CLAIMANT UNEMPLOYMENT DATA
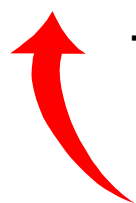## for August 2015
September 16th 2015 Release

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. For more information about Universal Credit please see the ONS website.

To reflect this change the Unemployment Data Release and Unemployment Bulletin will include two measures:

- **Estimated Claimant Count* -** combines claimants of Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit claimants who are not in work.
- **Job Seekers Allowance** claimants only.

The estimated Claimant Count* in the County increased by 62 persons to 4,031 a rate of 1.1%.

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

Area	Aug'15 Number	Aug'15 Rate	Jul'15 Number	Jul'15 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate %
GB	743,421	1.9	741,527	1.9	1,894	0.3	0.0
England & Wales	663,497	1.8	618,403	1.7	45,094	7.3	0.1
England	619,024	1.8	659,851	1.9	-40,827	-6.2	-0.1
South West	36,541	1.1	36,650	1.1	-109	-0.3	0.0
Gloucestershire	4,031	1.1	3,969	1.1	62	1.6	0.0
Cheltenham	783	1.0	793	1.0	-10	-1.3	0.0
Cotswold	335	0.7	329	0.7	6	1.8	0.0
Forest of Dean	576	1.1	572	1.1	4	0.7	0.0
Gloucester	1,320	1.6	1,314	1.6	6	0.5	0.0
Stroud	490	0.7	464	0.7	26	5.6	0.0
Tewkesbury	527	1.0	497	1.0	30	6.0	0.1

The estimated Claimant Count* in Great Britain **increased** by 1,894 persons to **743,421** a rate of **1.9%.**

Gloucestershire's estimated Claimant Count* rate remained the **same** as last month at **1.1%.**

Cheltenham saw a **decrease** in the estimated number of unemployed claimants* the other districts saw an **increase**.

* Please note the estimated 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 who are not in work but not required to seek work.

Jobseekers Allowance claimants in the County decreased by 166 persons to 3,615 a rate of 1.0%.

Jobseekers Allowance claimants for the UK, GB, England & Wales, SW, Gloucestershire and Districts

Area	Aug'15 Number	Aug'15 Rate	Jul'15 Number	Jul'15 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate %
UK	708,613	1.7	723,980	1.8	-15,367	-2.1	-0.1
GB	665,850	1.7	680,961	1.7	-15,111	-2.2	0.0
England & Wales	593,047	1.6	605,674	1.7	-12,627	-2.1	-0.1
England	551,048	1.6	562,822	1.6	-11,774	-2.1	0.0
South West	33,385	1.0	34,648	1.0	-1,263	-3.6	0.0
Gloucestershire	3,615	1.0	3,781	1.0	-166	-4.4	0.0
Cheltenham	677	0.9	746	1.0	-69	-9.2	-0.1
Cotswold	293	0.6	304	0.6	-11	-3.6	0.0
Forest of Dean	500	1.0	520	1.0	-20	-3.8	0.0
Gloucester	1,248	1.5	1,296	1.6	-48	-3.7	-0.1
Stroud	420	0.6	436	0.6	-16	-3.7	0.0
Tewkesbury	477	0.9	479	0.9	-2	-0.4	0.0

Jobseekers Allowance claimants in Great Britain **decreased** by 15,11 persons to **665,850** a rate of **1.7%.**

Gloucestershire's Jobseekers Allowance claimant rate **remained the same** as last month at **1.0%.**

All districts saw a **decrease** in the number of people claiming Jobseekers Allowance.

The number of males claiming Jobseekers Allowance in the County stands at **2,299 (1.2%)** and the number of females stands at **1,316 (0.7%)** both representing a decrease on last month.

The figures quoted above cannot be compared with:

1) the UK figure of **1.82 million** unemployed at a rate of **5.5%.** 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 **0.79 million** at a rate of **1.9%.**

NB: These figures cannot be replicated at a local level