

# Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 68 March 2014

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## 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 Strategic Needs Analysis Team in the County Council's Strategy and Challenge function. The data is sourced from the Office for National Statistics via Nomis ([www.nomis.co.uk](http://www.nomis.co.uk)).

The claimant count measures the number of people claiming unemployment-related benefit (currently Job Seeker's allowance). The claimant rate is the number of claimants as a proportion of the working age population.

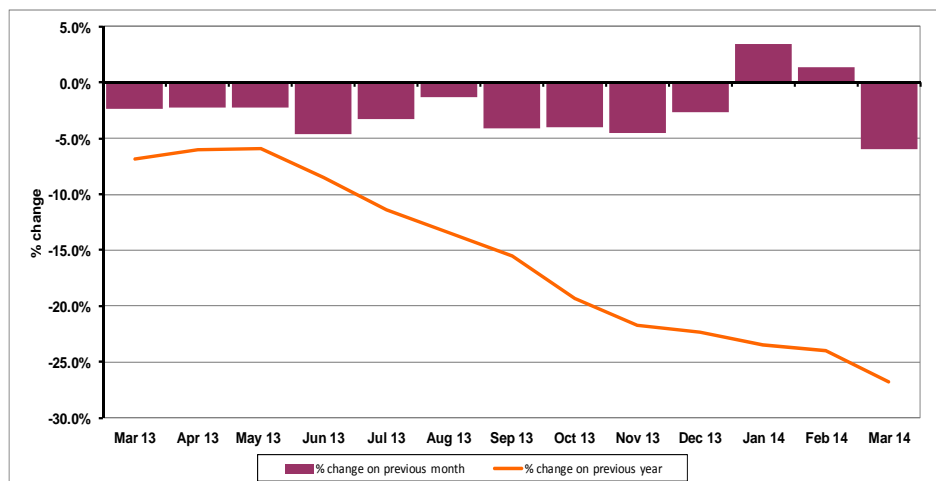
## PART 1: SUMMARY

**The claimant rate in Gloucestershire was 2.0% in March 2014.** This was a decrease of 0.1% on the February 2014 figure. The UK and South West rate also decreased to 2.9% and 1.9% respectively. Gloucestershire's rate is 0.1% above the South West average of 1.9%, and 0.9% lower than the UK average of 2.9%.

**The claimant count in Gloucestershire in March 2014 decreased by 481 people.** The amount of people claiming in March 2014 was 6.0% lower than the number in February 2014. This compares to a 5.7% decrease in the South West and a 3.8% decrease for the UK.

**The year on year claimant count in Gloucestershire has decreased since last month.** The count was 26.8% lower in March 2014 than at the same point in the previous year as shown in the graph below.

Gloucestershire claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change:  
March 2013 to March 2014



Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

Produced by:

**Strategic Needs Analysis Team**  
Strategy and Challenge  
Gloucestershire County Council  
April 2014

## DISTRICTS AT A GLANCE

At a glance unemployment information grouped by district. Includes:

**Claim count:** Total number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance in March 2014

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

**Claimant rate:** The % of working population claiming Job Seekers Allowance in March 2014

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

### CHELTENHAM BOROUGH

Claim count:	1,559
Compared to last month:	-9.3%
Claimant rate:	2.0%
Highest claiming ward	Hesters Way (4.5%)

### GLOUCESTER CITY

Claim count:	2,581
Compared to last month:	-3.4%
Claimant rate:	3.2%
Highest claiming ward	Westgate (7.6%)

### COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claim count:	527
Compared to last month:	-6.9%
Claimant rate:	1.0%
Highest claiming ward	Cirencester Watermoor (3.1%)

### STROUD DISTRICT

Claim count:	997
Compared to last month:	-7.3%
Claimant rate:	1.4%
Highest claiming ward	Slade (4.4%)

### FOREST OF DEAN

Claim count:	942
Compared to last month:	-5.3%
Claimant rate:	1.9%
Highest claiming ward	Cinderford West (3.8%)

### TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claim count:	908
Compared to last month:	-6.4%
Claimant rate:	1.8%
Highest claiming ward	Tewkesbury Prior's Park (4.9%)

## YOUNG PEOPLE NOT IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING (NEET)

At the end of March 2014 there were 594 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 4.15%.

## 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

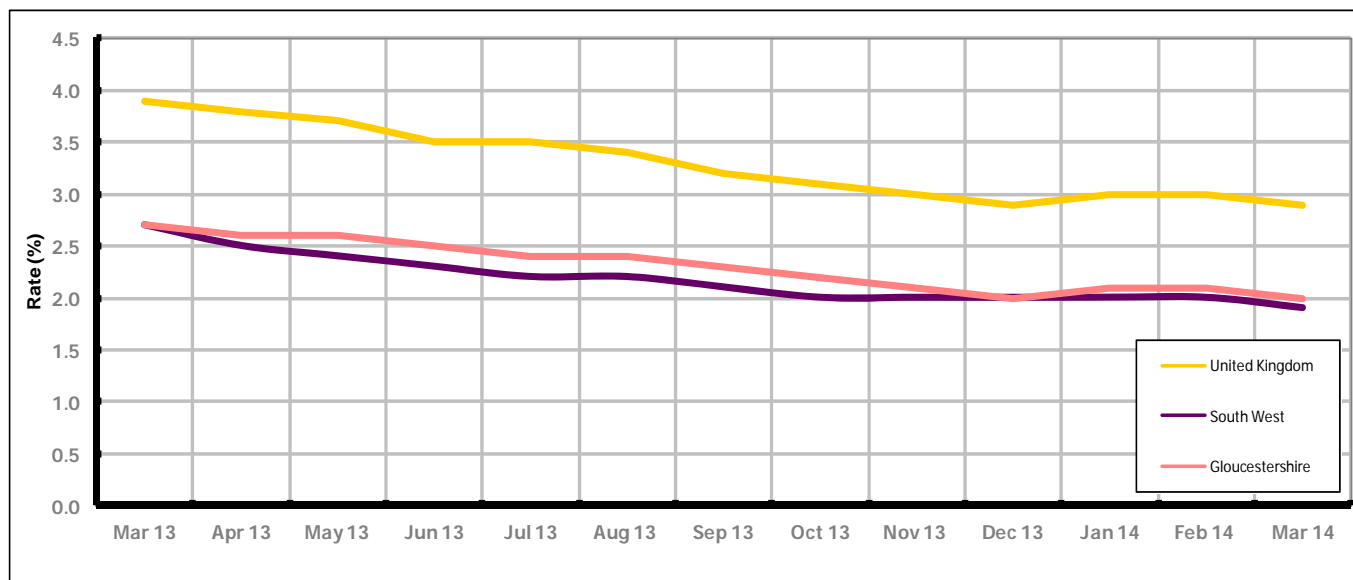


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 2.0% in March 2014. With the exception of March and December 2013, the rate has been slightly higher than the South West average. It has been persistently lower by approximately 0.9% against the UK average. The March 2014 rate represented a 0.1% decrease on February 2014.

### Claimant Count

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

Area	Claimant Count in March 2014	% change on February 2014	Average % change over the last six months	Consecutive months decreasing
UK	1,196,269	-3.8%	-1.0%	0
South West	64,039	-5.7%	-0.7%	0
Gloucestershire	7,514	-6.0%	-1.5%	0

Table 1 shows that in March 2014, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 6.0% lower than the number in February 2014.

The average change in claimants in Gloucestershire for the six months to March 2014 was -1.5%.

## PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 2: Claimant Rate (%) across Gloucestershire - March 2014

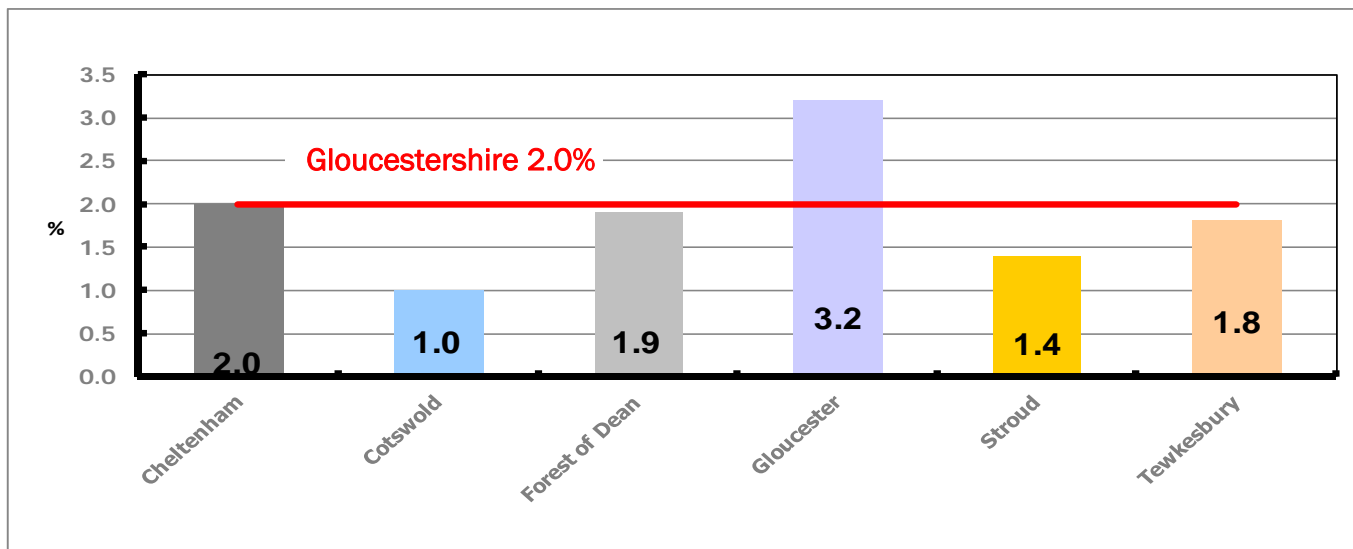


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for March 2014 in Gloucestershire. Between February 2014 and March 2014 the rate in all districts declined.

Figure 3: Total claimants over the past year across Gloucestershire Districts

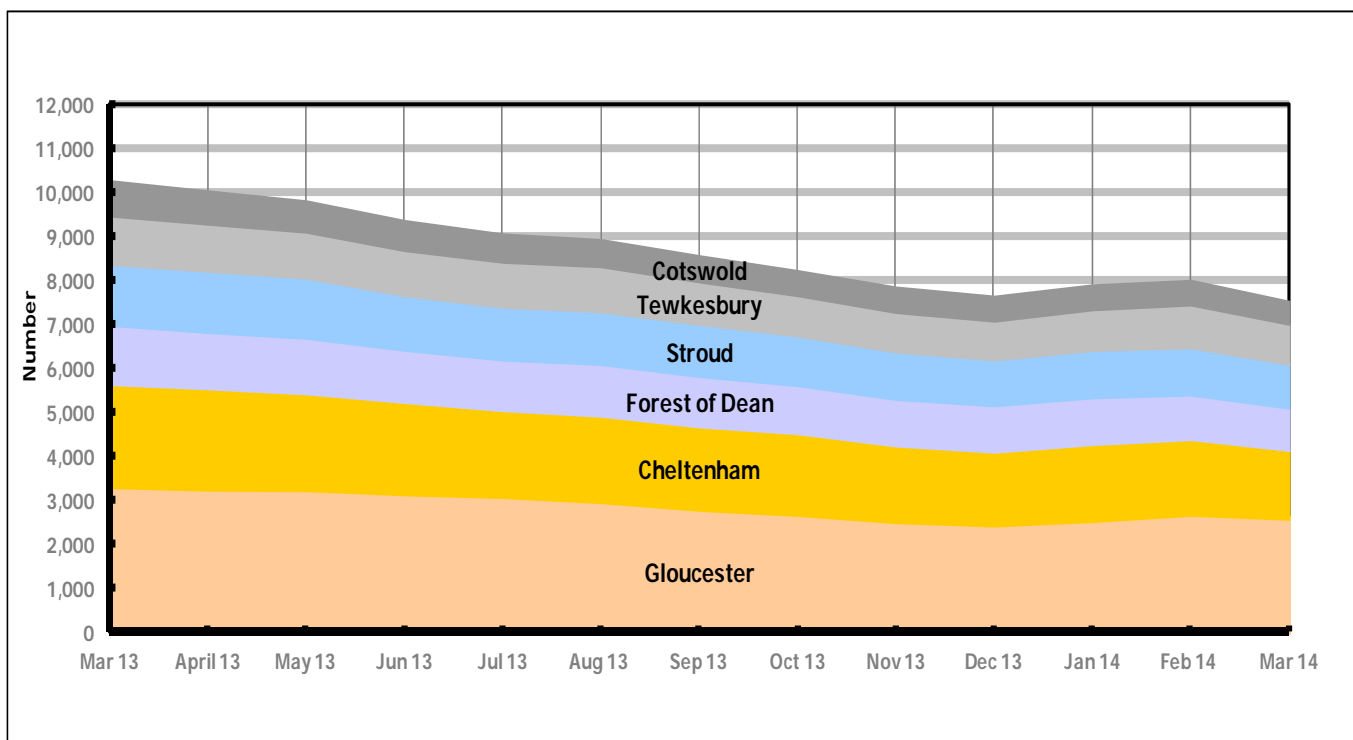


Figure 3 shows the overall claimant count by district over the past year. The number of claimants has decreased over the last year, with the exception of January and February when there was an increase.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	Mar 14 Number	Mar 14 Rate	Feb 14 Number	Feb 14 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	7,514	2.0	7,995	2.1	-481	-6.0%	-0.1
Cheltenham	1,559	2.0	1,718	2.3	-159	-9.3%	-0.3
Cotswold	527	1.0	566	1.1	-39	-6.9%	-0.1
Forest of Dean	942	1.9	995	2.0	-53	-5.3%	-0.1
Gloucester	2,581	3.2	2,671	3.3	-90	-3.4%	-0.1
Stroud	997	1.4	1,075	1.5	-78	-7.3%	-0.1
Tewkesbury	908	1.8	970	1.9	-62	-6.4%	-0.1

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in March 2014 compared to February 2014. All districts saw a decrease in the number of claimants.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	Mar 14 Number	Mar 14 Rate	Feb 14 Number	Feb 14 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	4,937	2.6	5,291	2.8	-354	-6.7%	-0.2
Cheltenham	1,030	2.7	1,157	3.0	-127	-11.0%	-0.3
Cotswold	352	1.4	383	1.6	-31	-8.1%	-0.2
Forest of Dean	632	2.5	654	2.6	-22	-3.4%	-0.1
Gloucester	1,692	4.2	1,775	4.4	-83	-4.7%	-0.2
Stroud	677	1.9	720	2.1	-43	-6.0%	-0.2
Tewkesbury	554	2.2	602	2.4	-48	-8.0%	-0.2

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in March 2014 compared to February 2014. All districts saw a decrease in the number of male claimants.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	Mar 14 Number	Mar 14 Rate	Feb 14 Number	Feb 14 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	2,577	1.4	2,704	1.4	-127	-4.7%	0.0
Cheltenham	529	1.4	561	1.5	-32	-5.7%	-0.1
Cotswold	175	0.7	183	0.7	-8	-4.4%	0.0
Forest of Dean	310	1.2	341	1.3	-31	-9.1%	-0.1
Gloucester	889	2.2	896	2.2	-7	-0.8%	0.0
Stroud	320	0.9	355	1.0	-35	-9.9%	-0.1
Tewkesbury	354	1.4	368	1.4	-14	-3.8%	0.0

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in March 2014 compared to February 2014. All districts experienced a decrease 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 4: Cheltenham Borough claimant rate over the last year

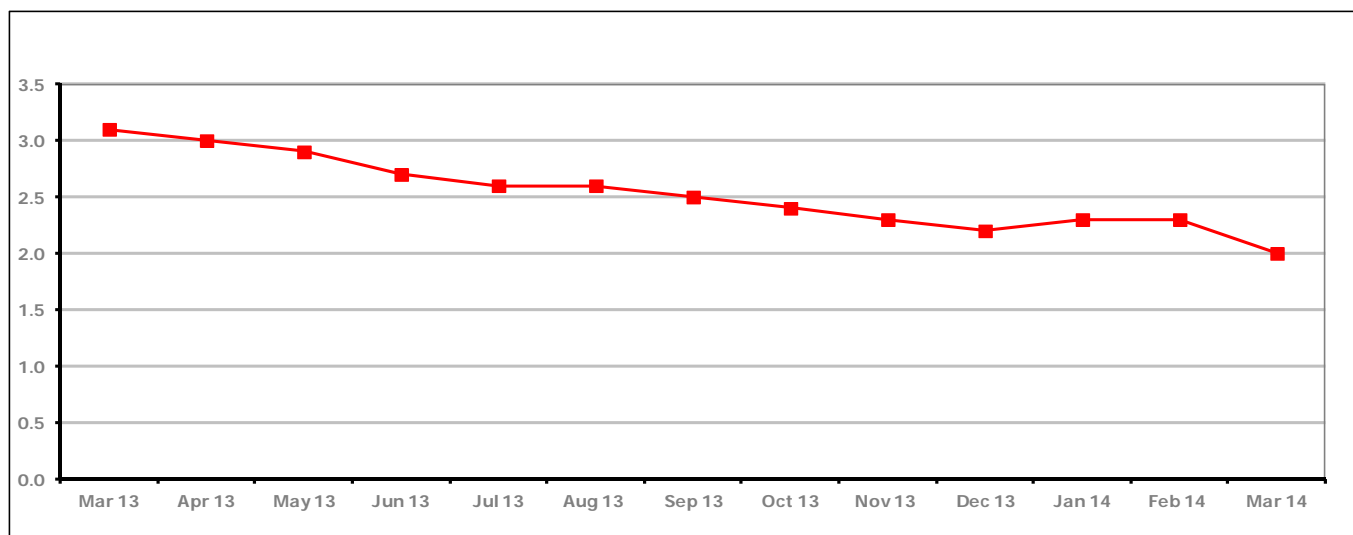


Figure 4 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham decreased in March 2014 to 2.0%.

Figure 5: Cheltenham Borough claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

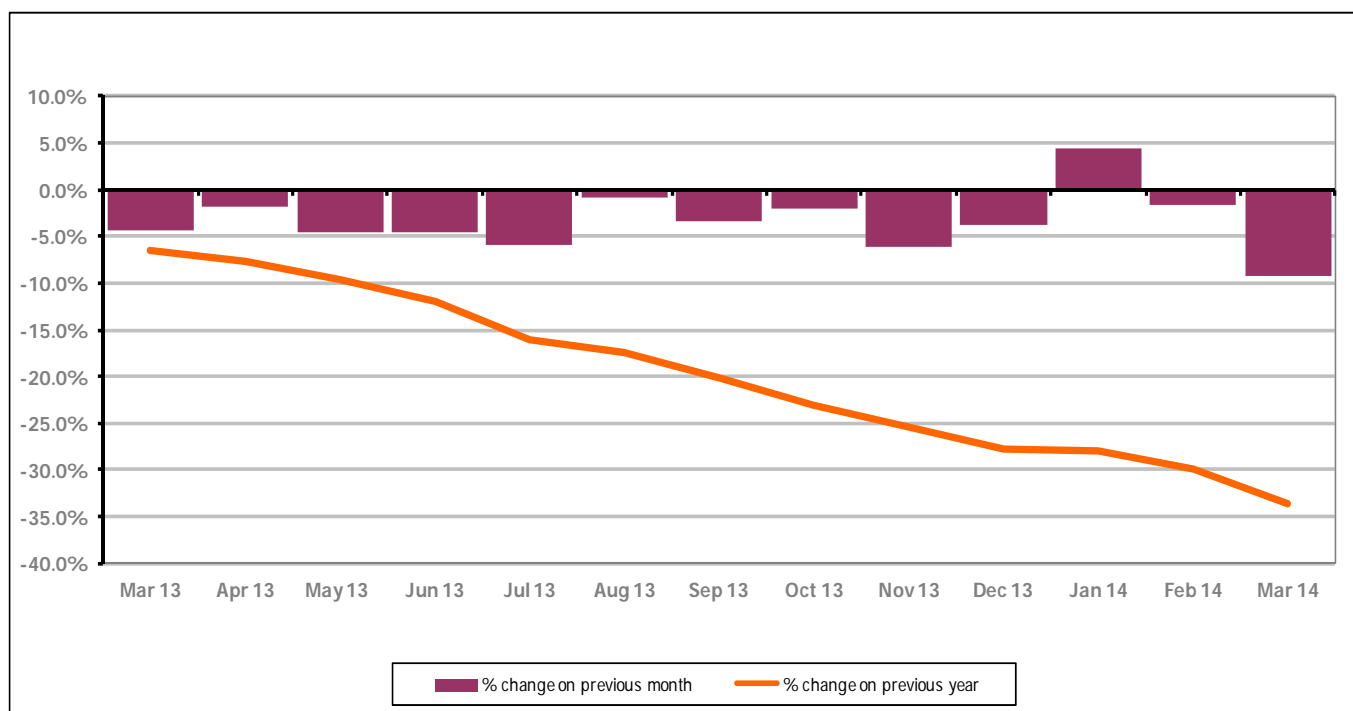


Figure 5 shows the claimant count decreased by 9.3% since last month. The change on the previous year has decreased in March 2014 compared to February 2014 to -33.6%.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

## 4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

Figure 6: Claimant rates across Cheltenham Borough wards - March 2014

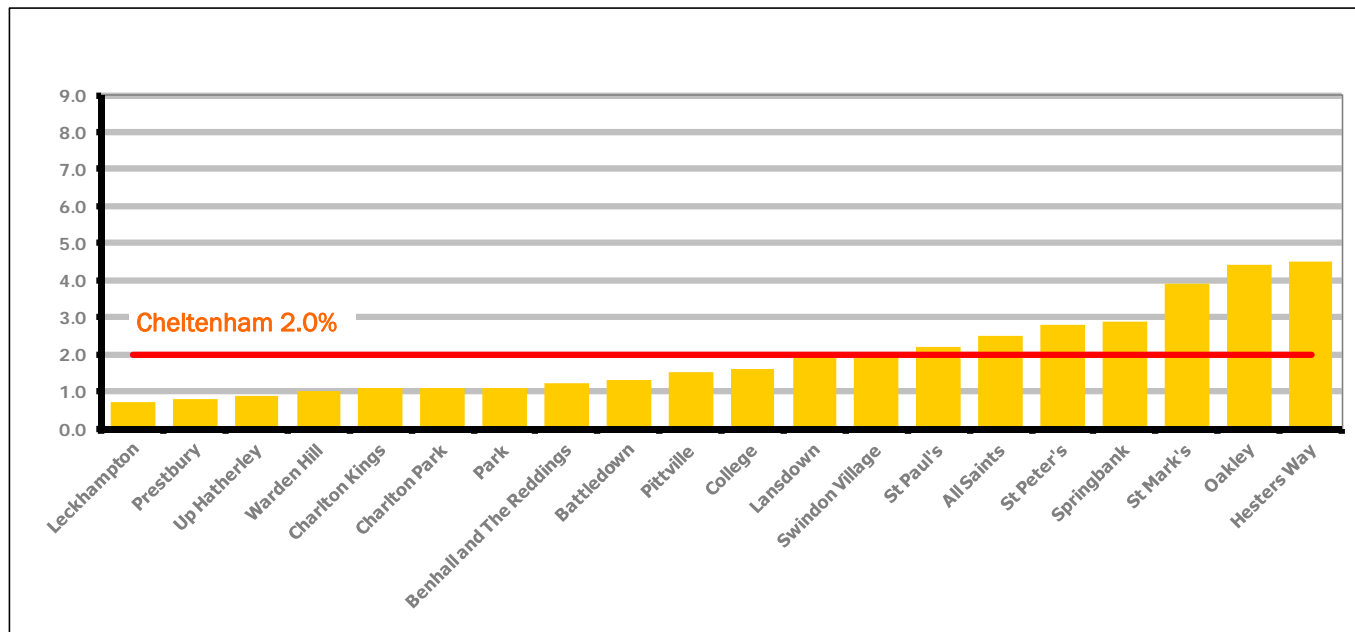
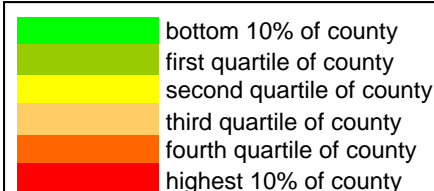


Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 2.0%. Seven wards lie above the average.

Table 5: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cheltenham Borough ward level - March 2014

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	0.7	26
Cheltenham	Prestbury	0.8	31
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	0.9	33
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	1.0	42
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	1.1	51
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	1.1	51
Cheltenham	Park	1.1	51
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	1.2	60
Cheltenham	Battledown	1.3	70
Cheltenham	Pittville	1.5	82
Cheltenham	College	1.6	88
Cheltenham	Lansdown	2.0	101
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	2.0	101
Cheltenham	St Paul's	2.2	111
Cheltenham	All Saints	2.5	116
Cheltenham	St Peter's	2.8	121
Cheltenham	Springbank	2.9	123
Cheltenham	St Mark's	3.9	132
Cheltenham	Oakley	4.4	134
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	4.5	137



\* 1 = "best" and 142 = "worst"

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

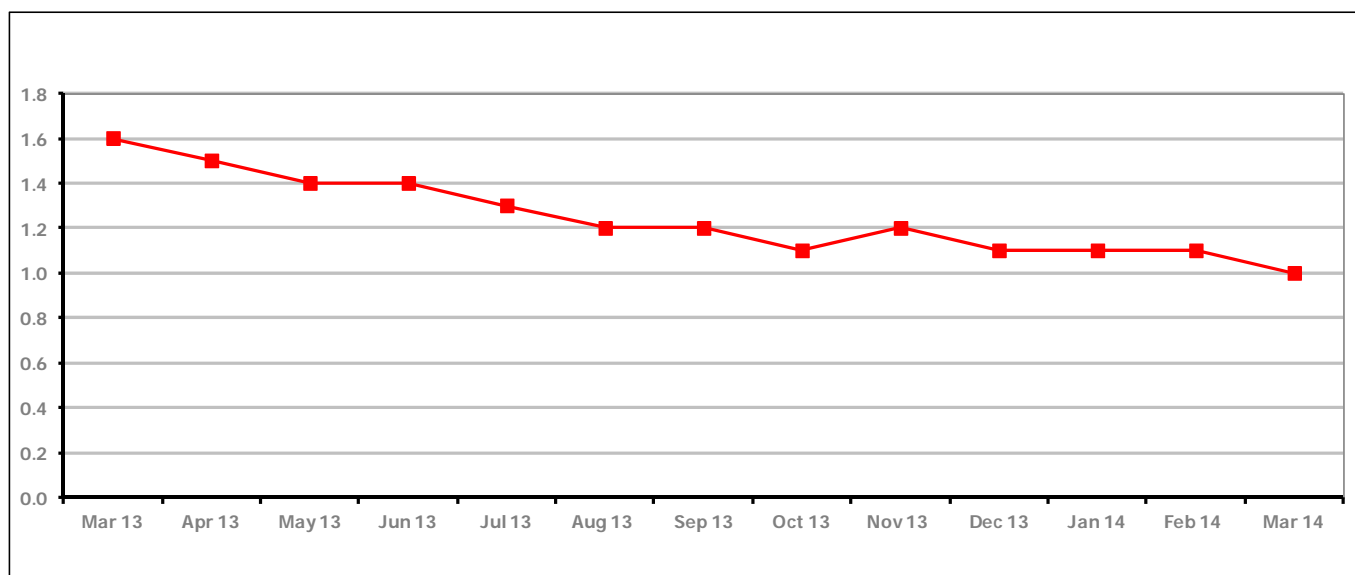
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.2 Cotswold District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 7: Cotswold District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District decreased in March 2014 to 1.0%

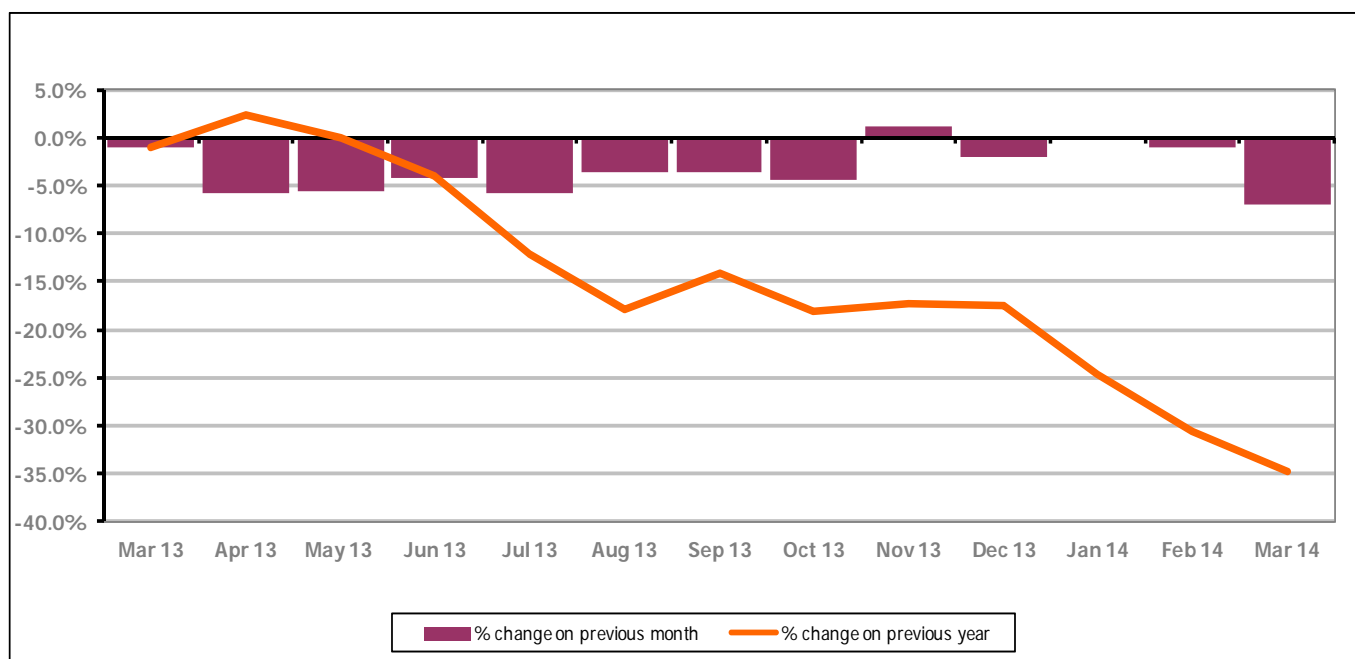
*Figure 8: Cotswold District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change*

Figure 8 shows the claimant count decreased by 6.9% since February 2014. The change on the previous year has decreased from February 2014 compared to March 2014 to -34.7%.



## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

## 4.2 Cotswold District continued...

Figure 9: Claimant rates across Cotswold District wards - March 2014

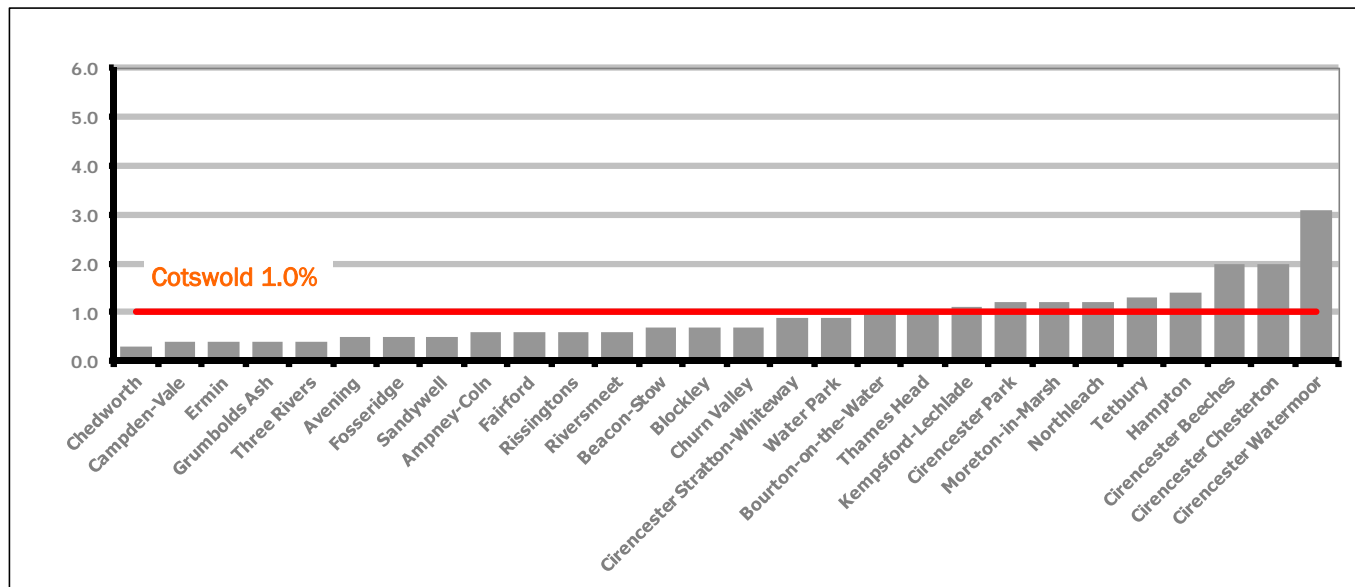
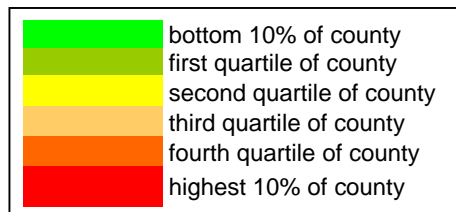


Figure 9 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.0%. Nine wards lie above the average.

Table 6: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cotswold District ward level - March 2014

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswolds	Chedworth	0.3	1
Cotswolds	Campden-Vale	0.4	3
Cotswolds	Ermin	0.4	3
Cotswolds	Grumbolds Ash	0.4	3
Cotswolds	Three Rivers	0.4	3
Cotswolds	Avening	0.5	12
Cotswolds	Fosseridge	0.5	12
Cotswolds	Sandywell	0.5	12
Cotswolds	Ampney-Coln	0.6	18
Cotswolds	Fairford	0.6	18
Cotswolds	Rissingtons	0.6	18
Cotswolds	Riversmeet	0.6	18
Cotswolds	Beacon-Stow	0.7	26
Cotswolds	Blockley	0.7	26
Cotswolds	Churn Valley	0.7	26
Cotswolds	Cirencester Stratton-Whiteway	0.9	33
Cotswolds	Water Park	0.9	33
Cotswolds	Bourton-on-the-Water	1.0	42
Cotswolds	Thames Head	1.0	42
Cotswolds	Kempsford-Lechlade	1.1	51
Cotswolds	Cirencester Park	1.2	60
Cotswolds	Moreton-in-Marsh	1.2	60
Cotswolds	Northleach	1.2	60
Cotswolds	Tetbury	1.3	70
Cotswolds	Hampton	1.4	79
Cotswolds	Cirencester Beeches	2.0	101
Cotswolds	Cirencester Chesterton	2.0	101
Cotswolds	Cirencester Watermoor	3.1	127



\* 1 = "best" and 142 = "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 10: Forest of Dean District claimant rate over the last year

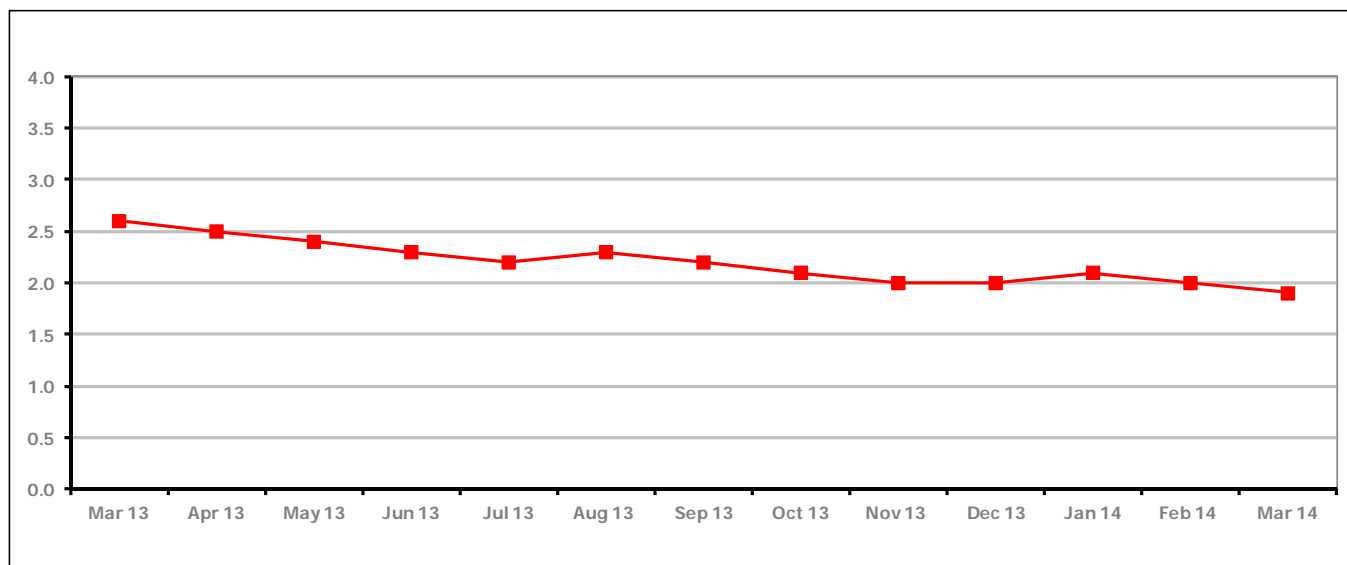


Figure 10 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean decreased in March 2014 to 1.9%.

Figure 11: Forest of Dean District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

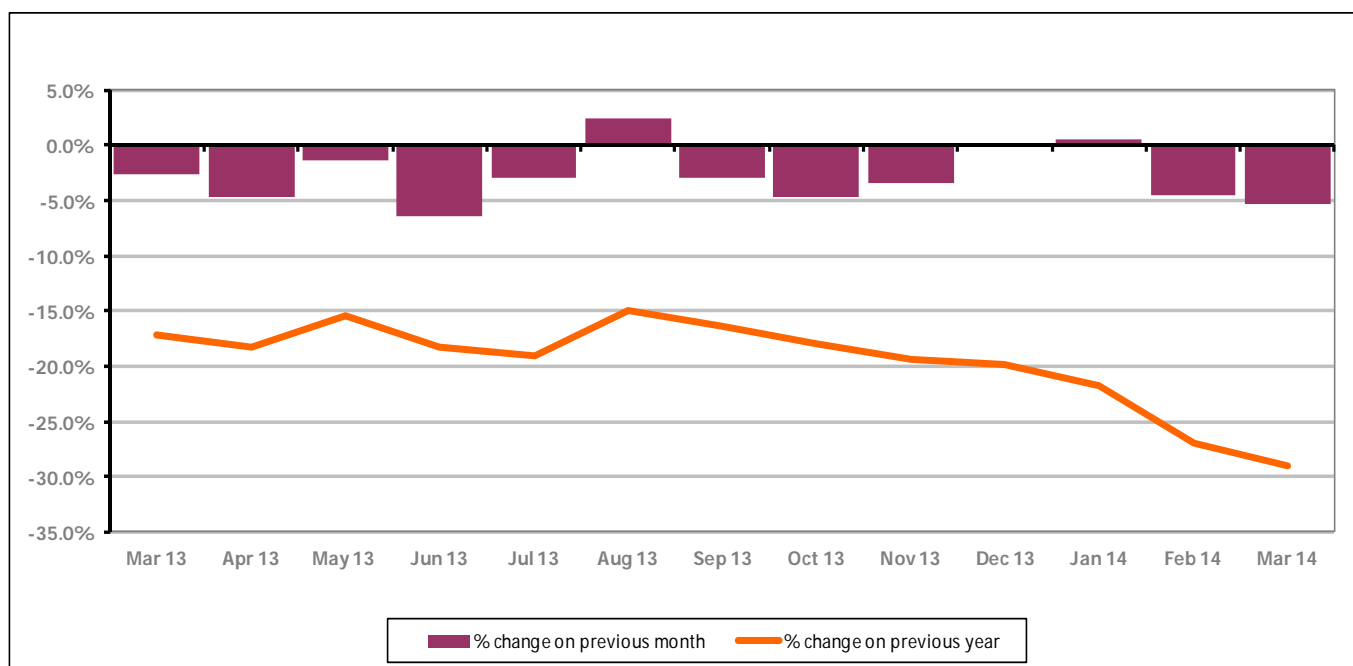


Figure 11 shows the claimant count decreased by 5.3% since February 2014. The change on the previous year has decreased from February 2014 compared to March 2014 to -29.1%.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

## 4.3 Forest of Dean District continued...

Figure 12: Claimant rates across Forest of Dean District wards - March 2014

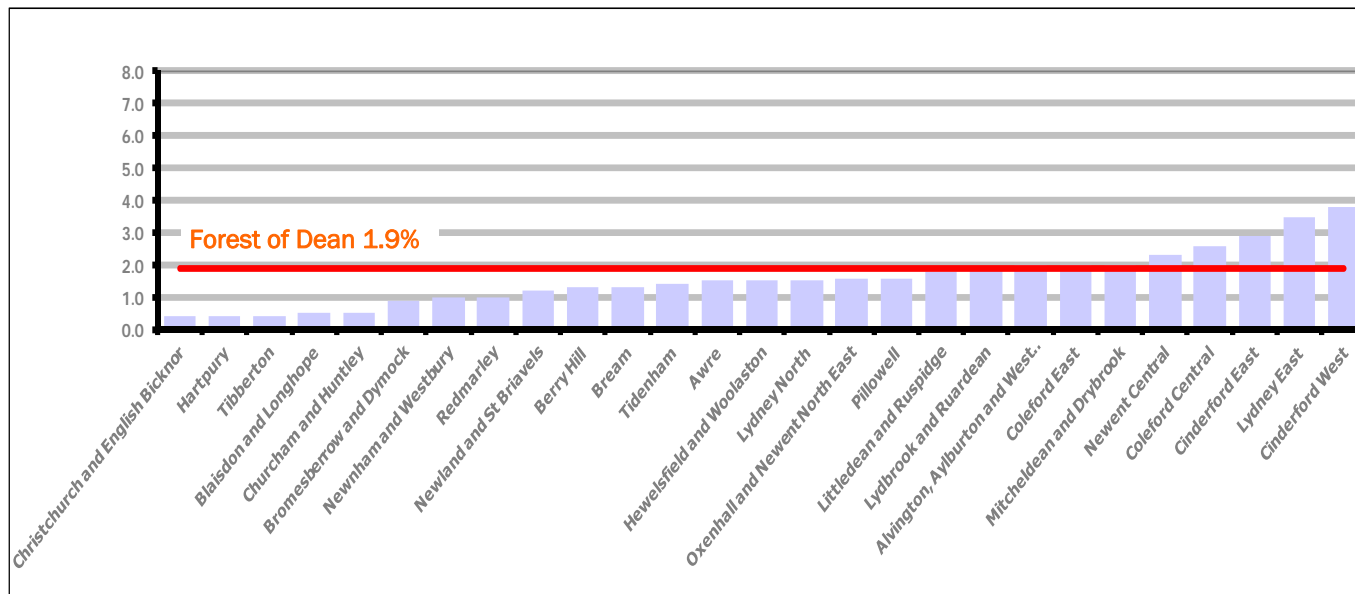
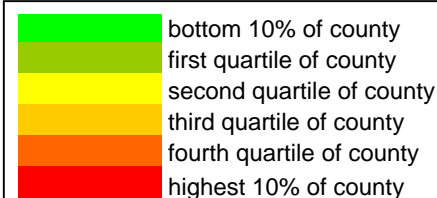


Figure 12 shows the claimant rates for Forest of Dean District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.9 %. Eight wards lie above the average.

Table 7: Analysis of Claimant Count at Forest of Dean District ward level - March 2014

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Christchurch and English Bicknor	0.4	3
Forest	Hartpury	0.4	3
Forest	Tibberton	0.4	3
Forest	Blaisdon and Longhope	0.5	12
Forest	Churcham and Huntley	0.5	12
Forest	Bromesberrow and Dymock	0.9	33
Forest	Newnham and Westbury	1.0	42
Forest	Redmarley	1.0	42
Forest	Newland and St Briavels	1.2	60
Forest	Berry Hill	1.3	70
Forest	Bream	1.3	70
Forest	Tidenham	1.4	79
Forest	Awre	1.5	82
Forest	Hewelsfield and Woolaston	1.5	82
Forest	Lydney North	1.5	82
Forest	Oxenhall and Newent North East	1.6	88
Forest	Pillowell	1.6	88
Forest	Littledean and Ruspidge	1.8	94
Forest	Lydbrook and Ruardean	1.9	96
Forest	Alvington, Aylburton and West Lydney	2.0	101
Forest	Coleford East	2.0	101
Forest	Mitcheldean and Drybrook	2.0	101
Forest	Newent Central	2.3	112
Forest	Coleford Central	2.6	118
Forest	Cinderford East	2.9	123
Forest	Lydney East	3.5	129
Forest	Cinderford West	3.8	131



\* 1 = "best" and 142 = "worst"

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

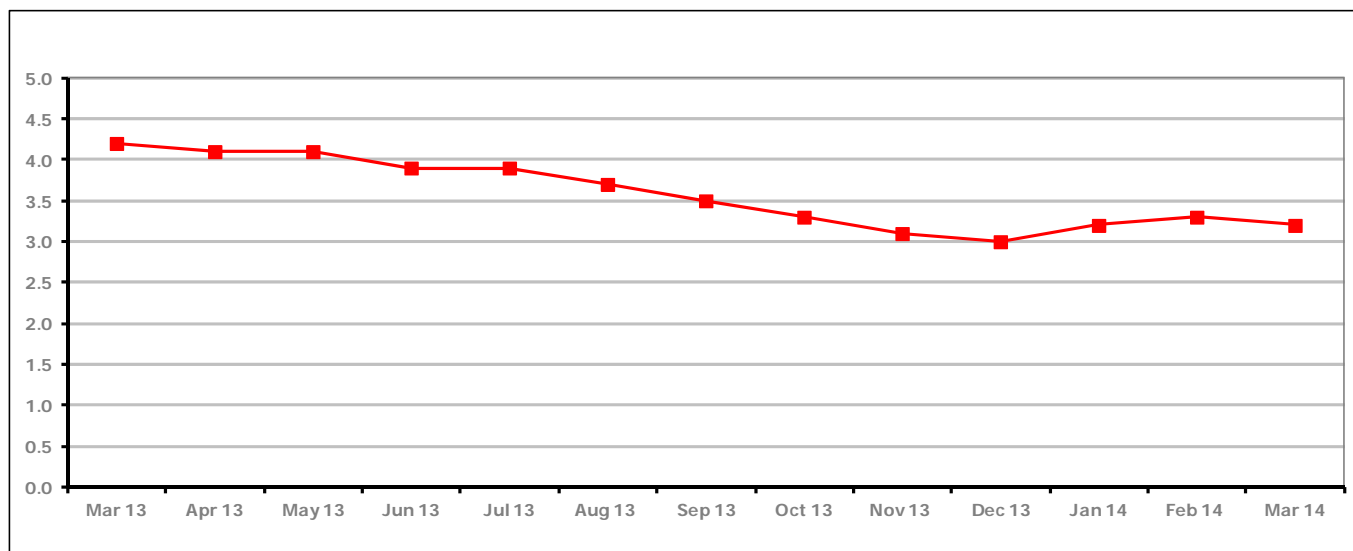
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.4 Gloucester City****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 13: Gloucester City claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City decreased in March 2014 to 3.2%.

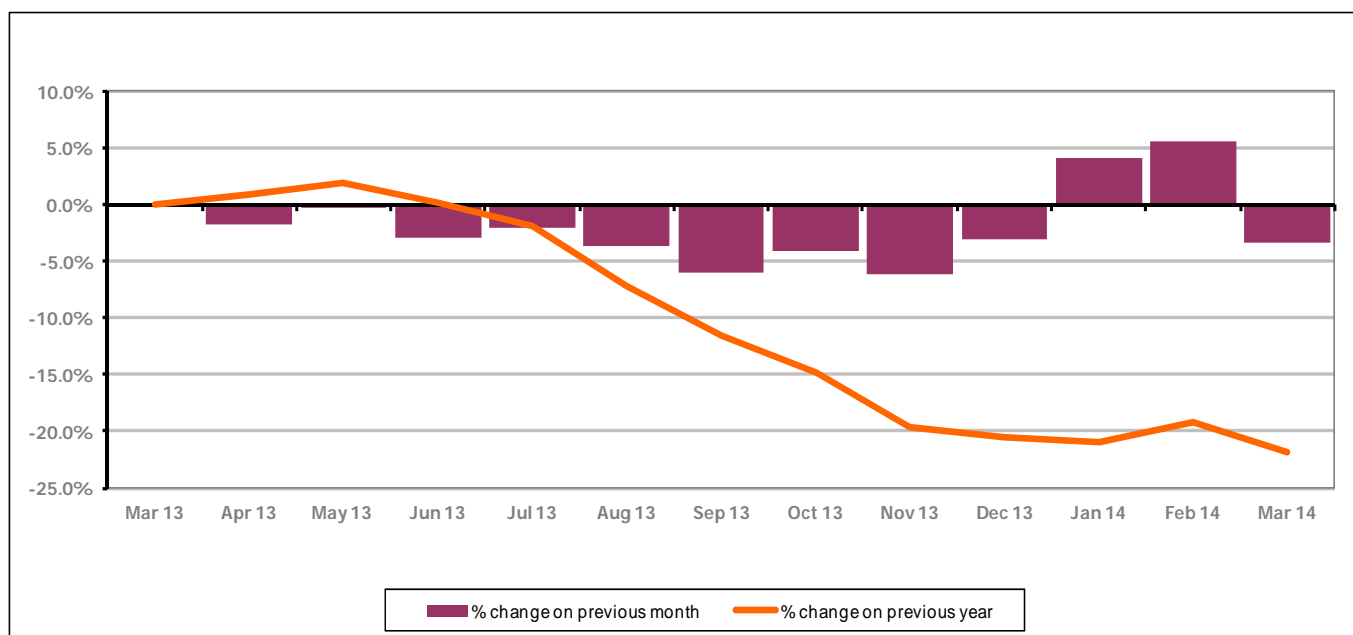
*Figure 14: Gloucester City claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change*

Figure 14 shows the monthly claimant count decreased by 3.4% since February 2014. The change on the previous year has increased from February 2014 compared to March 2014 to -21.8%.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

## 4.4 Gloucester City continued...

Figure 15: Claimant rates across Gloucester City wards - March 2014

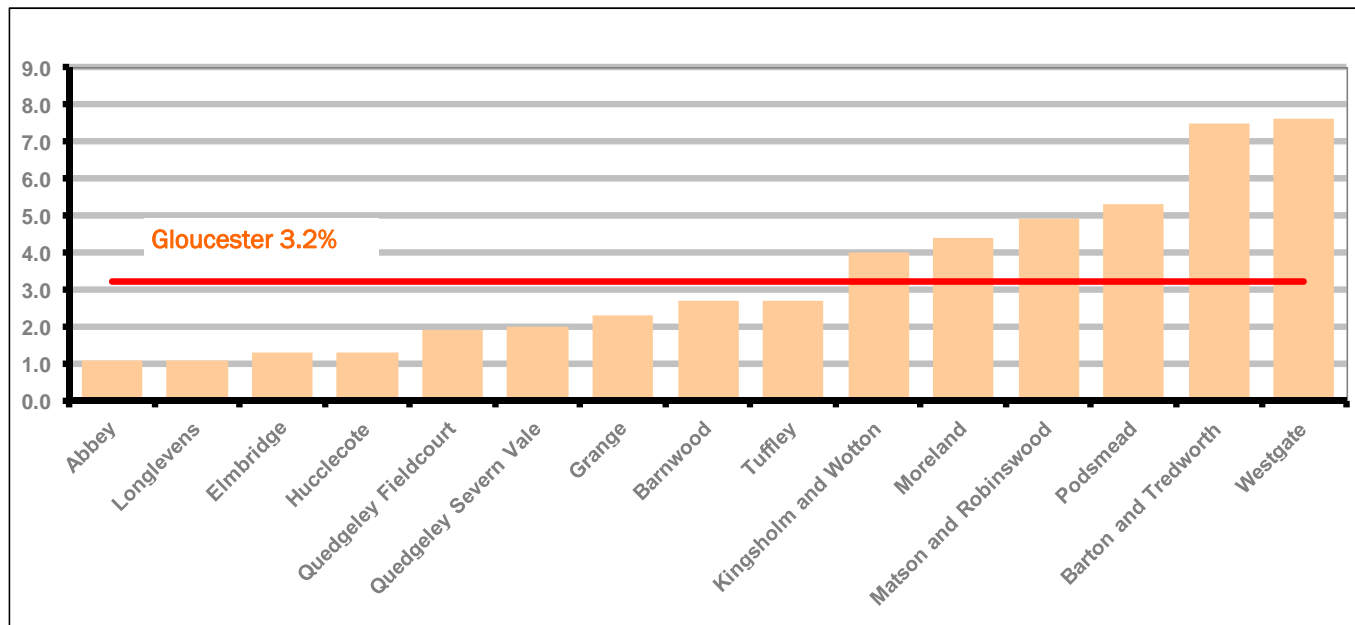
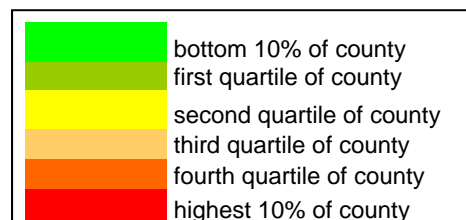


Figure 15 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 3.2%. Six wards lie above the average.

Table 8: Analysis of Claimant Count at Gloucester City ward level - March 2014

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Abbey	1.1	51
Gloucester	Longlevens	1.1	51
Gloucester	Elmbridge	1.3	70
Gloucester	Hucclecote	1.3	70
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	1.9	96
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	2.0	101
Gloucester	Grange	2.3	112
Gloucester	Barnwood	2.7	119
Gloucester	Tuffley	2.7	119
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	4.0	133
Gloucester	Moreland	4.4	134
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	4.9	138
Gloucester	Podsmead	5.3	140
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	7.5	141
Gloucester	Westgate	7.6	142



\* 1 = "best" and 142 = "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 16: Stroud District claimant rate over the last year

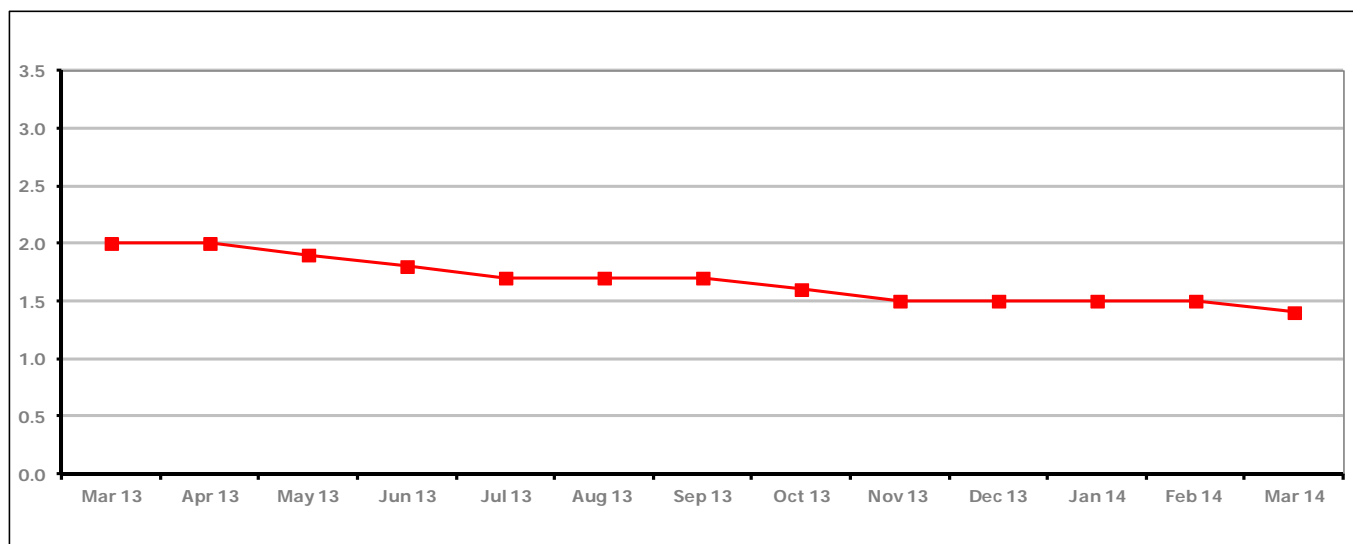


Figure 16 shows the claimant rate for Stroud decreased in March 2014 to 1.4%.

Figure 17: Stroud District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

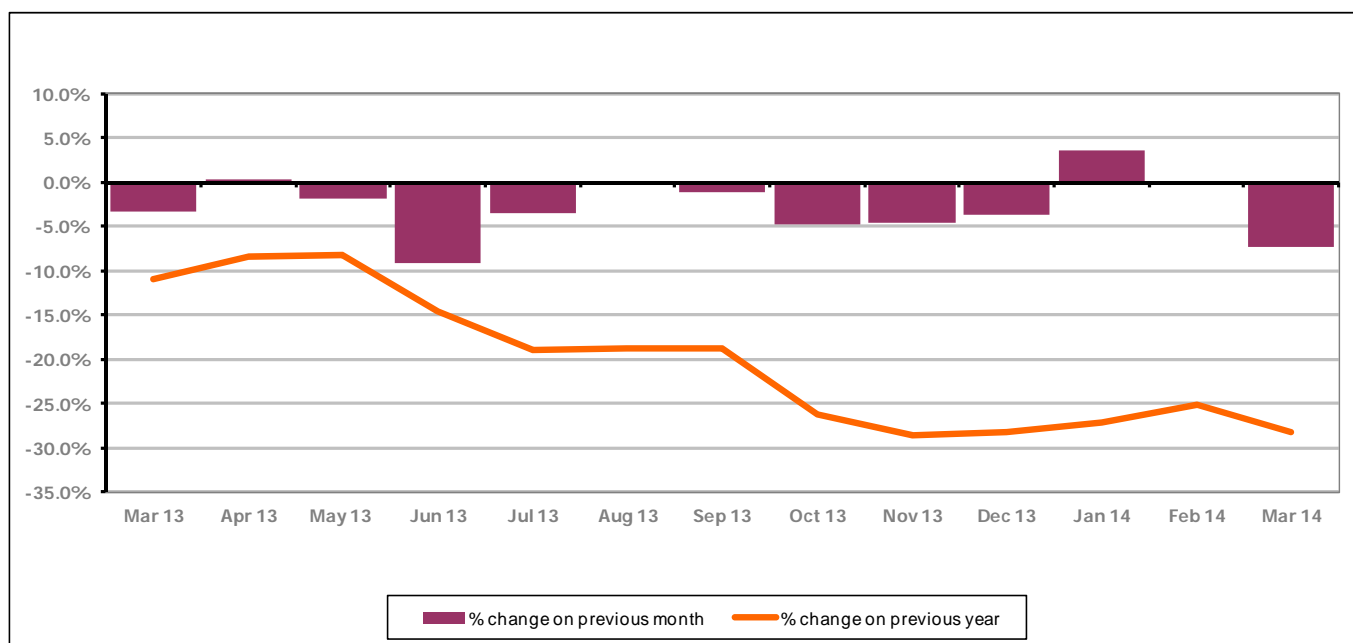


Figure 17 shows the monthly claimant count decreased by 7.3% since February 2014. The change on the previous year has increased between February 2014 and March 2014 to -28.3%.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

## 4.5 Stroud District continued...

Figure 18: Claimant rates across Stroud District wards - March 2014

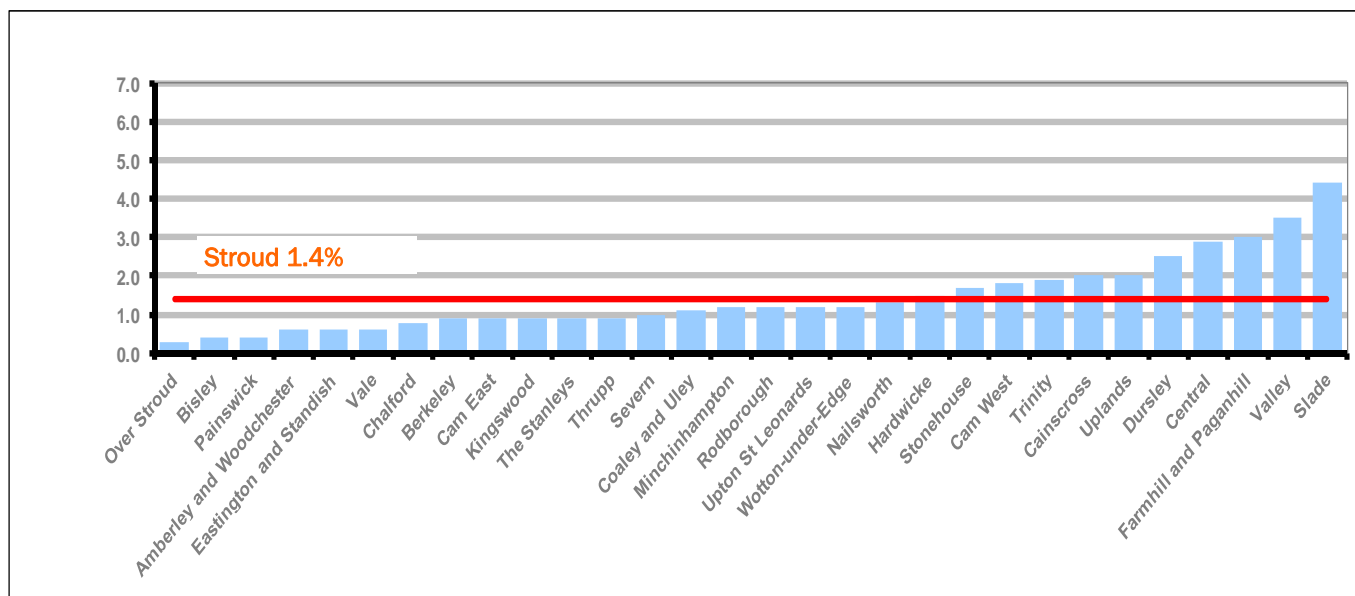
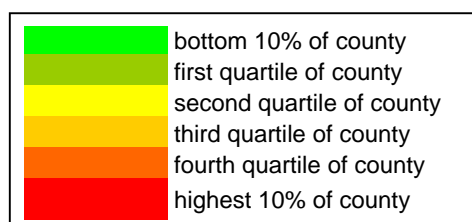


Figure 18 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.4%. Eleven wards are above the average.

Table 9: Analysis of Claimant Count at Stroud District ward level - March 2014

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Over Stroud	0.3	1
Stroud	Bisley	0.4	3
Stroud	Painswick	0.4	3
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	0.6	18
Stroud	Eastington and Standish	0.6	18
Stroud	Vale	0.6	18
Stroud	Chalford	0.8	31
Stroud	Berkeley	0.9	33
Stroud	Cam East	0.9	33
Stroud	Kingswood	0.9	33
Stroud	The Stanleys	0.9	33
Stroud	Thrupp	0.9	33
Stroud	Severn	1.0	42
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	1.1	51
Stroud	Minchinhampton	1.2	60
Stroud	Rodborough	1.2	60
Stroud	Upton St Leonards	1.2	60
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	1.2	60
Stroud	Nailsworth	1.3	70
Stroud	Hardwicke	1.5	82
Stroud	Stonehouse	1.7	93
Stroud	Cam West	1.8	94
Stroud	Trinity	1.9	96
Stroud	Cainscross	2.0	101
Stroud	Uplands	2.0	101
Stroud	Dursley	2.5	116
Stroud	Central	2.9	123
Stroud	Farmhill and Paganhill	3.0	126
Stroud	Valley	3.5	129
Stroud	Slade	4.4	134



\* 1 = "best" and 142 = "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 District

## Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 19: Tewkesbury District claimant rate over the last year

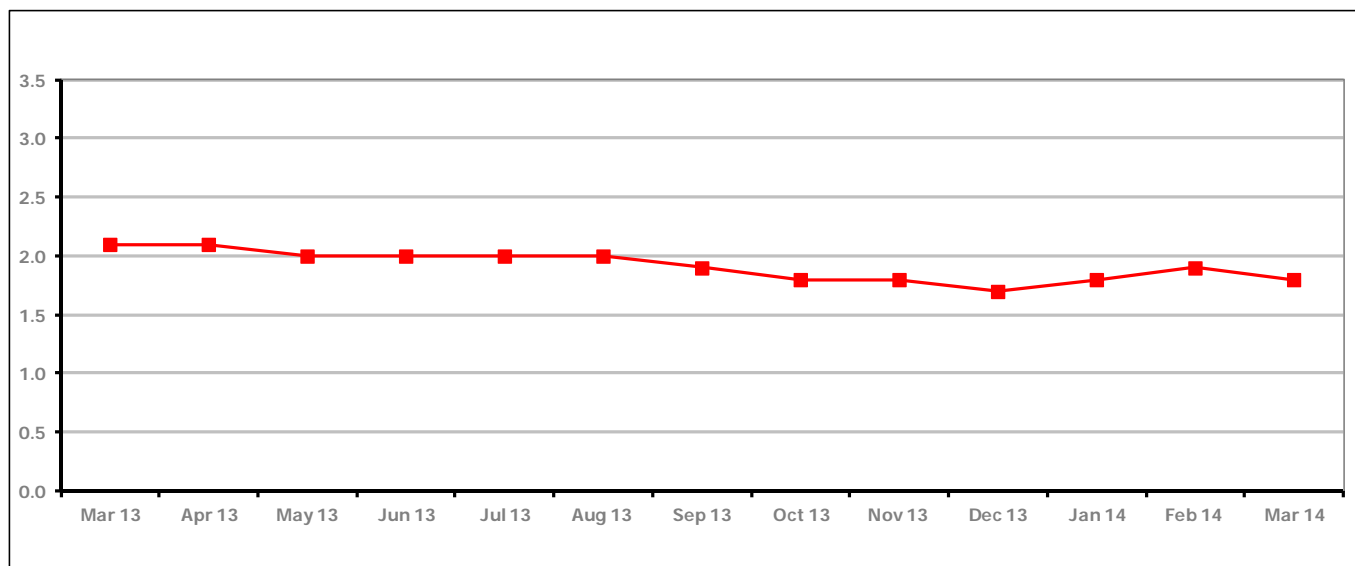


Figure 19 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury District decreased in March 2014 to 1.8%

Figure 20: Tewkesbury District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

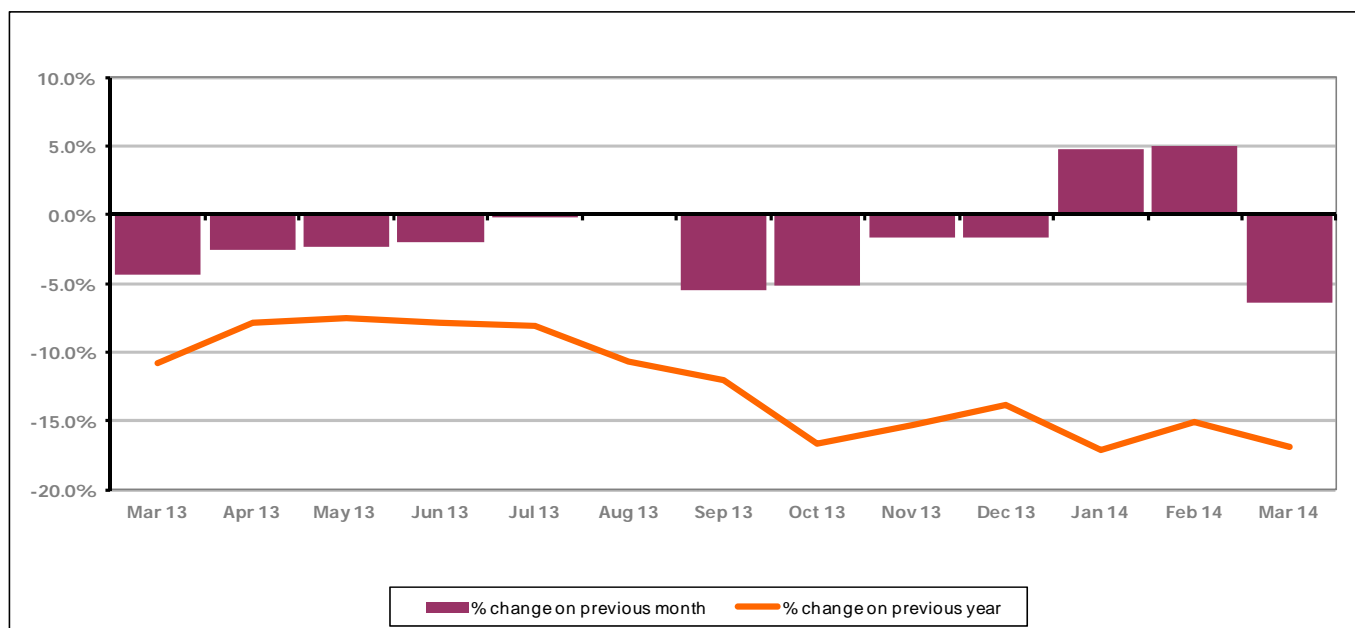


Figure 20 shows that the monthly claimant count decreased by 6.4% since February 2014 . The change on the previous year increased between February 2014 and March 2014 to -16.8%.



## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

## 4.6 Tewkesbury District continued...

Figure 21: Claimant rates across Tewkesbury District wards - March 2014

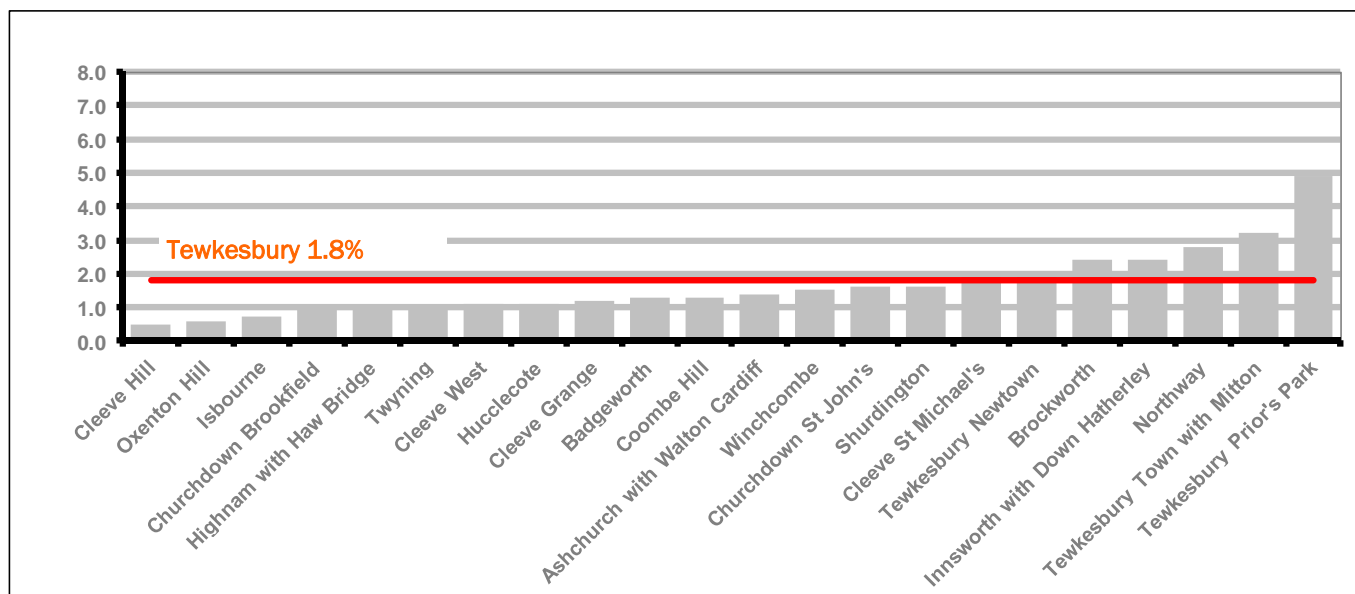
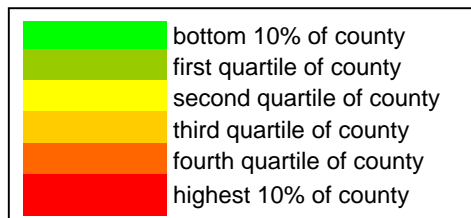


Figure 21 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.8% and seven wards are above the average.

Table 10: Analysis of Claimant Count at Tewkesbury District level - March 2014

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	0.5	12
Tewkesbury	Oxenton Hill	0.6	18
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	0.7	26
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield	1.0	42
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	1.0	42
Tewkesbury	Twyning	1.0	42
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	1.1	51
Tewkesbury	Hucclecote	1.1	51
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	1.2	60
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	1.3	70
Tewkesbury	Coombe Hill	1.3	70
Tewkesbury	Ashchurch with Walton Cardiff	1.4	79
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	1.5	82
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	1.6	88
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	1.6	88
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	1.9	96
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Newtown	1.9	96
Tewkesbury	Brockworth	2.4	114
Tewkesbury	Innsworth with Down Hatherley	2.4	114
Tewkesbury	Northway	2.8	121
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Town with Mitton	3.2	128
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Prior's Park	4.9	138



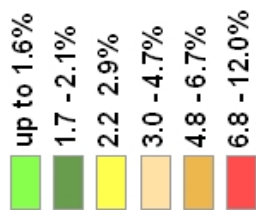
\* 1 = "best" and 142 = "worst"

Table 10 shows overall claimant rates for Tewkesbury District wards and their position relative to all wards in Gloucestershire.

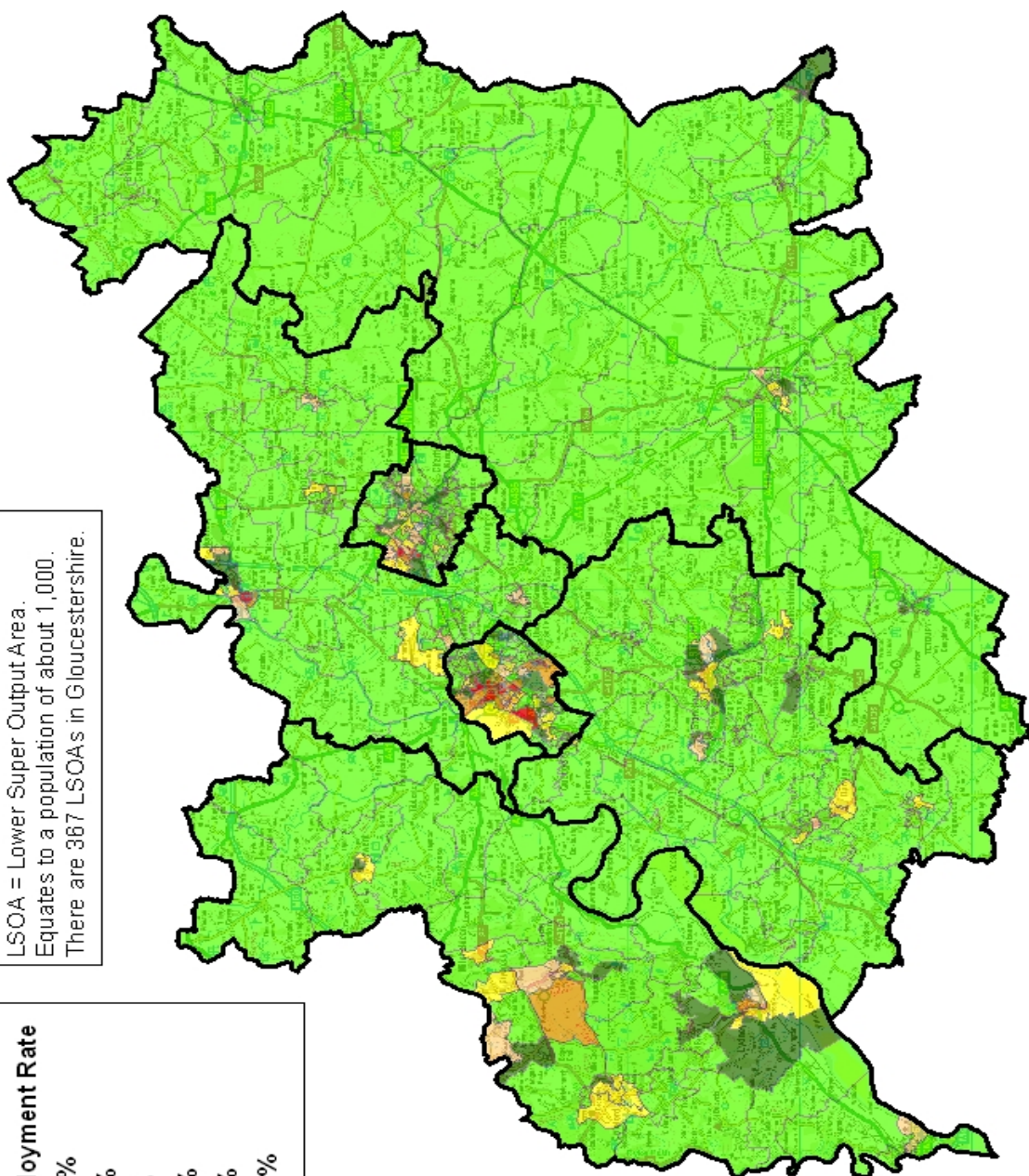
## PART 5: MAP SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF CLAIMANT RATE ACROSS GLOUCESTERSHIRE

**Claimant Unemployment Rate by LSOA in Gloucestershire, March 2014**

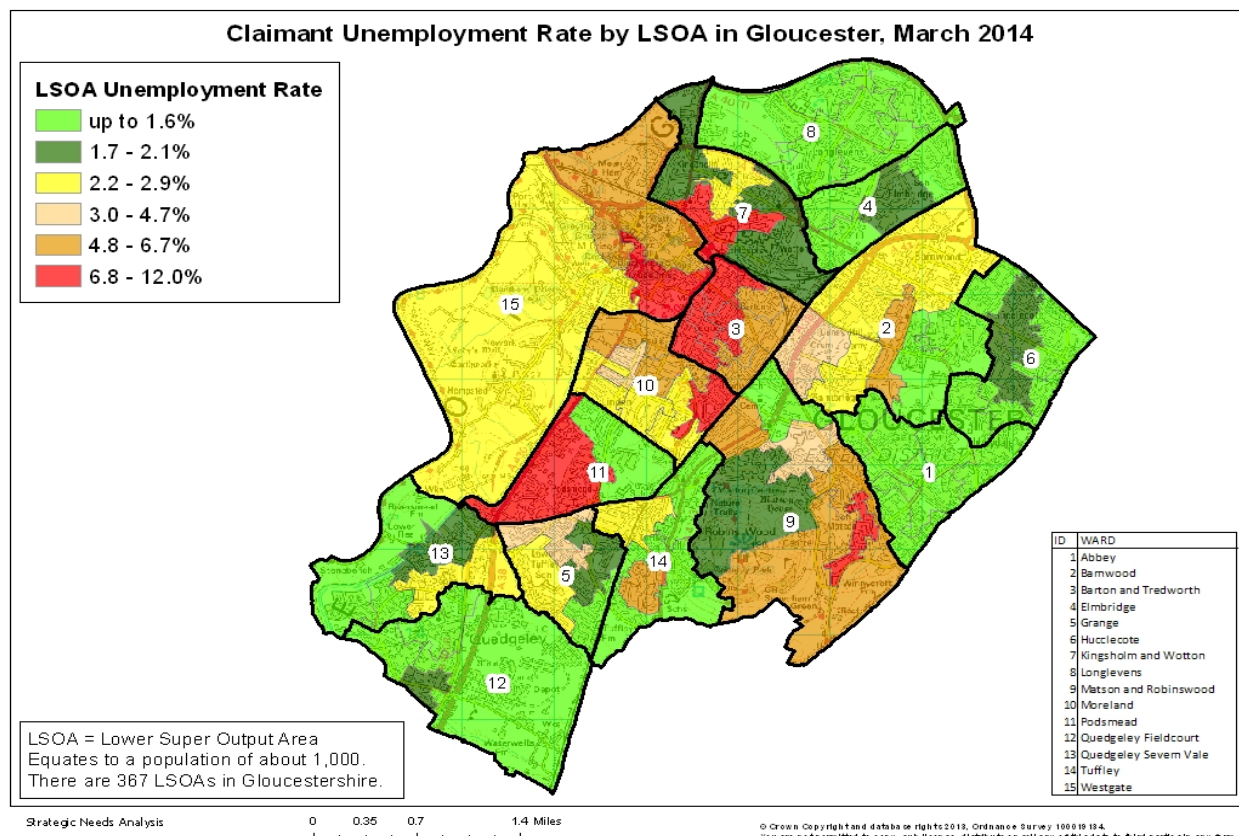
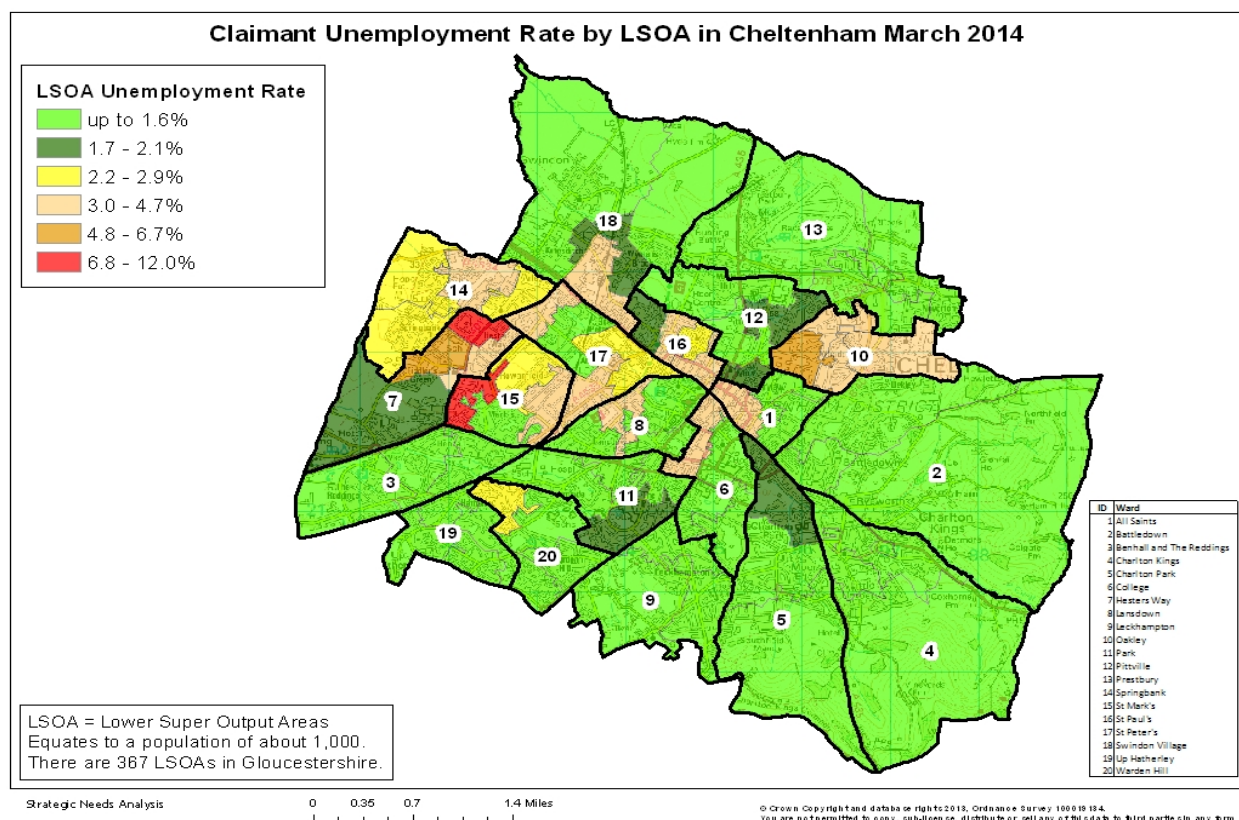
**LSOA Unemployment Rate**



LSOA = Lower Super Output Area.  
Equates to a population of about 1,000.  
There are 367 LSOAs in Gloucestershire.



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





## PART 6: 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 March 2014 there were 594 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 4.15%. The total number of NEET decreased by 17 young people in March 2014 compared to February 2014. Four districts saw a decrease in their NEET figures and two districts saw an increase.

### Total NEET Group by District Area

#### March 2014 NEET data

	Cheltenham	Cotswold	Forest	Gloucester	Stroud	Tewkesbury	Total
<b>Total NEET</b>	104	55	60	222	76	77	594
<b>Cohort</b>	2517	1869	2168	4381	2739	1710	15384
<b>% NEET</b>	4.1	2.9	2.8	5.1	2.8	4.4	4.15

Please Note : This information is based on the actual age of young people. From next month the bulletin will report on the academic age 16-18, which may result in a jump in the figures.

If you would like to receive any further information on Gloucestershire's NEET strategy then please contact [Ruth.Critchlow@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:Ruth.Critchlow@gloucestershire.gov.uk) or telephone 01452 426900.

(\*) Adjustment includes a proportion of young people aged 16-18 whose outcomes are not-known to Gloucestershire Youth Support Team.