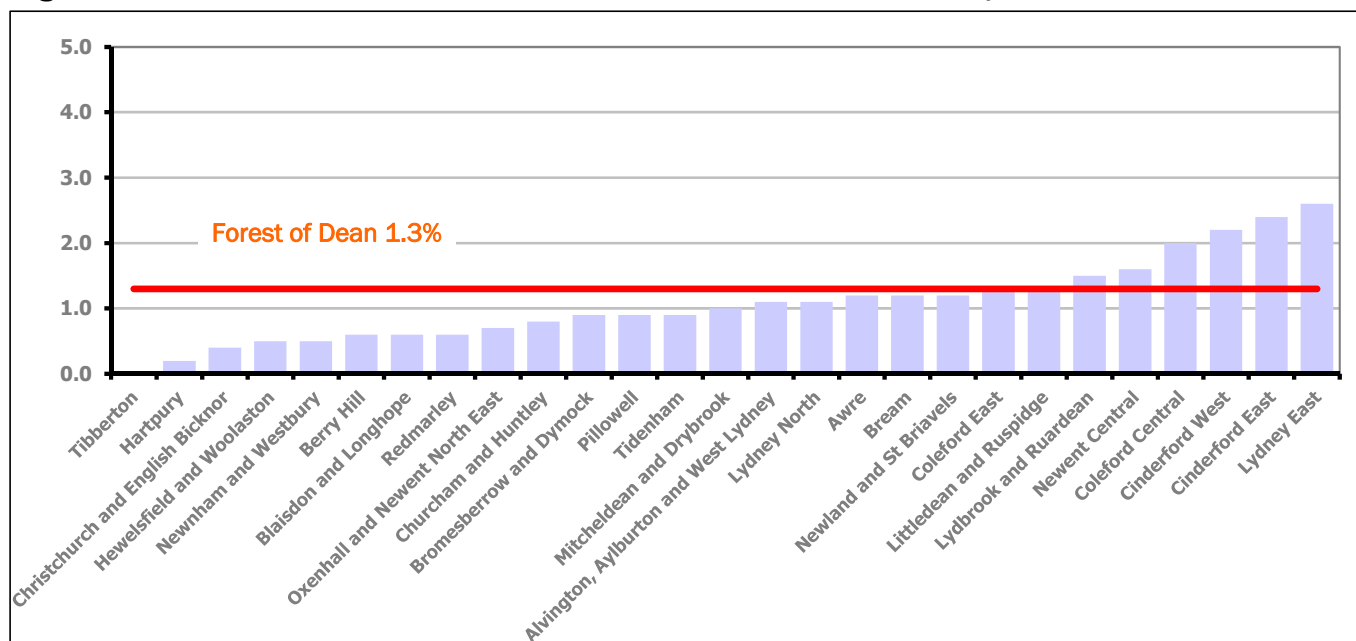
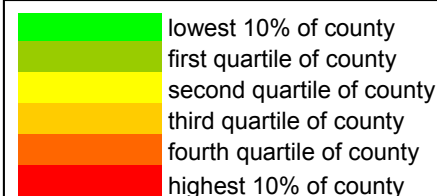


Figure 12 shows the claimant rates for Forest of Dean District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.3%. Six wards lie above the average.

Table 7: Analysis of Claimant Count at Forest of Dean District ward level - February 2016

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Tibberton	<0.3	1
Forest	Hartpury	0.2	7
Forest	Christchurch and English Bicknor	0.4	16
Forest	Hewelsfield and Woolaston	0.5	28
Forest	Newnham and Westbury	0.5	28
Forest	Berry Hill	0.6	36
Forest	Blaisdon and Longhope	0.6	36
Forest	Redmarley	0.6	36
Forest	Oxenhall and Newent North East	0.7	52
Forest	Churcham and Huntley	0.8	67
Forest	Bromesberrow and Dymock	0.9	82
Forest	Pillowell	0.9	82
Forest	Tidenham	0.9	82
Forest	Mitcheldean and Drybrook	1.0	97
Forest	Alvington, Aylburton and West Lydney	1.1	102
Forest	Lydney North	1.1	102
Forest	Awre	1.2	108
Forest	Bream	1.2	108
Forest	Newland and St Briavels	1.2	108
Forest	Coleford East	1.3	114
Forest	Littledean and Ruspidge	1.3	114
Forest	Lydbrook and Ruardean	1.5	122
Forest	Newent Central	1.6	123
Forest	Coleford Central	2.0	130
Forest	Cinderford West	2.2	133
Forest	Cinderford East	2.4	136
Forest	Lydney East	2.6	137



* 1 = "best" and 142 = "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 13: Gloucester City claimant rate over the last year

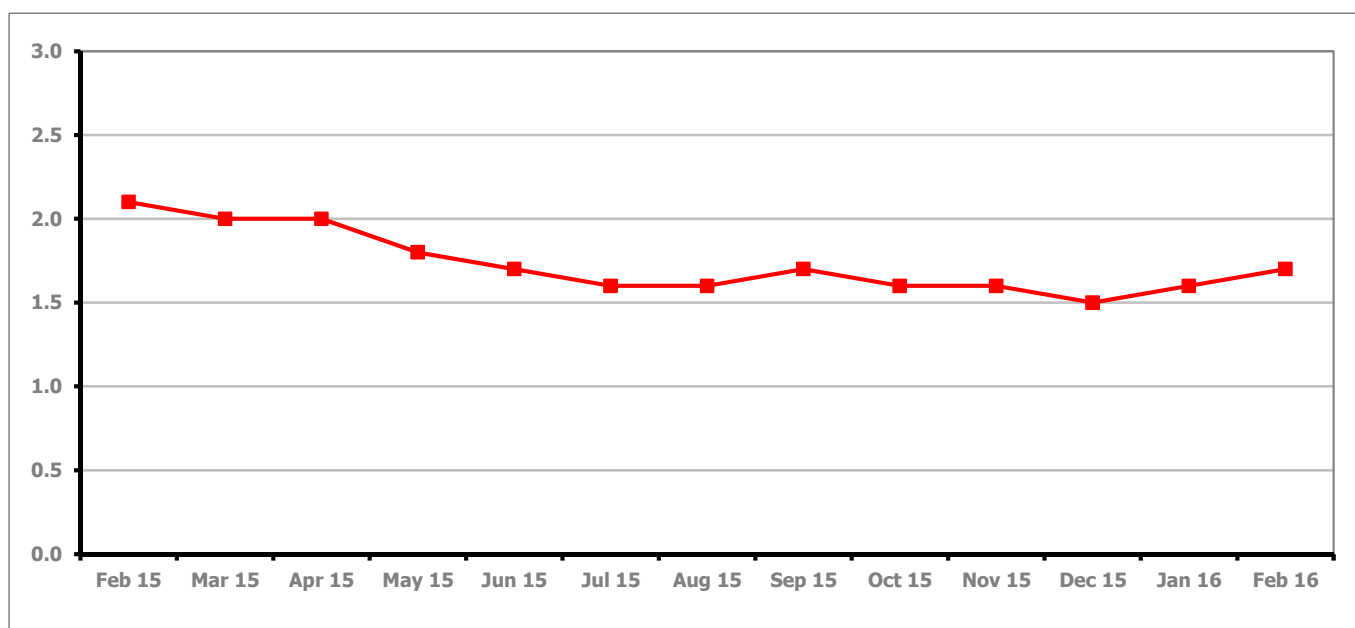


Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City increased in February 2016 to 1.7%.

Figure 14: Gloucester City claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

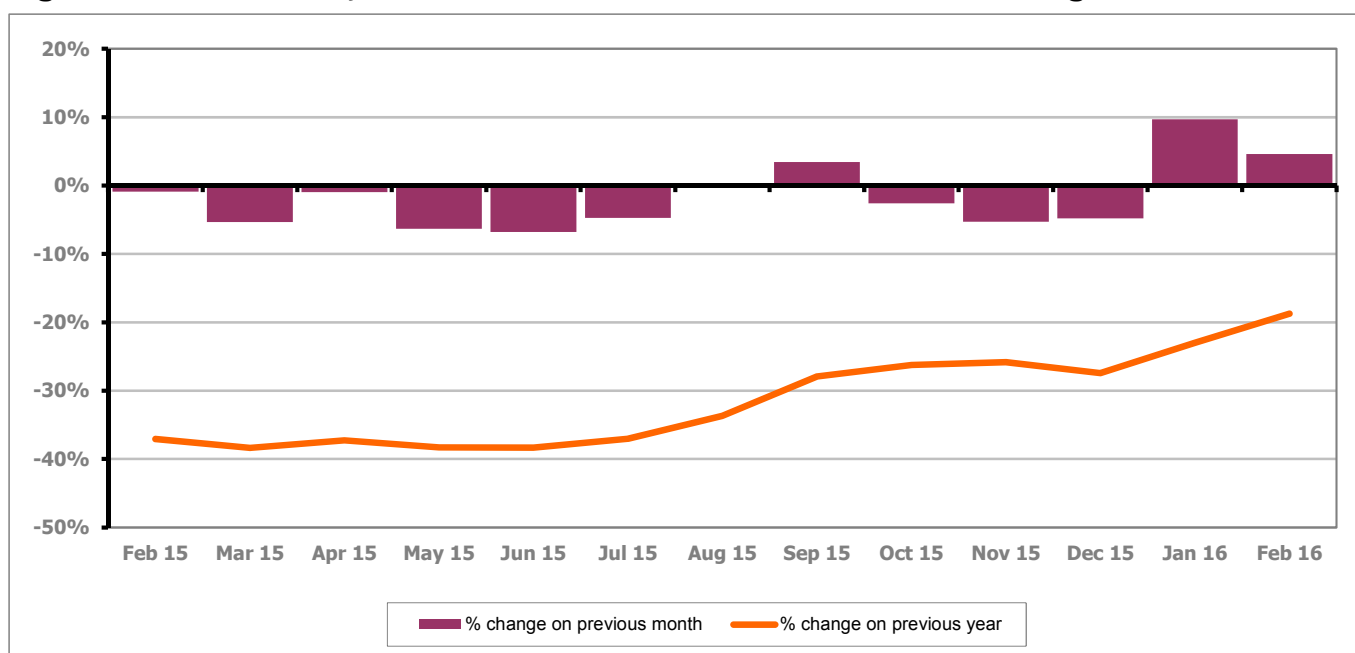


Figure 14 shows the monthly claimant count increased by 4.6% since January 2016. The change on the previous year has increased between January and February 2016 to -18.8%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.4 Gloucester City continued...

Figure 15: Claimant rates across Gloucester City wards - February 2016

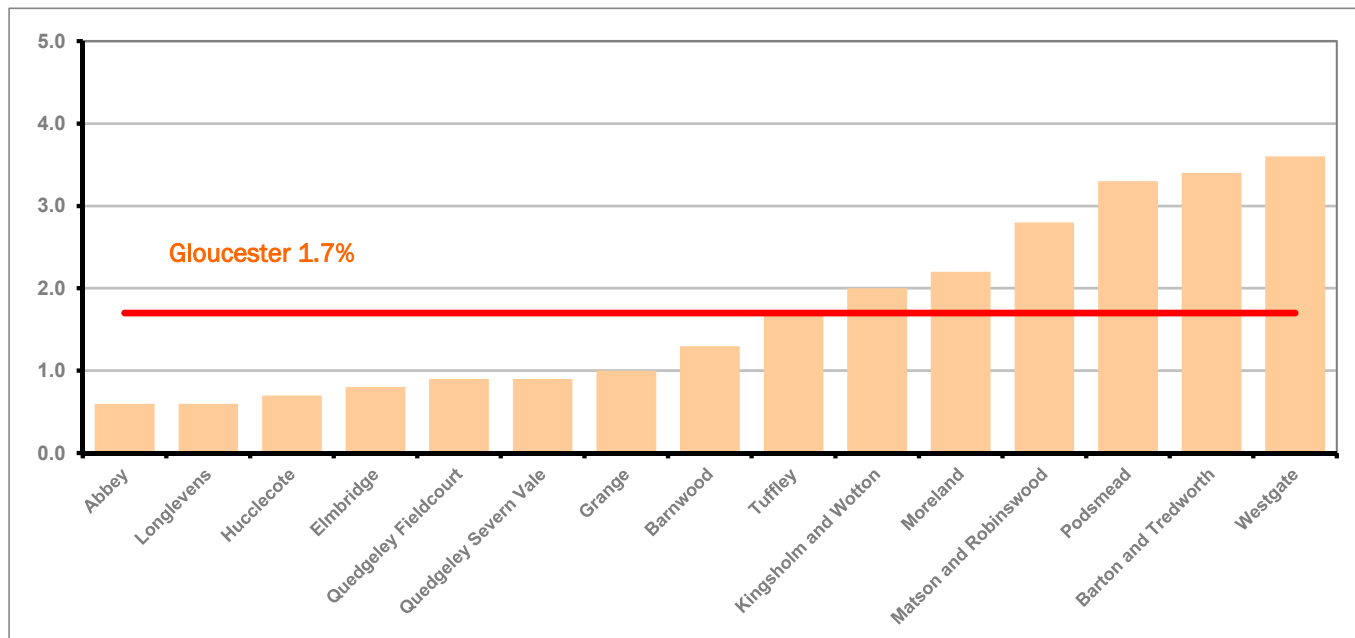
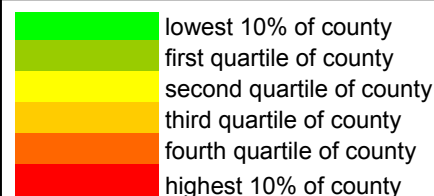


Figure 15 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 1.7%. Six wards lie above the average.

Table 8: Analysis of Claimant Count at Gloucester City ward level - February 2016

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Abbey	0.6	36
Gloucester	Longlevens	0.6	36
Gloucester	Hucclecote	0.7	52
Gloucester	Elmbridge	0.8	67
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	0.9	82
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	0.9	82
Gloucester	Grange	1.0	97
Gloucester	Barnwood	1.3	114
Gloucester	Tuffley	1.7	125
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	2.0	130
Gloucester	Moreland	2.2	133
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	2.8	138
Gloucester	Podsmead	3.3	140
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	3.4	141
Gloucester	Westgate	3.6	142



* 1 = "best" and 142 = "worst"

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

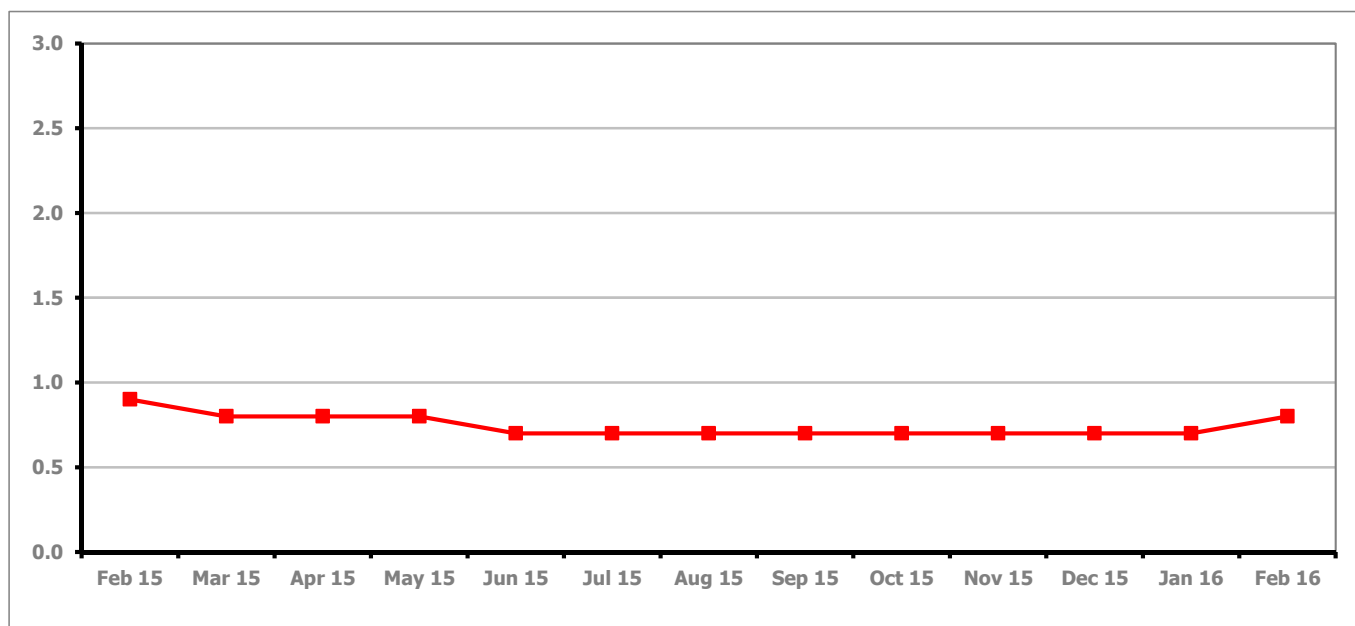
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.5 Stroud District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 16: Stroud District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 16 shows the claimant rate for Stroud increased in February 2016 to 0.8%.

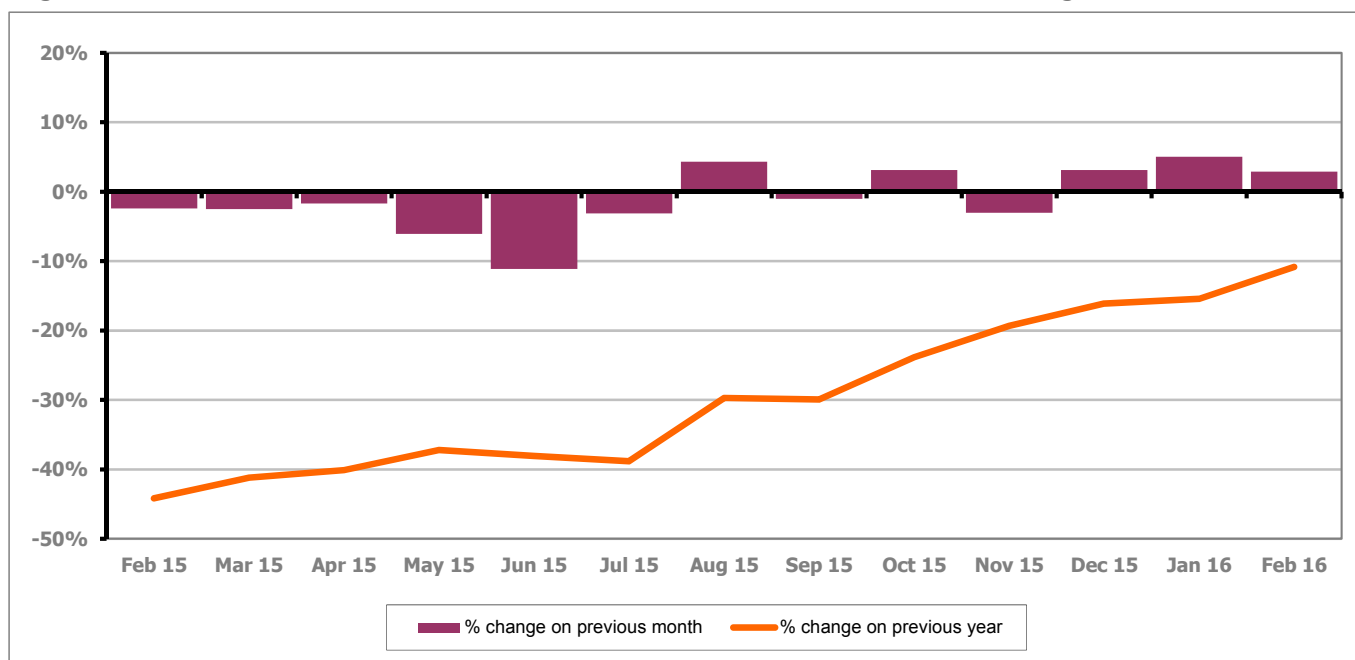
Figure 17: Stroud District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 17 shows the monthly claimant count increased by 2.9% since January 2016. The change on the previous year has increased between January and February 2016 to -10.8%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.5 Stroud District continued...

Figure 18: Claimant rates across Stroud District wards - February 2016

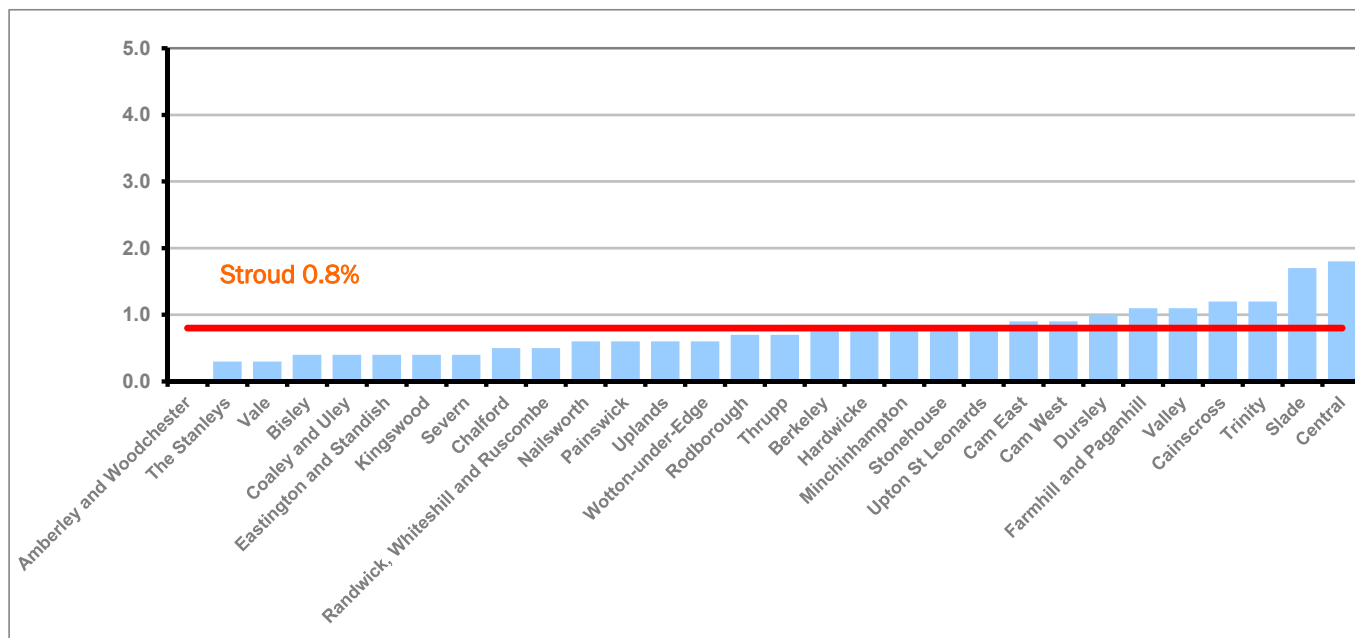
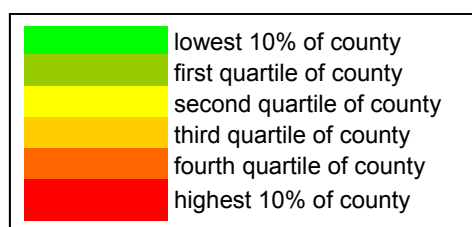


Figure 18 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 0.8%. Nine wards are above the average.

Table 9: Analysis of Claimant Count at Stroud District ward level - February 2016

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	<0.3	1
Stroud	The Stanleys	0.3	8
Stroud	Vale	0.3	8
Stroud	Bisley	0.4	16
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	0.4	16
Stroud	Eastington and Standish	0.4	16
Stroud	Kingswood	0.4	16
Stroud	Severn	0.4	16
Stroud	Chalford	0.5	28
Stroud	Randwick, Whiteshill and Ruscombe	0.5	28
Stroud	Nailsworth	0.6	36
Stroud	Painswick	0.6	36
Stroud	Uplands	0.6	36
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	0.6	36
Stroud	Rodborough	0.7	52
Stroud	Thrupp	0.7	52
Stroud	Berkeley	0.8	67
Stroud	Hardwicke	0.8	67
Stroud	Minchinhampton	0.8	67
Stroud	Stonehouse	0.8	67
Stroud	Upton St Leonards	0.8	67
Stroud	Cam East	0.9	82
Stroud	Cam West	0.9	82
Stroud	Dursley	1.0	97
Stroud	Farmhill and Paganhill	1.1	102
Stroud	Valley	1.1	102
Stroud	Cainscross	1.2	108
Stroud	Trinity	1.2	108
Stroud	Slade	1.7	125
Stroud	Central	1.8	128



* 1 = "best" and 142 = "worst"

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

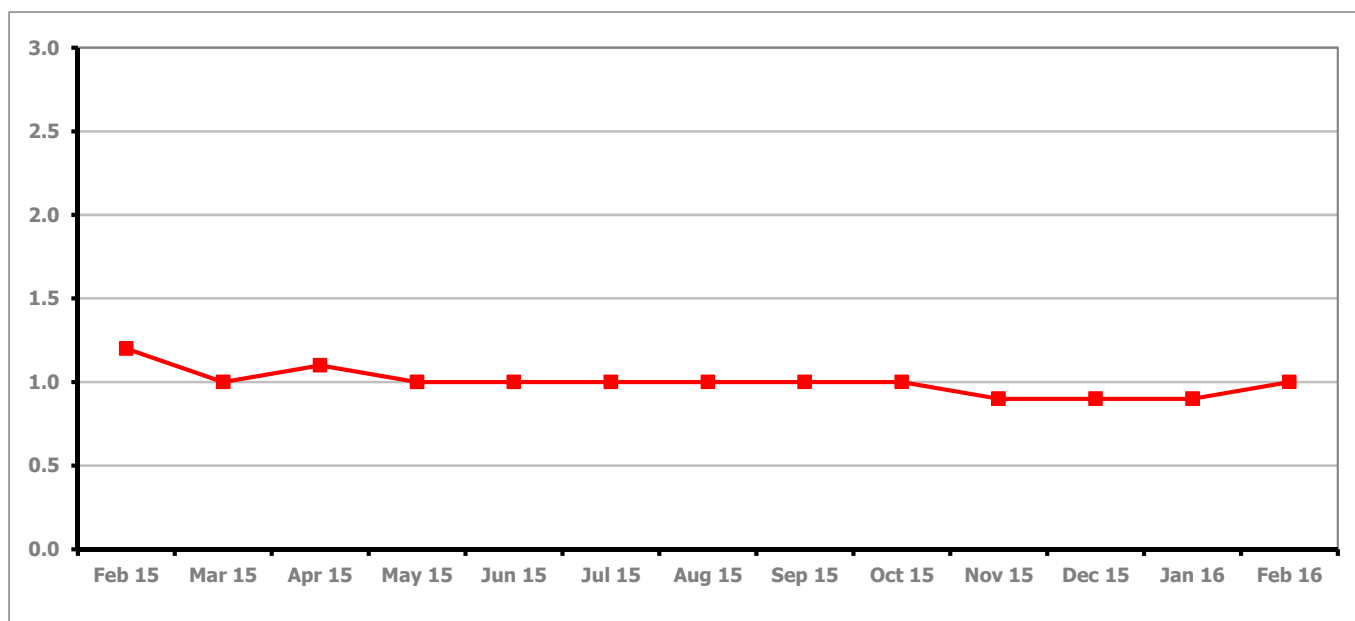
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.6 Tewkesbury District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 19: Tewkesbury District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 19 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury District increased in February 2016 to 1.0%.

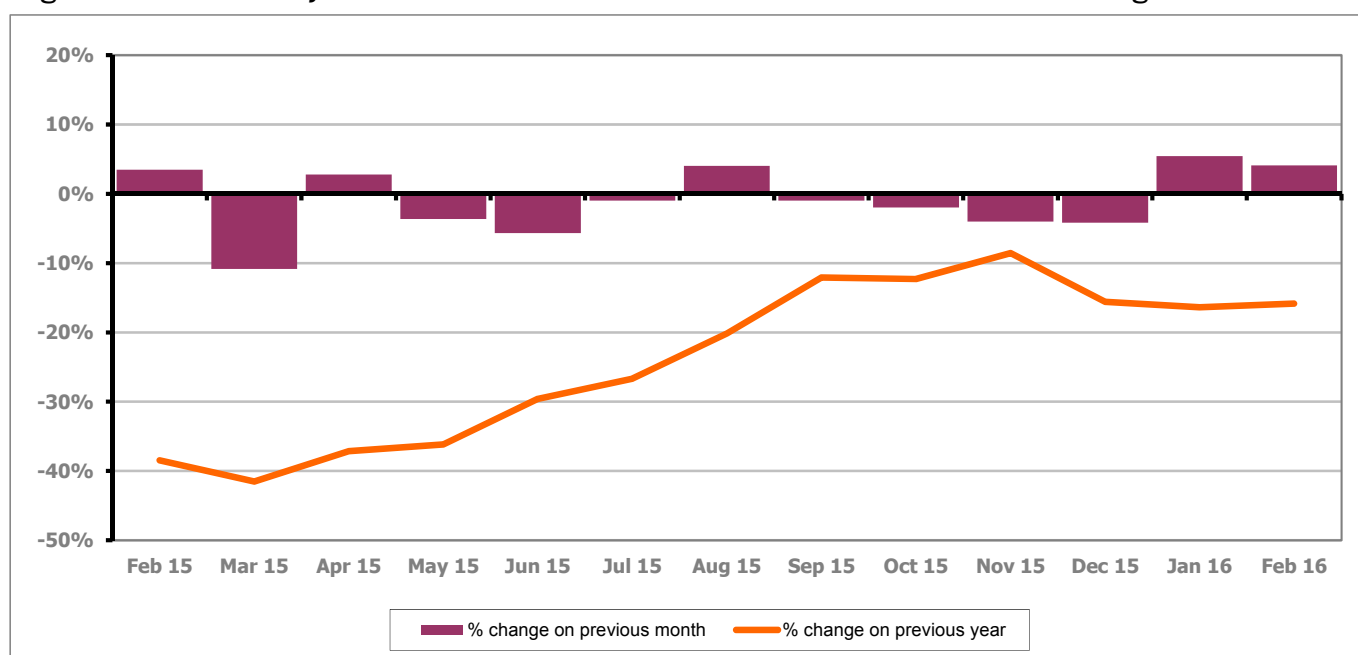
Figure 20: Tewkesbury District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 20 shows that the monthly claimant count increased by 4.1% since January 2016. The change on the previous year increased between January and February 2016 to -15.8%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.6 Tewkesbury District continued...

Figure 21: Claimant rates across Tewkesbury District wards - February 2016

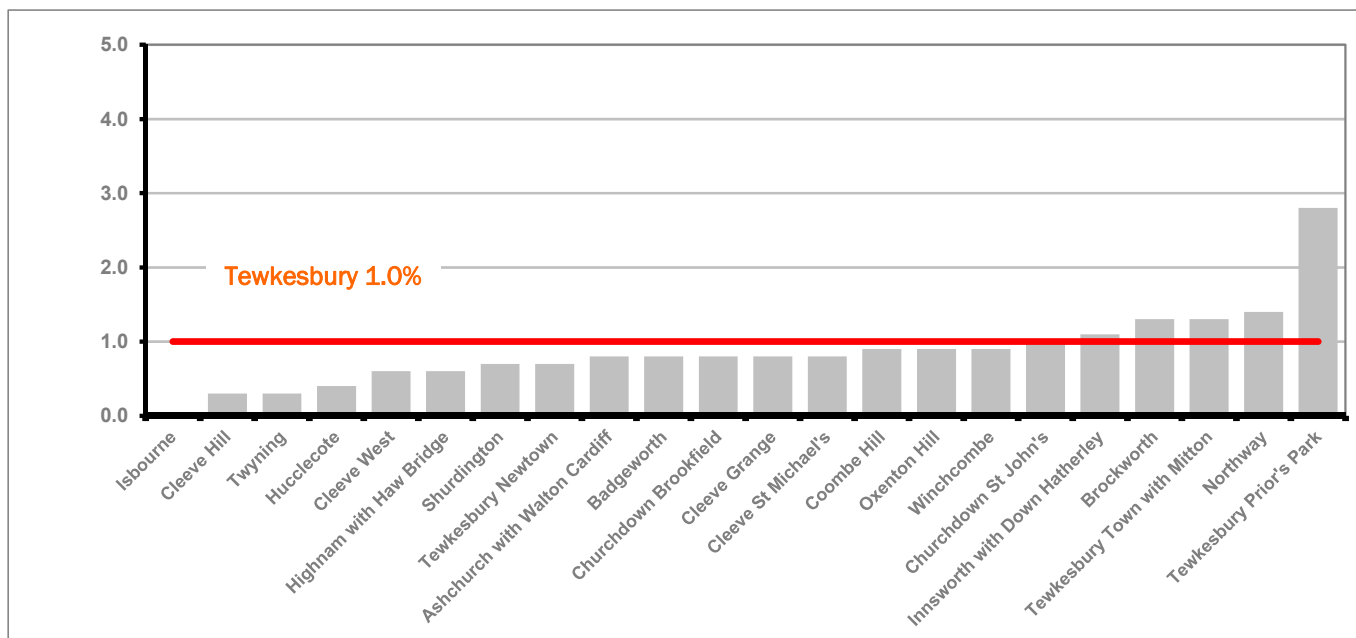


Figure 21 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.0% and five wards are above the average.

Table 10: Analysis of Claimant Count at Tewkesbury District level - February 2016

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	<0.3	1
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	0.3	8
Tewkesbury	Twyning	0.3	8
Tewkesbury	Hucclecote	0.4	16
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	0.6	36
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	0.6	36
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	0.7	52
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Newtown	0.7	52
Tewkesbury	Ashchurch with Walton Cardiff	0.8	67
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	0.8	67
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield	0.8	67
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	0.8	67
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	0.8	67
Tewkesbury	Coombe Hill	0.9	82
Tewkesbury	Oxenton Hill	0.9	82
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	0.9	82
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	1.0	97
Tewkesbury	Innsworth with Down Hatherley	1.1	102
Tewkesbury	Brockworth	1.3	114
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Town with Mitton	1.3	114
Tewkesbury	Northway	1.4	121
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Prior's Park	2.8	138

lowest 10% of county

first quartile of county

second quartile of county

third quartile of county

fourth quartile of county

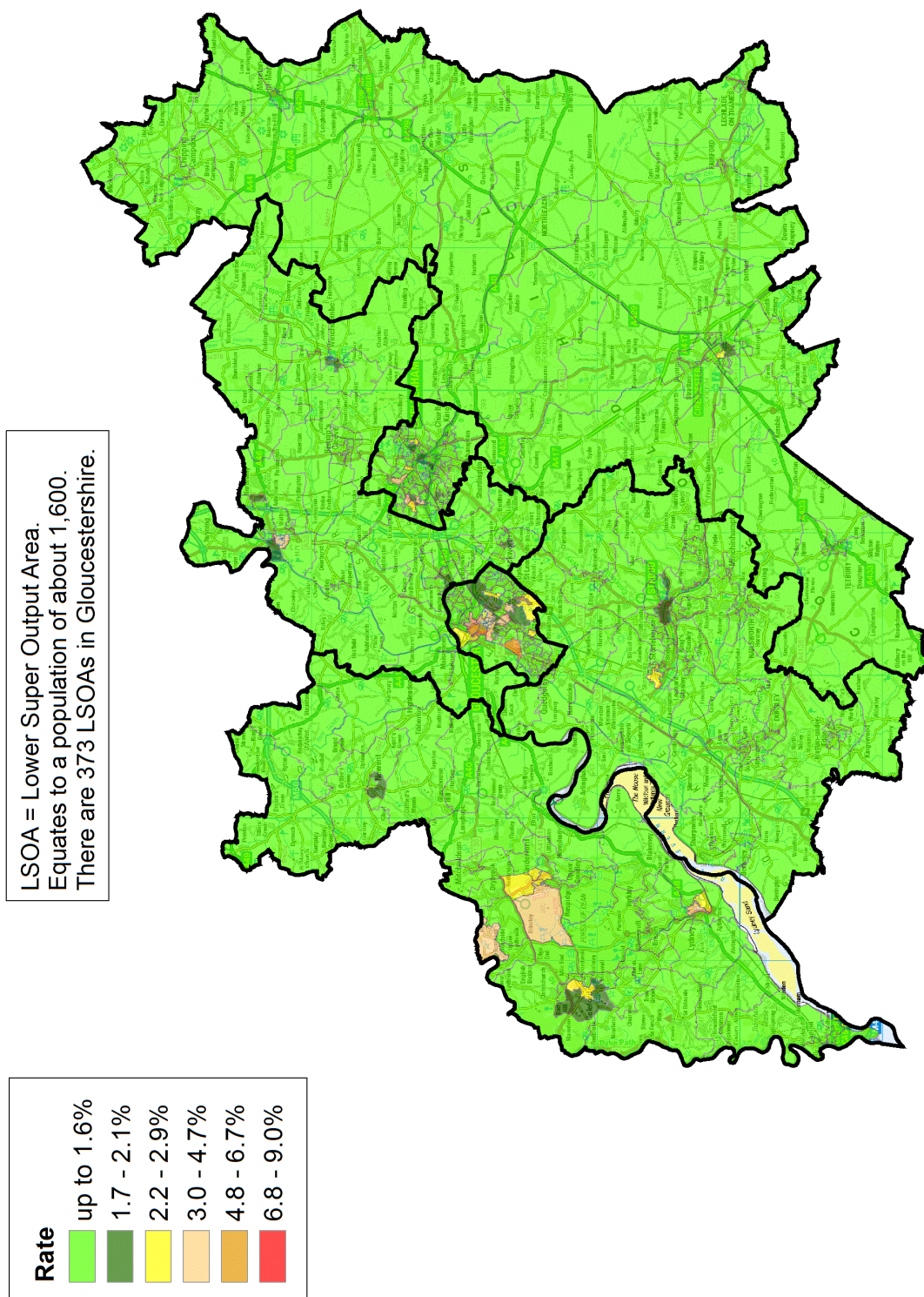
highest 10% of county

* 1 = "best" and 142 = "worst"

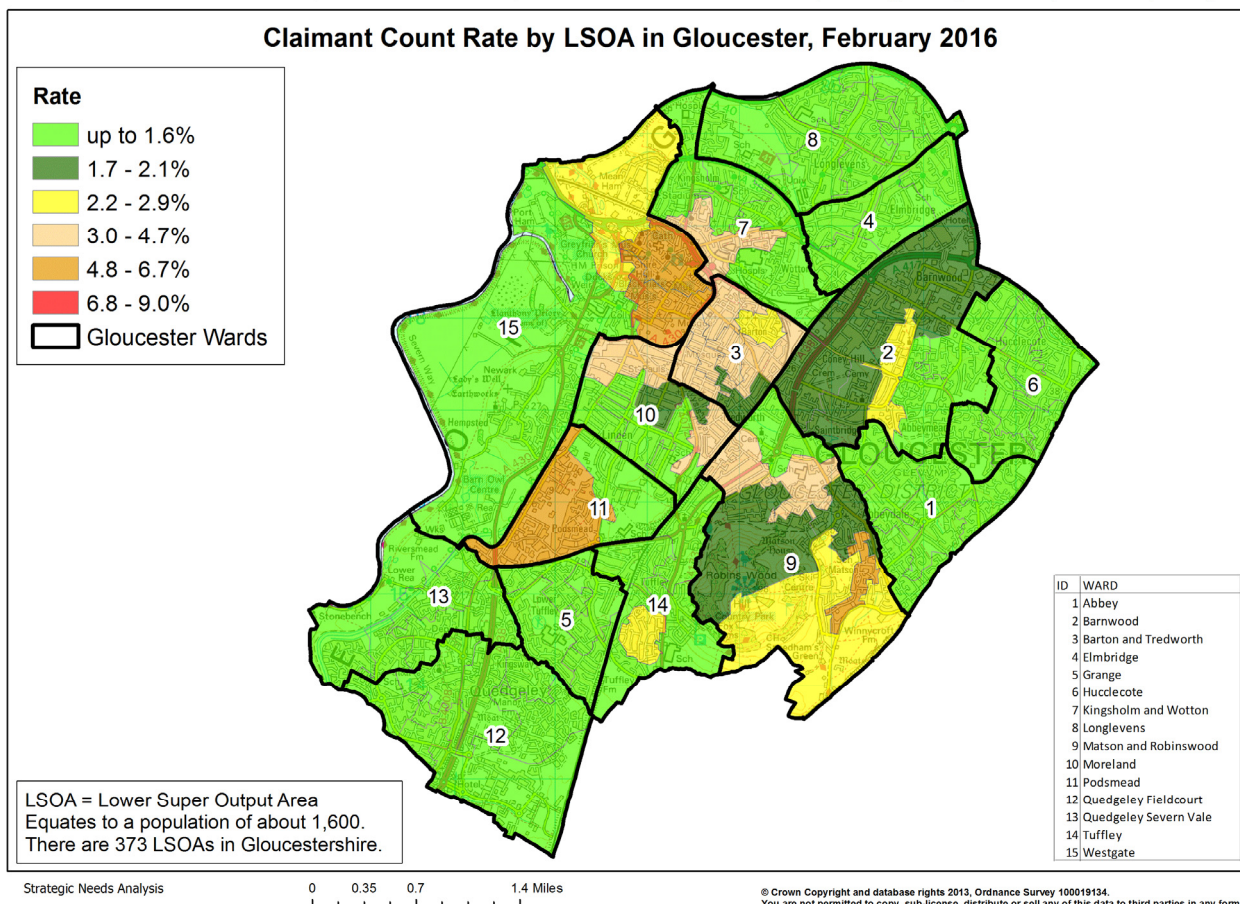
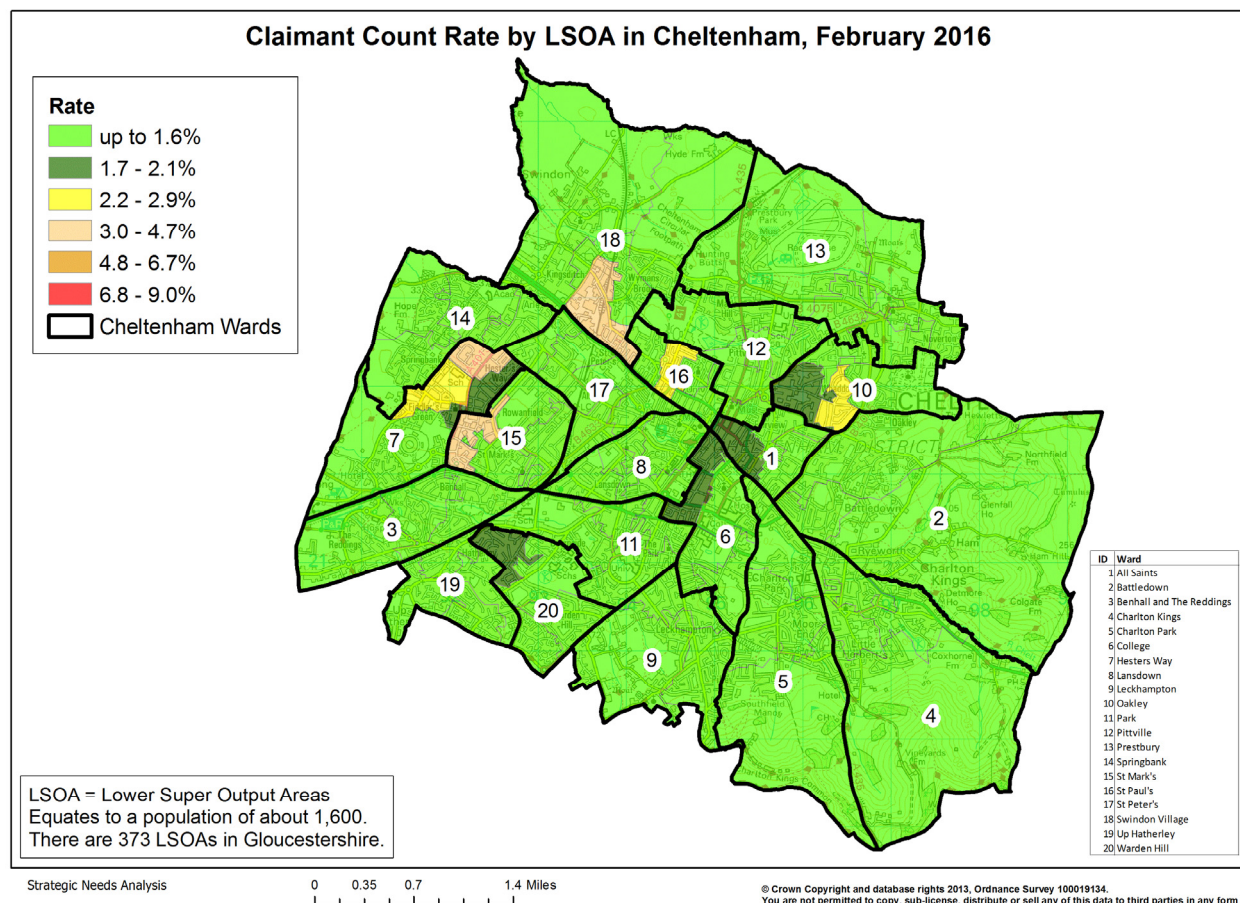
Table 10 shows overall claimant rates for Tewkesbury District wards and their position relative to all wards in Gloucestershire.

PART 5: MAP SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF CLAIMANT RATE ACROSS GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Claimant Count Rate by LSOA in Gloucestershire, February 2016



PART 5: MAP SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF CLAIMANT RATE ACROSS GLOUCESTERSHIRE



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

Youth Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 22: Claimant Count for Gloucestershire over the past year

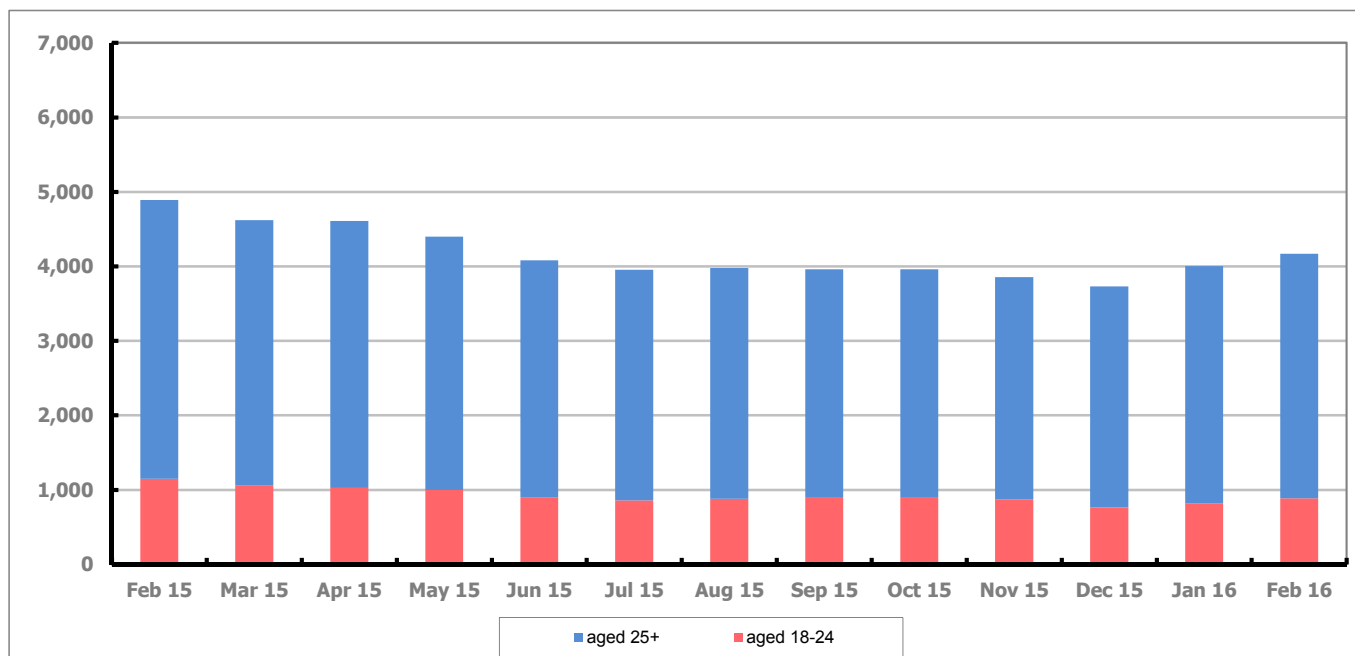


Figure 22 shows that in February 2016, 885 people aged 18-24 were claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who were not in work in Gloucestershire, this represents 21.1% of total working age claimants.

Figure 23: Youth Claimant Rate for Gloucestershire, the South West and UK over the past year

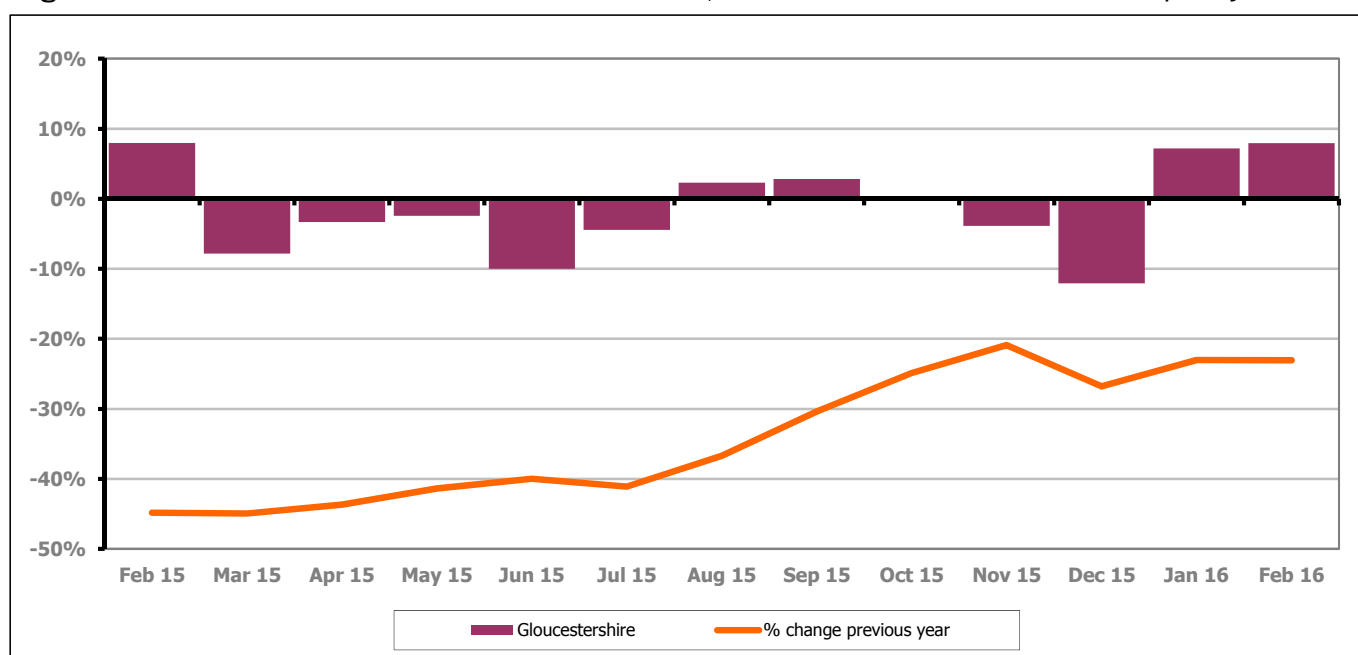


Figure 23 shows the number of young claimants increased in February 2016 by 7.9% this represented 65 people. Over the last year the number of young claimants fell by 23.3% or 265 people.

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 2016 there were 511 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 3.32%. The total number of NEET young people increased by 25 in February 2016 compared to January 2016. Four districts saw an increase in their NEET figure and two districts saw a decrease in their NEET figure.

Total NEET Group by District Area

February 2016 NEET data

	Cheltenham	Cotswold	Forest	Gloucester	Stroud	Tewkesbury	Total
Total NEET	82	43	75	175	78	58	511
Cohort	2689	2188	2256	3869	3257	2221	16480
% NEET	3.05	1.97	3.32	4.52	2.39	2.61	3.32*

If you would like to receive any further information on Gloucestershire's NEET strategy then please contact 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.