

# Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 179 Jun 2023

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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 2.3% in June 2023. The South West rate increased to 2.5% while the UK rate increased to 3.7%. Gloucestershire's rate was 0.2% lower than the South West average of 2.5%, and 1.4% lower than the UK average of 3.7%.

The claimant count in Gloucestershire in June 2023 increased by 80 people. The amount of people claiming in June 2023 was 1.9% higher than the number in May 2023. This compares to a 1.1% increase in the South West and a 1.5% increase in the UK.

Produced by:

**Data & Analysis Team**  
Planning, Performance and Insight  
Gloucestershire County Council  
July 2023

## 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 June 2023

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

**Claimant rate:** The % of working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work in June 2023

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

### CHELTEMHAM BOROUGH

Claimant count:	1,890
Claimant count change on previous month:	1.9%
Claimant rate:	2.5%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Hesters Way (5.0%)

### GLOUCESTER CITY

Claimant count:	2,715
Claimant count change on previous month:	1.1%
Claimant rate:	3.2%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Westgate (7.0%)

### COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claimant count:	865
Claimant count change on previous month:	0.0%
Claimant rate:	1.6%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Watermoor (3.7%)

### STROUD DISTRICT

Claimant count:	1,180
Claimant count change on previous month:	1.3%
Claimant rate:	1.6%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Stroud Central (5.1%)

### FOREST OF DEAN

Claimant count:	1,220
Claimant count change on previous month:	0.0%
Claimant rate:	2.3%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Lydney East (3.9%)

### TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claimant count:	1,130
Claimant count change on previous month:	0.0%
Claimant rate:	2.0%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Tewkesbury South (3.7%)

## 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

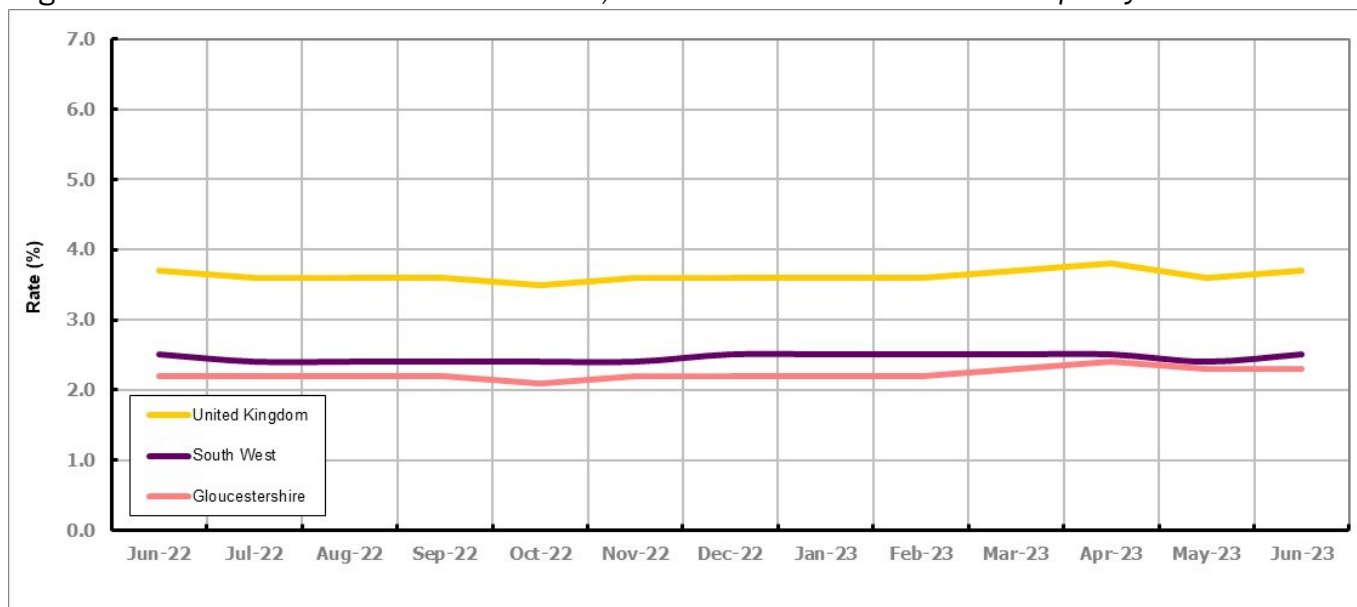


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 2.3% in June 2023. The Gloucestershire rate has been lower than the South West average since December 2015, with the exception of April and May 2016 when it was the same. On average, it has been approximately 1.4% lower than the UK average since the same month of the previous year.

### Claimant Count

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

Area	Claimant Count in June 2023	% change on May 2023	Consecutive months increasing
UK	1,551,895	1.5%	0
South West	85,495	1.1%	0
Gloucestershire	8,985	0.9%	0

Table 1 shows that in June 2023, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 0.9% higher than the number in May 2023.

## PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 2: Claimant Rate (%) across Gloucestershire - June 2023

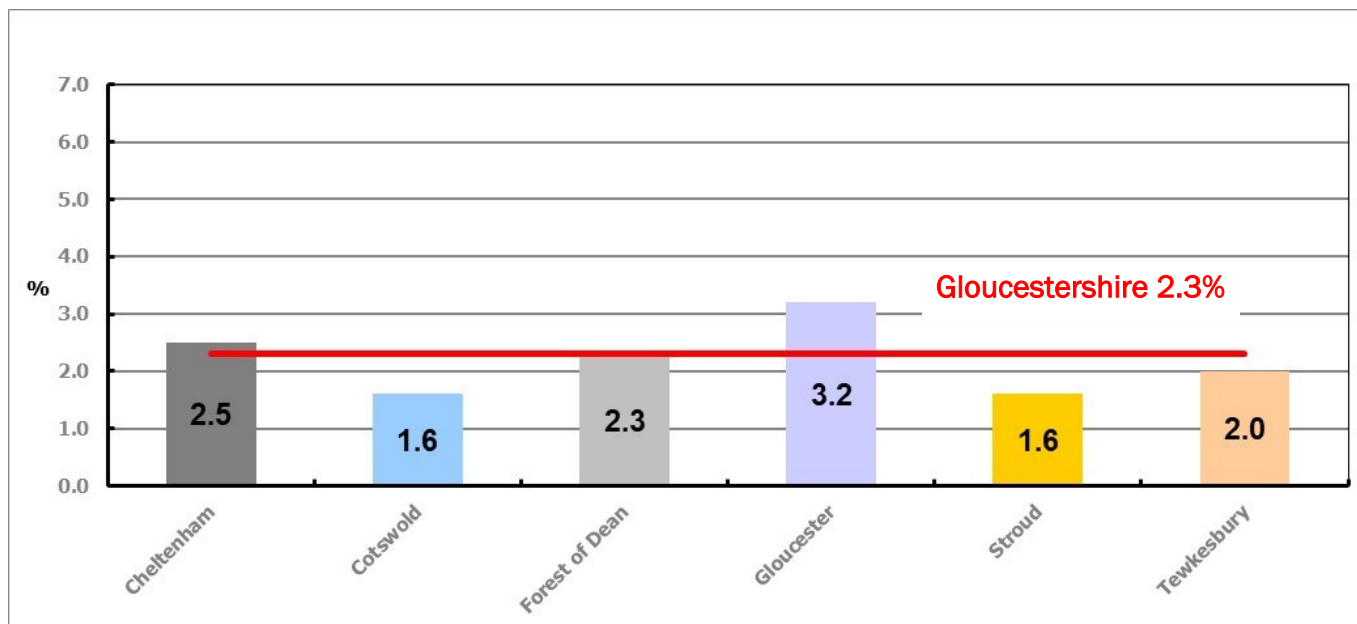


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for June 2023 in Gloucestershire. Between May and June 2023 the rate remained the same in all districts.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	Jun 23 Number	Jun 23 Rate	May 23 Number	May 23 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	8,985	2.3	8,905	2.3	80	0.9%	0.0
Cheltenham	1,890	2.5	1,855	2.5	35	1.9%	0.0
Cotswold	865	1.6	865	1.6	0	0.0%	0.0
Forest of Dean	1,200	2.3	1,200	2.3	0	0.0%	0.0
Gloucester	2,715	3.2	2,685	3.2	30	1.1%	0.0
Stroud	1,180	1.6	1,165	1.6	15	1.3%	0.0
Tewkesbury	1,130	2.0	1,130	2.0	0	0.0%	0.0

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in June 2023 compared to May 2023. All districts saw an increase in the number of claimants except Cotswold, Forest of Dean, and Tewkesbury which remained the same.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	Jun 23 Number	Jun 23 Rate	May 23 Number	May 23 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	4,990	2.6	4,940	2.6	50	1.0%	0.0
Cheltenham	1,105	2.9	1,090	2.9	15	1.4%	0.0
Cotswold	455	1.8	445	1.7	10	2.2%	0.1
Forest of Dean	645	2.5	635	2.5	10	1.6%	0.0
Gloucester	1,590	3.8	1,580	3.7	10	0.6%	0.1
Stroud	585	1.7	580	1.6	5	0.9%	0.1
Tewkesbury	610	2.2	605	2.2	5	0.8%	0.0

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in June 2023 compared to May 2023. All districts saw an increase in the number of male claimants.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	Jun 23 Number	Jun 23 Rate	May 23 Number	May 23 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	3,995	2.0	3,965	2.0	30	0.8%	0.0
Cheltenham	790	2.1	765	2.0	25	3.3%	0.1
Cotswold	415	1.5	420	1.5	-5	-1.2%	0.0
Forest of Dean	560	2.1	565	2.2	-5	-0.9%	-0.1
Gloucester	1,120	2.6	1,105	2.6	15	1.4%	0.0
Stroud	590	1.6	585	1.6	5	0.9%	0.0
Tewkesbury	520	1.8	525	1.8	-5	-1.0%	0.0

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in June 2023 compared to May 2023. All districts saw an increase in the number of female claimants except Cotswold, Forest of Dean, and Tewkesbury 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 3: Cheltenham Borough claimant rate over the last year

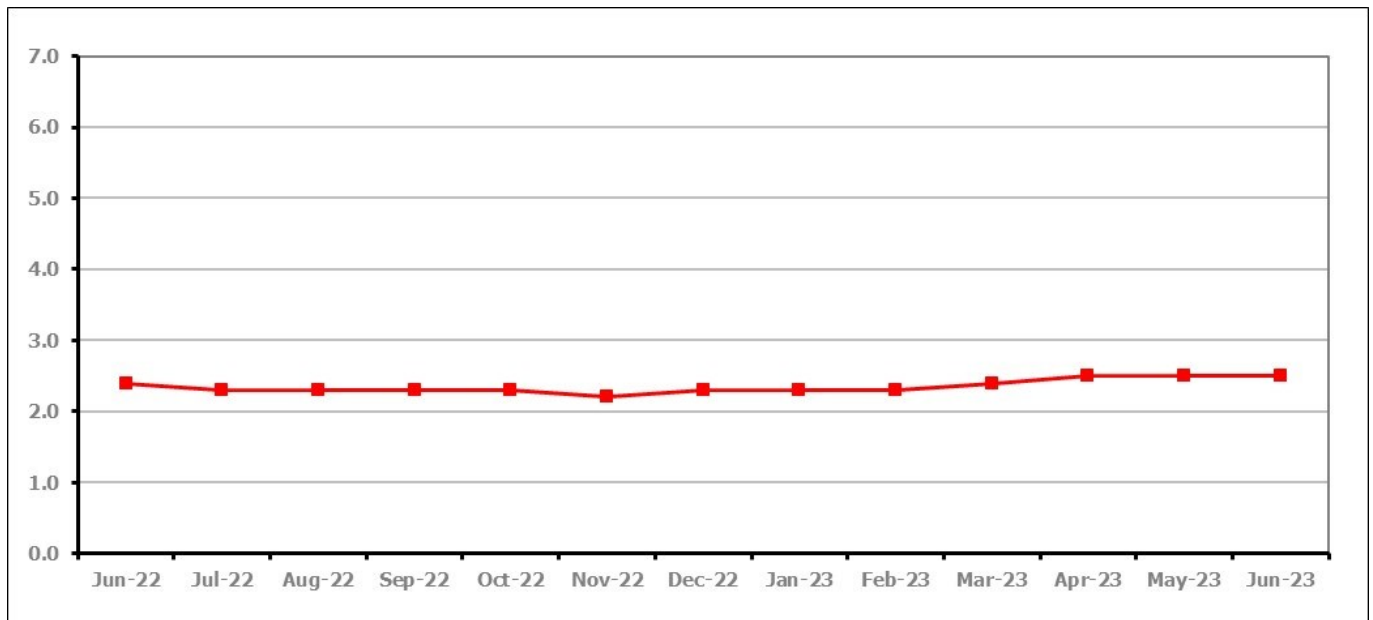


Figure 3 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham remained at 2.5% in June 2023.

Figure 4: Claimant rates across Cheltenham Borough wards - June 2023

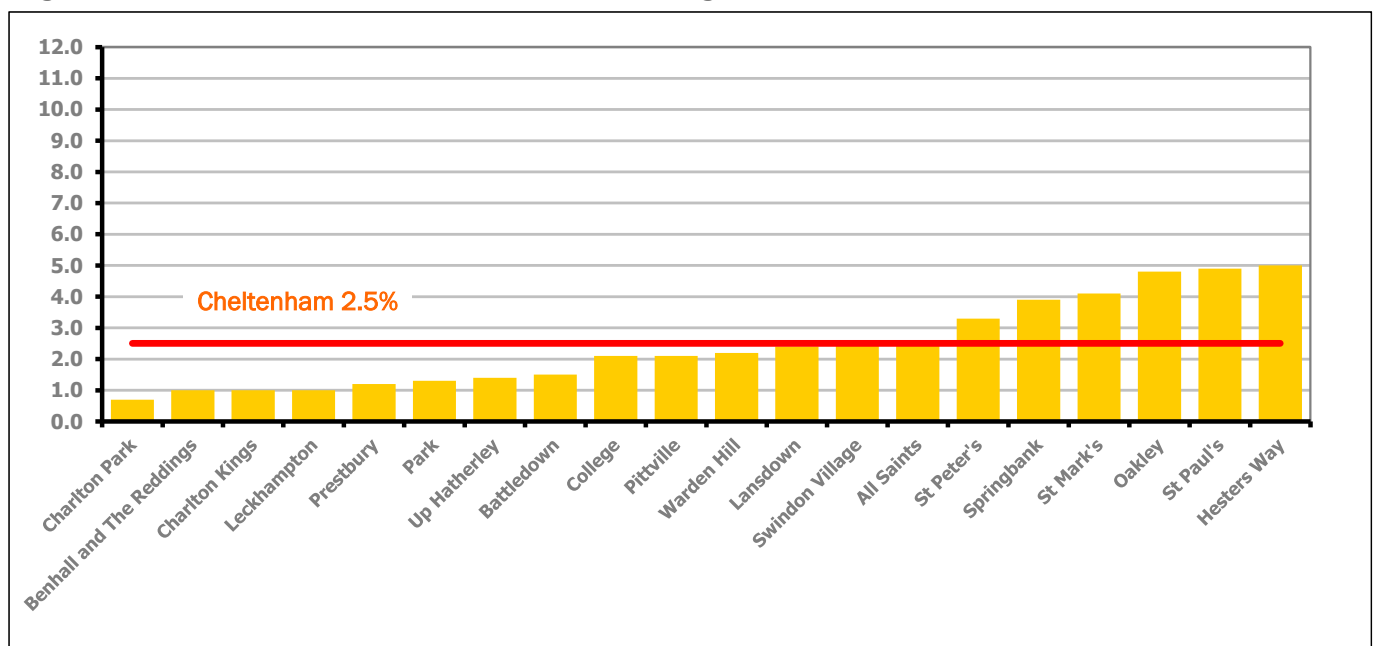


Figure 4 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 2.5%. Seven wards lie above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

Table 5: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cheltenham Borough ward level - June 2023

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	0.7	1
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	1.0	10
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	1.0	10
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	1.0	10
Cheltenham	Prestbury	1.2	22
Cheltenham	Park	1.3	29
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	1.4	41
Cheltenham	Battledown	1.5	48
Cheltenham	College	2.1	83
Cheltenham	Pittville	2.1	83
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	2.2	90
Cheltenham	Lansdown	2.4	102
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	2.5	105
Cheltenham	All Saints	2.6	110
Cheltenham	St Peter's	3.3	119
Cheltenham	Springbank	3.9	124
Cheltenham	St Mark's	4.1	127
Cheltenham	Oakley	4.8	132
Cheltenham	St Paul's	4.9	133
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	5.0	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 138 = "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

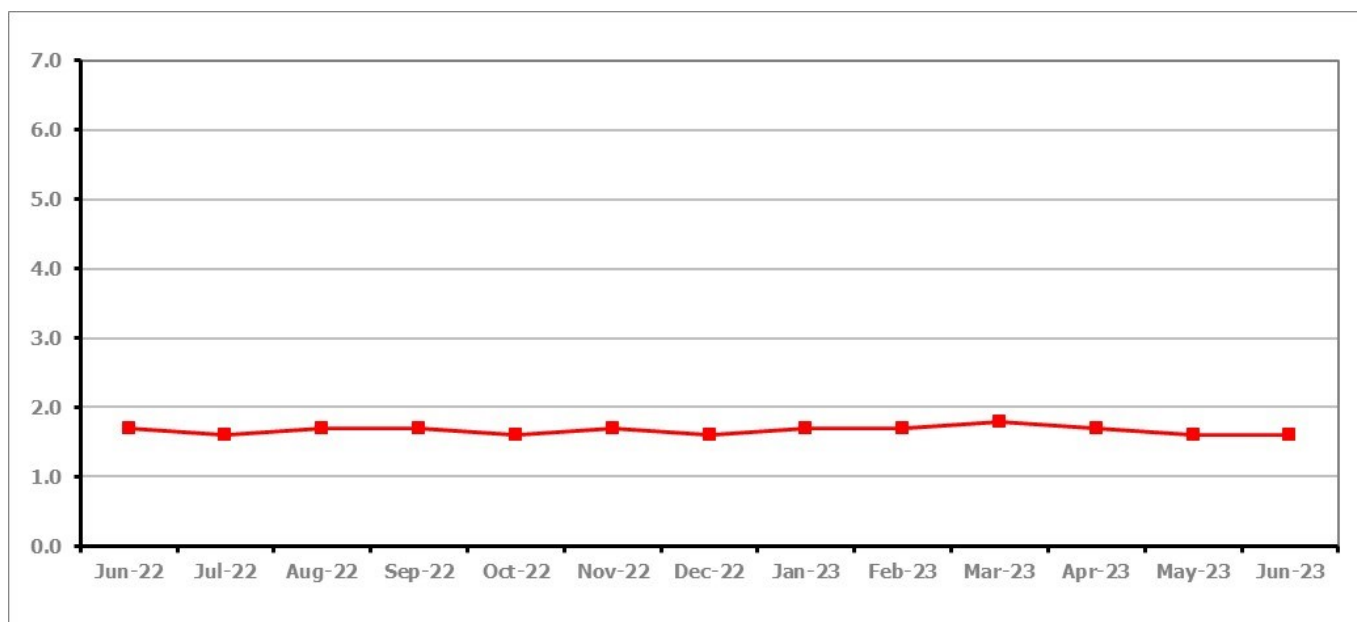


Figure 5 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District remained at 1.6% in June 2023.

Figure 6: Claimant rates across Cotswold District wards - June 2023

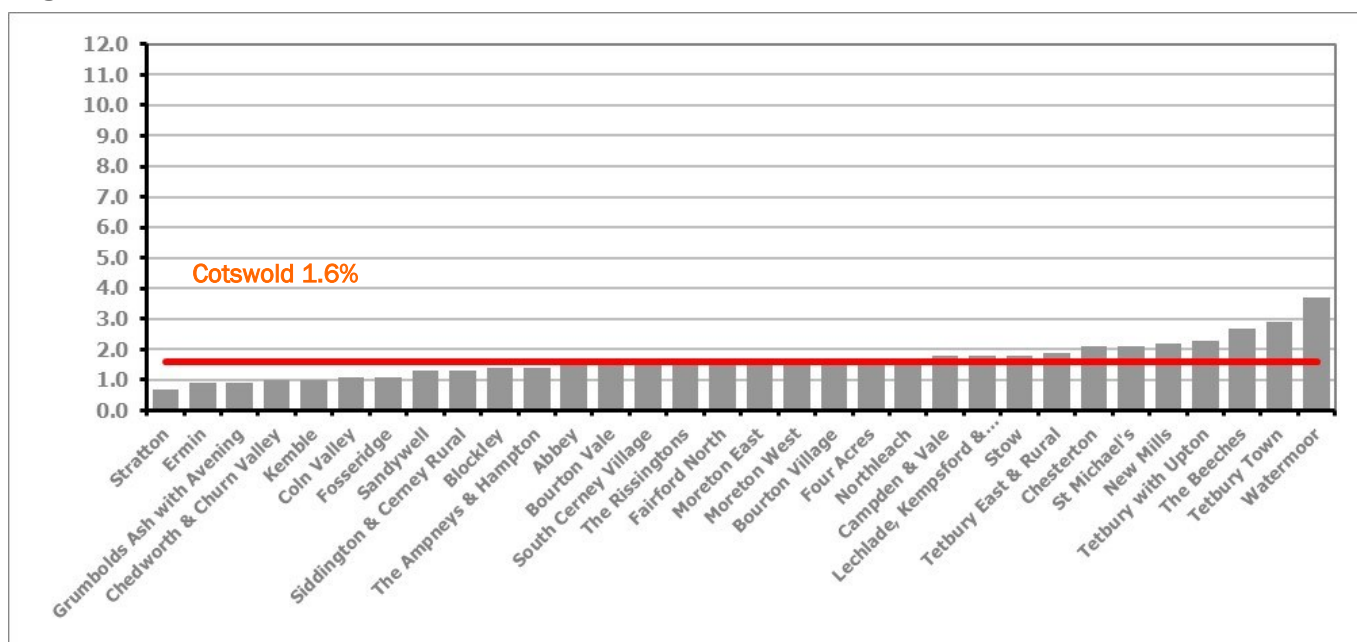


Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.6%. Fourteen wards lie above the average.



## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.2 Cotswold District continued...

Table 6: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cotswold District ward level - June 2023

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswold	Stratton	0.7	1
Cotswold	Ermin	0.9	5
Cotswold	Grumbolds Ash with Avening	0.9	5
Cotswold	Chedworth & Churn Valley	1.0	10
Cotswold	Kemble	1.0	10
Cotswold	Coln Valley	1.1	16
Cotswold	Fosseridge	1.1	16
Cotswold	Sandywell	1.3	29
Cotswold	Siddington & Cerney Rural	1.3	29
Cotswold	Blockley	1.4	41
Cotswold	The Ampneys & Hampton	1.4	41
Cotswold	Abbey	1.5	48
Cotswold	Bourton Vale	1.5	48
Cotswold	South Cerney Village	1.5	48
Cotswold	The Rissingtons	1.5	48
Cotswold	Fairford North	1.6	56
Cotswold	Moreton East	1.6	56
Cotswold	Moreton West	1.6	56
Cotswold	Bourton Village	1.7	61
Cotswold	Four Acres	1.7	61
Cotswold	Northleach	1.7	61
Cotswold	Campden & Vale	1.8	66
Cotswold	Lechlade, Kempsford & Fairford South	1.8	66
Cotswold	Stow	1.8	66
Cotswold	Tetbury East & Rural	1.9	73
Cotswold	Chesterton	2.1	83
Cotswold	St Michael's	2.1	83
Cotswold	New Mills	2.2	90
Cotswold	Tetbury with Upton	2.3	97
Cotswold	The Beeches	2.7	112
Cotswold	Tetbury Town	2.9	114
Cotswold	Watermoor	3.7	122

	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 138 = "worst"

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

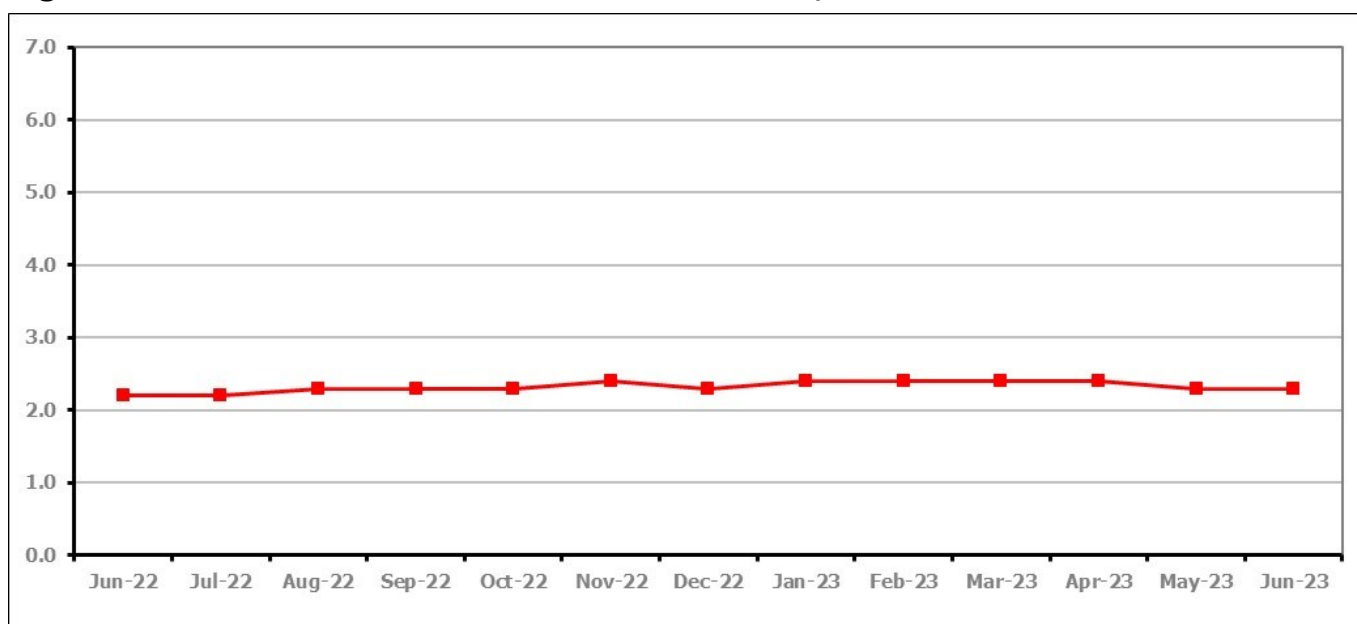
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.3 Forest of Dean District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 7: Forest of Dean District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean remained at 2.3% in June 2023.

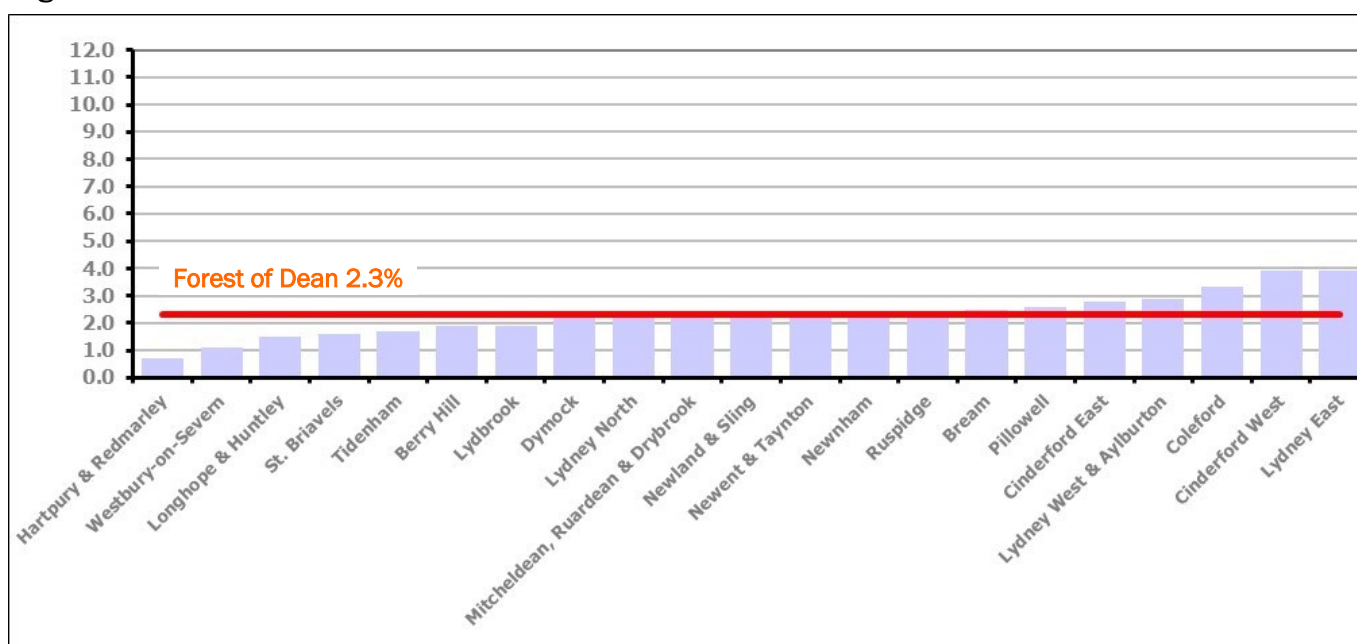
*Figure 8: Claimant rates across Forest of Dean District wards - June 2023*

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 2.3%. Seven 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 - June 2023*

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Hartpury & Redmarley	0.7	1
Forest	Westbury-on-Severn	1.1	16
Forest	Longhope & Huntley	1.5	48
Forest	St. Briavels	1.6	56
Forest	Tidenham	1.7	61
Forest	Berry Hill	1.9	73
Forest	Lydbrook	1.9	73
Forest	Dymock	2.2	90
Forest	Lydney North	2.2	90
Forest	Mitcheldean, Ruardean & Drybrook	2.2	90
Forest	Newland & Sling	2.2	90
Forest	Newent & Taynton	2.3	97
Forest	Newnham	2.3	97
Forest	Ruspidge	2.3	97
Forest	Bream	2.5	105
Forest	Pillowell	2.6	110
Forest	Cinderford East	2.8	113
Forest	Lydney West & Aylburton	2.9	114
Forest	Coleford	3.3	119
Forest	Cinderford West	3.9	124
Forest	Lydney East	3.9	124

	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 138 = "worst"

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

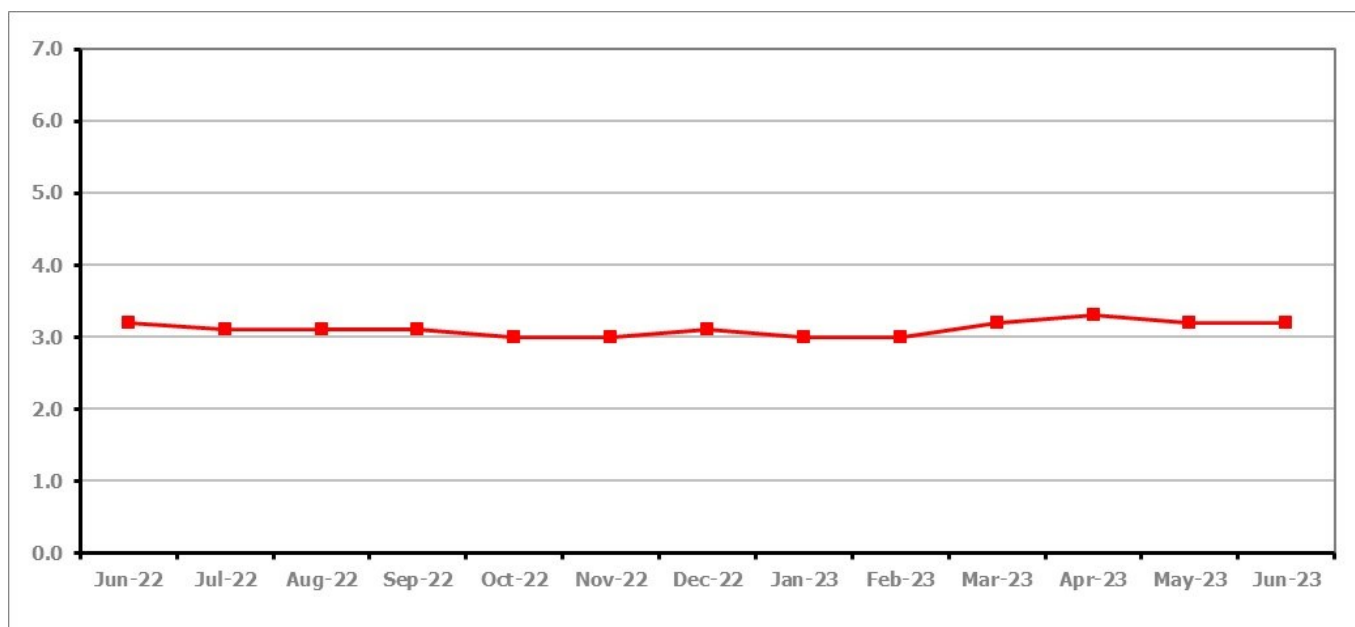
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.4 Gloucester City****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 9: Gloucester City claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 9 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City remained at 3.2% in June 2023.

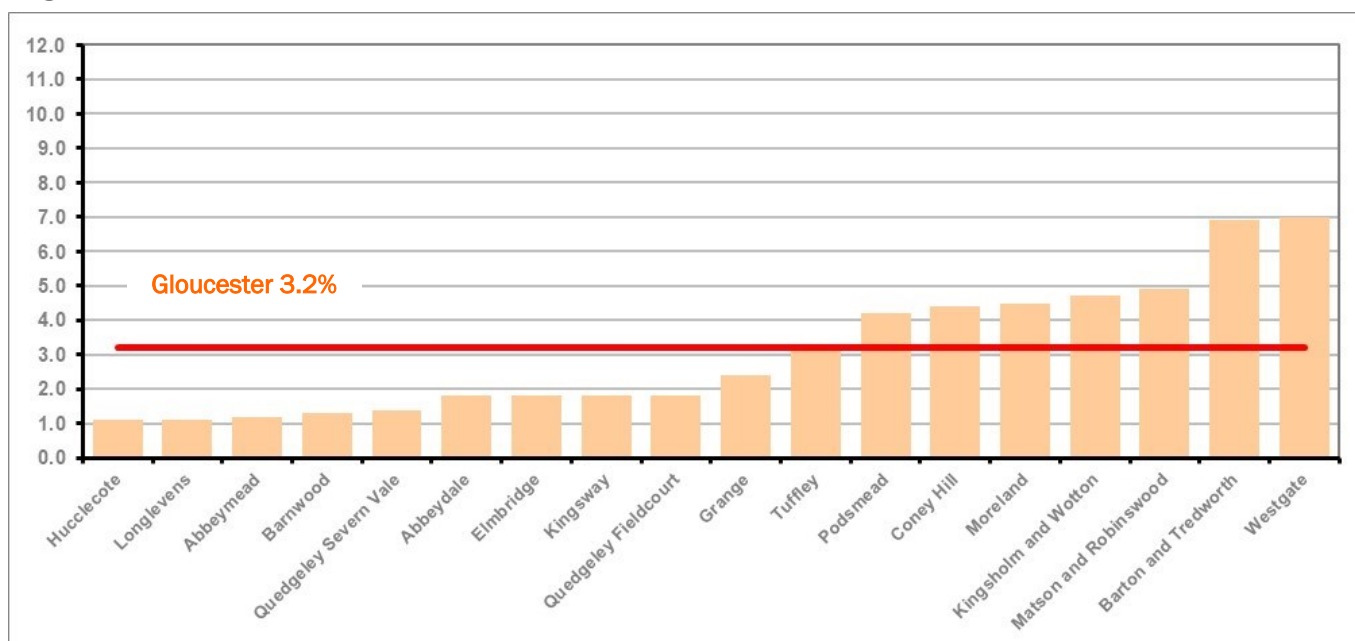
*Figure 10: Claimant rates across Gloucester City wards - June 2023*

Figure 10 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 3.2%. Seven 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 - June 2023

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Hucclecote	1.1	16
Gloucester	Longlevens	1.1	16
Gloucester	Abbeymead	1.2	22
Gloucester	Barnwood	1.3	29
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	1.4	41
Gloucester	Abbeydale	1.8	66
Gloucester	Elmbridge	1.8	66
Gloucester	Kingsway	1.8	66
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	1.8	66
Gloucester	Grange	2.4	102
Gloucester	Tuffley	3.1	117
Gloucester	Podsmead	4.2	128
Gloucester	Coney Hill	4.4	129
Gloucester	Moreland	4.5	130
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	4.7	131
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	4.9	133
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	6.9	137
Gloucester	Westgate	7.0	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 138 = "worst"

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

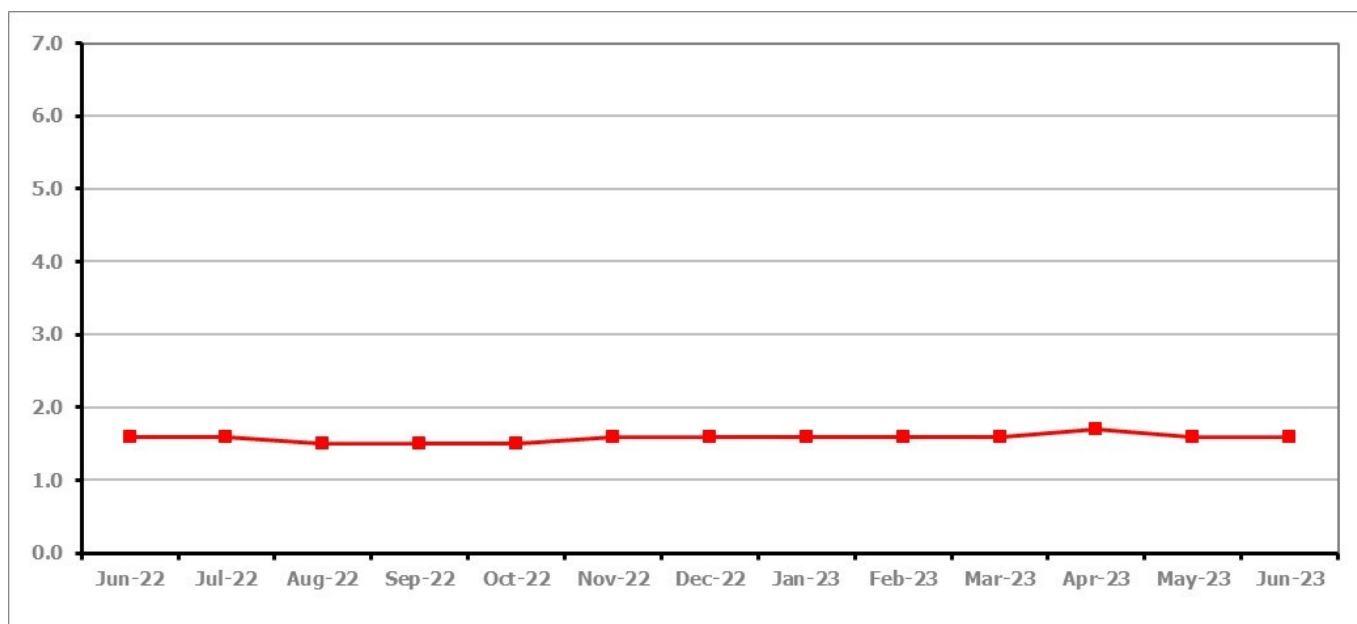
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.5 Stroud District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 11: Stroud District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 11 shows the claimant rate for Stroud remained at 1.6% in June 2023.

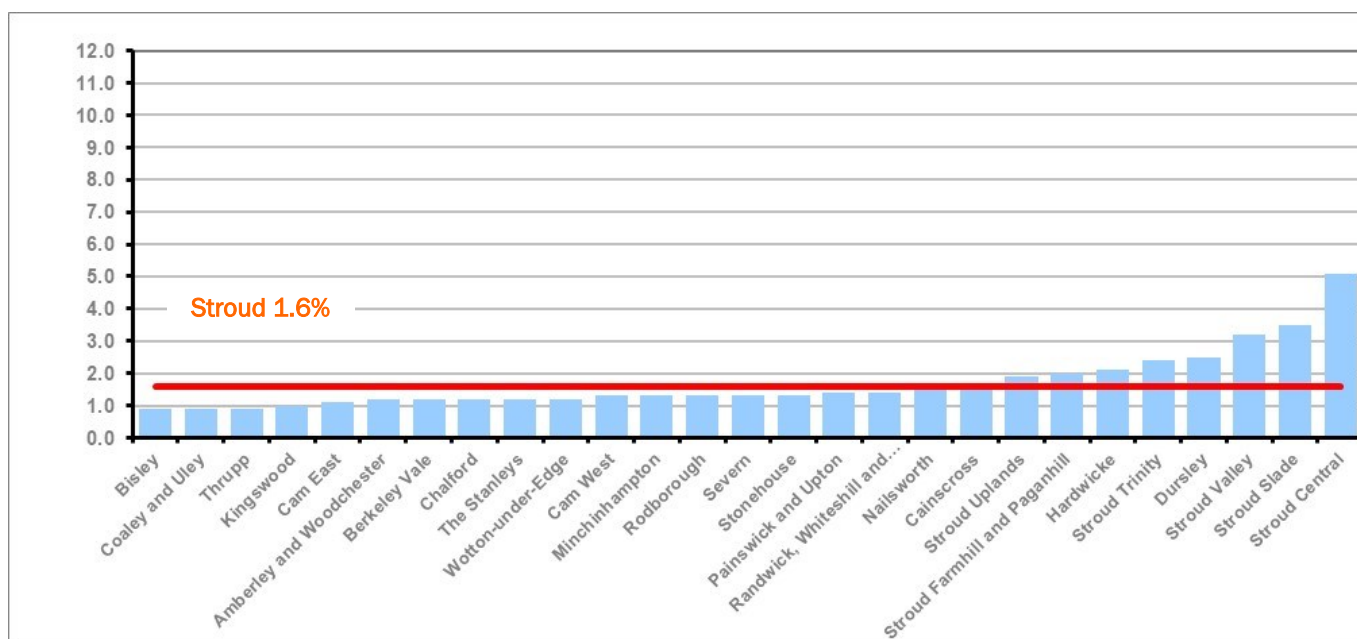
*Figure 12: Claimant rates across Stroud District wards - June 2023*

Figure 12 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.6%. 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 - June 2023

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Bisley	0.9	5
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	0.9	5
Stroud	Thrupp	0.9	5
Stroud	Kingswood	1.0	10
Stroud	Cam East	1.1	16
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	1.2	22
Stroud	Berkeley Vale	1.2	22
Stroud	Chalford	1.2	22
Stroud	The Stanleys	1.2	22
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	1.2	22
Stroud	Cam West	1.3	29
Stroud	Minchinhampton	1.3	29
Stroud	Rodborough	1.3	29
Stroud	Severn	1.3	29
Stroud	Stonehouse	1.3	29
Stroud	Painswick and Upton	1.4	41
Stroud	Randwick, Whiteshill and Ruscombe	1.4	41
Stroud	Nailsworth	1.5	48
Stroud	Cainscross	1.7	61
Stroud	Stroud Uplands	1.9	73
Stroud	Stroud Farmhill and Paganhill	2.0	79
Stroud	Hardwicke	2.1	83
Stroud	Stroud Trinity	2.4	102
Stroud	Dursley	2.5	105
Stroud	Stroud Valley	3.2	118
Stroud	Stroud Slade	3.5	121
Stroud	Stroud Central	5.1	136

	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 138 = "worst"

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

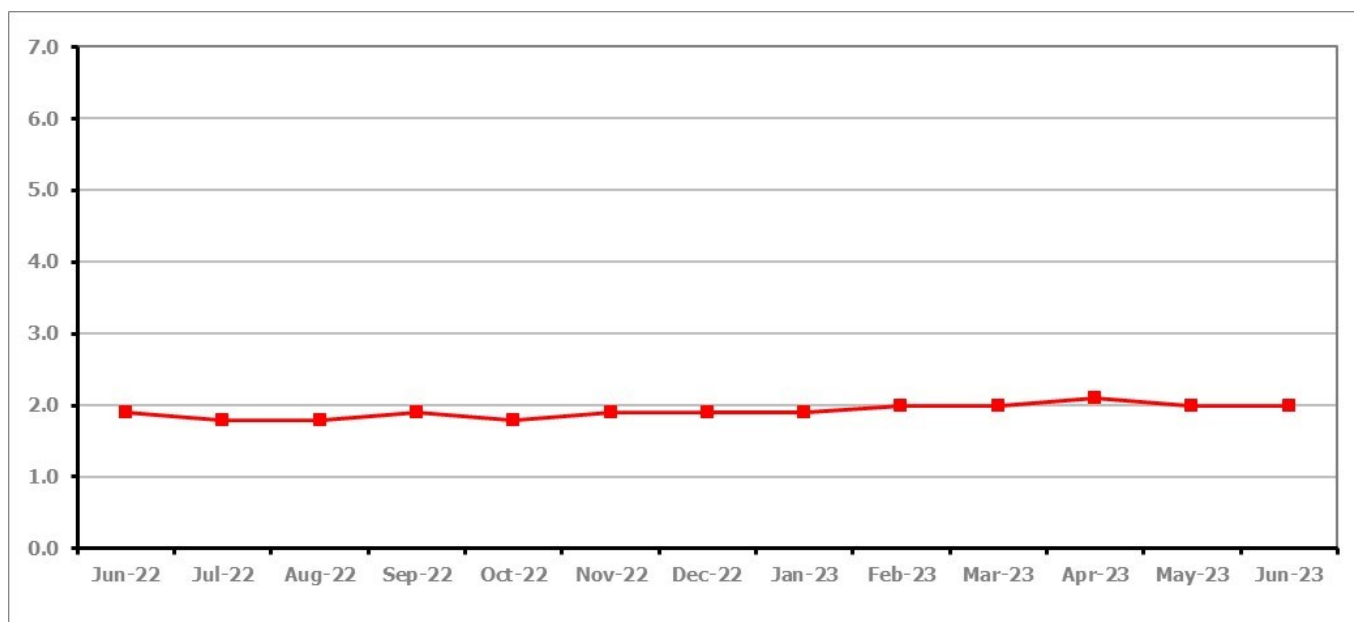
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.6 Tewkesbury Borough****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 13: Tewkesbury Borough claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury Borough remained at 2.0% in June 2023.

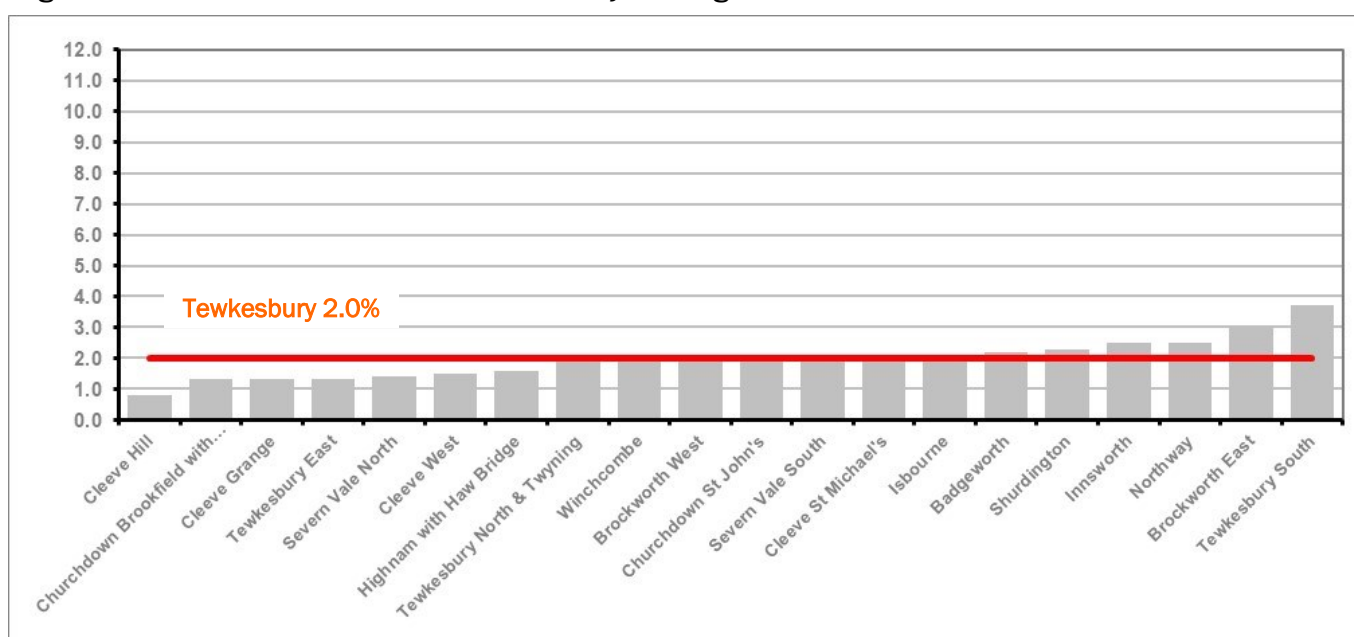
*Figure 14: Claimant rates across Tewkesbury Borough wards - June 2023*

Figure 14 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 2.0%. Eight 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 - June 2023

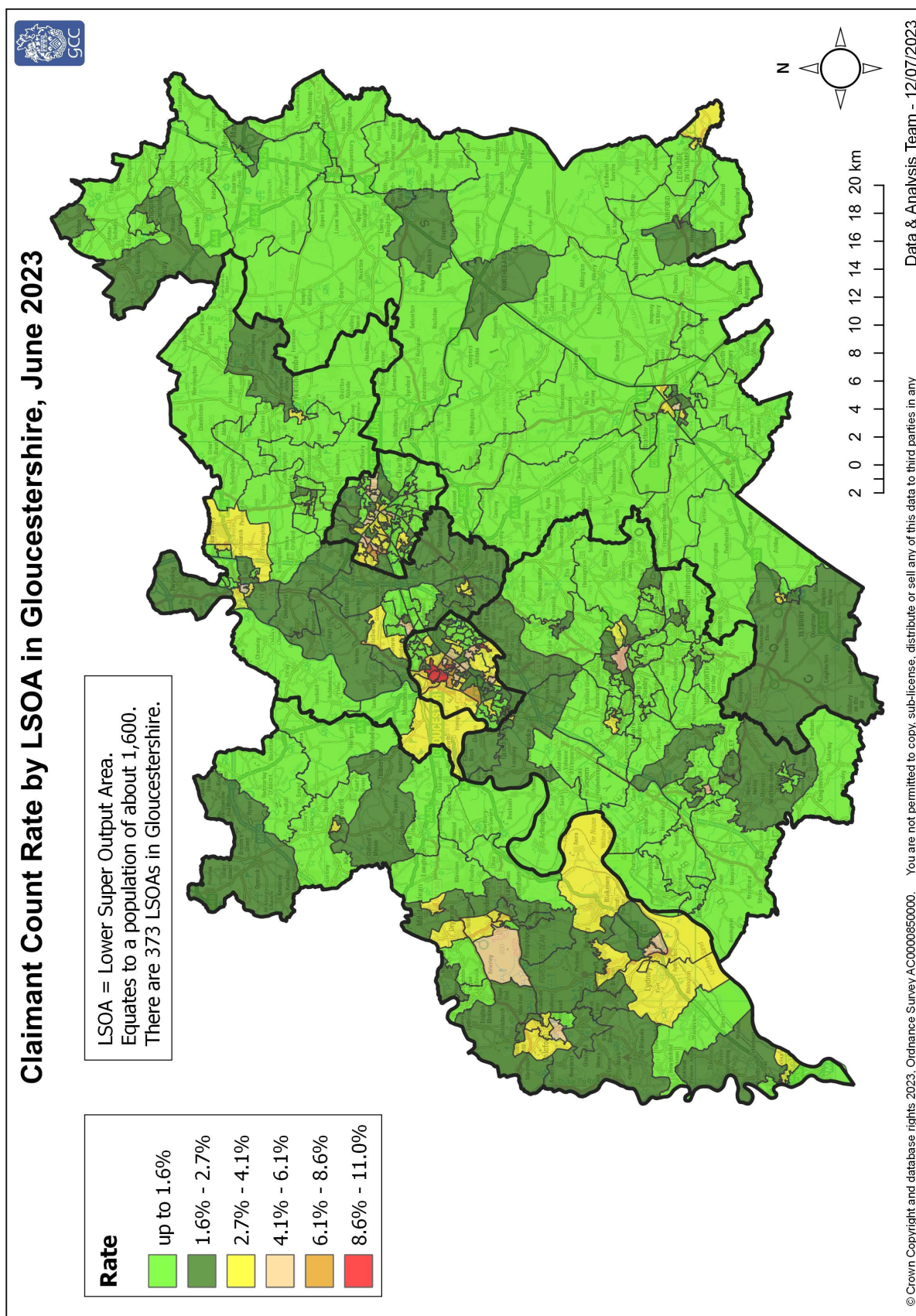
District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	0.8	4
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield with Hucclecote	1.3	29
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	1.3	29
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury East	1.3	29
Tewkesbury	Severn Vale North	1.4	41
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	1.5	48
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	1.6	56
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury North & Twynning	1.9	73
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	1.9	73
Tewkesbury	Brockworth West	2.0	79
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	2.0	79
Tewkesbury	Severn Vale South	2.0	79
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	2.1	83
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	2.1	83
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	2.2	90
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	2.3	97
Tewkesbury	Innsworth	2.5	105
Tewkesbury	Northway	2.5	105
Tewkesbury	Brockworth East	3.0	116
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury South	3.7	122

	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 138 = "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



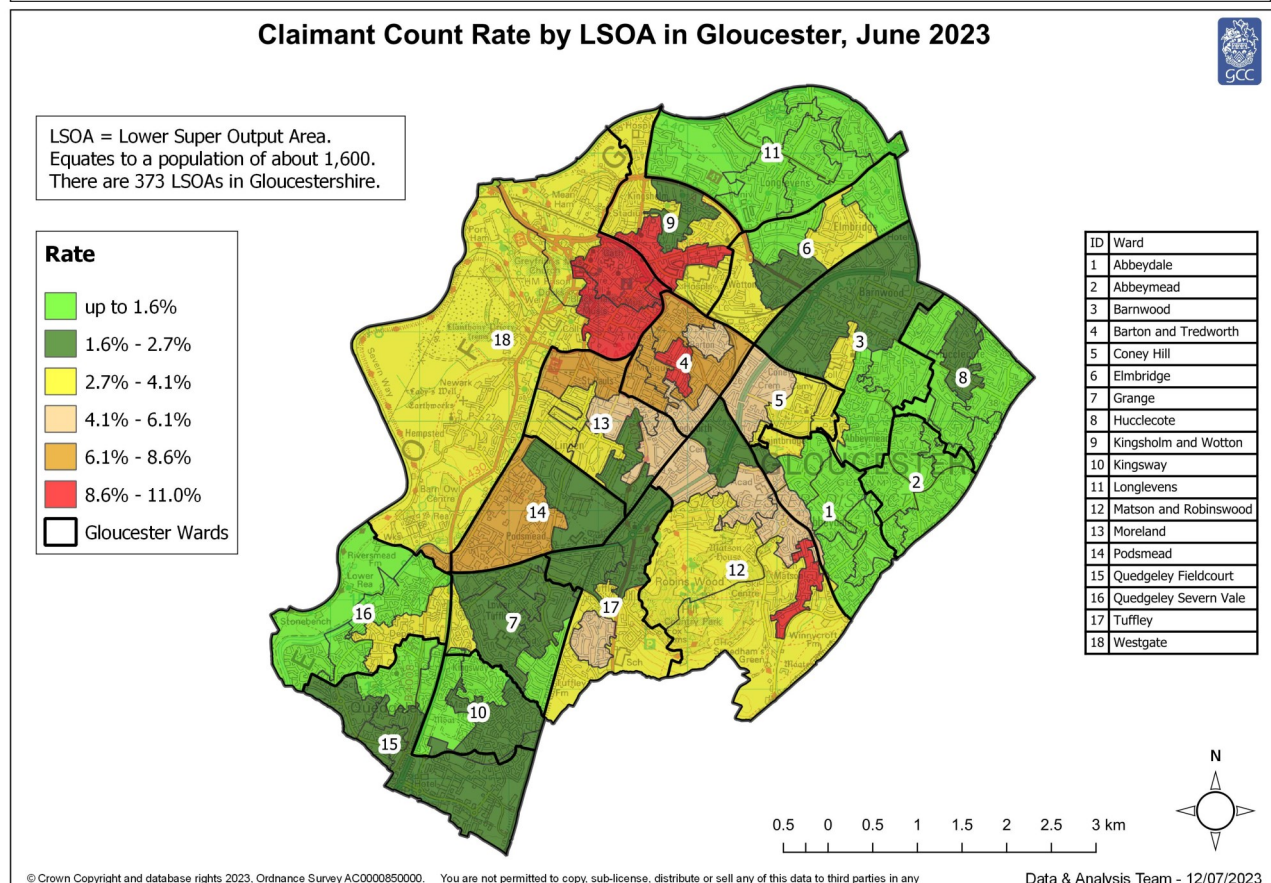
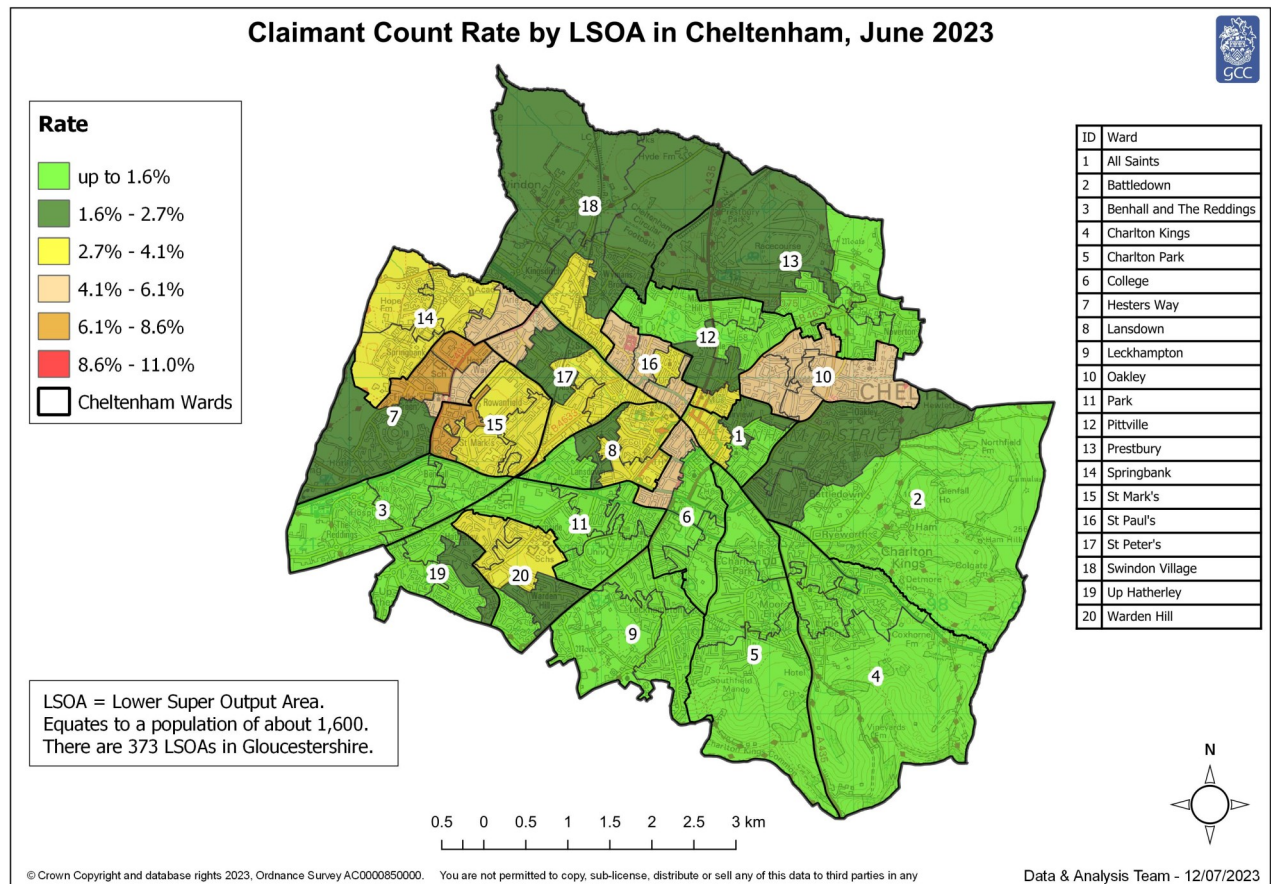
These maps currently show the 2011 LSOA boundaries.

Note: We have made changes to the way in which the rates illustrated on the maps are calculated - this means they are not comparable with those shown in previous bulletins.

Rates calculated using Lower Layer Super Output Area Population Estimates Mid-2020, Office for National Statistics



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



These maps currently show the 2011 LSOA boundaries.

Note: We have made changes to the way in which the rates illustrated on the maps are calculated - this means they are not comparable with those shown in previous bulletins.

Rates calculated using Lower Layer Super Output Area Population Estimates Mid-2020, Office for National Statistics

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

### Youth Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 15: Claimant Count for Gloucestershire over the past year

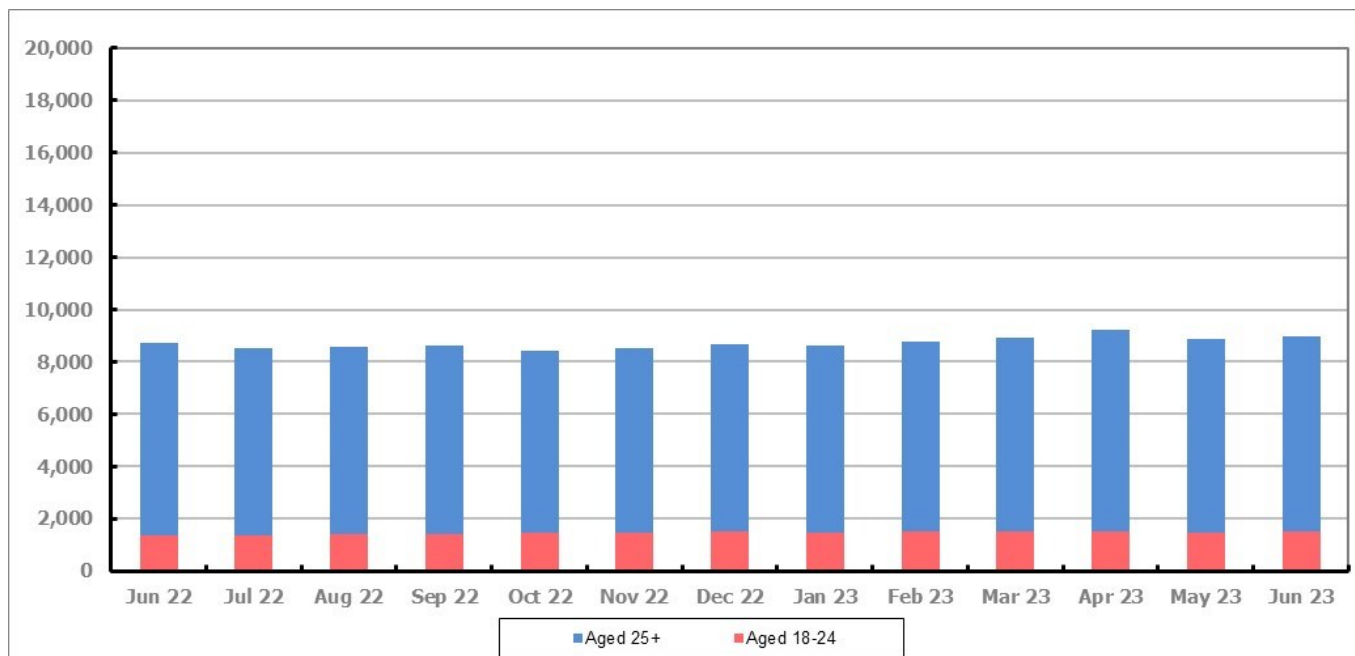


Figure 15 shows that in June 2023, 1,500 people aged 18-24 were claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who were not in work in Gloucestershire, this represents 16.7% of total working age claimants.

## 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.

June 2023

### Academic Year 12-13 Summary

	NEET	Cohort	%
Cheltenham	57	2160	2.64%
Cotswold	27	1698	1.59%
Forest	48	1719	2.79%
Gloucester	151	3177	4.75%
Stroud	37	2651	1.40%
Tewkesbury	38	2005	1.90%
Total	358	13410	2.67%

### 16-18 Age Summary

	NEET	Cohort	%
Cheltenham	61	2366	2.58%
Cotswold	27	1835	1.47%
Forest	56	1858	3.01%
Gloucester	160	3430	4.66%
Stroud	41	2855	1.44%
Tewkesbury	41	2177	1.88%
Total	386	14521	2.66%

16-18 Adjust NEET*	3.75%
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Monthly Change	1	-8	0.01%
Previous month	357	13418	2.66%

Monthly Change	-7	-545	0.05%
Previous month	393	15066	2.61%

The academic year 12-13 group contains a proportion of young people who turn 18 in the academic year but were 17 on the 31<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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.