

Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 190 May 2024

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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.**

Cotswolds

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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.

Forest of Dean

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

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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 7: Young People

Data about Young People Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

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PART 1: SUMMARY

The claimant rate in Gloucestershire was 2.6% in May 2024. The South West rate remained at 2.7% and the UK rate increased to 3.9%. Gloucestershire's rate was 0.1% lower than the South West average of 2.7%, and 1.3% lower than the UK average of 3.9%.

The claimant count in Gloucestershire in May 2024 increased by 60 people. The amount of people claiming in May was 0.6% higher than the number in April. This compares to a 0.2% increase in the South West and a 2.2% increase in the UK.

Produced by:

Data, Analysis & Insights Team
Planning, Performance and Insight
Gloucestershire County Council
June 2024

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 May 2024

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

Claimant rate: The % of working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work in May 2024

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

CHEL滕HAM BOROUGH

Claimant count:	2,025
Claimant count change on previous month:	1.0%
Claimant rate:	2.7%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Hesters Way (5.6%)

GLouceSTER CITY

Claimant count:	3,025
Claimant count change on previous month:	1.3%
Claimant rate:	3.6%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Barton and Tredworth (7.9%)

COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claimant count:	980
Claimant count change on previous month:	1.0%
Claimant rate:	1.9%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Watermoor (3.5%)

STROUD DISTRICT

Claimant count:	1,425
Claimant count change on previous month:	-1.7%
Claimant rate:	2.0%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Stroud Slade (4.1%)

FOREST OF DEAN

Claimant count:	1,540
Claimant count change on previous month:	2.3%
Claimant rate:	3.0%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Tidenham (6.2%)

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claimant count:	1,280
Claimant count change on previous month:	-1.2%
Claimant rate:	2.3%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Tewkesbury South (4.1%)

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

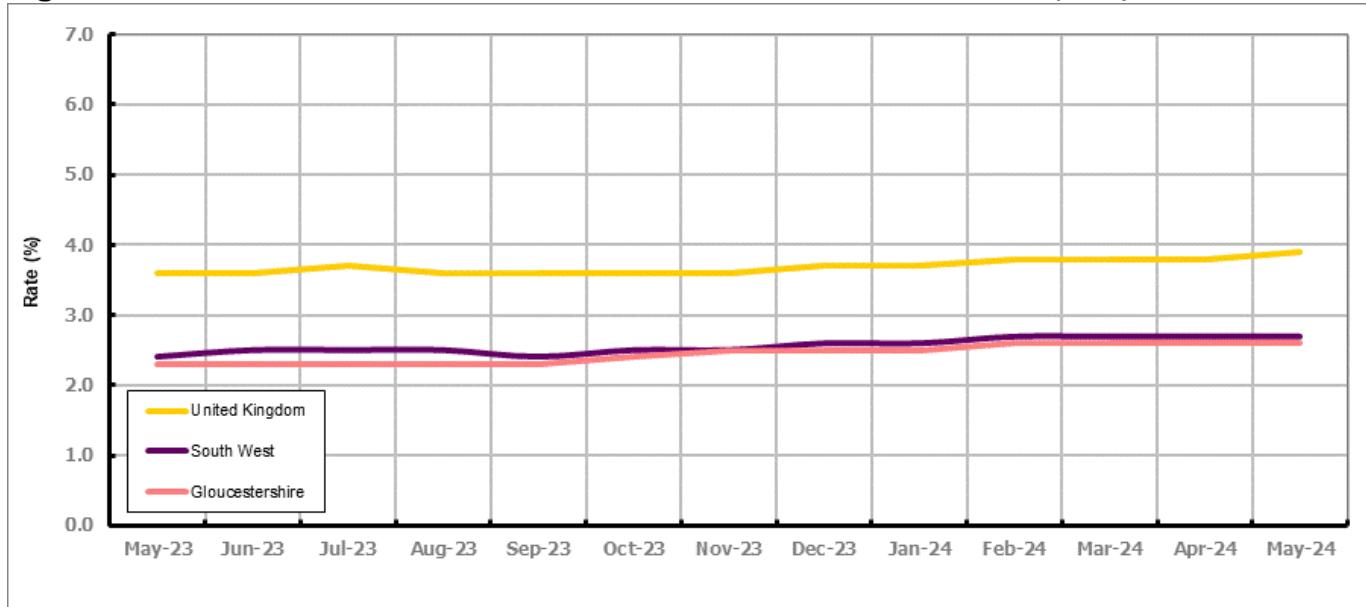


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 2.6% in May 2024. The Gloucestershire rate has been lower than the South West average since November 2015, with the exception of April and May 2016 and, more recently, November 2023 when it was the same. On average, it has been approximately 1.2% 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 May 2024	% change on April 2024	Consecutive months increasing
UK	1,629,190	2.2%	0
South West	93,440	0.2%	0
Gloucestershire	10,270	0.6%	0

Table 1 shows that in May 2024, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 0.6% higher than the number in April 2024.

PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 2: Claimant Rate (%) across Gloucestershire - May 2024

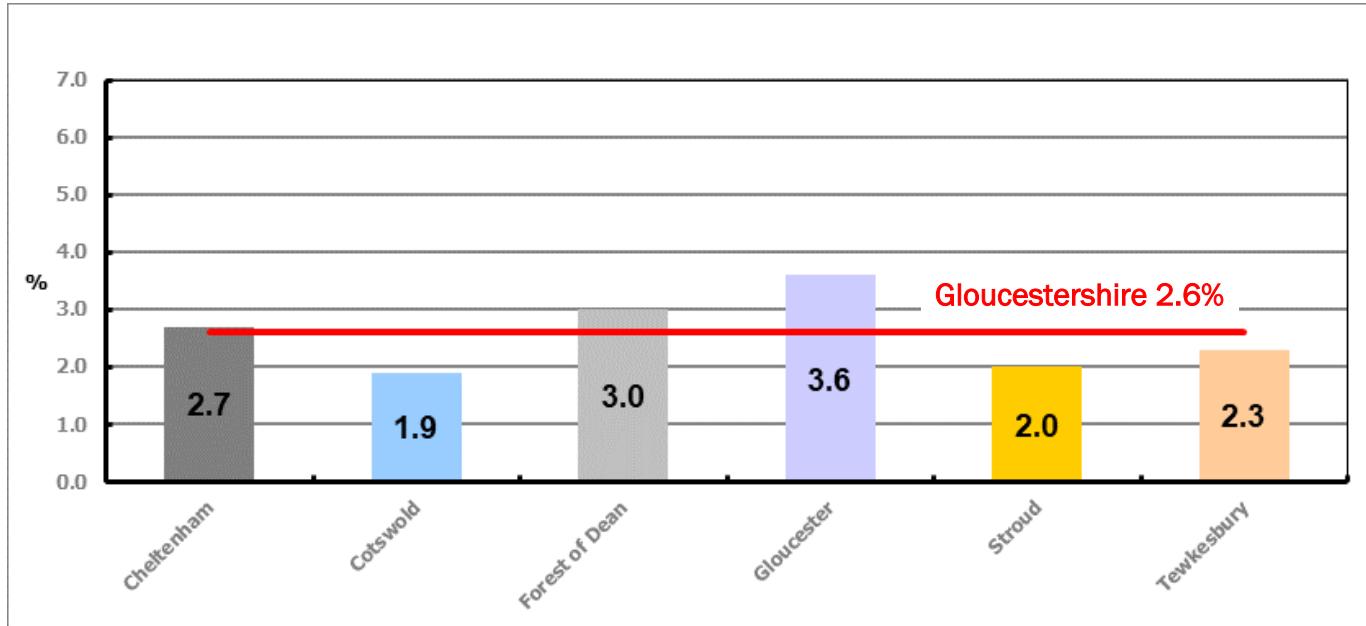


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for May 2024 in Gloucestershire. Between April and May 2024 the rate remained the same in all districts except Cotswold, Forest of Dean and Gloucester where there was an increase.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	May 24 Number	May 24 Rate	Apr 24 Number	Apr 24 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	10,270	2.6	10,210	2.6	60	0.6%	0.0
Cheltenham	2,025	2.7	2,005	2.7	20	1.0%	0.0
Cotswold	980	1.9	970	1.8	10	1.0%	0.1
Forest of Dean	1,540	3.0	1,505	2.9	35	2.3%	0.1
Gloucester	3,025	3.6	2,985	3.5	40	1.3%	0.1
Stroud	1,425	2.0	1,450	2.0	-25	-1.7%	0.0
Tewkesbury	1,280	2.3	1,295	2.3	-15	-1.2%	0.0

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in May compared to April 2024. All districts saw an increase in the number of claimants, except Stroud and Tewkesbury which saw a decrease.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	May 24 Number	May 24 Rate	Apr 24 Number	Apr 24 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	5,625	2.9	5,610	2.9	15	0.3%	0.0
Cheltenham	1,150	3.1	1,130	3.0	20	1.8%	0.1
Cotswold	490	1.9	505	2.0	-15	-3.0%	-0.1
Forest of Dean	820	3.2	810	3.2	10	1.2%	0.0
Gloucester	1,760	4.2	1,760	4.2	0	0.0%	0.0
Stroud	730	2.1	735	2.1	-5	-0.7%	0.0
Tewkesbury	675	2.5	670	2.4	5	0.7%	0.1

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in May compared to April 2024. All districts saw an increase in the number of male claimants, except Cotswold and Stroud which saw a decrease, and Gloucester which stayed the same.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	May 24 Number	May 24 Rate	Apr 24 Number	Apr 24 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	4,650	2.3	4,600	2.3	50	1.1%	0.0
Cheltenham	880	2.3	875	2.3	5	0.6%	0.0
Cotswold	490	1.8	465	1.7	25	5.4%	0.1
Forest of Dean	720	2.8	695	2.7	25	3.6%	0.1
Gloucester	1,260	3.0	1,225	2.9	35	2.9%	0.1
Stroud	690	1.9	715	1.9	-25	-3.5%	0.0
Tewkesbury	605	2.1	630	2.2	-25	-4.0%	-0.1

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in May compared to April 2024. All districts saw an increase in the number of female claimants, except Stroud 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

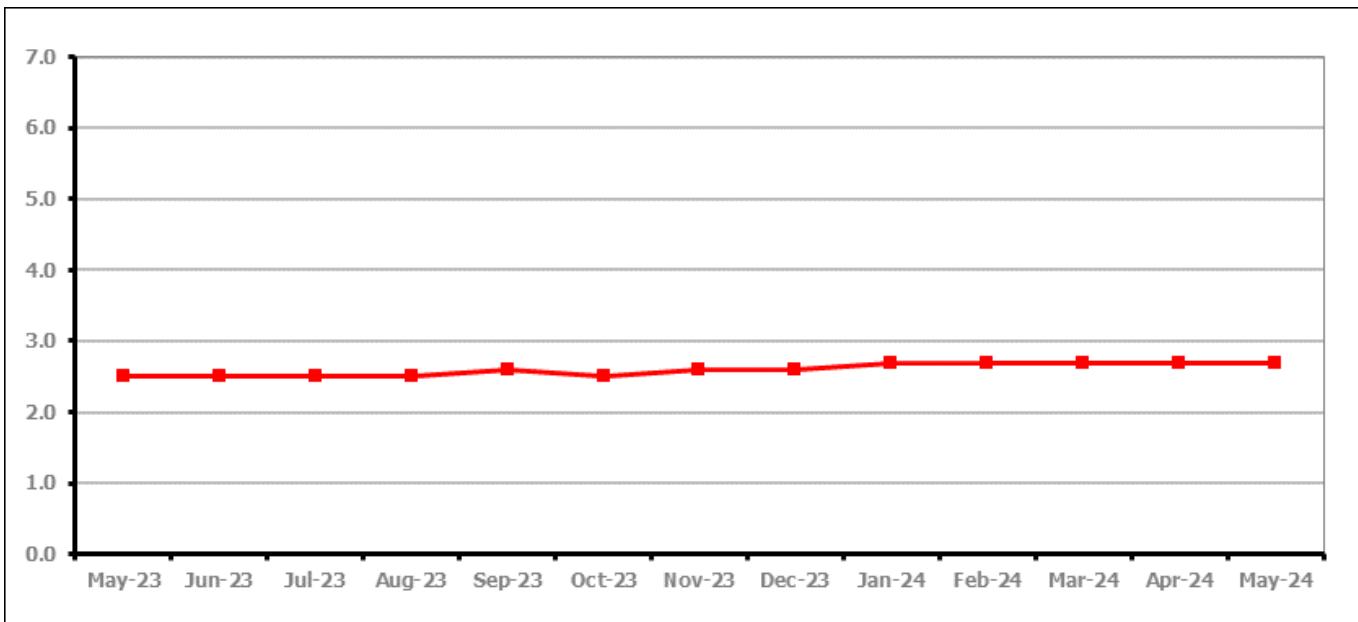


Figure 3 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham remained at 2.7% in May 2024.

Figure 4: Claimant rates across Cheltenham Borough wards - May 2024

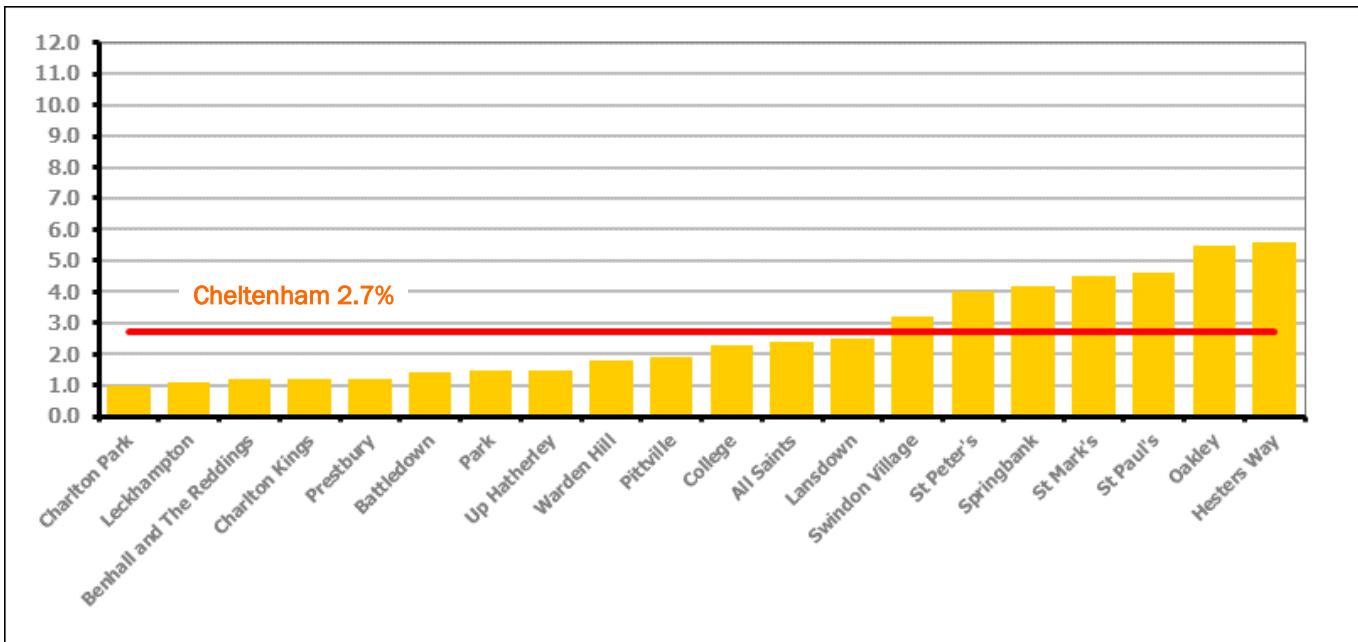


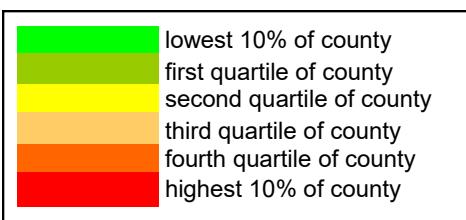
Figure 4 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 2.7%. Seven wards lie above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

Table 5: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cheltenham Borough ward level - May 2024

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	1.0	3
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	1.1	4
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	1.2	8
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	1.2	8
Cheltenham	Prestbury	1.2	8
Cheltenham	Battledown	1.4	17
Cheltenham	Park	1.5	24
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	1.5	24
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	1.8	52
Cheltenham	Pittville	1.9	60
Cheltenham	College	2.3	76
Cheltenham	All Saints	2.4	81
Cheltenham	Lansdown	2.5	91
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	3.2	113
Cheltenham	St Peter's	4.0	120
Cheltenham	Springbank	4.2	126
Cheltenham	St Mark's	4.5	127
Cheltenham	St Paul's	4.6	129
Cheltenham	Oakley	5.5	134
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	5.6	135



* 1 = "best" and 138 = "worst"

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

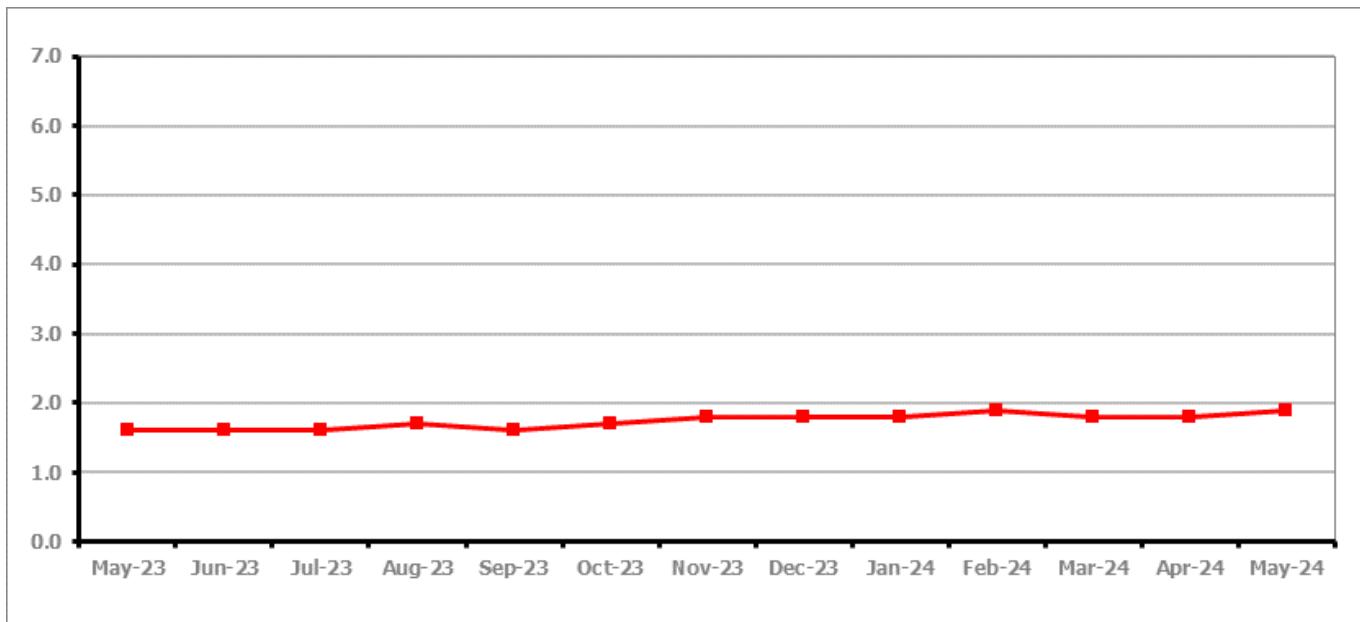
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.2 Cotswold District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 5: Cotswold District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 5 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District increased to 1.9% in May 2024.

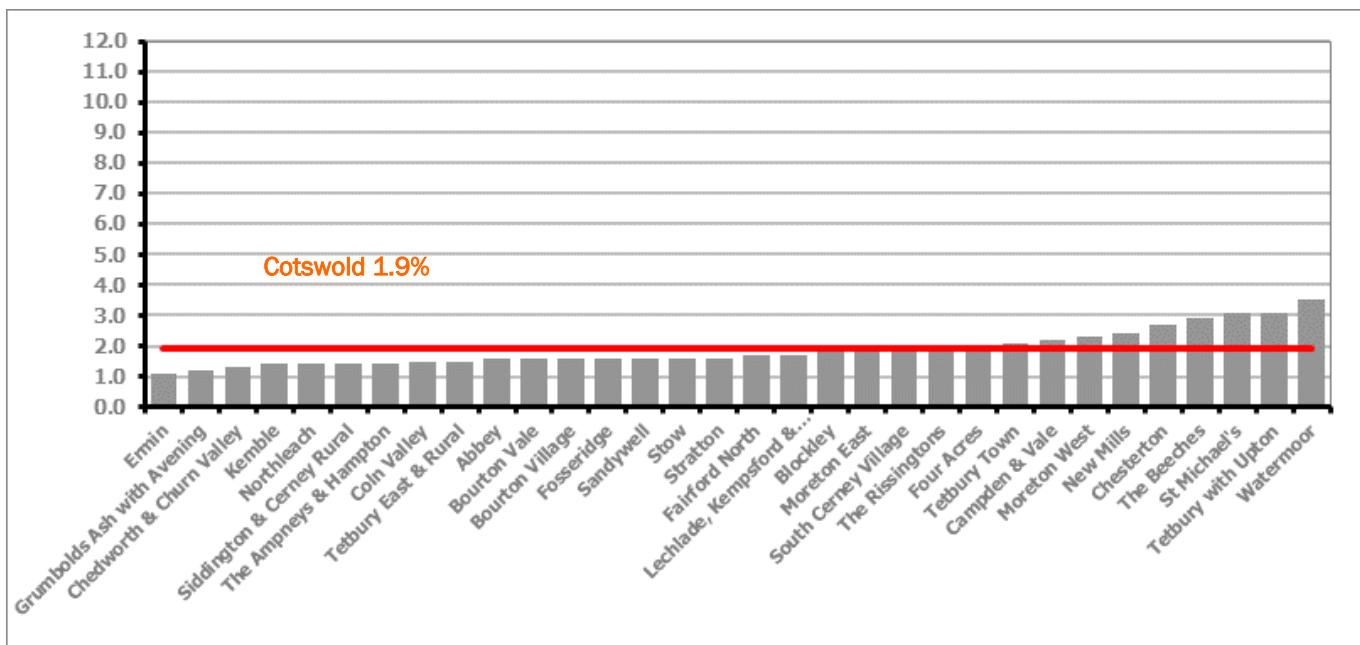
Figure 6: Claimant rates across Cotswold District wards – May 2024

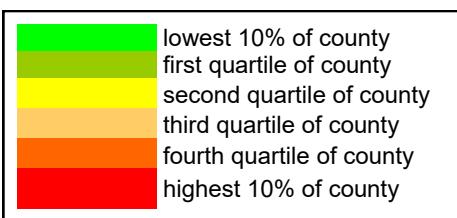
Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.9%. Nine wards lie above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.2 Cotswold District continued...

Table 6: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cotswold District ward level - May 2024

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswold	Ermin	1.1	4
Cotswold	Grumbolds Ash with Avening	1.2	8
Cotswold	Chedworth & Churn Valley	1.3	13
Cotswold	Kemble	1.4	17
Cotswold	Northleach	1.4	17
Cotswold	Siddington & Cerney Rural	1.4	17
Cotswold	The Ampneys & Hampton	1.4	17
Cotswold	Coln Valley	1.5	24
Cotswold	Tetbury East & Rural	1.5	24
Cotswold	Abbey	1.6	36
Cotswold	Bourton Vale	1.6	36
Cotswold	Bourton Village	1.6	36
Cotswold	Fosseridge	1.6	36
Cotswold	Sandywell	1.6	36
Cotswold	Stow	1.6	36
Cotswold	Stratton	1.6	36
Cotswold	Fairford North	1.7	47
Cotswold	Lechlade, Kempsford & Fairford South	1.7	47
Cotswold	Blockley	1.8	52
Cotswold	Moreton East	1.8	52
Cotswold	South Cerney Village	1.8	52
Cotswold	The Rissingtons	1.8	52
Cotswold	Four Acres	1.9	60
Cotswold	Tetbury Town	2.1	69
Cotswold	Campden & Vale	2.2	75
Cotswold	Moreton West	2.3	76
Cotswold	New Mills	2.4	81
Cotswold	Chesterton	2.7	101
Cotswold	The Beeches	2.9	105
Cotswold	St Michael's	3.1	110
Cotswold	Tetbury with Upton	3.1	110
Cotswold	Watermoor	3.5	119



* 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

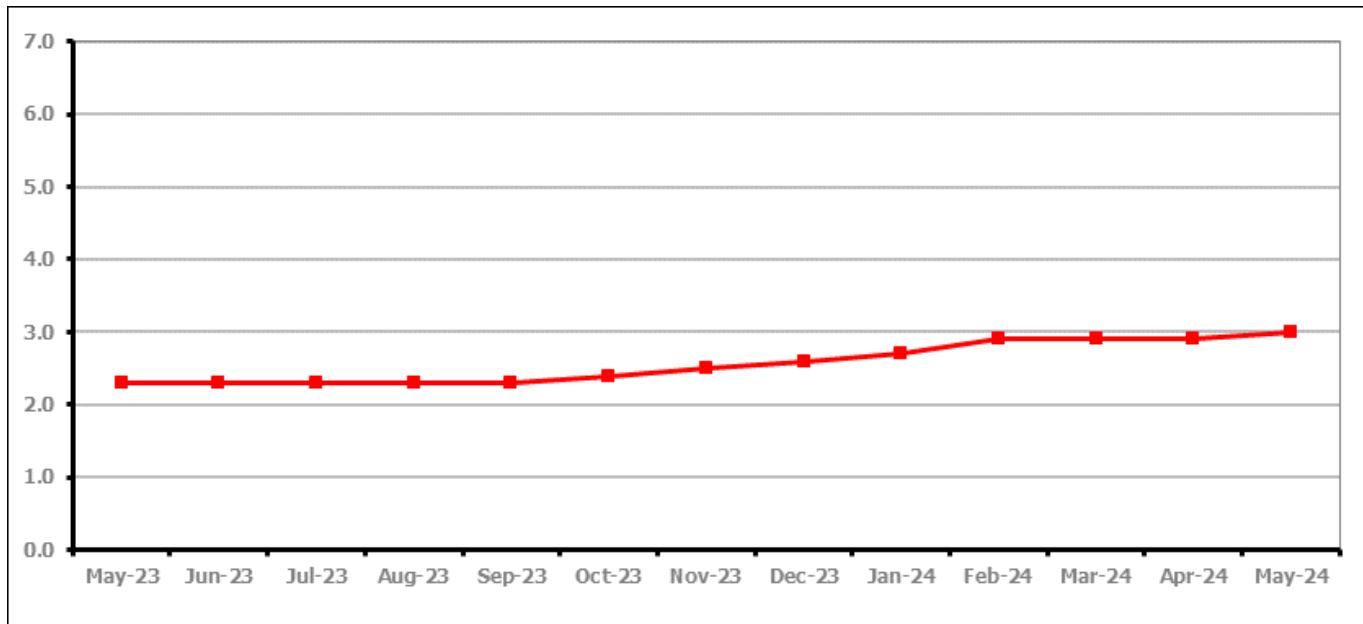


Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean increased to 3.0% in May 2024.

Figure 8: Claimant rates across Forest of Dean District wards – May 2024

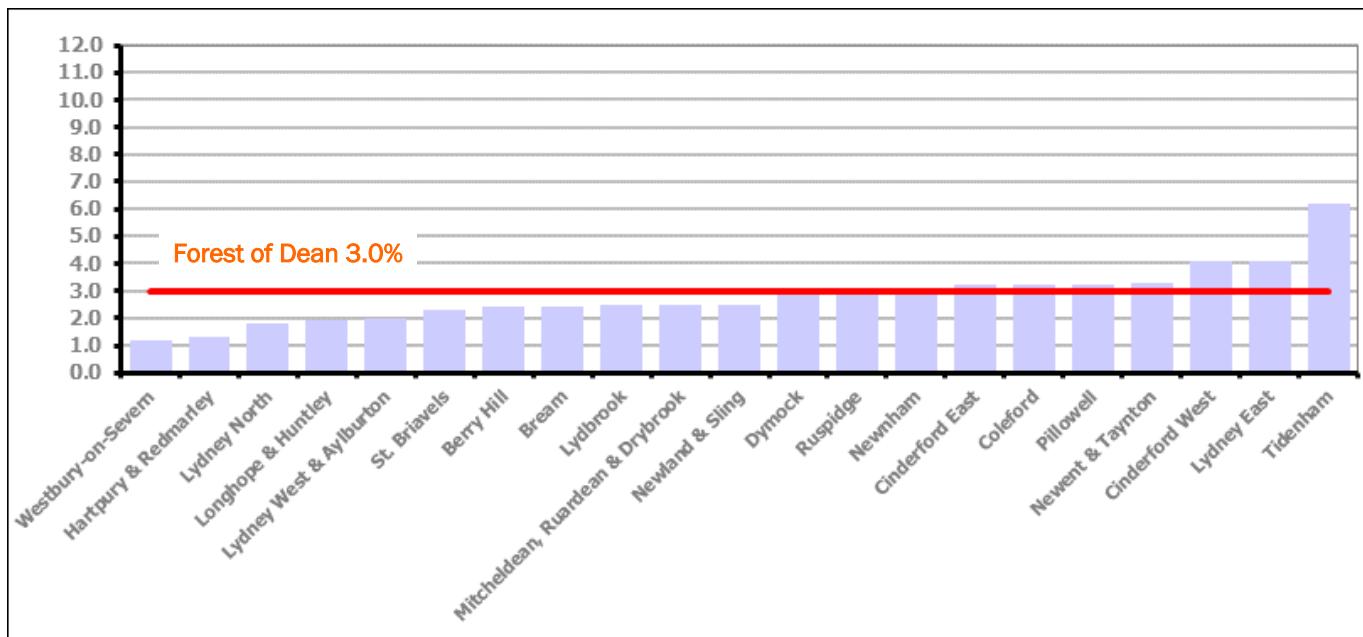


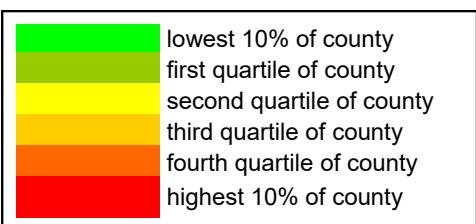
Figure 8 shows the claimant rates for the Forest of Dean District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.0%. Seven wards lie above the average.

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 - May 2024

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Westbury-on-Severn	1.2	8
Forest	Hartpury & Redmarley	1.3	13
Forest	Lydney North	1.8	52
Forest	Longhope & Huntley	1.9	60
Forest	Lydney West & Aylburton	2.0	65
Forest	St. Briavels	2.3	76
Forest	Berry Hill	2.4	81
Forest	Bream	2.4	81
Forest	Lydbrook	2.5	91
Forest	Mitcheldean, Ruardean & Drybrook	2.5	91
Forest	Newland & Sling	2.5	91
Forest	Dymock	2.9	105
Forest	Ruspidge	2.9	105
Forest	Newnham	3.0	109
Forest	Cinderford East	3.2	113
Forest	Coleford	3.2	113
Forest	Pillowell	3.2	113
Forest	Newent & Taynton	3.3	118
Forest	Cinderford West	4.1	122
Forest	Lydney East	4.1	122
Forest	Tidenham	6.2	136



* 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.

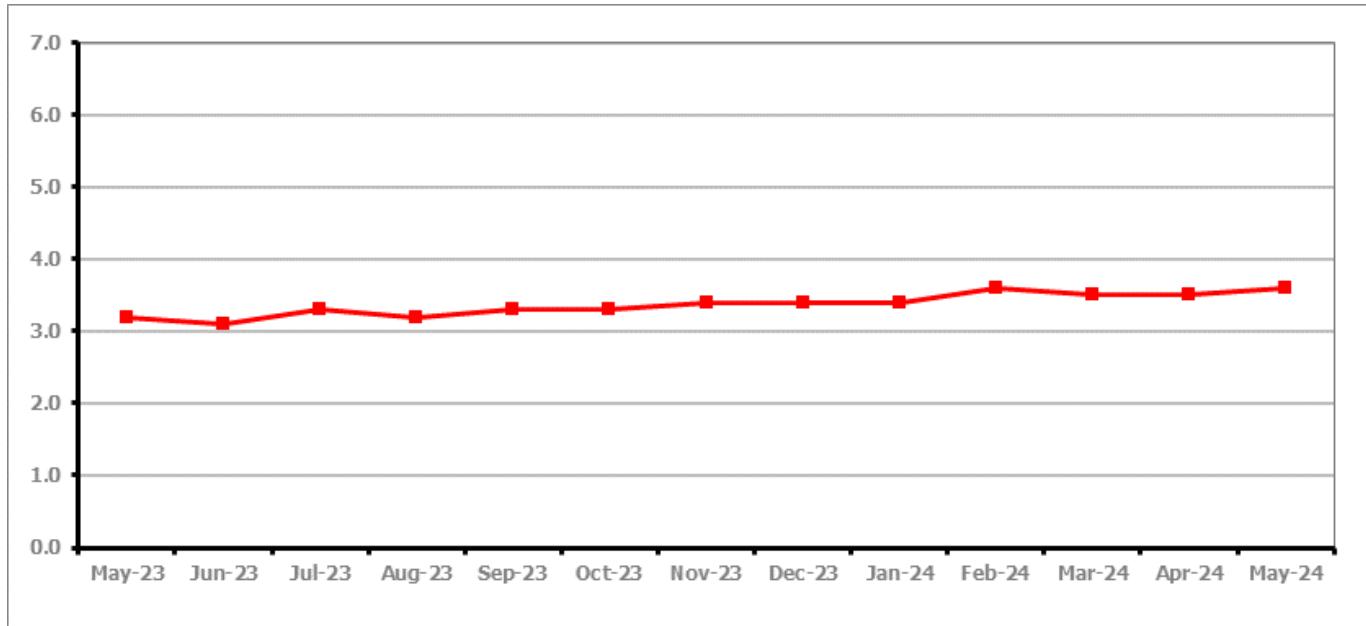
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.4 Gloucester City****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 9: Gloucester City claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 9 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City increased to 3.6% in May 2024.

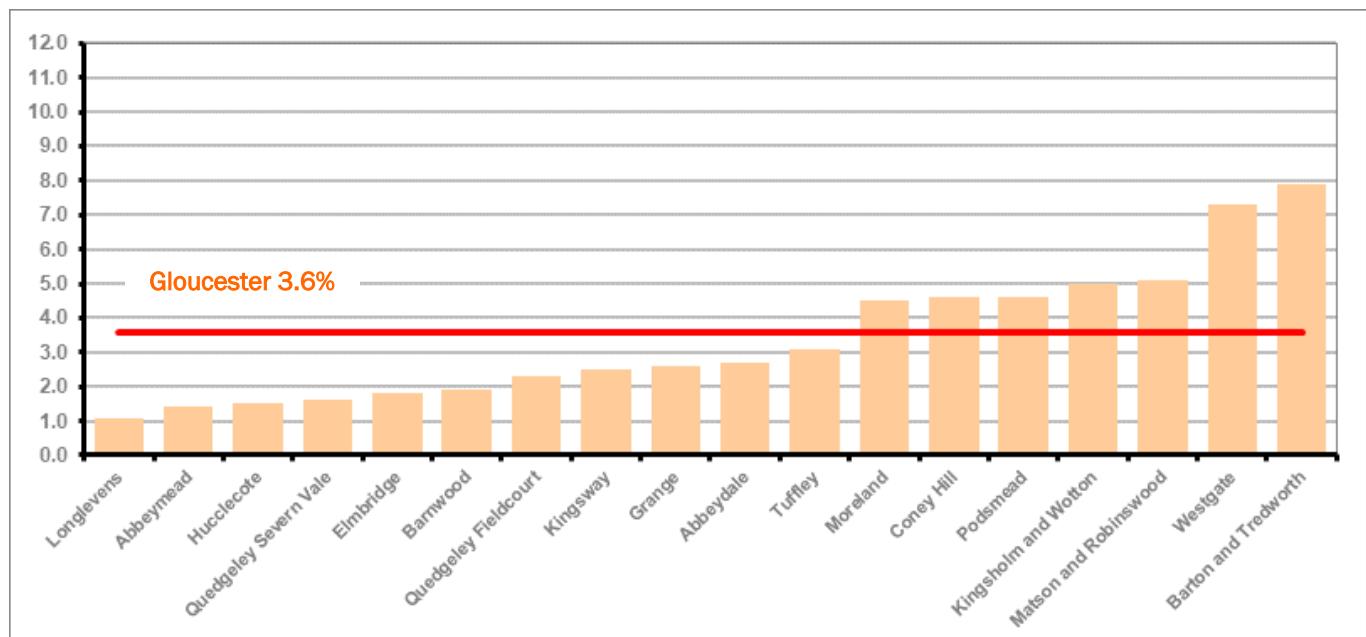
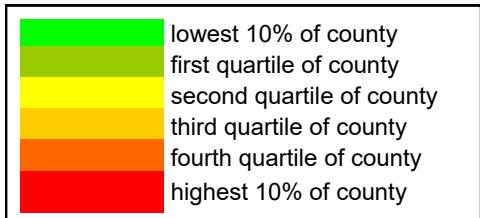
Figure 10: Claimant rates across Gloucester City wards - May 2024

Figure 10 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 3.6%. 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 - May 2024*

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Longlevens	1.1	4
Gloucester	Abbeymead	1.4	17
Gloucester	Hucclecote	1.5	24
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	1.6	36
Gloucester	Elmbridge	1.8	52
Gloucester	Barnwood	1.9	60
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	2.3	76
Gloucester	Kingsway	2.5	91
Gloucester	Grange	2.6	98
Gloucester	Abbeydale	2.7	101
Gloucester	Tuffley	3.1	110
Gloucester	Moreland	4.5	127
Gloucester	Coney Hill	4.6	129
Gloucester	Podsmead	4.6	129
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	5.0	132
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	5.1	133
Gloucester	Westgate	7.3	137
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	7.9	138



* 1 = "best" and 138 = "worst"

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

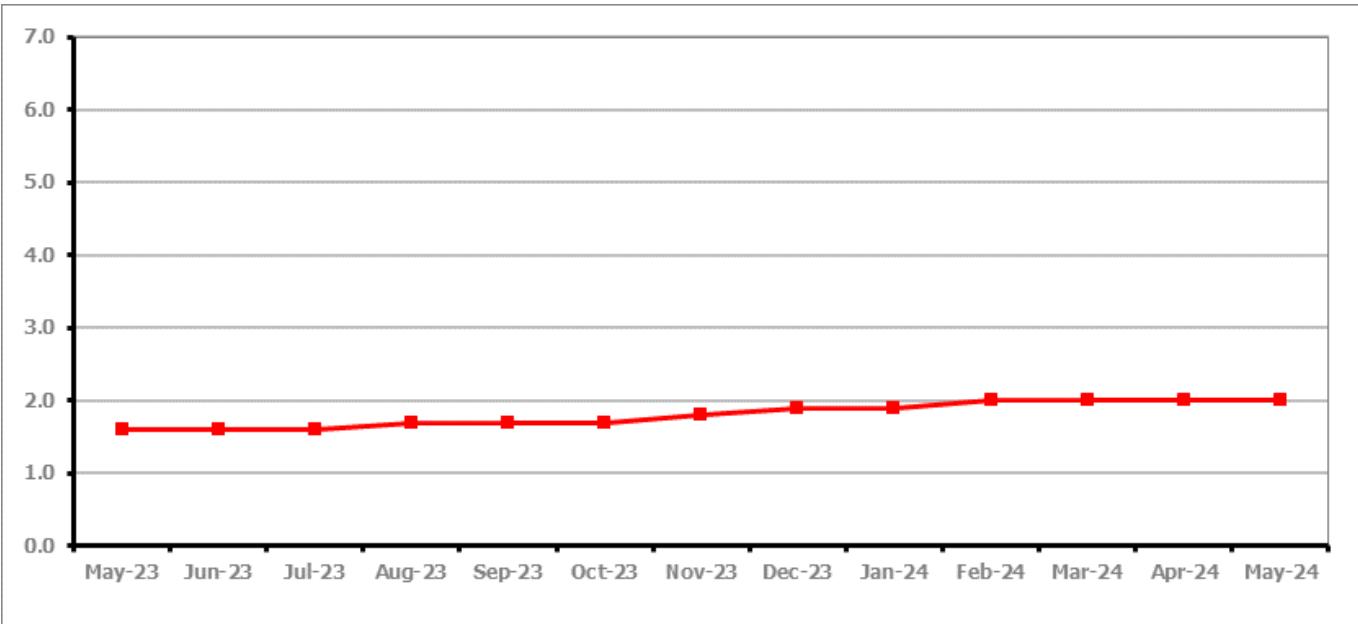
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.5 Stroud District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 11: Stroud District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 11 shows the claimant rate for Stroud remained at 2.0% in May 2024.

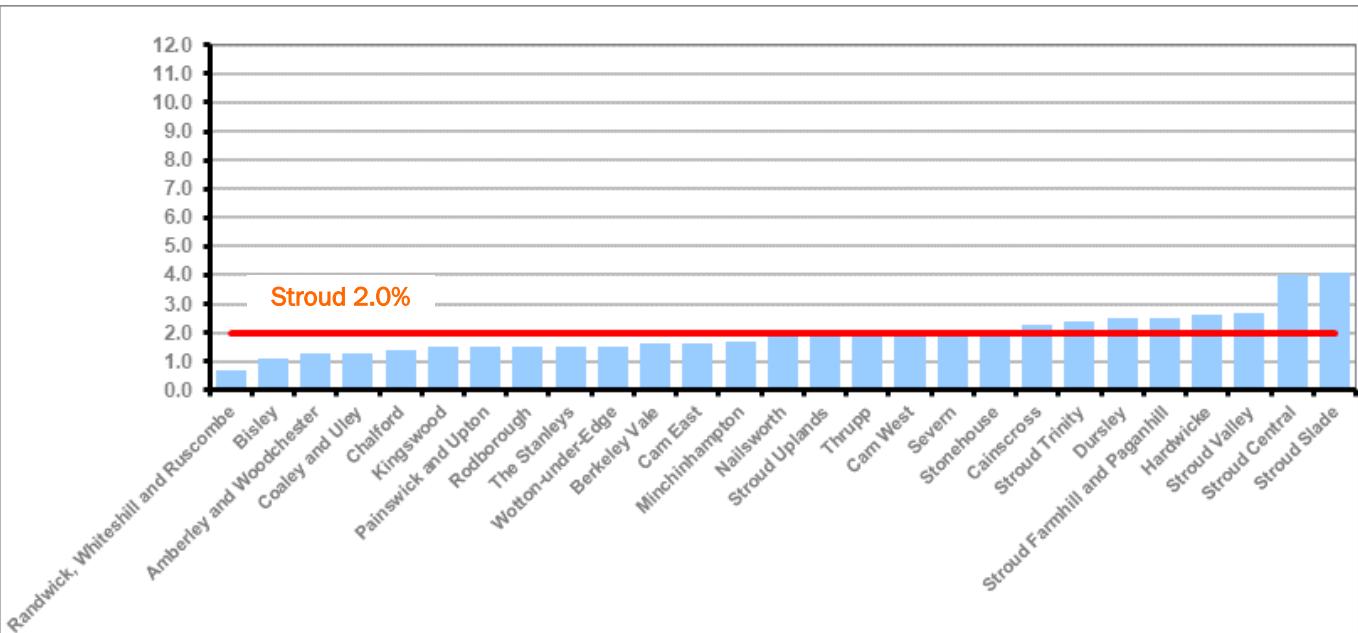
Figure 12: Claimant rates across Stroud District wards - May 2024

Figure 12 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 2.0%. 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 - May 2024

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Randwick, Whiteshill and Ruscombe	0.7	1
Stroud	Bisley	1.1	4
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	1.3	13
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	1.3	13
Stroud	Chalford	1.4	17
Stroud	Kingswood	1.5	24
Stroud	Painswick and Upton	1.5	24
Stroud	Rodborough	1.5	24
Stroud	The Stanleys	1.5	24
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	1.5	24
Stroud	Berkeley Vale	1.6	36
Stroud	Cam East	1.6	36
Stroud	Minchinchampton	1.7	47
Stroud	Nailsworth	1.9	60
Stroud	Stroud Uplands	2.0	65
Stroud	Thrupp	2.0	65
Stroud	Cam West	2.1	69
Stroud	Severn	2.1	69
Stroud	Stonehouse	2.1	69
Stroud	Cainscross	2.3	76
Stroud	Stroud Trinity	2.4	81
Stroud	Dursley	2.5	91
Stroud	Stroud Farmhill and Paganhill	2.5	91
Stroud	Hardwicke	2.6	98
Stroud	Stroud Valley	2.7	101
Stroud	Stroud Central	4.0	120
Stroud	Stroud Slade	4.1	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 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

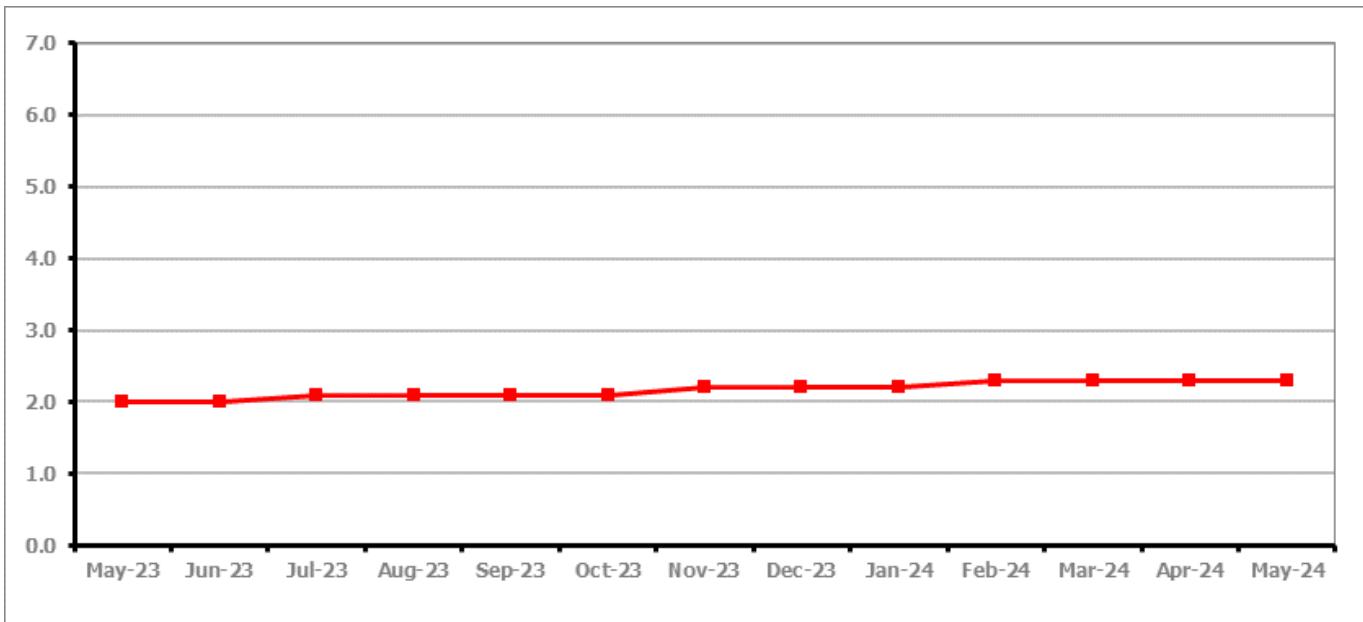


Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury Borough remained at 2.3% in May 2024.

Figure 14: Claimant rates across Tewkesbury Borough wards - May 2024

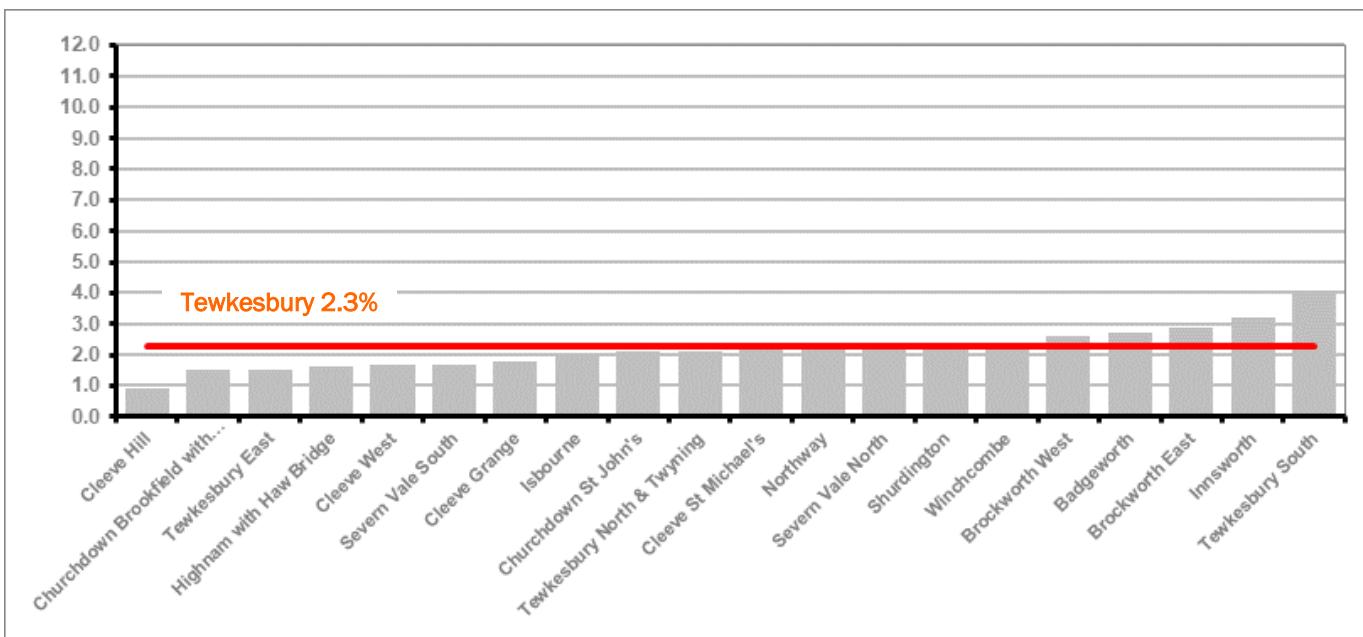


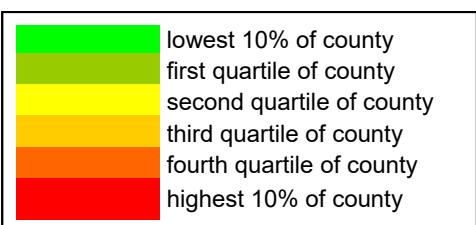
Figure 14 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 2.3%. Ten wards are above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.6 Tewkesbury Borough continued...

Table 10: Analysis of Claimant Count at Tewkesbury Borough level - May 2024

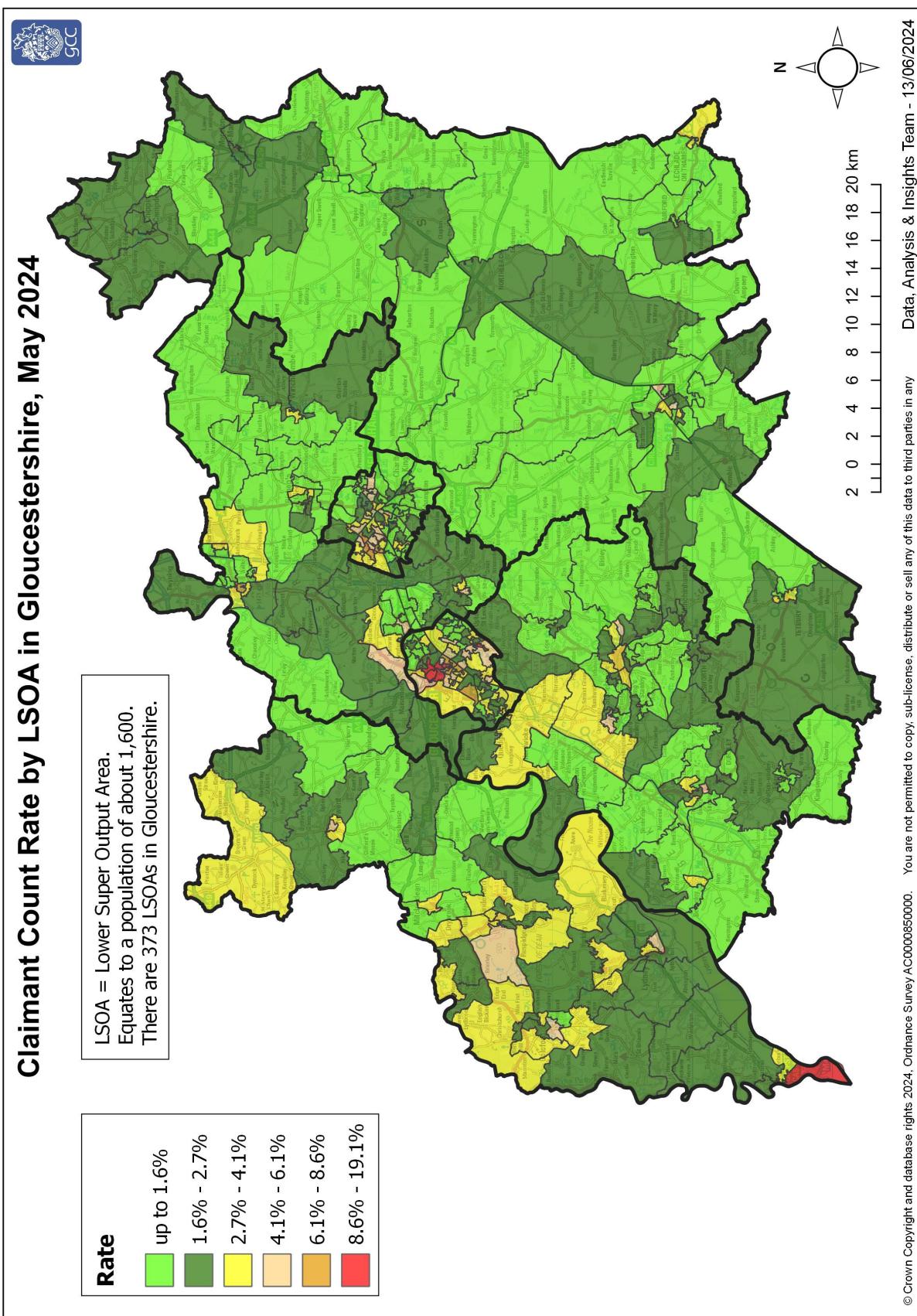
District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	0.9	2
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield with Hucclecote	1.5	24
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury East	1.5	24
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	1.6	36
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	1.7	47
Tewkesbury	Severn Vale South	1.7	47
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	1.8	52
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	2.0	65
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	2.1	69
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury North & Twyning	2.1	69
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	2.4	81
Tewkesbury	Northway	2.4	81
Tewkesbury	Severn Vale North	2.4	81
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	2.4	81
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	2.4	81
Tewkesbury	Brockworth West	2.6	98
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	2.7	101
Tewkesbury	Brockworth East	2.9	105
Tewkesbury	Innsworth	3.2	113
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury South	4.1	122



* 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

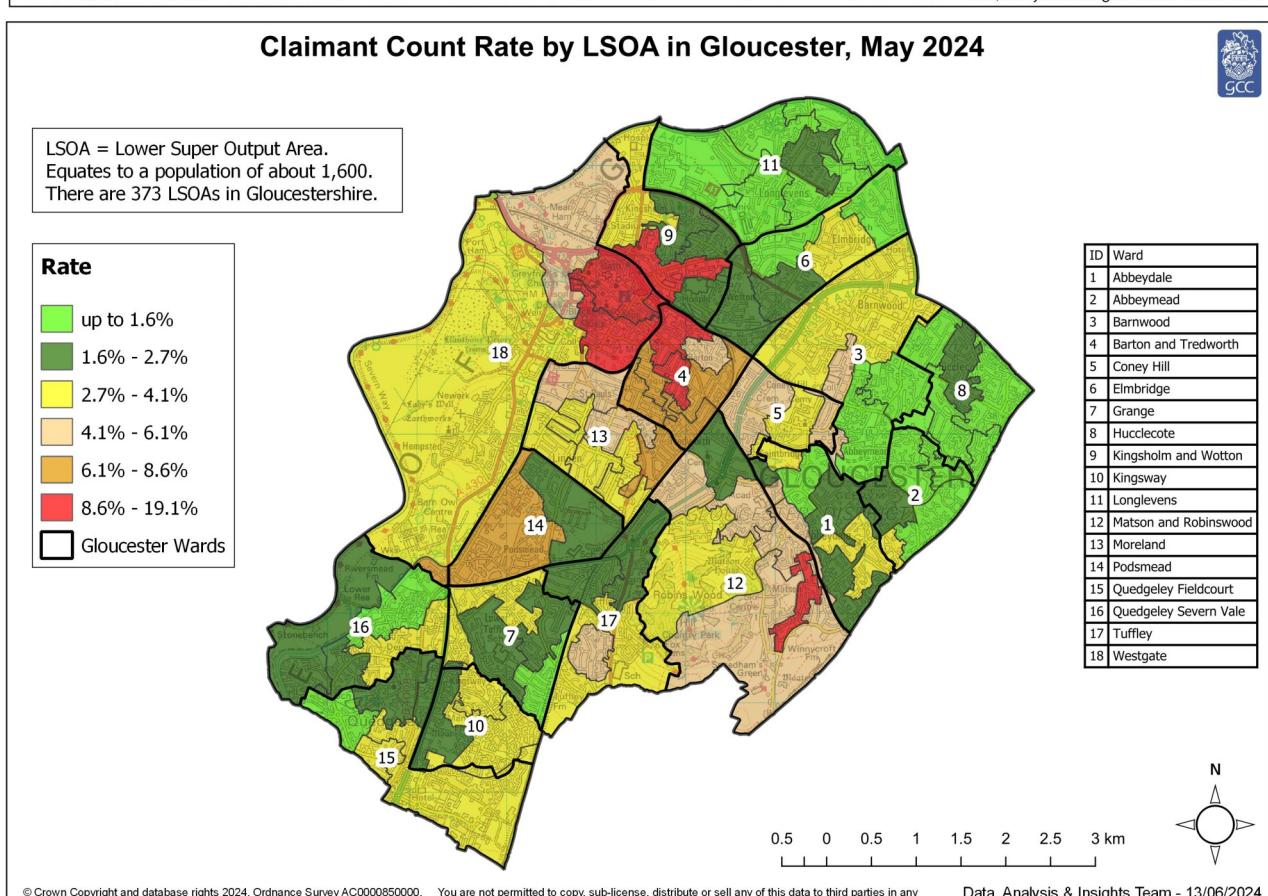
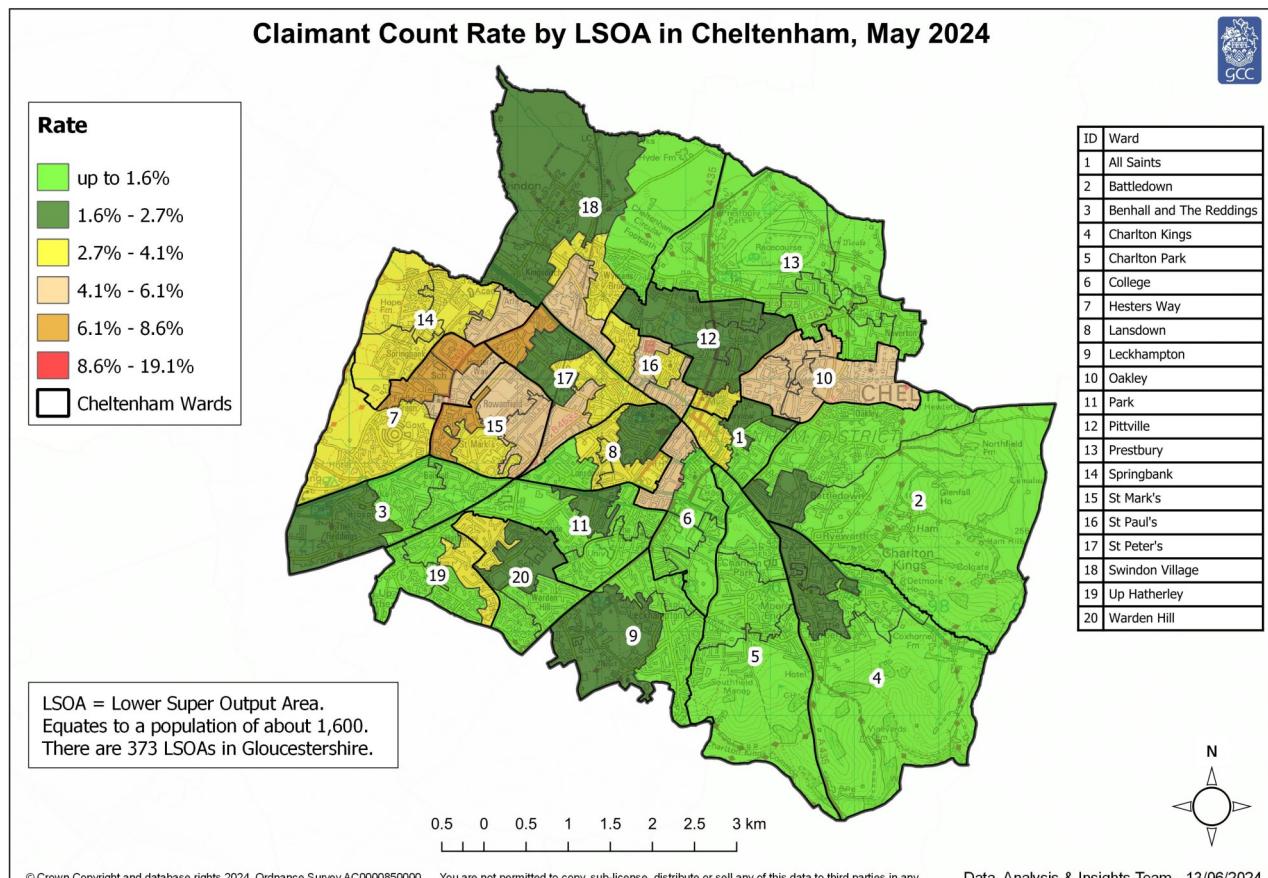


These maps currently show the 2011 LSOA boundaries.

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

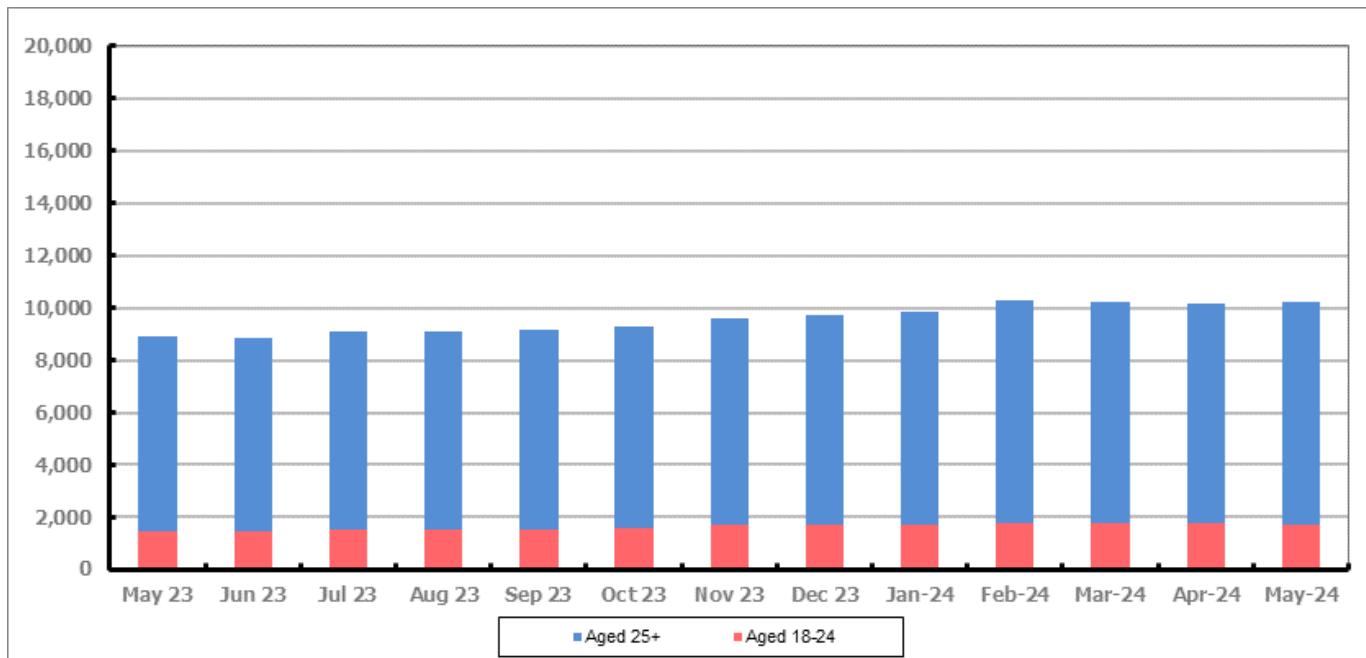


Figure 15 shows that in May 2024, 1,720 people aged 18-24 were claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who were not in work in Gloucestershire, this represents 16.7% of total working age claimants.

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.

(End of) May 2024

Academic Year 12-13 Summary

	NEET	Cohort	%
Cheltenham	78	2332	3.34%
Cotswold	34	1773	1.92%
Forest	43	1737	2.48%
Gloucester	166	3375	4.92%
Stroud	42	2732	1.54%
Tewkesbury	51	2045	2.49%
Total	414	13994	2.96%

16-18 Age Summary

	NEET	Cohort	%
Cheltenham	87	2618	3.32%
Cotswold	34	1996	1.70%
Forest	48	1955	2.46%
Gloucester	182	3739	4.87%
Stroud	48	3067	1.57%
Tewkesbury	52	2301	2.26%
Total	451	15676	2.88%

16-18 Adjust NEET*	3.02%
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Monthly Change	7	0	0.05%
Previous month	407	13994	2.91%

Monthly Change	-37	-575	-0.13%
Previous month	488	16251	3.00%

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.