

Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 149 December 2020

Notes on Claimant Count (Experimental Statistics) from ONS:

These Claimant Count Experimental Statistics relate to 10 December 2020. Enhancements to Universal Credit as part of the UK government's response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) mean that an increasing number of people became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still employed. Consequently changes in the Claimant Count will not be wholly because of changes in the number of people who are unemployed. We are not able to identify to what extent people who are employed or unemployed have affected the numbers.

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A summary of unemployment data at district, County, regional and national level

1 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.**

3 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.

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

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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). 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 4.5% in December 2020. The South West rate decreased to 4.9% and the UK rate increased to 6.3%. Gloucestershire's rate was 0.4% lower than the South West average of 4.9%, and 1.8% lower than the UK average of 6.3%.

The claimant count in Gloucestershire in December 2020 decreased by 170 people. The amount of people claiming in December 2020 was 1.0% lower than the number in November 2020. This compares to a 0.2% decrease in the South West and a 0.2% increase in the UK.

Produced by:

Data & Analysis Team

Planning, Performance and Change

Gloucestershire County Council

January 2021

DISTRICTS AT A GLANCE

At a glance unemployment information grouped by district. Includes:

Claimant count: Total number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work in December 2020

Claimant count change on previous month: How much larger/smaller December's claimant count is compared to November expressed as a %

Claimant rate: The % of working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work in December 2020

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

CHEL滕HAM BOROUGH

Claimant count:	3,675
Claimant count change on previous month:	-0.8%
Claimant rate:	5.1%
Highest claiming ward	Oakley (8.2%)

GLOUCESTER CITY

Claimant count:	4,770
Claimant count change on previous month:	-0.4%
Claimant rate:	5.9%
Highest claiming wards	Barton and Tredworth (11.2%)

COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claimant count:	1,860
Claimant count change on previous month:	0.0%
Claimant rate:	3.6%
Highest claiming ward	Watermoor (7.4%)

STROUD DISTRICT

Claimant count:	2,670
Claimant count change on previous month:	-2.9%
Claimant rate:	3.7%
Highest claiming wards	Stroud Central, and Stroud Slade (7.0%)

FOREST OF DEAN

Claimant count:	2,325
Claimant count change on previous month:	-0.2%
Claimant rate:	4.6%
Highest claiming ward	Lydney East (8.1%)

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claimant count:	2,150
Claimant count change on previous month:	-1.8%
Claimant rate:	3.8%
Highest claiming ward	Brockworth East (6.0%)

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

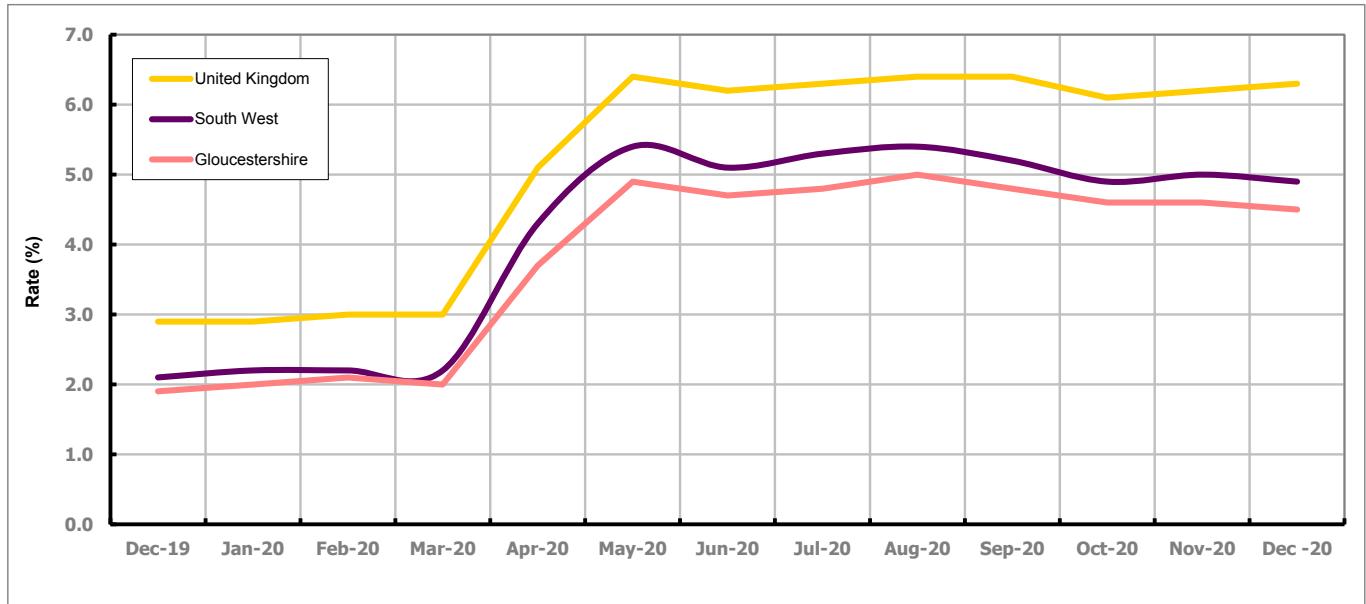


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 4.5% in December 2020. The Gloucestershire rate has been lower than the South West average since December 2015, with the exception of April and May 2016 when it was the same. On average, it has been approximately 1.4% lower than the UK average since the same month of the previous year.

Claimant Count

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

Area	Claimant Count in December 2020	% change on November 2020	Consecutive months increasing
UK	2,610,290	0.2%	1
South West	166,980	-0.2%	0
Gloucestershire	17,450	-1.0%	0

Table 1 shows that in December 2020, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 1.0% lower than the number in November 2020.

PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 2: Claimant Rate (%) across Gloucestershire - December 2020

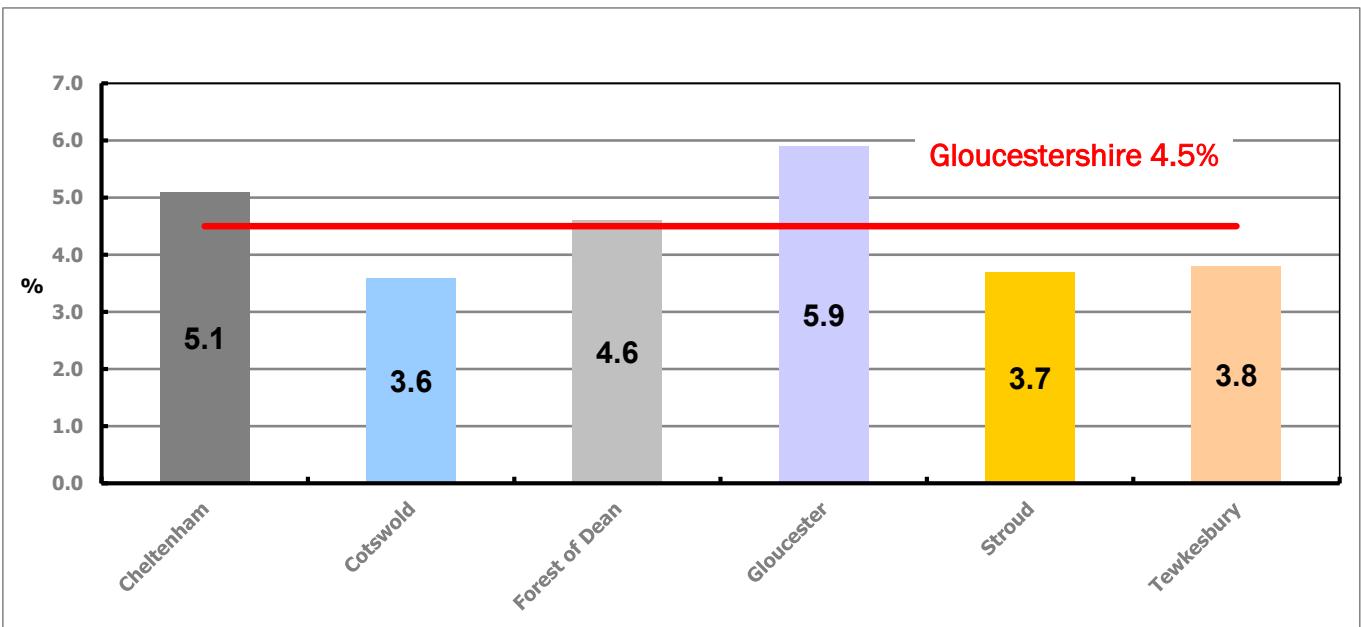


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for December 2020 in Gloucestershire. Between November 2020 and December 2020 the rate remained the same in all districts except Stroud and Tewkesbury which saw a decrease.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	Dec 20 Number	Dec 20 Rate	Nov 20 Number	Nov 20 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	17,450	4.5	17,620	4.6	-170	-1.0%	-0.1
Cheltenham	3,675	5.1	3,705	5.1	-30	-0.8%	0.0
Cotswold	1,860	3.6	1,860	3.6	0	0.0%	0.0
Forest of Dean	2,325	4.6	2,330	4.6	-5	-0.2%	0.0
Gloucester	4,770	5.9	4,790	5.9	-20	-0.4%	0.0
Stroud	2,670	3.7	2,750	3.8	-80	-2.9%	-0.1
Tewkesbury	2,150	3.8	2,190	3.9	-40	-1.8%	-0.1

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in December 2020 compared to November 2020. All districts saw a decrease in the number of claimants, except Cotswold which stayed the same.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	Dec 20 Number	Dec 20 Rate	Nov 20 Number	Nov 20 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	10,200	5.3	10,215	5.3	-15	-0.1%	0.0
Cheltenham	2,175	5.9	2,175	5.9	0	0.0%	0.0
Cotswold	1,025	4.1	1,025	4.1	0	0.0%	0.0
Forest of Dean	1,330	5.3	1,325	5.3	5	0.4%	0.0
Gloucester	2,950	7.2	2,930	7.2	20	0.7%	0.0
Stroud	1,495	4.2	1,535	4.3	-40	-2.6%	-0.1
Tewkesbury	1,220	4.4	1,220	4.4	0	0.0%	0.0

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in December 2020 compared to November 2020. Gloucester City and the Forest of Dean saw an increase in the number of male claimants, whilst Stroud saw a decrease. All other districts stayed the same.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	Dec 20 Number	Dec 20 Rate	Nov 20 Number	Nov 20 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	7,255	3.7	7,400	3.8	-145	-2.0%	-0.1
Cheltenham	1,500	4.2	1,525	4.2	-25	-1.6%	0.0
Cotswold	835	3.1	835	3.1	0	0.0%	0.0
Forest of Dean	1,000	3.9	1,005	3.9	-5	-0.5%	0.0
Gloucester	1,815	4.5	1,860	4.6	-45	-2.4%	-0.1
Stroud	1,175	3.3	1,215	3.4	-40	-3.3%	-0.1
Tewkesbury	930	3.3	965	3.4	-35	-3.6%	-0.1

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in December 2020 compared to November 2020. All districts saw a decrease in the number of female claimants except Cotswold which stayed the same.

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

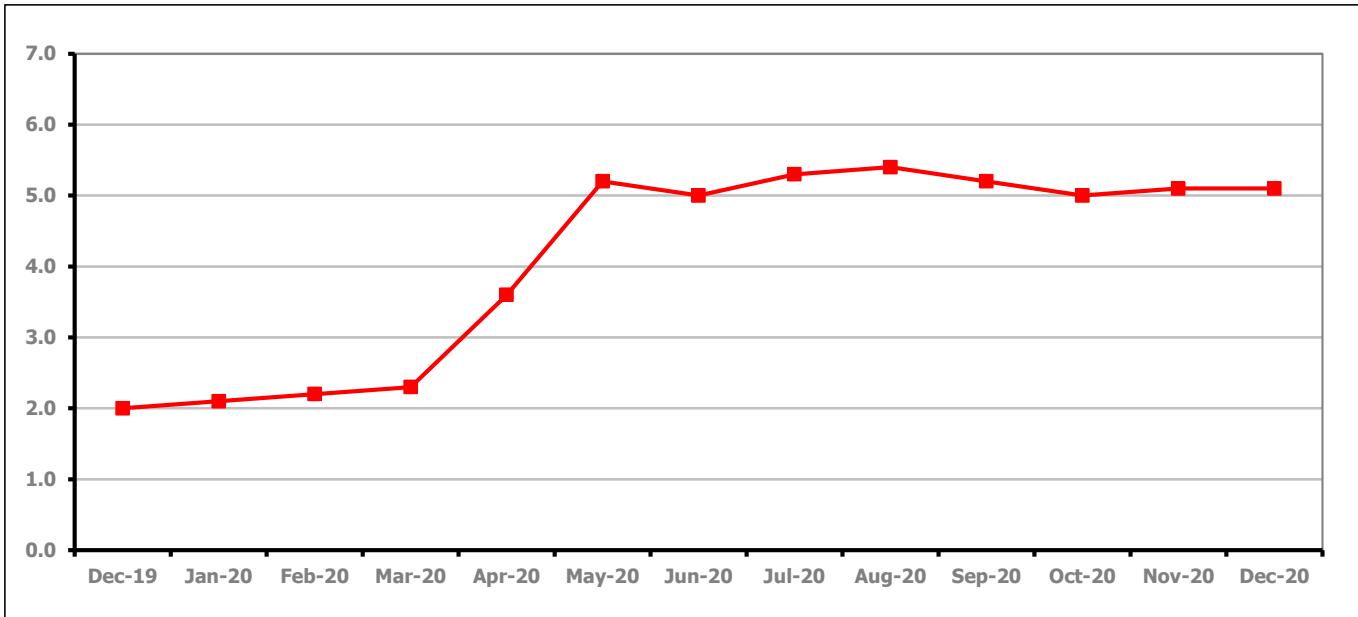


Figure 3 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham remained at 5.1% in December 2020.

Figure 4: Claimant rates across Cheltenham Borough wards - December 2020

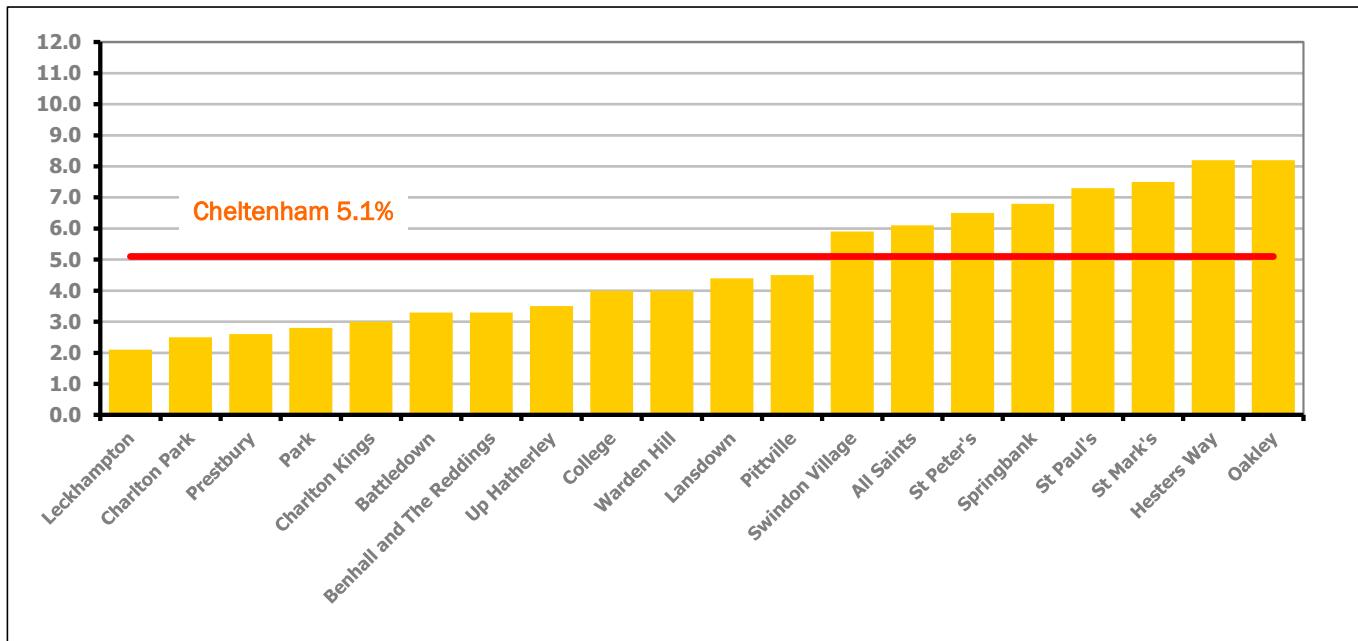


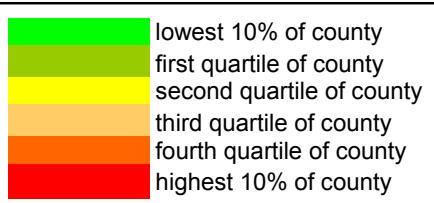
Figure 4 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 5.1%. Eight wards lie above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

Table 5: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cheltenham Borough ward level - December 2020

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	2.1	5
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	2.5	11
Cheltenham	Prestbury	2.6	13
Cheltenham	Park	2.8	20
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	3.0	30
Cheltenham	Battledown	3.3	45
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	3.3	45
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	3.5	59
Cheltenham	College	4.0	79
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	4.0	79
Cheltenham	Lansdown	4.4	94
Cheltenham	Pittville	4.5	97
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	5.9	117
Cheltenham	All Saints	6.1	119
Cheltenham	St Peter's	6.5	121
Cheltenham	Springbank	6.8	122
Cheltenham	St Paul's	7.3	126
Cheltenham	St Mark's	7.5	129
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	8.2	134
Cheltenham	Oakley	8.2	134



* 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

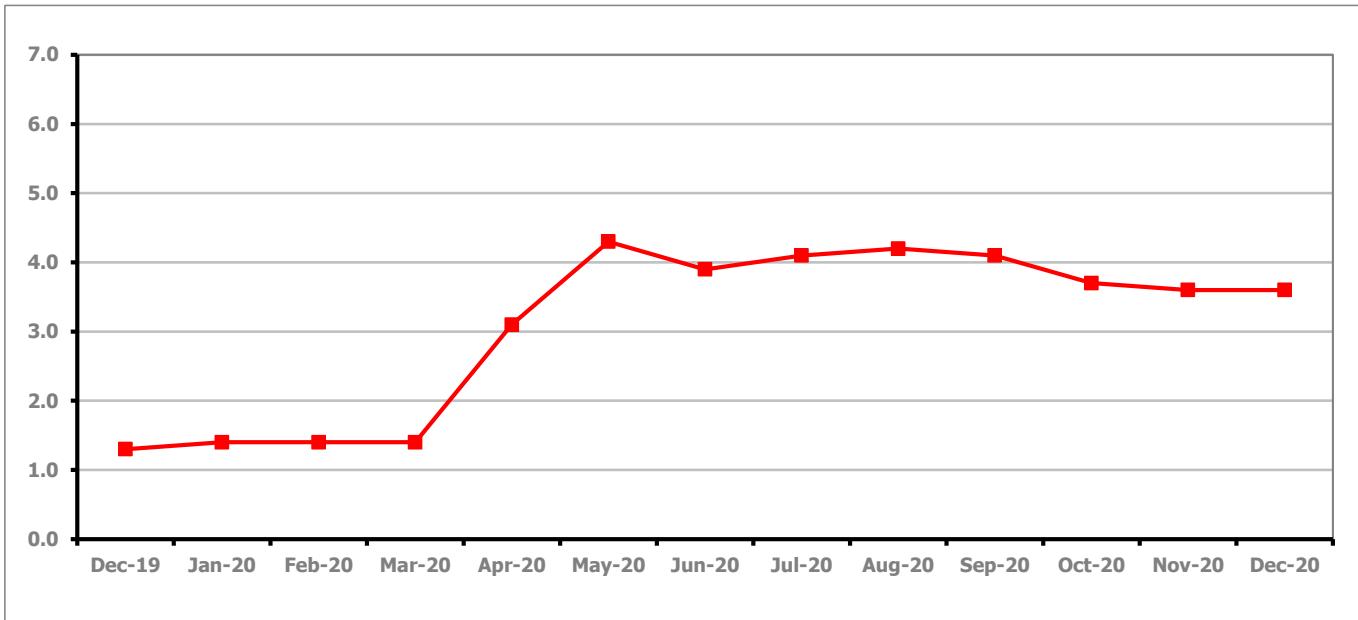


Figure 5 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District remained at 3.6% in December 2020.

Figure 6: Claimant rates across Cotswold District wards - December 2020

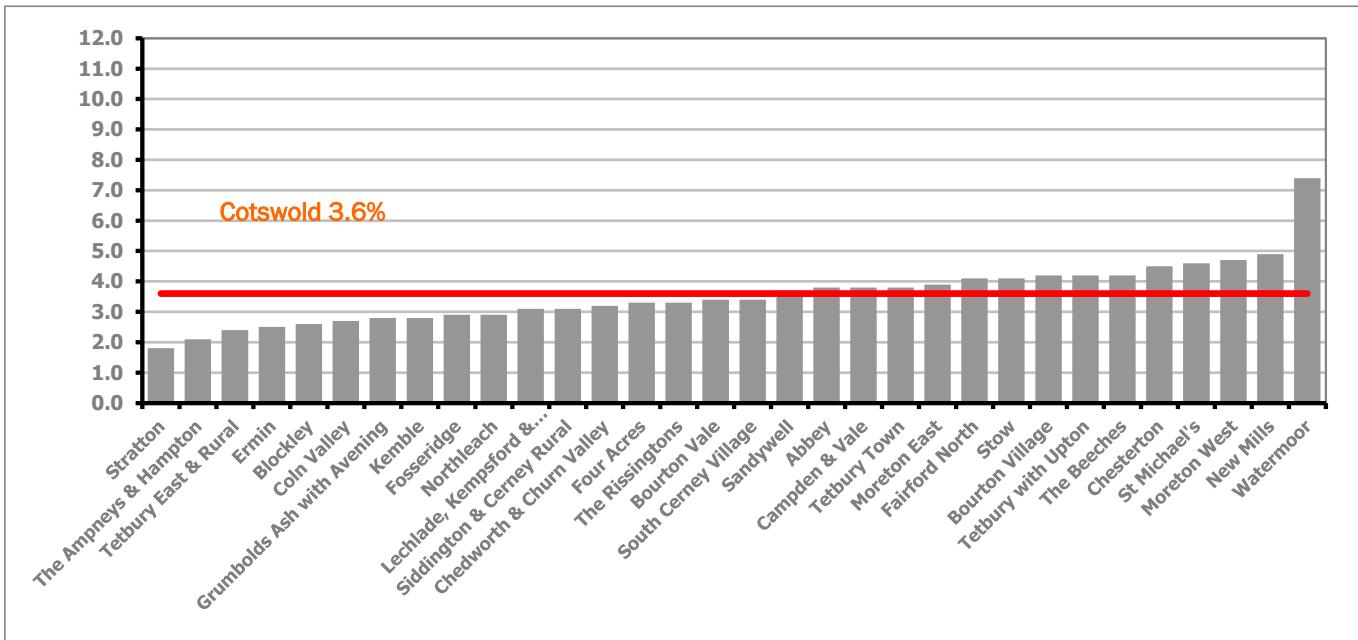


Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.6%. Fifteen wards lie above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.2 Cotswold District continued...

Table 6: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cotswold District ward level - December 2020

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswolds	Stratton	1.8	2
Cotswolds	The Ampneys & Hampton	2.1	5
Cotswolds	Tetbury East & Rural	2.4	8
Cotswolds	Ermin	2.5	11
Cotswolds	Blockley	2.6	13
Cotswolds	Coln Valley	2.7	18
Cotswolds	Grumbolds Ash with Avening	2.8	20
Cotswolds	Kemble	2.8	20
Cotswolds	Fosseridge	2.9	23
Cotswolds	Northleach	2.9	23
Cotswolds	Lechlade, Kempsford & Fairford South	3.1	35
Cotswolds	Siddington & Cerney Rural	3.1	35
Cotswolds	Chedworth & Churn Valley	3.2	39
Cotswolds	Four Acres	3.3	45
Cotswolds	The Rissingtons	3.3	45
Cotswolds	Bourton Vale	3.4	52
Cotswolds	South Cerney Village	3.4	52
Cotswolds	Sandywell	3.7	66
Cotswolds	Abbey	3.8	70
Cotswolds	Campden & Vale	3.8	70
Cotswolds	Tetbury Town	3.8	70
Cotswolds	Moreton East	3.9	74
Cotswolds	Fairford North	4.1	83
Cotswolds	Stow	4.1	83
Cotswolds	Bourton Village	4.2	87
Cotswolds	Tetbury with Upton	4.2	87
Cotswolds	The Beeches	4.2	87
Cotswolds	Chesterton	4.5	97
Cotswolds	St Michael's	4.6	99
Cotswolds	Moreton West	4.7	103
Cotswolds	New Mills	4.9	106
Cotswolds	Watermoor	7.4	127


 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 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

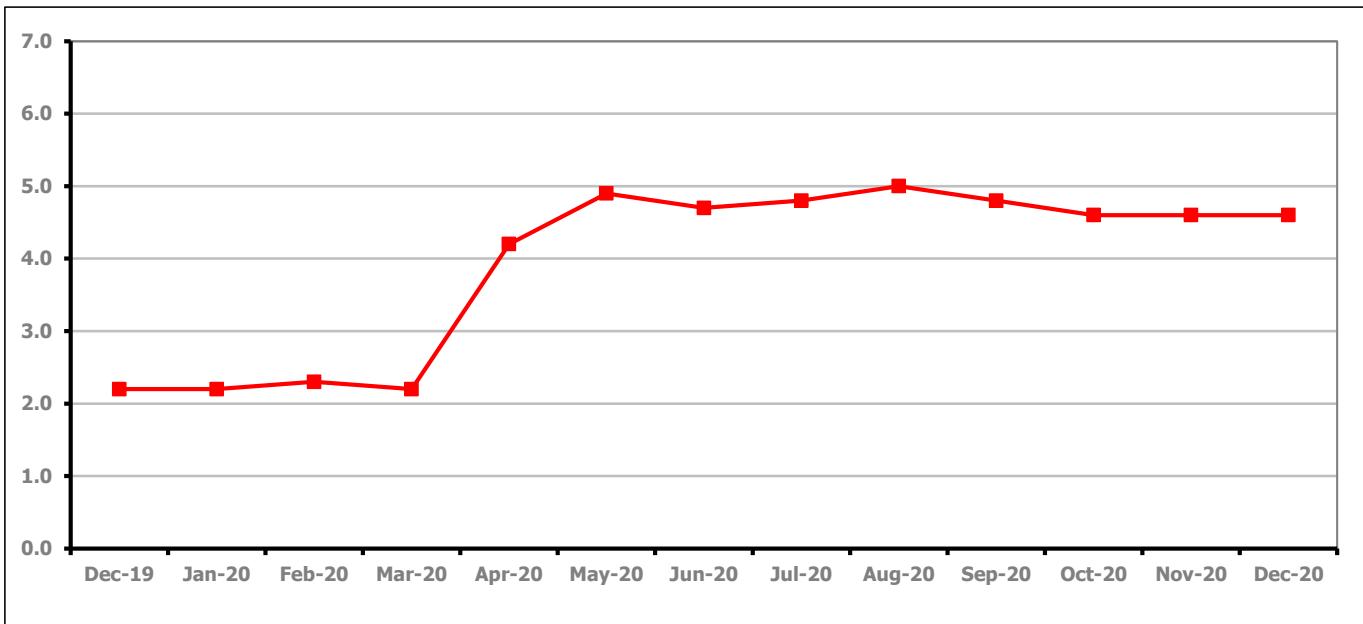


Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean remained at 4.6% in December 2020.

Figure 8: Claimant rates across Forest of Dean District wards - December 2020

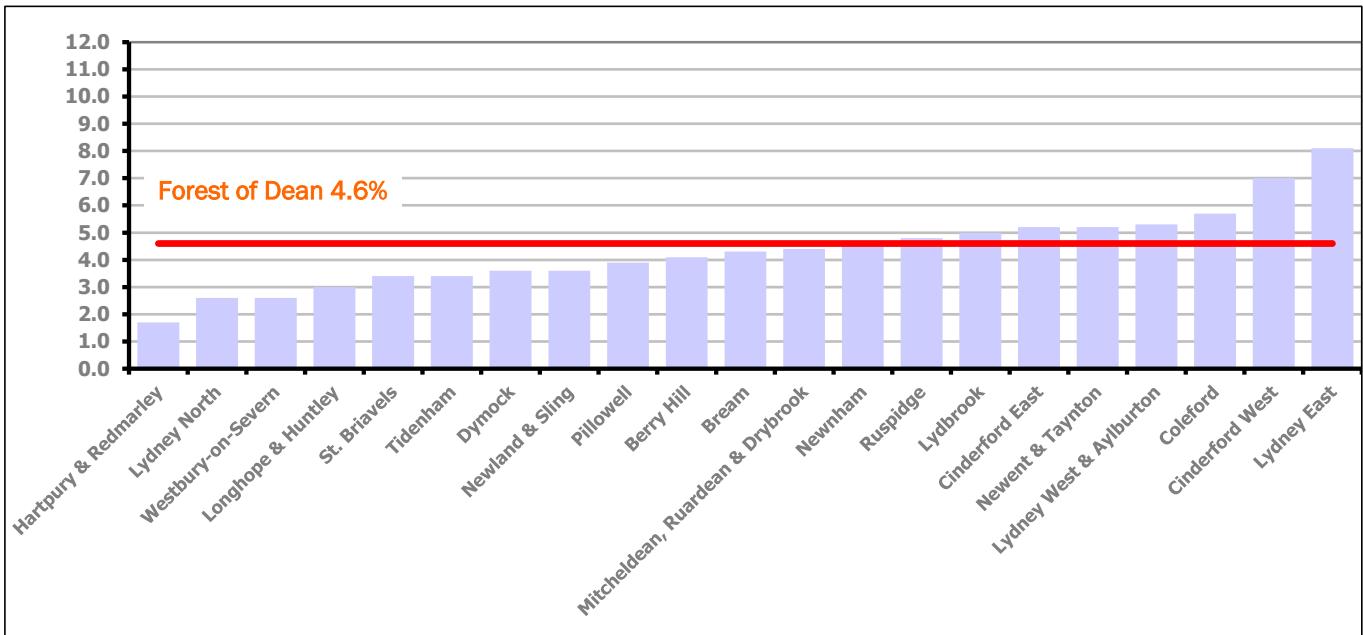


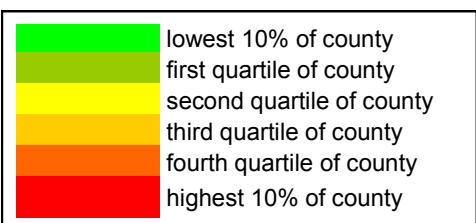
Figure 8 shows the claimant rates for the Forest of Dean District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 4.6%. Eight wards lie above the average.

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 - December 2020

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Hartpury & Redmarley	1.7	1
Forest	Lydney North	2.6	13
Forest	Westbury-on-Severn	2.6	13
Forest	Longhope & Huntley	3.0	30
Forest	St. Briavels	3.4	52
Forest	Tidenham	3.4	52
Forest	Dymock	3.6	63
Forest	Newland & Sling	3.6	63
Forest	Pillowell	3.9	74
Forest	Berry Hill	4.1	83
Forest	Bream	4.3	90
Forest	Mitcheldean, Ruardean & Drybrook	4.4	94
Forest	Newnham	4.6	99
Forest	Ruspidge	4.8	105
Forest	Lydbrook	5.0	108
Forest	Cinderford East	5.2	110
Forest	Newent & Taynton	5.2	110
Forest	Lydney West & Aylburton	5.3	113
Forest	Coleford	5.7	115
Forest	Cinderford West	7.0	123
Forest	Lydney East	8.1	133



* 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.

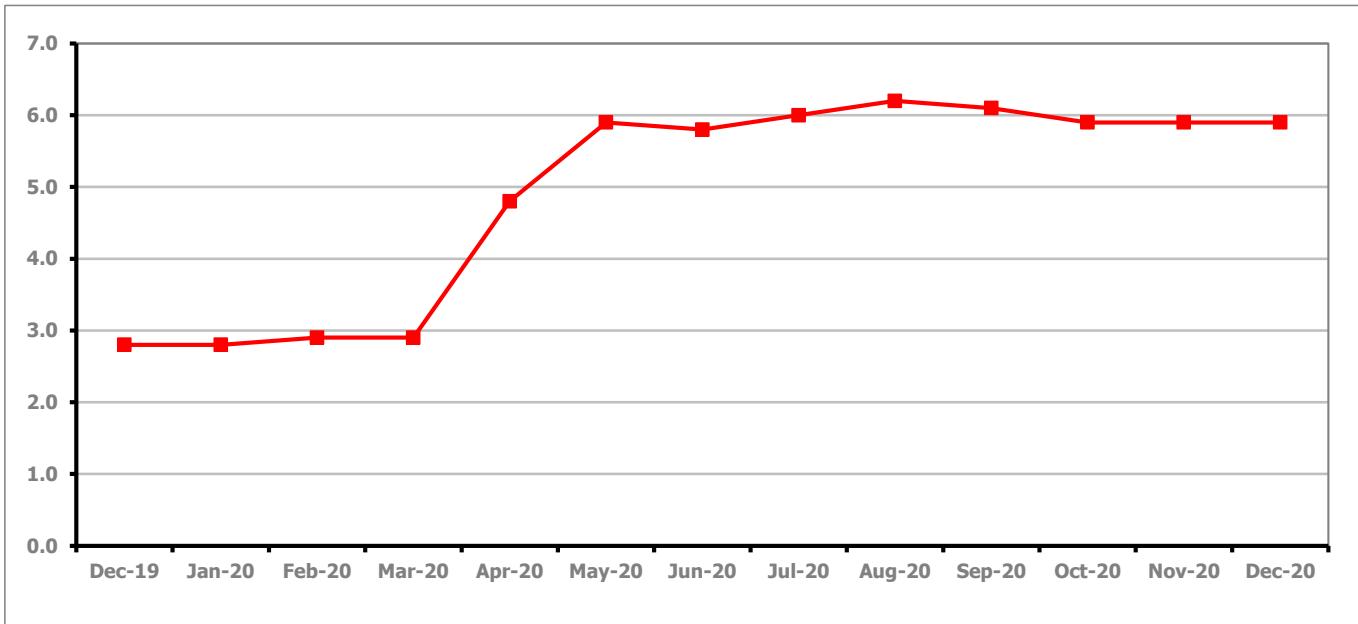
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.4 Gloucester City****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 9: Gloucester City claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 9 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City remained at 5.9% in December 2020.

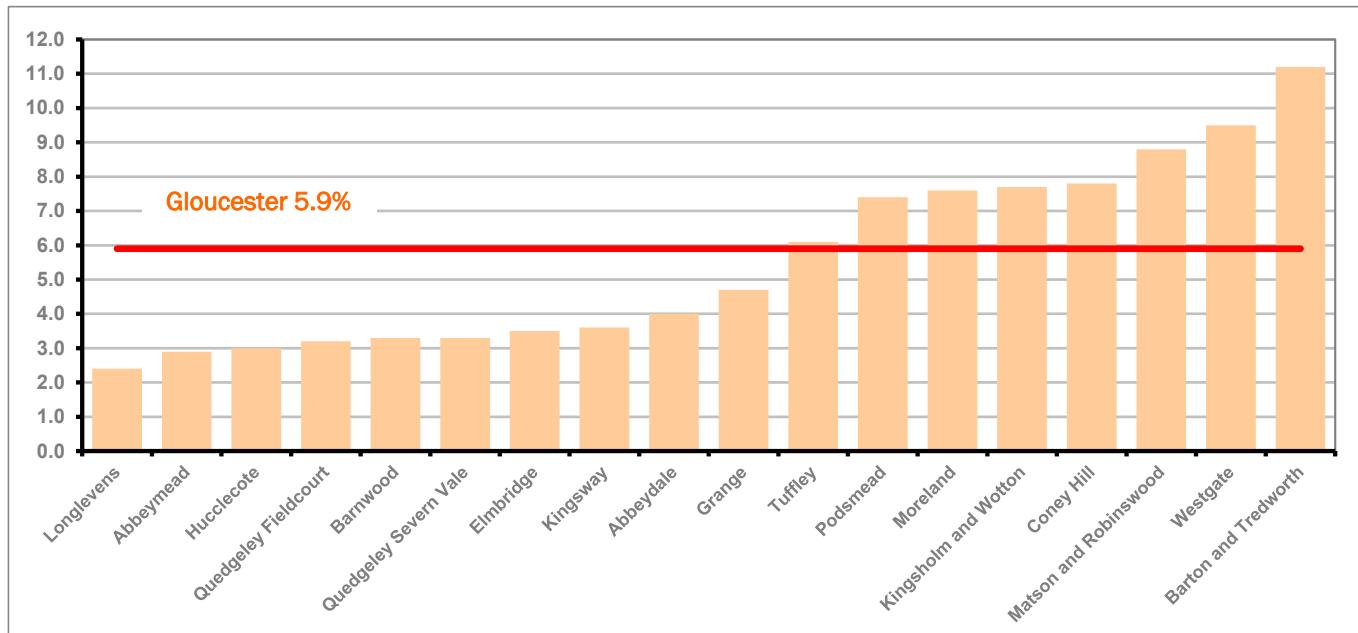
Figure 10: Claimant rates across Gloucester City wards - December 2020

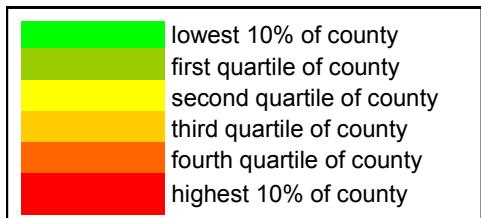
Figure 10 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 5.9%. Eight wards lie above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.4 Gloucester City continued...

Table 8: Analysis of Claimant Count at Gloucester City ward level - December 2020

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Longlevens	2.4	8
Gloucester	Abbeymead	2.9	23
Gloucester	Hucclecote	3.0	30
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	3.2	39
Gloucester	Barnwood	3.3	45
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	3.3	45
Gloucester	Elmbridge	3.5	59
Gloucester	Kingsway	3.6	63
Gloucester	Abbeydale	4.0	79
Gloucester	Grange	4.7	103
Gloucester	Tuffley	6.1	119
Gloucester	Podsmead	7.4	127
Gloucester	Moreland	7.6	130
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	7.7	131
Gloucester	Coney Hill	7.8	132
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	8.8	136
Gloucester	Westgate	9.5	137
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	11.2	138



* 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

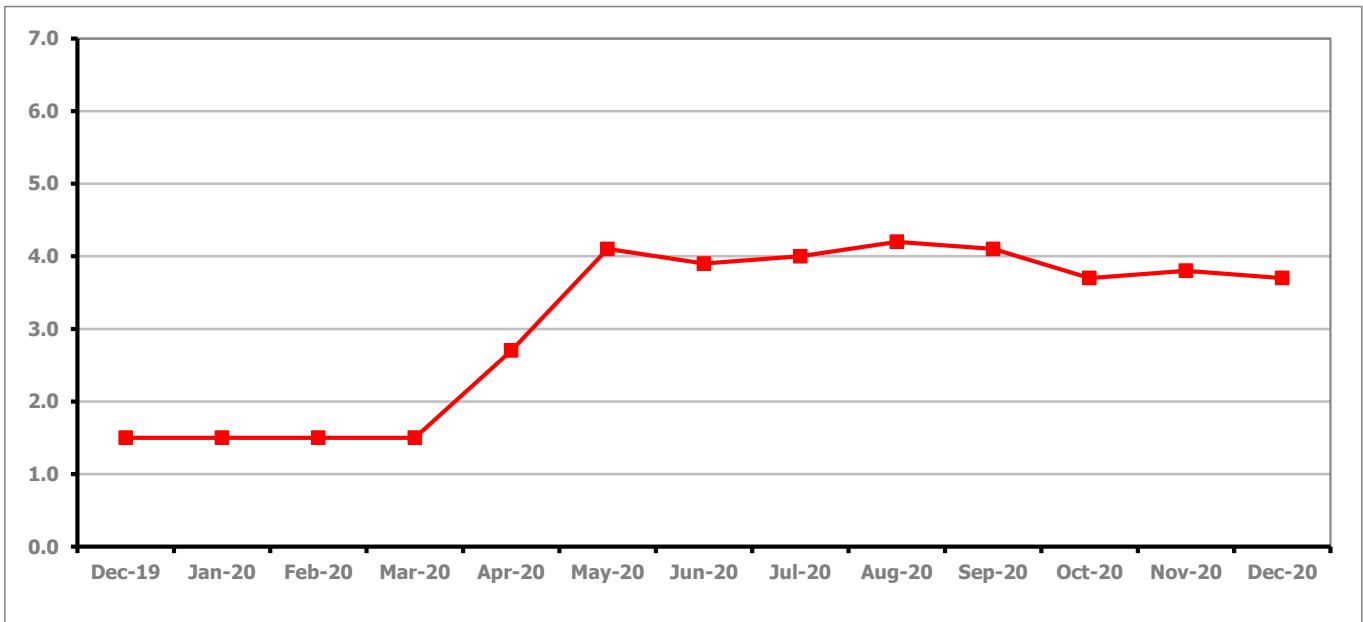


Figure 11 shows the claimant rate for Stroud decreased to 3.7% in December 2020.

Figure 12: Claimant rates across Stroud District wards - December 2020

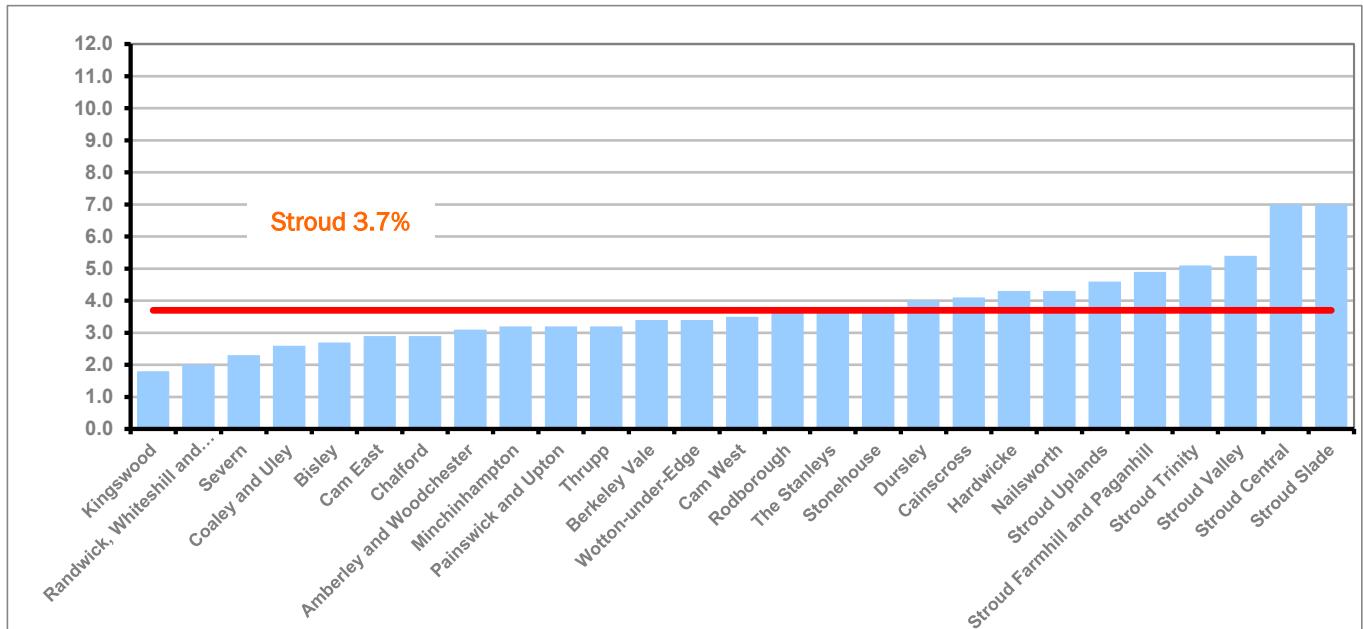


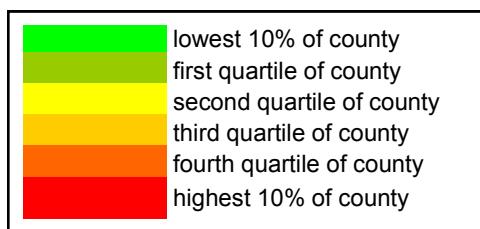
Figure 12 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.7%. Eleven wards are above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.5 Stroud District continued...

Table 9: Analysis of Claimant Count at Stroud District ward level - December 2020

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Kingswood	1.8	2
Stroud	Randwick, Whiteshill and Ruscombe	2.0	4
Stroud	Severn	2.3	7
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	2.6	13
Stroud	Bisley	2.7	18
Stroud	Cam East	2.9	23
Stroud	Chalford	2.9	23
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	3.1	35
Stroud	Minchinhampton	3.2	39
Stroud	Painswick and Upton	3.2	39
Stroud	Thrupp	3.2	39
Stroud	Berkeley Vale	3.4	52
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	3.4	52
Stroud	Cam West	3.5	59
Stroud	Rodborough	3.7	66
Stroud	The Stanleys	3.7	66
Stroud	Stonehouse	3.8	70
Stroud	Dursley	4.0	79
Stroud	Cainscross	4.1	83
Stroud	Hardwicke	4.3	90
Stroud	Nailsworth	4.3	90
Stroud	Stroud Uplands	4.6	99
Stroud	Stroud Farmhill and Paganhill	4.9	106
Stroud	Stroud Trinity	5.1	109
Stroud	Stroud Valley	5.4	114
Stroud	Stroud Central	7.0	123
Stroud	Stroud Slade	7.0	123



* 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 Borough

Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 13: Tewkesbury Borough claimant rate over the last year

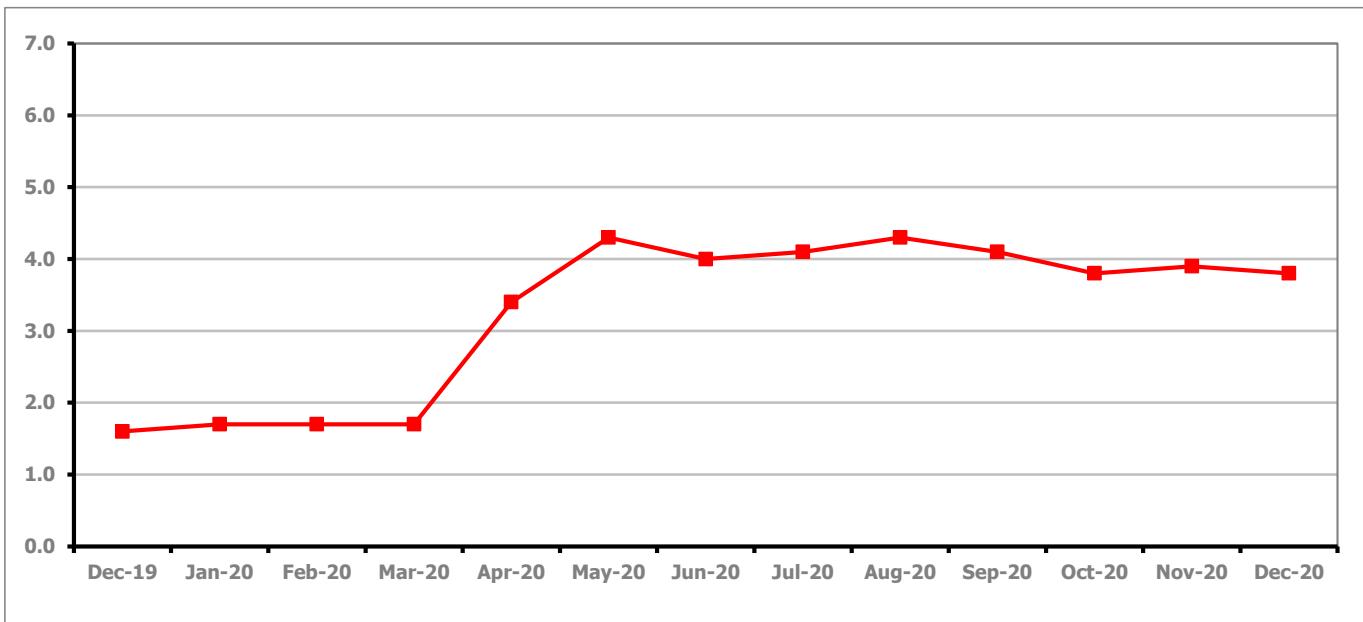


Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury Borough decreased to 3.8% in December 2020.

Figure 14: Claimant rates across Tewkesbury Borough wards - December 2020

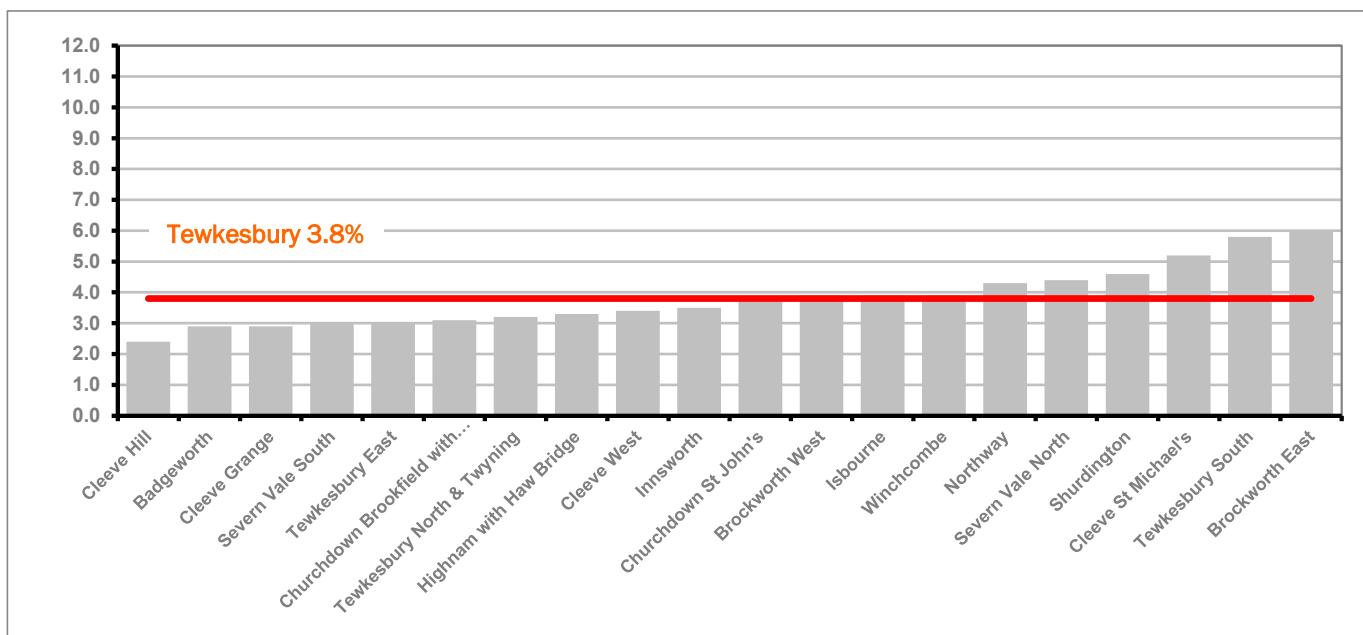


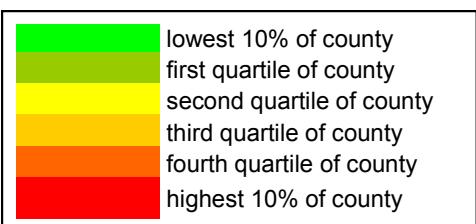
Figure 14 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.8%. Nine wards are above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.6 Tewkesbury Borough continued...

Table 10: Analysis of Claimant Count at Tewkesbury Borough level - December 2020

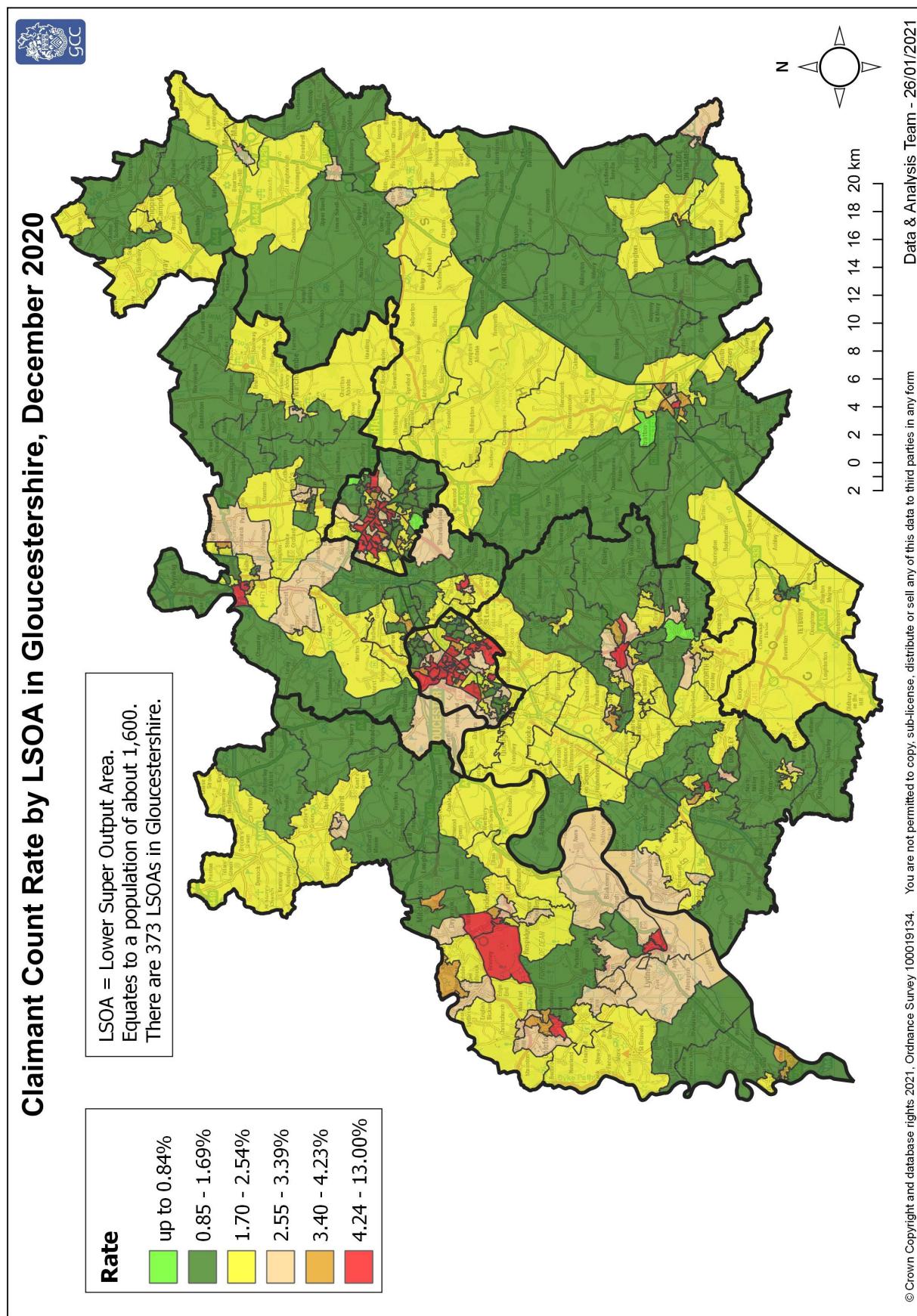
District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	2.4	8
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	2.9	23
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	2.9	23
Tewkesbury	Severn Vale South	3.0	30
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury East	3.0	30
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield with Hucclecote	3.1	35
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury North & Twyning	3.2	39
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	3.3	45
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	3.4	52
Tewkesbury	Innsworth	3.5	59
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	3.7	66
Tewkesbury	Brockworth West	3.9	74
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	3.9	74
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	3.9	74
Tewkesbury	Northway	4.3	90
Tewkesbury	Severn Vale North	4.4	94
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	4.6	99
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	5.2	110
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury South	5.8	116
Tewkesbury	Brockworth East	6.0	118



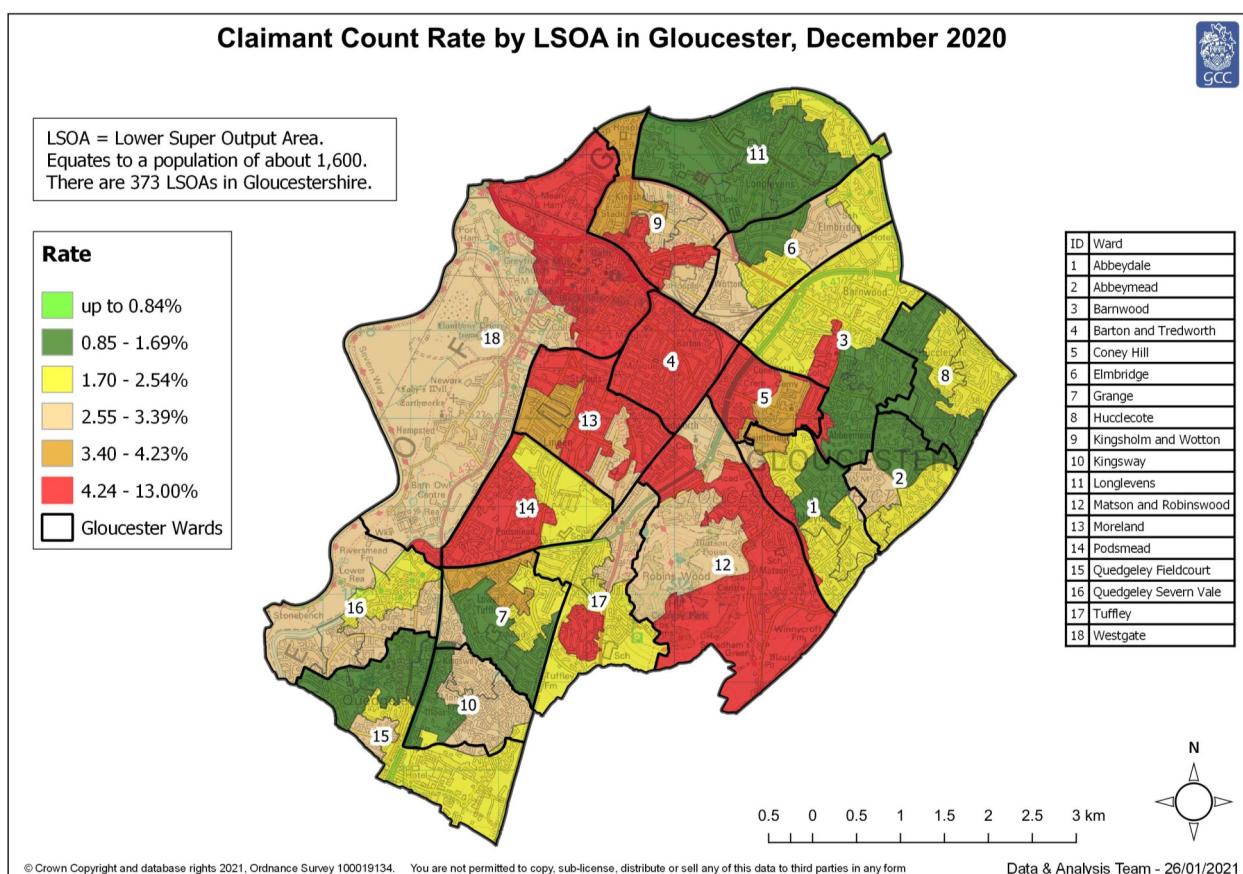
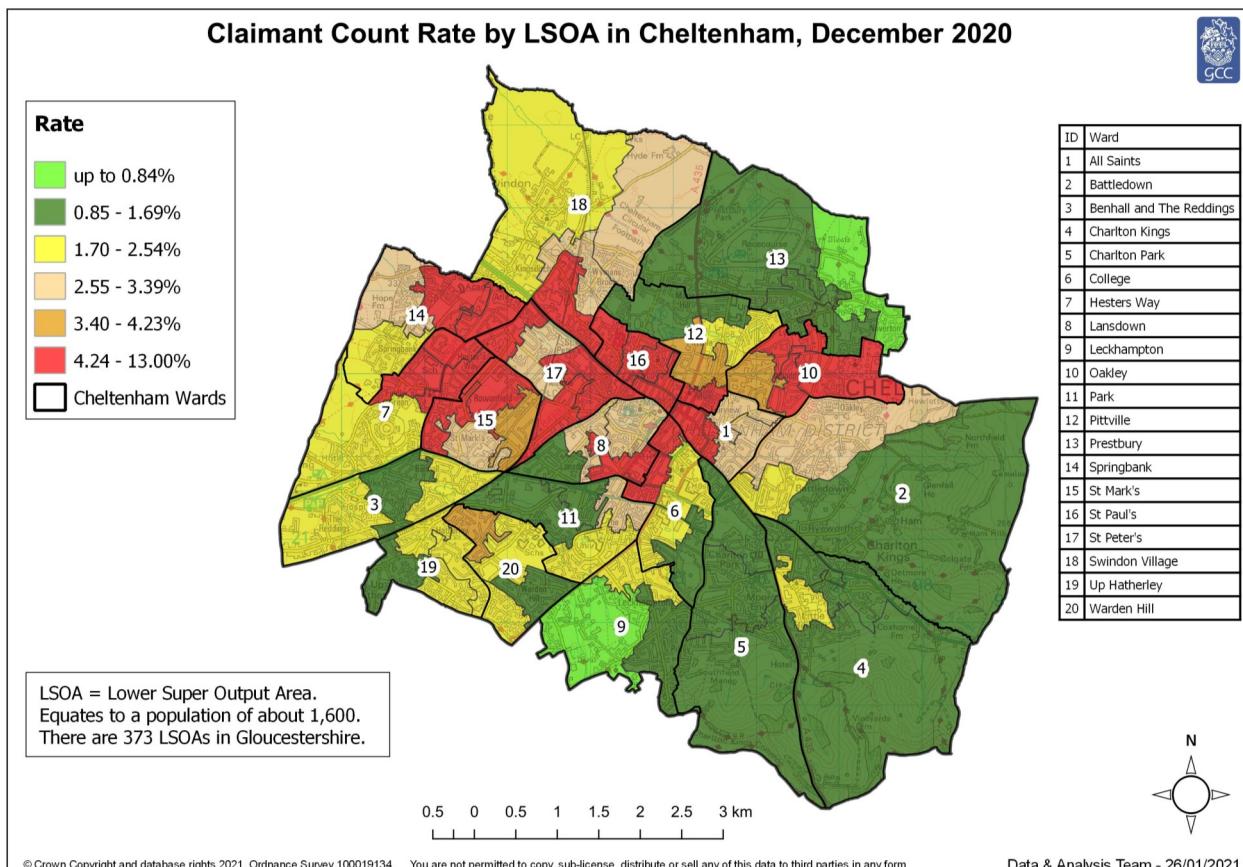
* 1 = "best" and 146 = "worst"

Table 10 shows overall claimant rates for Tewkesbury Borough 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 ACROSS GLOUCESTERSHIRE



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

Youth Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 15: Claimant Count for Gloucestershire over the past year

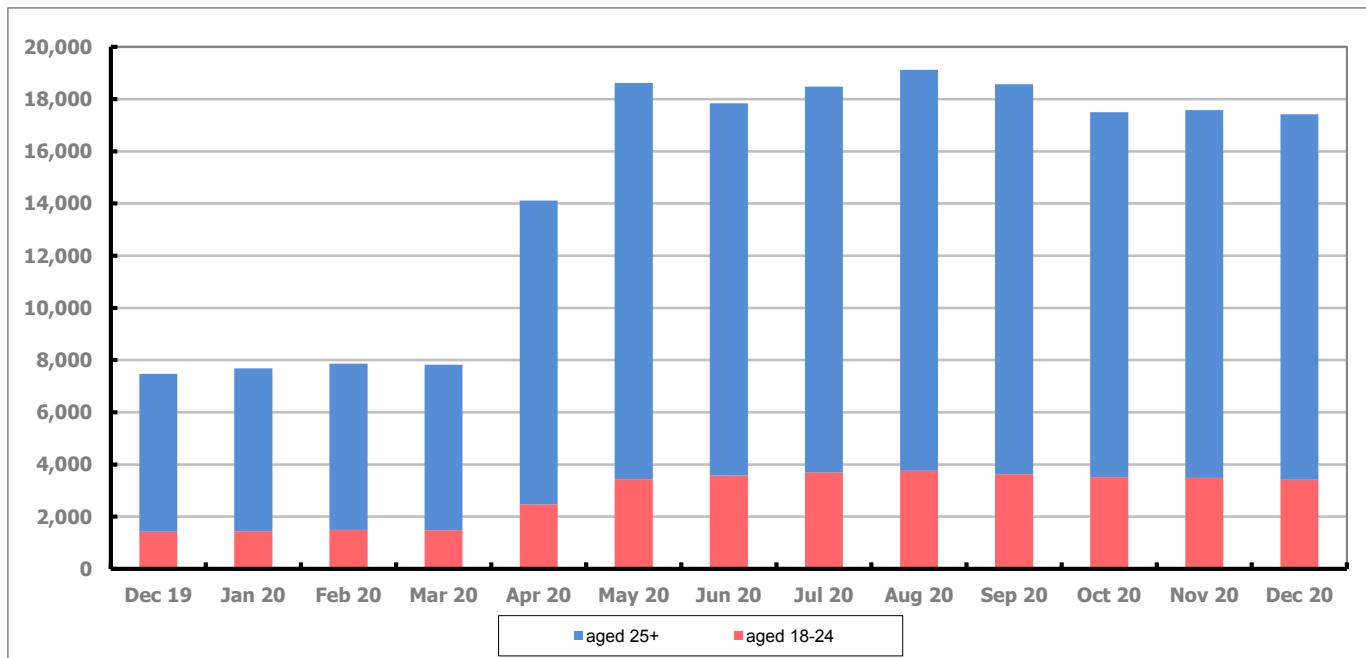


Figure 15 shows that in December 2020, 3,410 people aged 18-24 were claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who were not in work in Gloucestershire, this represents 19.5% of total working age claimants.

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 on the Academic Year 12 and 13 (16/17 age) against nationally defined criteria for counting the NEET group to the Department for Education (DfE) on a monthly basis. 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.

December 2020

Academic Year 12-13 Summary

	NEET	Cohort	%
Cheltenham	51	2192	2.33%
Cotswold	37	1721	2.15%
Forest	52	1693	3.07%
Gloucester	117	2915	4.01%
Stroud	56	2650	2.11%
Tewkesbury	47	1966	2.39%
Total	360	13137	2.74%

16-18 Age Summary

	NEET	Cohort	%
Cheltenham	73	2893	2.52%
Cotswold	52	2288	2.27%
Forest	73	2231	3.27%
Gloucester	167	3928	4.25%
Stroud	79	3467	2.28%
Tewkesbury	65	2593	2.51%
Total	509	17400	2.93%

16-18 Adjust NEET*	3.10%
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Monthly Change	3	-4	0.02%
Previous month	357	13141	2.72%

Monthly Change	-10	-469	0.02%
Previous month	519	17869	2.90%

The academic year 12-13 group contains a proportion of young people who turn 18 in the academic year but were 17 on the 31st August the previous academic year so are entitled to learning through RPA (raising participation age).

Please note all figures quoted above are subject to change before the submission date to the DfE which usually happens in the second or third week of the month for the previous month.

If you would like to receive any further information on Gloucestershire's NEET strategy, then please contact Lynne.Speak@Prospects.co.uk or telephone 07900 391182.

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