

CLAIMANT COUNT DATA

for February 2016

March 16th 2016 Release

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](#).



The Claimant Count* in the County increased by 175 persons to 4,185 a rate of 1.1%.

Claimant Count* for GB, England & Wales, SW, Gloucestershire and Districts

Area	Feb'16 Number	Feb'16 Rate	Jan'16 Number	Jan'16 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate %
UK	784,005	1.9	765,245	1.9	18,760	2.5	0.0
GB	744,515	1.9	725,925	1.8	18,590	2.6	0.1
England & Wales	667,185	1.8	651,045	1.8	16,140	2.5	0.0
England	622,550	1.8	607,430	1.8	15,120	2.5	0.0
South West	40,790	1.2	39,405	1.2	1,385	3.5	0.0
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

The Claimant Count* in Great Britain **increased** by 18,590 persons to **744,515** a rate of **1.9%**.

Gloucestershire's Claimant Count* rate remained at **1.1%**.

All districts saw an **increase** in the estimated number of unemployed claimants.

The number of males unemployed in the County stands at **2,750 (1.5%)** and the number of females unemployed stands at **1,435 (0.8%)** both representing an increase on last month.

* Please note the Claimant Count combines claimants of Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work. This includes a small number of people who are not in work but not required to seek work. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 5 and may be revised.

The figures quoted above cannot be compared with:

- 1) the UK figure of **1.68 million** unemployed at a rate of **5.1%**. This is based on the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition of unemployment. It is obtained from an ongoing national household survey and updated on a quarterly basis.
- 2) the seasonally adjusted unemployment claimant count (which includes claimants of Jobseekers Allowance and Universal Credit) for the UK of **0.72 million** at a rate of **1.7%**.

NB: These figures cannot be replicated at a local level