

# Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 141 April 2020

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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 3.7% in April 2020. The South West and UK rates increased to 4.3% and 5.1% respectively. Gloucestershire's rate was 0.6% lower than the South West average of 4.3%, and 1.4% lower than the UK average of 5.1%.

The claimant count in Gloucestershire in April 2020 increased by 6,295 people. The amount of people claiming in April 2020 was 1.7% higher than the number in March 2020. This compares to a 2.1% increase in both the South West and the UK.

Produced by:

Data & Analysis Team  
Planning, Performance and Change  
Gloucestershire County Council  
May 2020

## DISTRICTS AT A GLANCE

At a glance unemployment information grouped by district. Includes:

**Claim count:** Total number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work in April 2020

**Compared to last month:** How much larger/smaller April's claimant count is compared to March expressed as a %

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

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

### CHELTENHAM BOROUGH

Claim count:	2,660
Compared to last month:	1.4%
Claimant rate:	3.6%
Highest claiming ward	Hesters Way (6.6%)

### GLOUCESTER CITY

Claim count:	3,920
Compared to last month:	2.0%
Claimant rate:	4.8%
Highest claiming wards	Barton and Tredworth (8.4%)

### COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claim count:	1,570
Compared to last month:	1.6%
Claimant rate:	3.0%
Highest claiming ward	Watermoor (5.7%)

### STROUD DISTRICT

Claim count:	1,930
Compared to last month:	1.2%
Claimant rate:	2.7%
Highest claiming wards	Slade (5.8%)

### FOREST OF DEAN

Claim count:	2,150
Compared to last month:	2.0%
Claimant rate:	4.2%
Highest claiming ward	Lydney East (7.8%)

### TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claim count:	1,915
Compared to last month:	1.7%
Claimant rate:	3.5%
Highest claiming ward	Tewkesbury Prior's Park (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

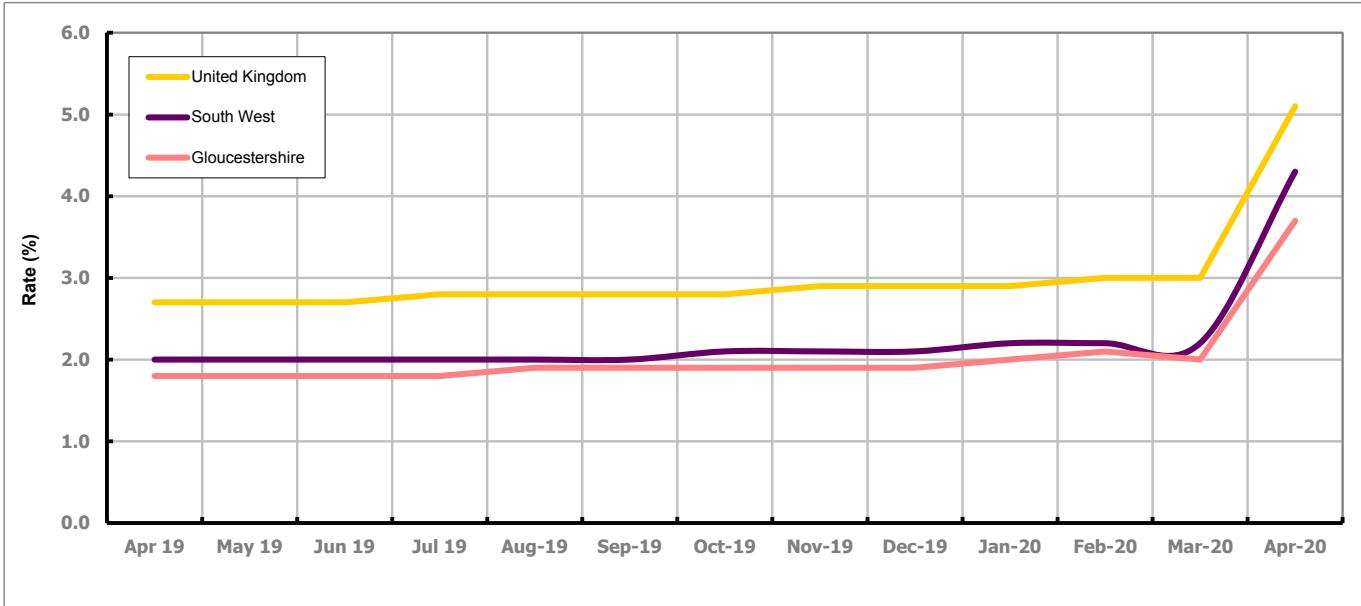


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 3.7% in April 2020. The Gloucestershire rate has been lower than the South West average since December 2015, with the exception of April and May 2016 when it was the same. It has been persistently lower by approximately 1.0% against the UK average.

### Claimant Count

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

Area	Claimant Count in April 2020	% change on March 2020	Consecutive months increasing
UK	2,117,360	2.1%	21
South West	146,225	2.1%	6
Gloucestershire	14,150	1.7%	0

Table 1 shows that in April 2020, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 1.7% higher than the number in March 2020.

## PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

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

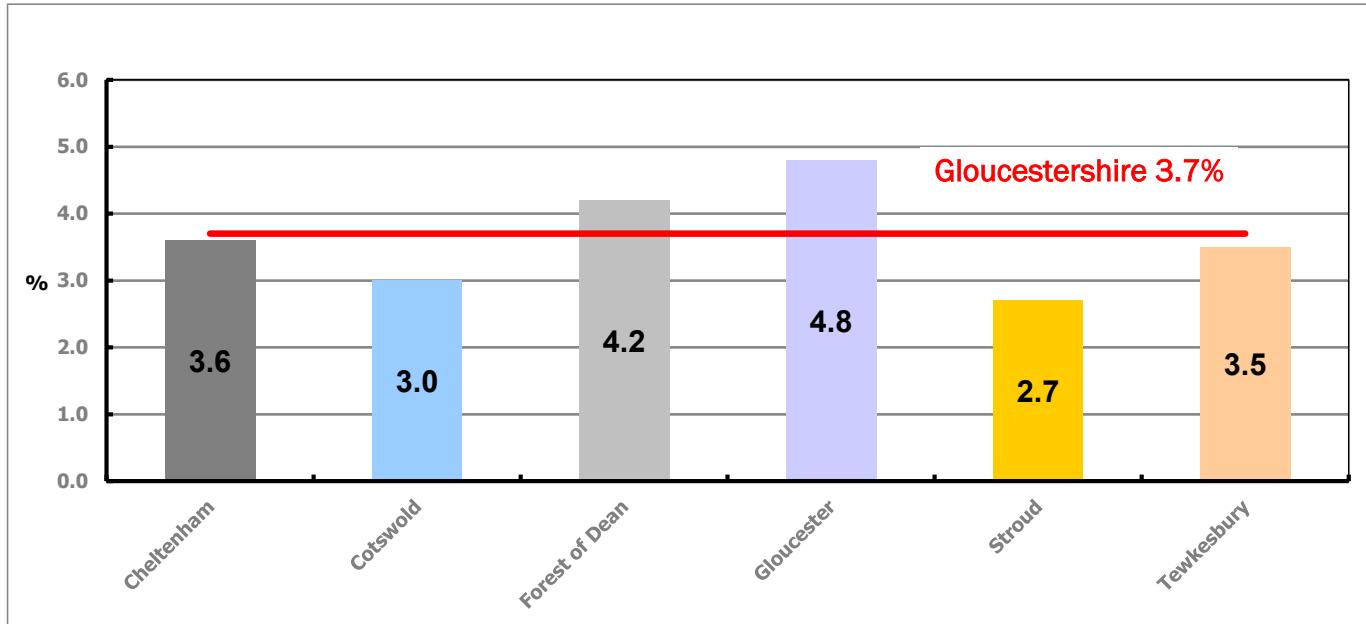


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for April 2020 in Gloucestershire. Between March 2020 and April 2020 the rate increased in all districts.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	Apr 20 Number	Apr 20 Rate	Mar 20 Number	Mar 20 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	14,150	3.7	7,855	2.0	6,295	80.1%	1.7
Cheltenham	2,660	3.6	1,645	2.2	1,015	61.7%	1.4
Cotswold	1,570	3.0	710	1.4	860	121.1%	1.6
Forest of Dean	2,150	4.2	1,140	2.2	1,010	88.6%	2.0
Gloucester	3,920	4.8	2,325	2.8	1,595	68.6%	2.0
Stroud	1,930	2.7	1,055	1.5	875	82.9%	1.2
Tewkesbury	1,915	3.5	980	1.8	935	95.4%	1.7

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in April 2020 compared to March 2020. All districts saw an increase in the number of claimants.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	Apr 20 Number	Apr 20 Rate	Mar 20 Number	Mar 20 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	8,400	4.4	4,565	2.4	3,835	84.0%	2.0
Cheltenham	1,585	4.3	980	2.6	605	61.7%	1.7
Cotswold	890	3.5	380	1.5	510	134.2%	2.0
Forest of Dean	1,235	4.9	650	2.6	585	90.0%	2.3
Gloucester	2,470	6.0	1,425	3.5	1,045	73.3%	2.5
Stroud	1,115	3.1	590	1.7	525	89.0%	1.4
Tewkesbury	1,105	4.1	535	2.0	570	106.5%	2.1

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in April 2020 compared to March 2020. All districts saw an increase in the number of male claimants.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	Apr 20 Number	Apr 20 Rate	Mar 20 Number	Mar 20 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	5,750	3.0	3,290	1.7	2,460	74.8%	1.3
Cheltenham	1,075	2.9	665	1.8	410	61.7%	1.1
Cotswold	685	2.6	330	1.3	355	107.6%	1.3
Forest of Dean	910	3.5	490	1.9	420	85.7%	1.6
Gloucester	1,455	3.6	900	2.2	555	61.7%	1.4
Stroud	820	2.3	465	1.3	355	76.3%	1.0
Tewkesbury	810	2.9	440	1.6	370	84.1%	1.3

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in April 2020 compared to March 2020. All districts saw an increase in the number of female claimants.

## 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

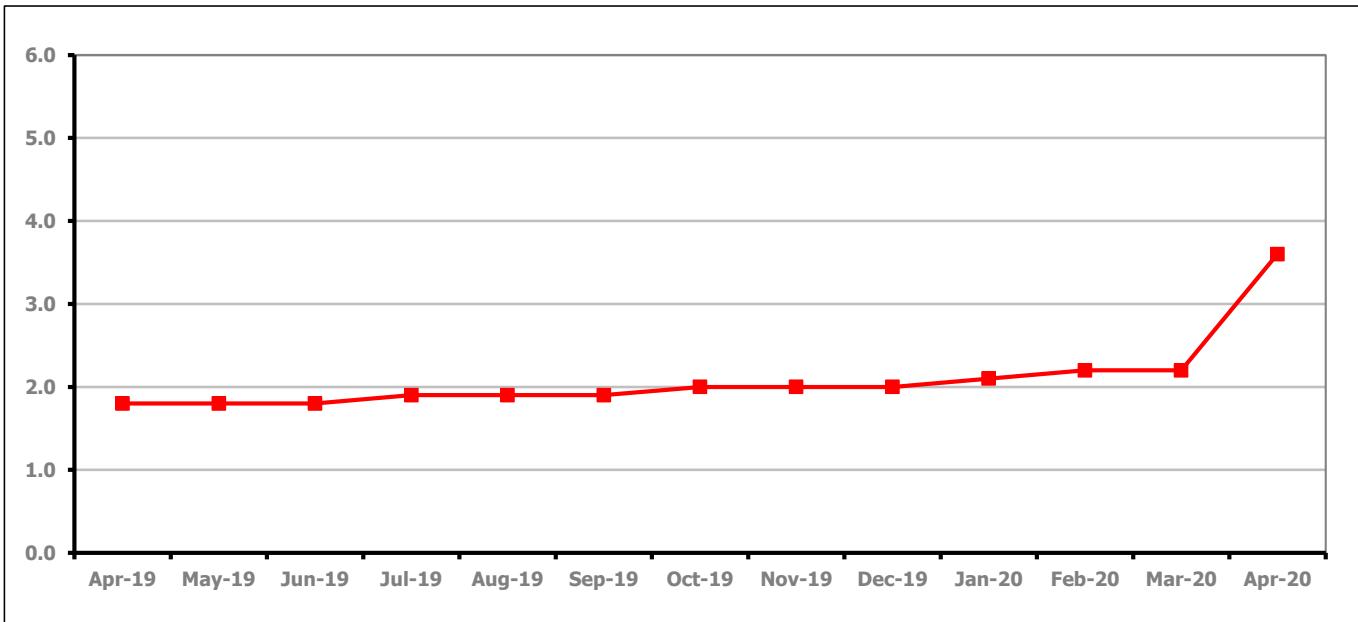


Figure 3 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham increased to 3.6% in April 2020.

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

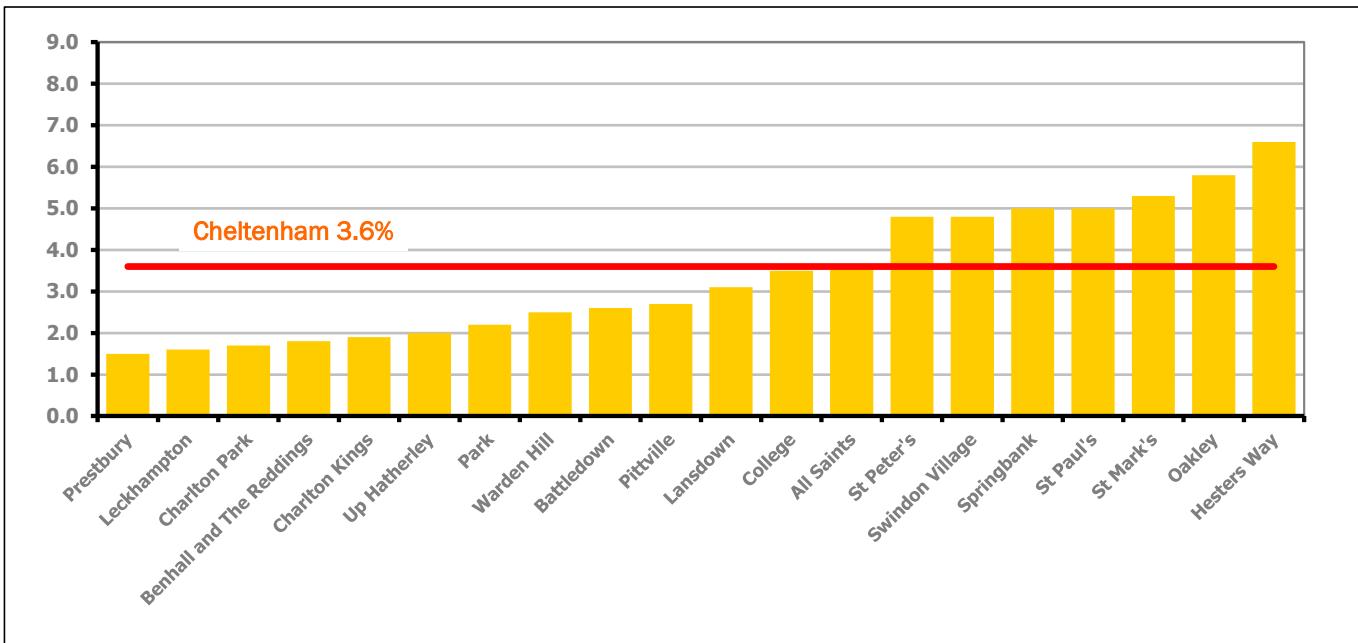


Figure 4 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 3.6%. Seven wards lie above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

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

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Prestbury	1.5	2
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	1.6	3
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	1.7	4
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	1.8	10
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	1.9	18
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	2.0	19
Cheltenham	Park	2.2	26
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	2.5	42
Cheltenham	Battledown	2.6	45
Cheltenham	Pittville	2.7	50
Cheltenham	Lansdown	3.1	70
Cheltenham	College	3.5	89
Cheltenham	All Saints	3.6	92
Cheltenham	St Peter's	4.8	124
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	4.8	124
Cheltenham	Springbank	5.0	128
Cheltenham	St Paul's	5.0	128
Cheltenham	St Mark's	5.3	131
Cheltenham	Oakley	5.8	135
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	6.6	140

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

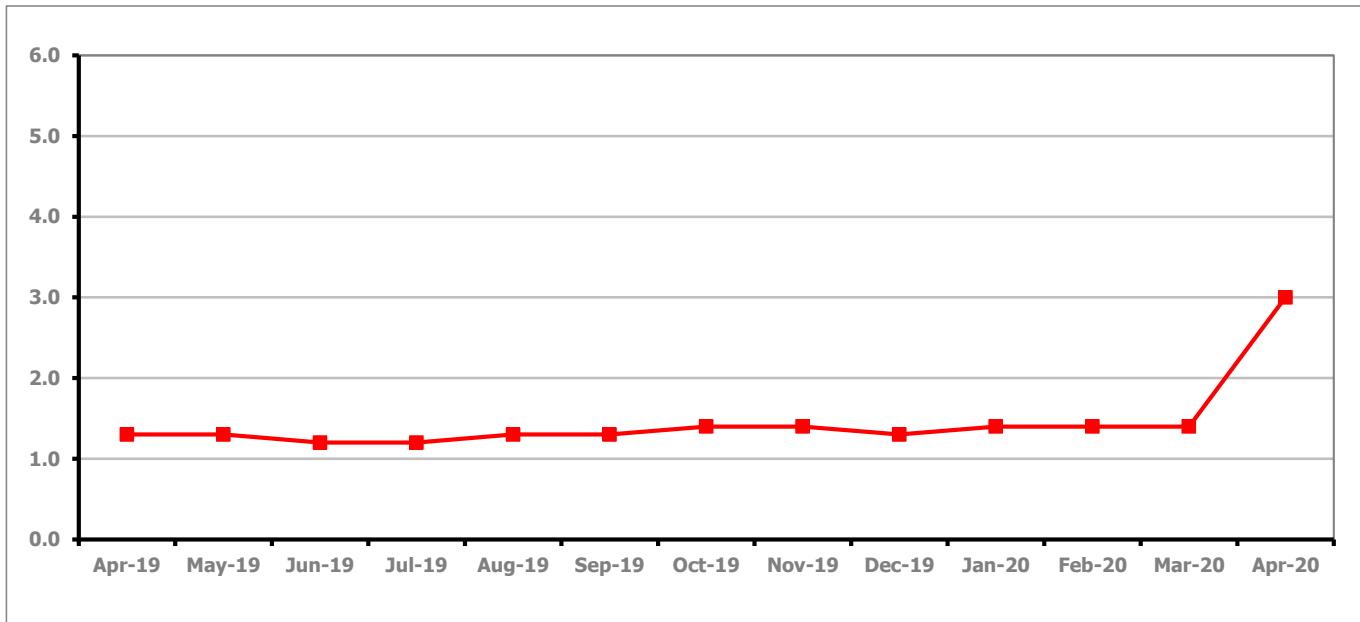
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.2 Cotswold District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 5: Cotswold District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 5 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District increased to 3.0% in April 2020.

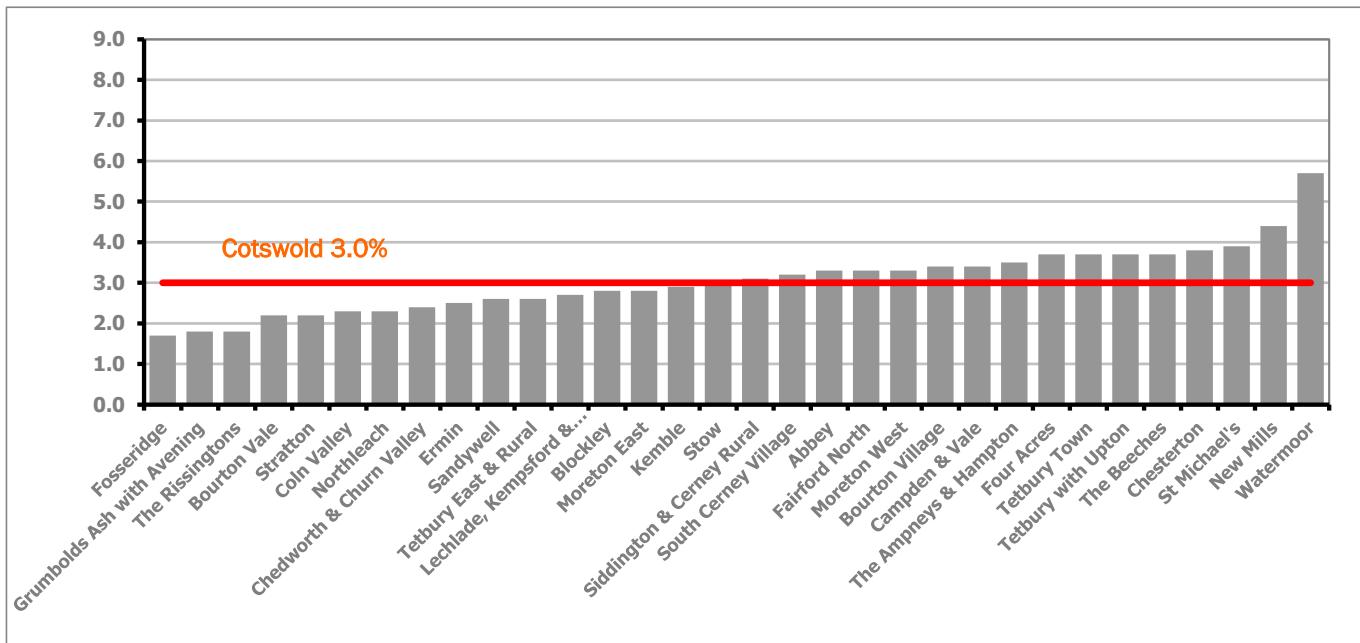
*Figure 6: Claimant rates across Cotswold District wards - April 2020*

Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.0%. Sixteen 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 - April 2020

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswolds	Fosseridge	1.7	4
Cotswolds	Grumbolds Ash with Avening	1.8	10
Cotswolds	The Rissingtons	1.8	10
Cotswolds	Bourton Vale	2.2	26
Cotswolds	Stratton	2.2	26
Cotswolds	Coln Valley	2.3	34
Cotswolds	Northleach	2.3	34
Cotswolds	Chedworth & Churn Valley	2.4	39
Cotswolds	Ermin	2.5	42
Cotswolds	Sandywell	2.6	45
Cotswolds	Tetbury East & Rural	2.6	45
Cotswolds	Lechlade, Kempsford & Fairford South	2.7	50
Cotswolds	Blockley	2.8	53
Cotswolds	Moreton East	2.8	53
Cotswolds	Kemble	2.9	60
Cotswolds	Stow	3.0	65
Cotswolds	Siddington & Cerney Rural	3.1	70
Cotswolds	South Cerney Village	3.2	75
Cotswolds	Abbey	3.3	78
Cotswolds	Fairford North	3.3	78
Cotswolds	Moreton West	3.3	78
Cotswolds	Bourton Village	3.4	85
Cotswolds	Campden & Vale	3.4	85
Cotswolds	The Ampneys & Hampton	3.5	89
Cotswolds	Four Acres	3.7	96
Cotswolds	Tetbury Town	3.7	96
Cotswolds	Tetbury with Upton	3.7	96
Cotswolds	The Beeches	3.7	96
Cotswolds	Chesterton	3.8	103
Cotswolds	St Michael's	3.9	106
Cotswolds	New Mills	4.4	115
Cotswolds	Watermoor	5.7	134

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

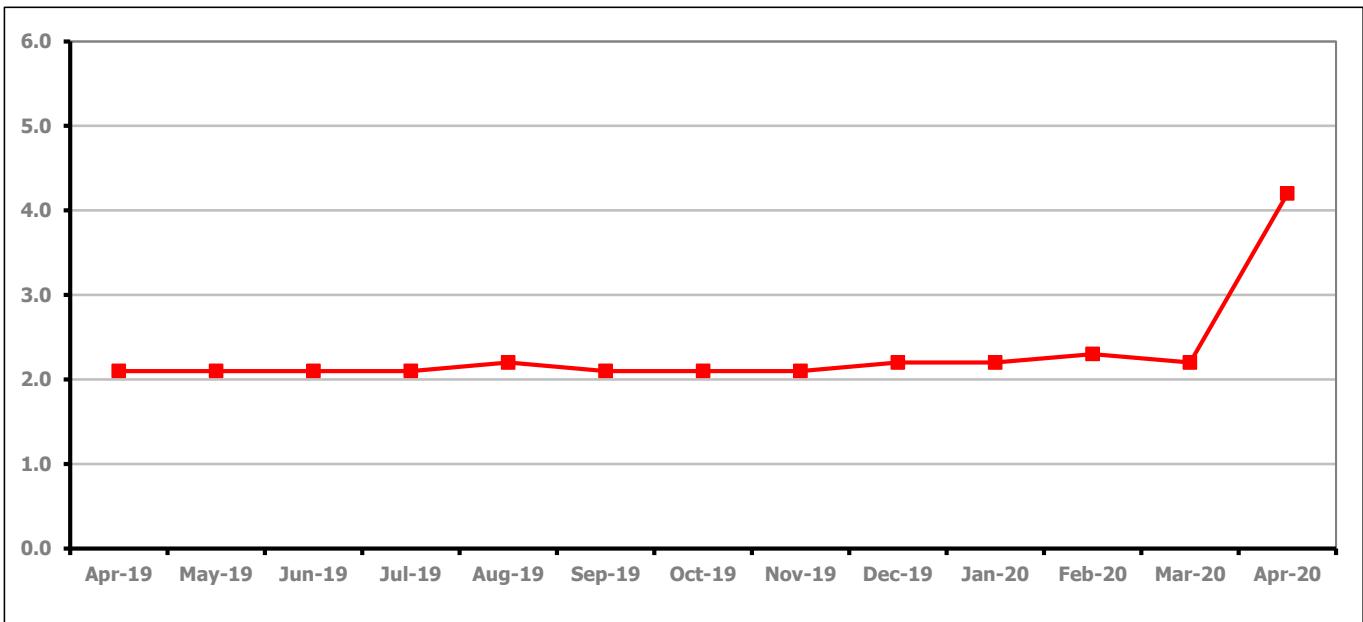


Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean increased to 4.2% in April 2020.

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

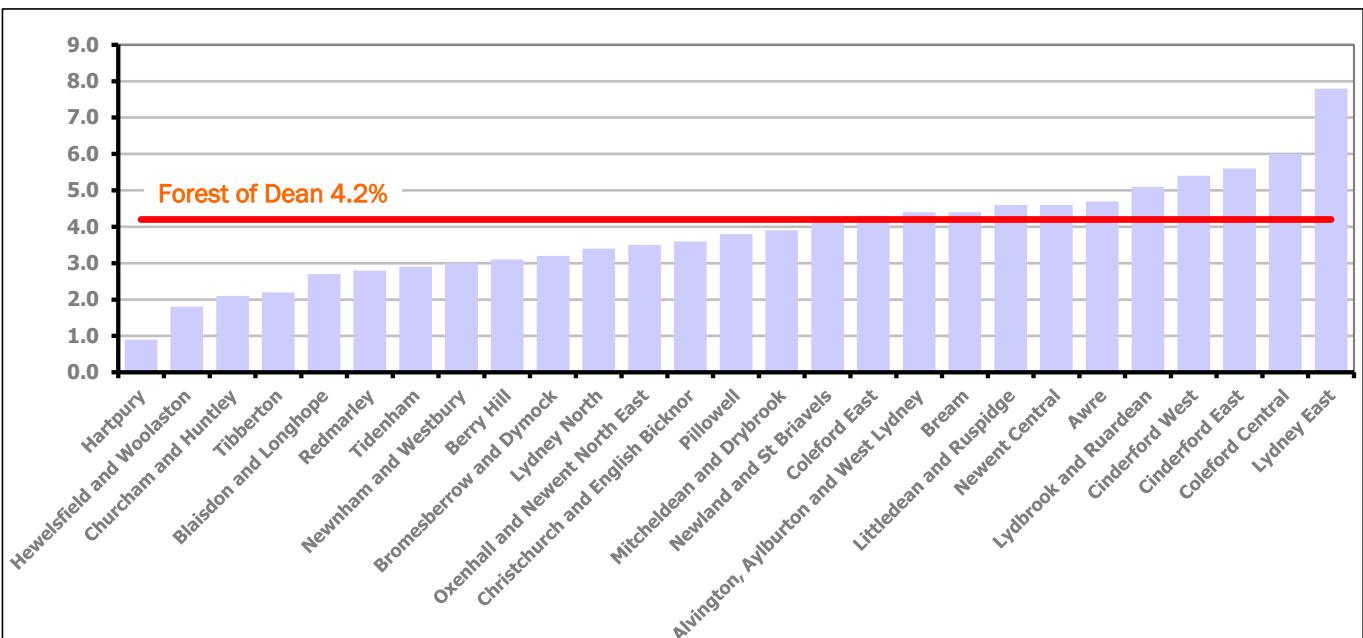


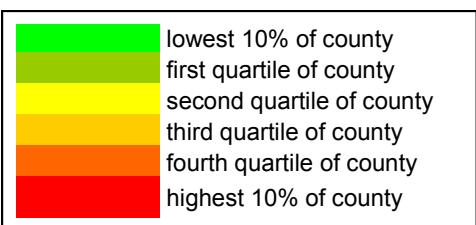
Figure 8 shows the claimant rates for the Forest of Dean District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 4.2%. Eleven wards lie above the average.

## 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 - April 2020

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Hartpury	0.9	1
Forest	Hewelsfield and Woolaston	1.8	10
Forest	Churcham and Huntley	2.1	23
Forest	Tibberton	2.2	26
Forest	Blaisdon and Longhope	2.7	50
Forest	Redmarley	2.8	53
Forest	Tidenham	2.9	60
Forest	Newnham and Westbury	3.0	65
Forest	Berry Hill	3.1	70
Forest	Bromesberrow and Dymock	3.2	75
Forest	Lydney North	3.4	85
Forest	Oxenhall and Newent North East	3.5	89
Forest	Christchurch and English Bicknor	3.6	92
Forest	Pillowell	3.8	103
Forest	Mitcheldean and Drybrook	3.9	106
Forest	Newland and St Briavels	4.1	110
Forest	Coleford East	4.3	113
Forest	Alvington, Aylburton and West Lydney	4.4	115
Forest	Bream	4.4	115
Forest	Littledean and Ruspidge	4.6	118
Forest	Newent Central	4.6	118
Forest	Awre	4.7	122
Forest	Lydbrook and Ruardean	5.1	130
Forest	Cinderford West	5.4	132
Forest	Cinderford East	5.6	133
Forest	Coleford Central	6.0	137
Forest	Lydney East	7.8	144



\* 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.

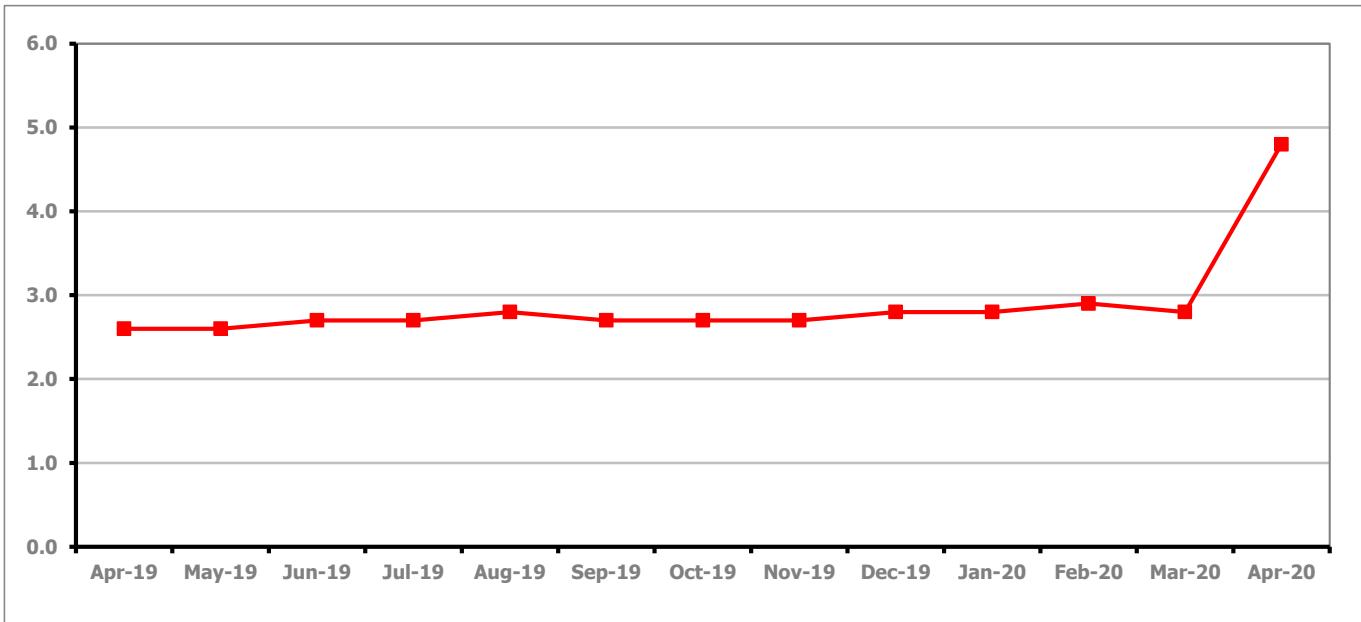
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.4 Gloucester City****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 9: Gloucester City claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 9 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City increased to 4.8% in April 2020.

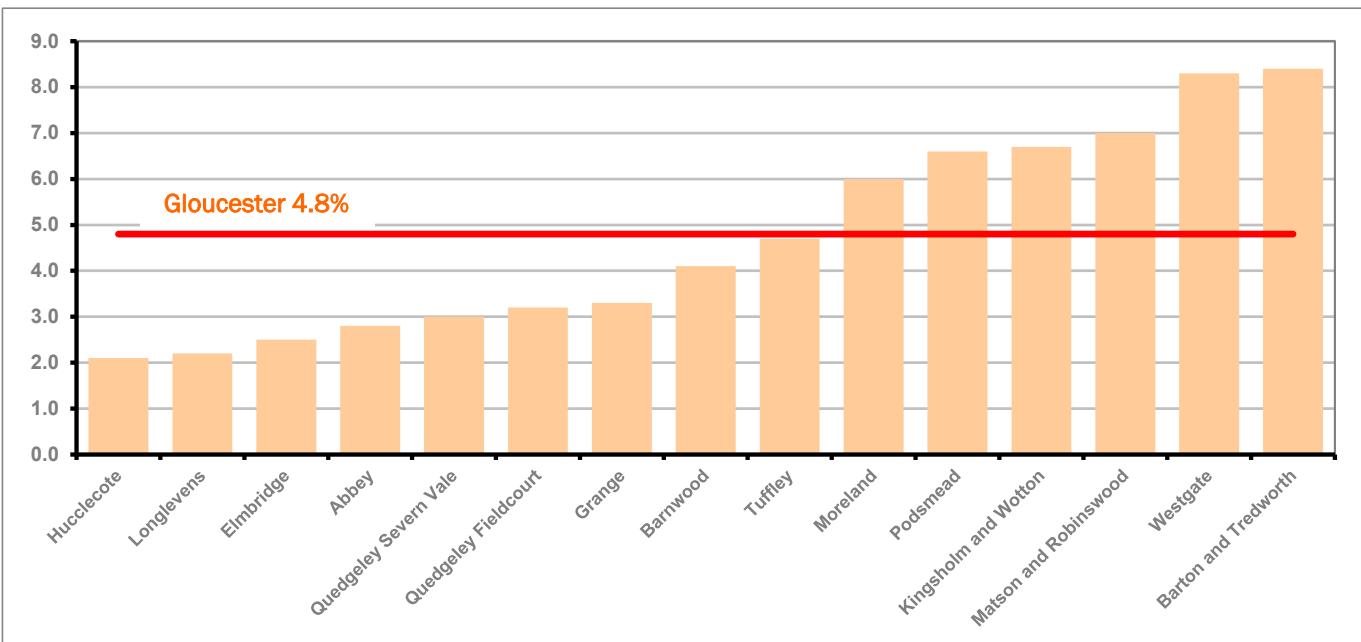
*Figure 10: Claimant rates across Gloucester City wards - April 2020*

Figure 10 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 4.8%. Six 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 - April 2020

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Hucclecote	2.1	23
Gloucester	Longlevens	2.2	26
Gloucester	Elmbridge	2.5	42
Gloucester	Abbey	2.8	53
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	3.0	65
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	3.2	75
Gloucester	Grange	3.3	78
Gloucester	Barnwood	4.1	110
Gloucester	Tuffley	4.7	122
Gloucester	Moreland	6.0	137
Gloucester	Podsmead	6.6	140
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	6.7	142
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	7.0	143
Gloucester	Westgate	8.3	145
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	8.4	146

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 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

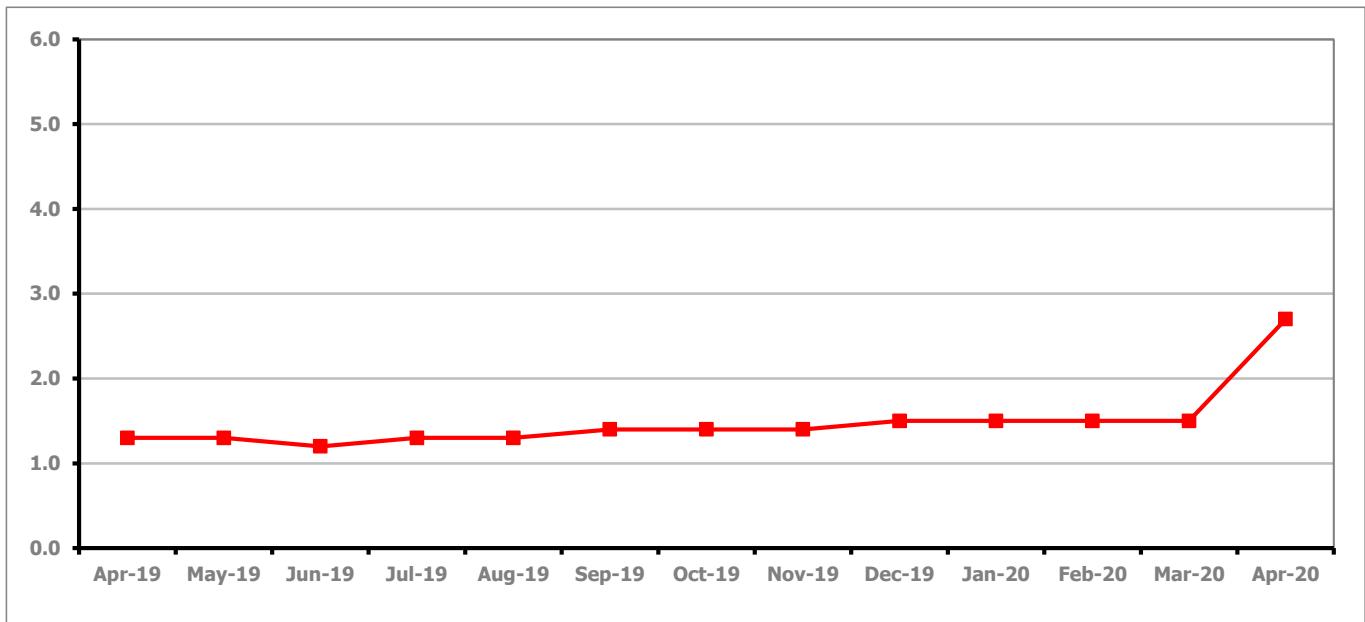


Figure 11 shows the claimant rate for Stroud increased to 2.7% in April 2020.

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

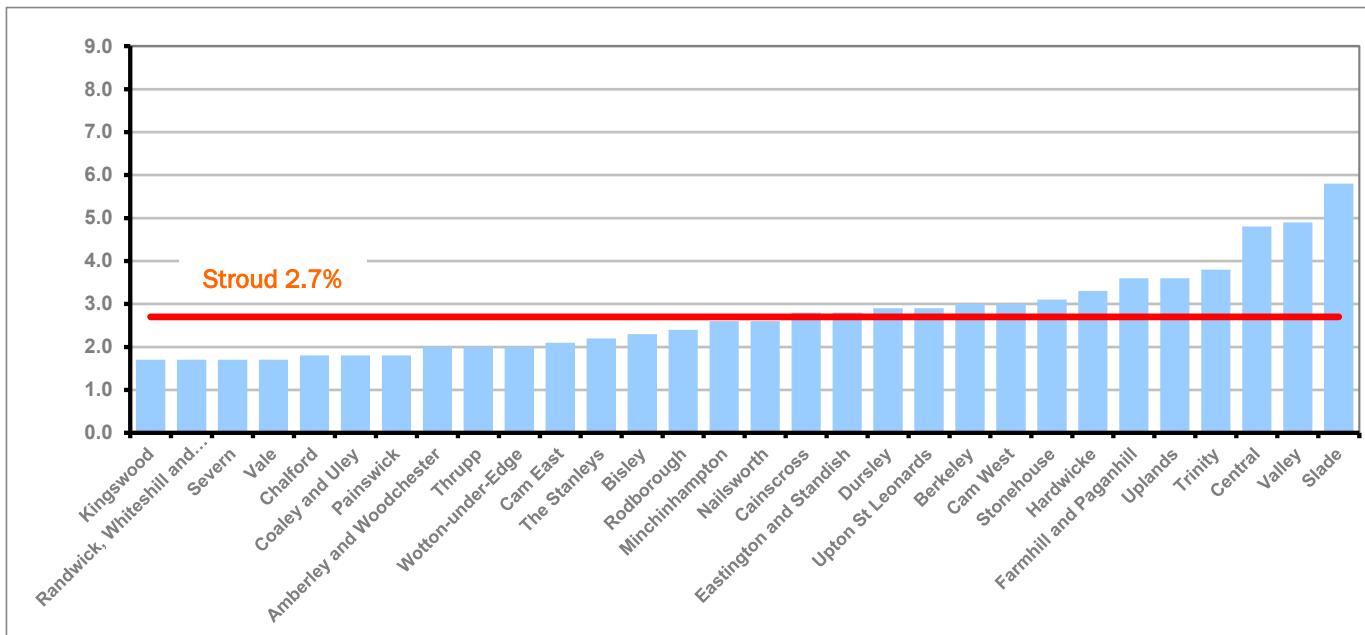


Figure 12 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 2.7%. Fourteen wards are above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### 4.5 Stroud District continued...

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

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Kingswood	1.7	4
Stroud	Randwick, Whiteshill and Ruscombe	1.7	4
Stroud	Severn	1.7	4
Stroud	Vale	1.7	4
Stroud	Chalford	1.8	10
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	1.8	10
Stroud	Painswick	1.8	10
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	2.0	19
Stroud	Thrupp	2.0	19
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	2.0	19
Stroud	Cam East	2.1	23
Stroud	The Stanleys	2.2	26
Stroud	Bisley	2.3	34
Stroud	Rodborough	2.4	39
Stroud	Minchinhampton	2.6	45
Stroud	Nailsworth	2.6	45
Stroud	Cainscross	2.8	53
Stroud	Eastington and Standish	2.8	53
Stroud	Dursley	2.9	60
Stroud	Upton St Leonards	2.9	60
Stroud	Berkeley	3.0	65
Stroud	Cam West	3.0	65
Stroud	Stonehouse	3.1	70
Stroud	Hardwicke	3.3	78
Stroud	Farmhill and Paganhill	3.6	92
Stroud	Uplands	3.6	92
Stroud	Trinity	3.8	103
Stroud	Central	4.8	124
Stroud	Valley	4.9	127
Stroud	Slade	5.8	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 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

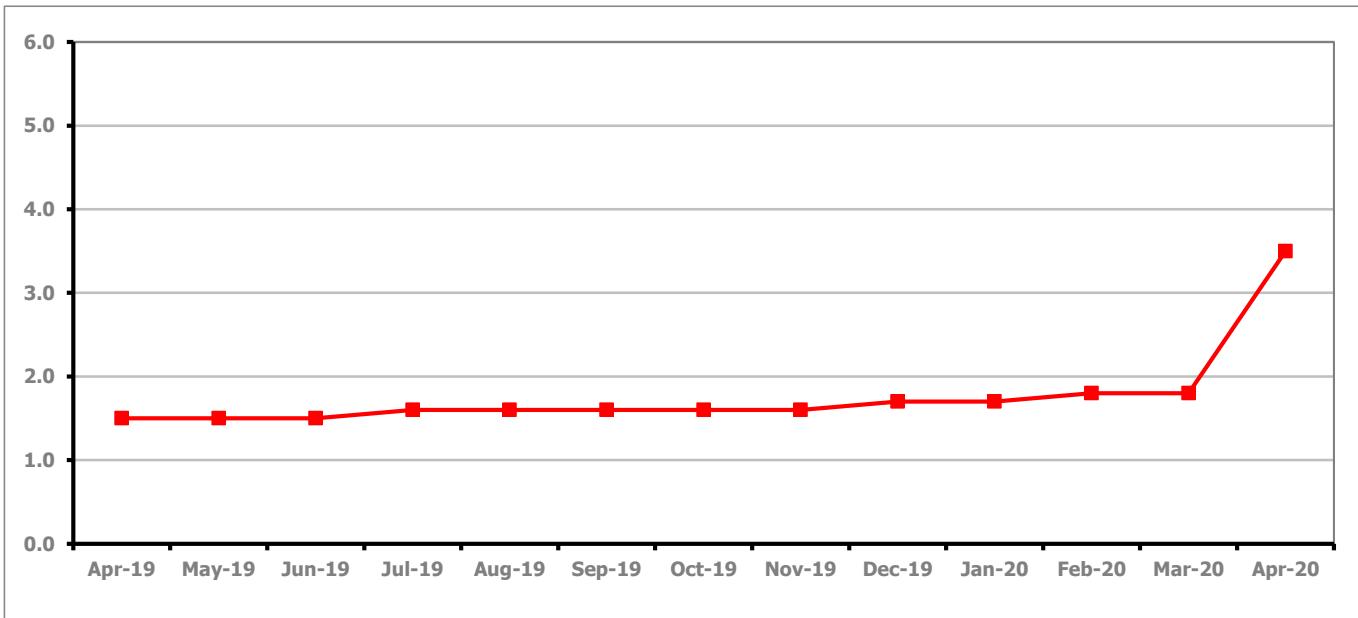


Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury Borough increased to 3.5% in April 2020.

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

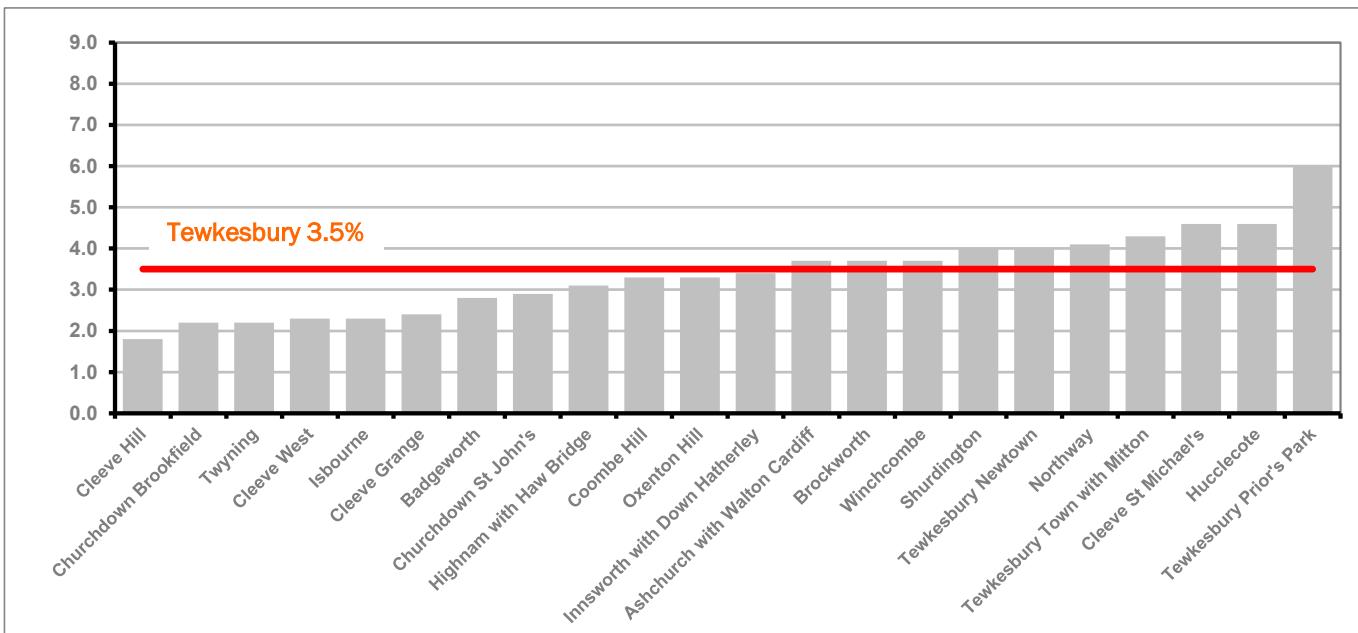


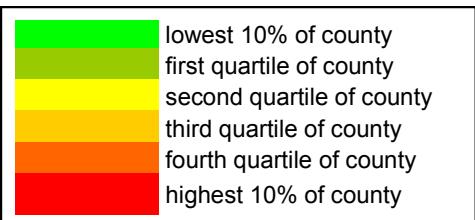
Figure 14 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.5%. Ten wards are above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### 4.6 Tewkesbury Borough continued...

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

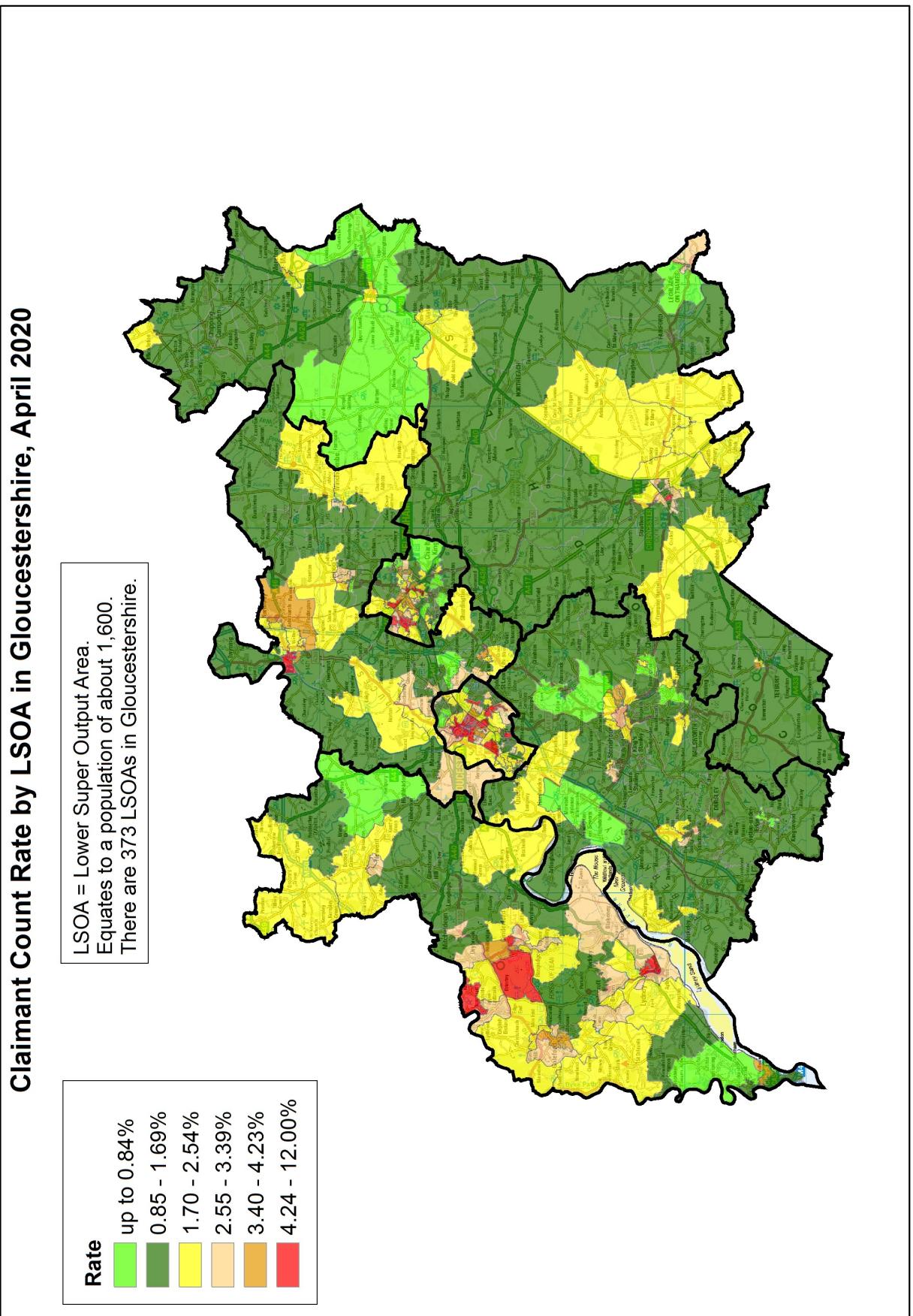
District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	1.8	10
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield	2.2	26
Tewkesbury	Twyning	2.2	26
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	2.3	34
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	2.3	34
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	2.4	39
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	2.8	53
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	2.9	60
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	3.1	70
Tewkesbury	Coombe Hill	3.3	78
Tewkesbury	Oxenton Hill	3.3	78
Tewkesbury	Innsworth with Down Hatherley	3.4	85
Tewkesbury	Ashchurch with Walton Cardiff	3.7	96
Tewkesbury	Brockworth	3.7	96
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	3.7	96
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	4.0	108
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Newtown	4.0	108
Tewkesbury	Northway	4.1	110
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Town with Mitton	4.3	113
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	4.6	118
Tewkesbury	Hucclecote	4.6	118
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Prior's Park	6.0	137



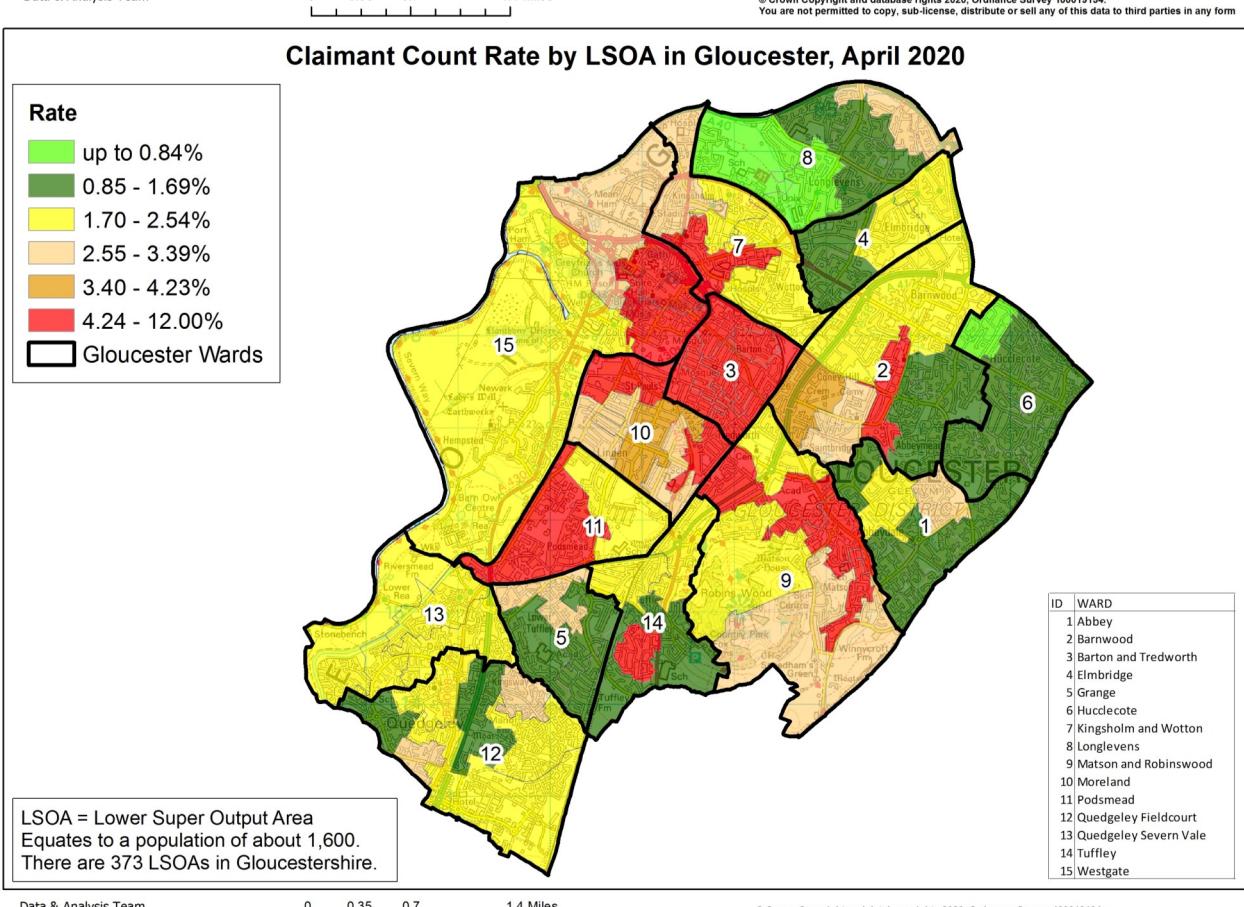
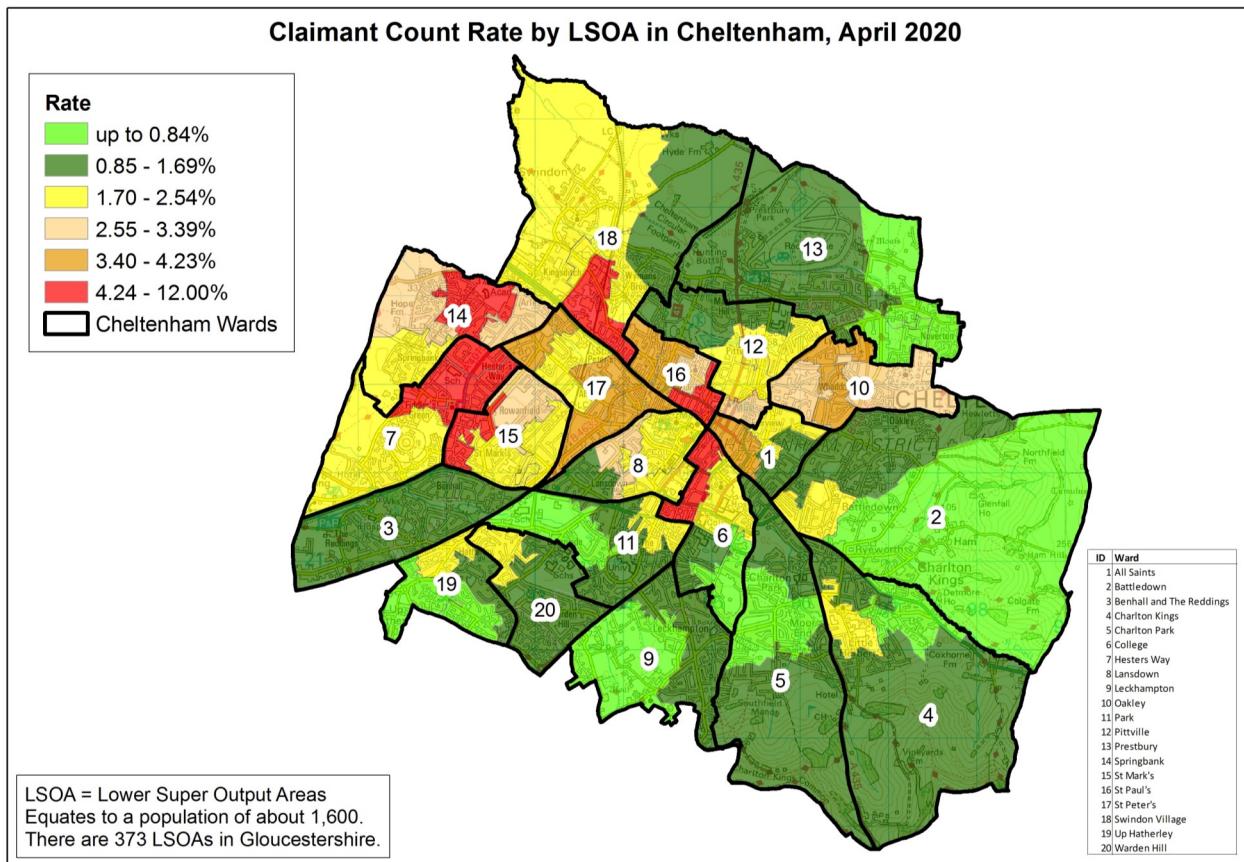
\* 1 = "best" and 146 = "worst"

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

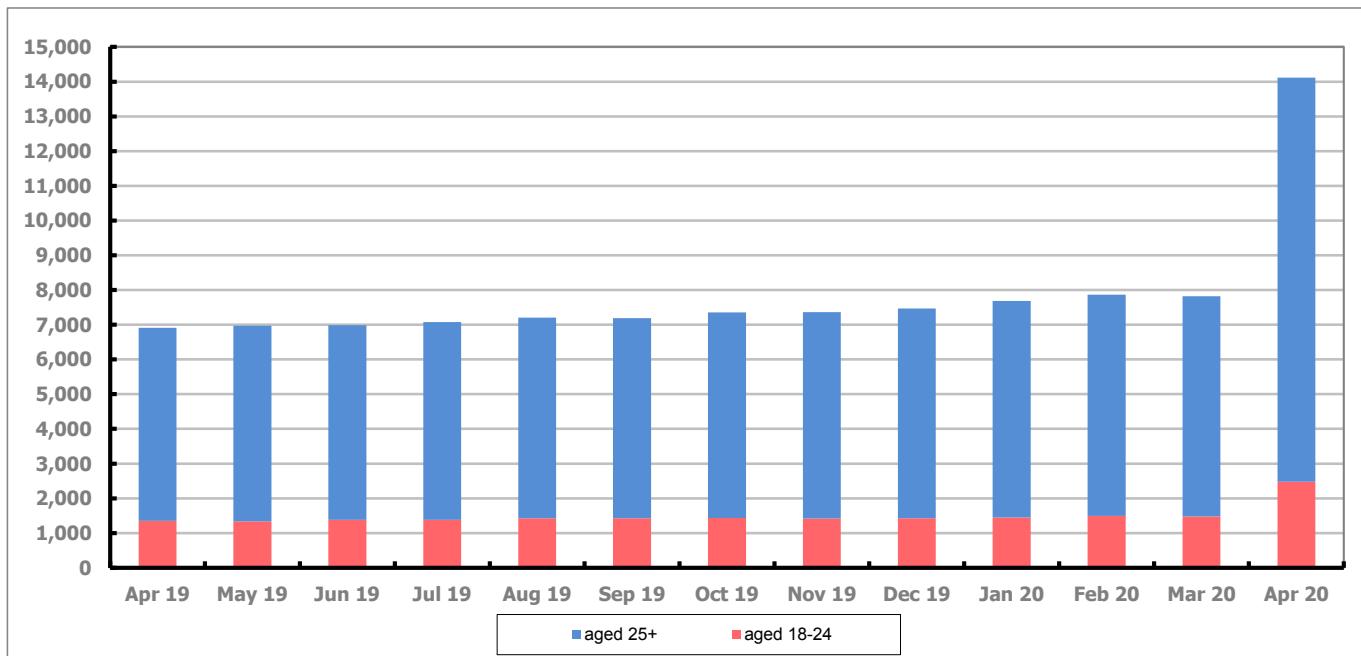


Figure 15 shows that in April 2020, 2,475 people aged 18-24 were claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who were not in work in Gloucestershire, this represents 17.5% of total working age claimants.

## 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 with the 16-18 age range against nationally defined criteria for counting the NEET group. 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.

### Summary

At the end of April 2020 there were 366 young people aged 16-18 not in education, employment or training in Gloucestershire and this figure translates into an adjusted (\*) 16-18 NEET population of 2.58%. The total number of NEET young people increased by 13 in April 2020 compared to March 2020, five districts saw an increase in their figures and one district saw a decrease.

### Total NEET Group by District Area

#### April 2020 NEET data

	Cheltenham	Cotswold	Forest	Gloucester	Stroud	Tewkesbury	Total
Total NEET	69	36	52	115	42	52	366
Cohort	2588	2021	1923	3422	2984	2119	15057
% NEET	2.67	1.78	2.70	3.36	1.41	2.45	2.58*

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.