

Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 20 March 2010

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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 Economic section of the County Council Chief Executive's Support Unit Research Team. The data is sourced from the Office for National Statistics via Nomis (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.

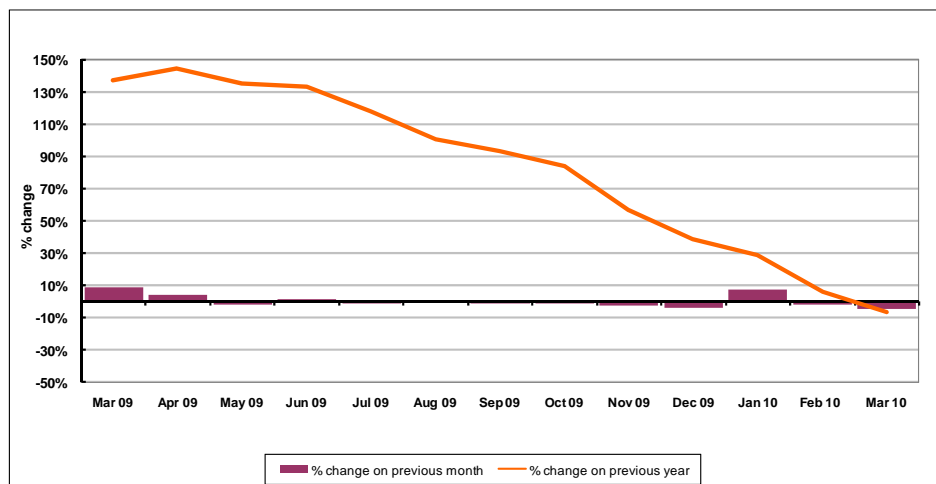
PART 1: SUMMARY

The claimant rate in Gloucestershire was 3.3% in March 2010. This was a decrease of 0.1% on the February 2010 figure. The UK and South West rate also decreased to 4.2% and 3.0% respectively. Gloucestershire's rate remains above the South West average of 3.0%, but 0.9% lower than the UK average of 4.2%.

The claimant count in Gloucestershire in March 2010 decreased by 527 people. The amount of people claiming in March 2010 was 4.4% lower than the number in February 2010 compared to a 3.8% decrease in the South West and a 2.5% decrease for the UK.

The year on year claimant count in Gloucestershire has decreased. The count was 7% lower in March 2010 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 2009 to March 2010



Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

Produced by:

The Research Team (Economics)
Chief Executive Support Unit
Gloucestershire County Council
April 2010

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 2010

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

Claimant rate: The % of working population claiming Job Seekers Allowance in March 2010

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

CHELTEMHAM BOROUGH

Claim count:	2,580
Compared to last month:	-4.3%
Claimant rate:	3.7%
Highest claiming ward	Hesters Way (7.3%)

GLOUCESTER CITY

Claim count:	3,171
Compared to last month:	-2.3%
Claimant rate:	4.4%
Highest claiming ward	Westgate (8.9%)

COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claim count:	969
Compared to last month:	-6.7%
Claimant rate:	2.0%
Highest claiming ward	Cirencester Watermoor (4.5%)

STROUD DISTRICT

Claim count:	1,807
Compared to last month:	-6.9%
Claimant rate:	2.8%
Highest claiming ward	Slade (6.4%)

FOREST OF DEAN

Claim count:	1,566
Compared to last month:	-6.8%
Claimant rate:	3.2%
Highest claiming ward	Cinderford West (5.7%)

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claim count:	1,330
Compared to last month:	-1.5%
Claimant rate:	2.9%
Highest claiming ward	Tewkesbury Prior's Park (6.3%)

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

As at the end of March 2010 there were 585 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 3.8%.

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

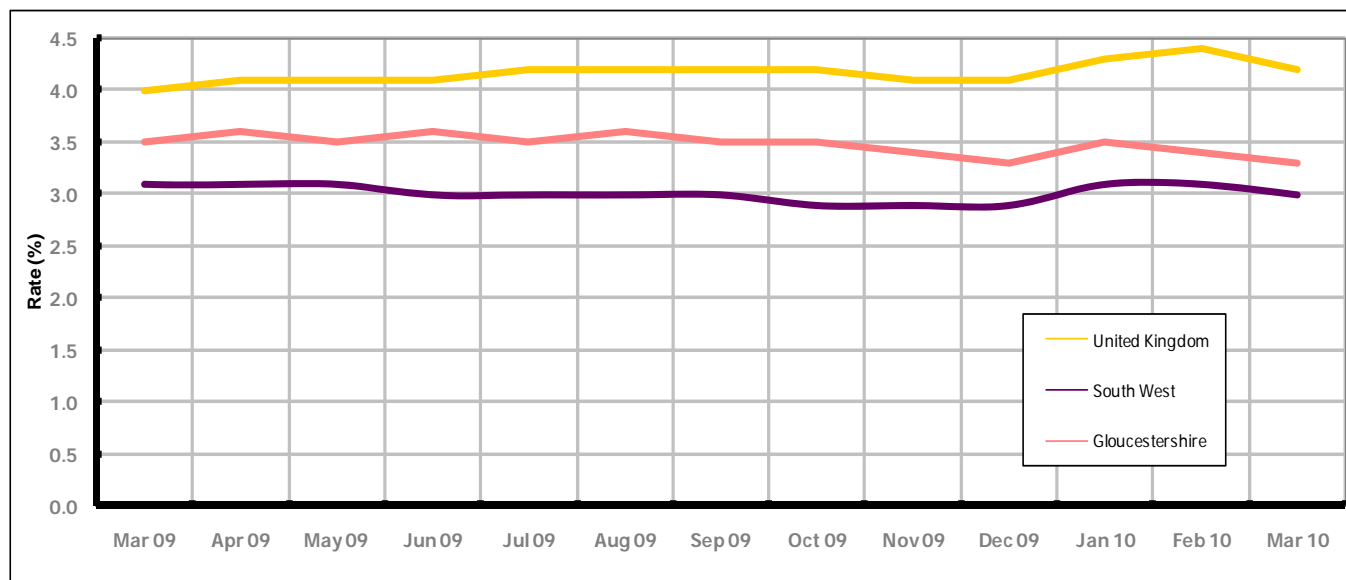


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 3.3% in March 2010. The rate has remained slightly higher than the South West average over the past year, but persistently lower by approximately 0.9% against the UK average during the same period. The March 2010 rate represented a 0.1% decrease on February 2010.

Claimant Count

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

Area	Claimant Count in March 2010	% change on February 2010	Average % increase over the last six months	Consecutive months decreasing
UK	1,614,852	-2.5%	0.3%	0
South West	94,277	-3.8%	0.5%	0
Gloucestershire	11,423	-4.4%	-1.1%	1

Table 1 shows that in March 2010, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 4.4% lower than the number in February 2010.

The average growth in claimants in Gloucestershire for the six months to March 2010 was -1.1%. This is 1.4% lower than the UK average and 1.6% lower than the South West average.

PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 2: Claimant Rate (%) across Gloucestershire - March 2010

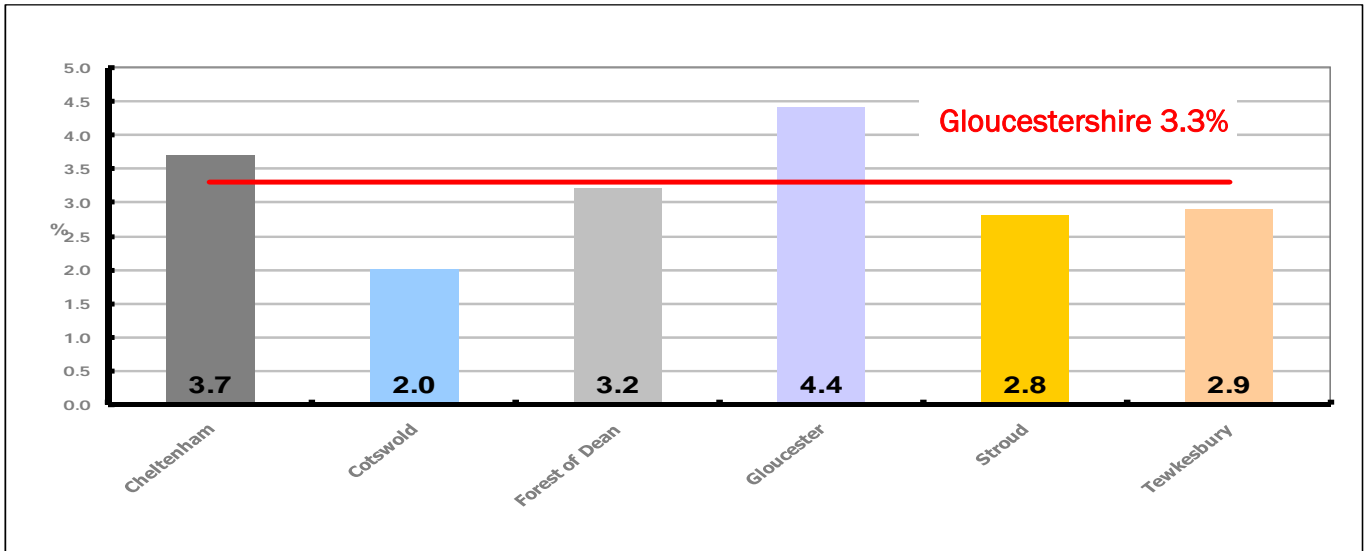


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for March 2010 in Gloucestershire. Between February 2010 and March 2010 Tewkesbury district remained the same, while all the other districts declined.

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

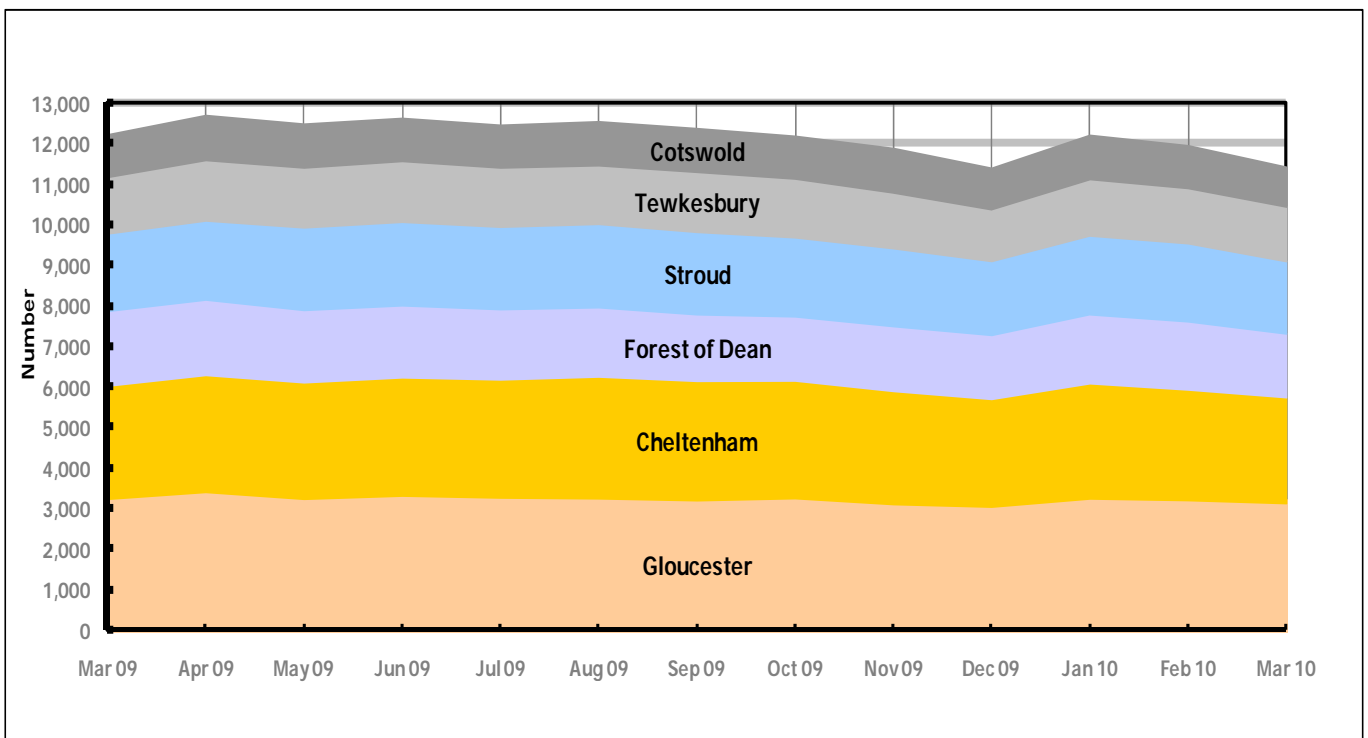


Figure 3 shows the overall claimant count by district for Gloucestershire over the past year. It shows the number of claimants have been declining since September 2009, with the exception of January 2010 when they increased.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	Mar 10 Number	Mar 10 Rate	Feb 10 Number	Feb 10 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	11,423	3.3	11,950	3.4	-527	-4.4%	-0.1
Cheltenham	2,580	3.7	2,696	3.9	-116	-4.3%	-0.2
Cotswold	969	2.0	1,039	2.2	-70	-6.7%	-0.2
Forest of Dean	1,566	3.2	1,681	3.5	-115	-6.8%	-0.3
Gloucester	3,171	4.4	3,244	4.5	-73	-2.3%	-0.1
Stroud	1,807	2.8	1,940	3.0	-133	-6.9%	-0.2
Tewkesbury	1,330	2.9	1,350	2.9	-20	-1.5%	0.0

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in March 2010 compared to February 2010. All districts experienced a decrease in the number of claimants.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	Mar 10 Number	Mar 10 Rate	Feb 10 Number	Feb 10 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	8,342	4.5	8,754	4.8	-412	-4.7%	-0.3
Cheltenham	1,939	5.3	2,029	5.5	-90	-4.4%	-0.2
Cotswold	692	2.7	749	3.0	-57	-7.6%	-0.3
Forest of Dean	1,113	4.3	1,220	4.8	-107	-8.8%	-0.5
Gloucester	2,354	6.3	2,403	6.5	-49	-2.0%	-0.2
Stroud	1,321	3.8	1,419	4.1	-98	-6.9%	-0.3
Tewkesbury	923	3.8	934	3.8	-11	-1.2%	0.0

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in March 2010 compared to February 2010. All districts experienced a decrease in the number of male claimants.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	Mar 10 Number	Mar 10 Rate	Feb 10 Number	Feb 10 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	3,081	1.9	3,196	1.9	-115	-3.6%	0.0
Cheltenham	641	2.0	667	2.0	-26	-3.9%	0.0
Cotswold	277	1.2	290	1.3	-13	-4.5%	-0.1
Forest of Dean	453	2.0	461	2.0	-8	-1.7%	0.0
Gloucester	817	2.4	841	2.5	-24	-2.9%	-0.1
Stroud	486	1.6	521	1.7	-35	-6.7%	-0.1
Tewkesbury	407	1.8	416	1.9	-9	-2.2%	-0.1

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in March 2010 compared to February 2010. All districts experienced a decline 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

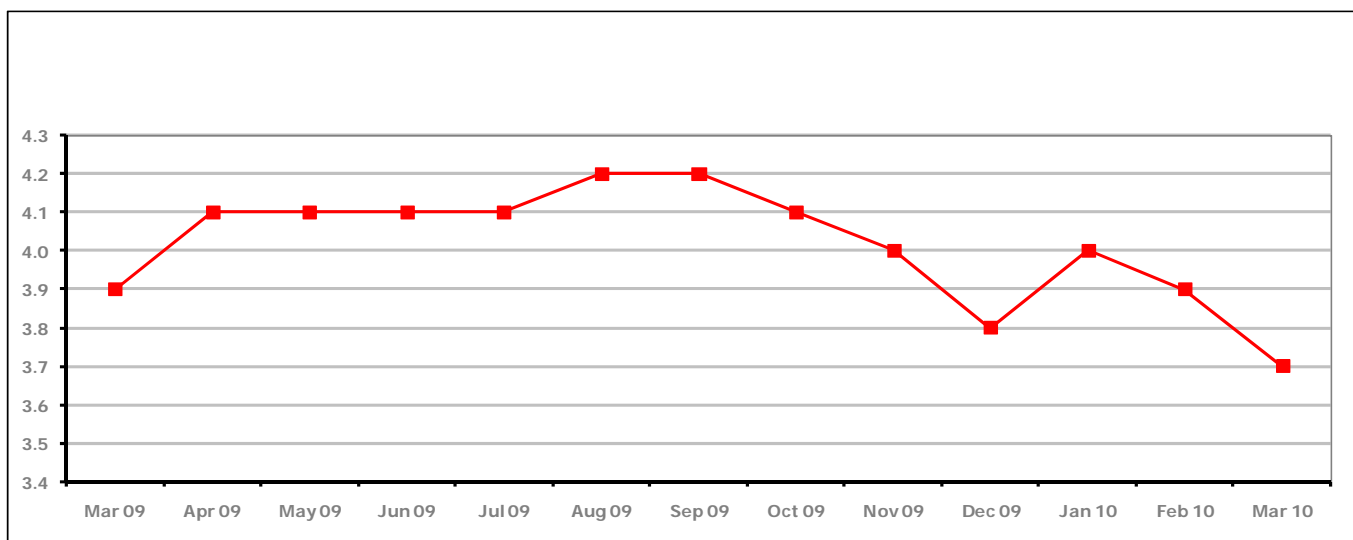


Figure 4 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham decreased in March 2010 to 3.7%.

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

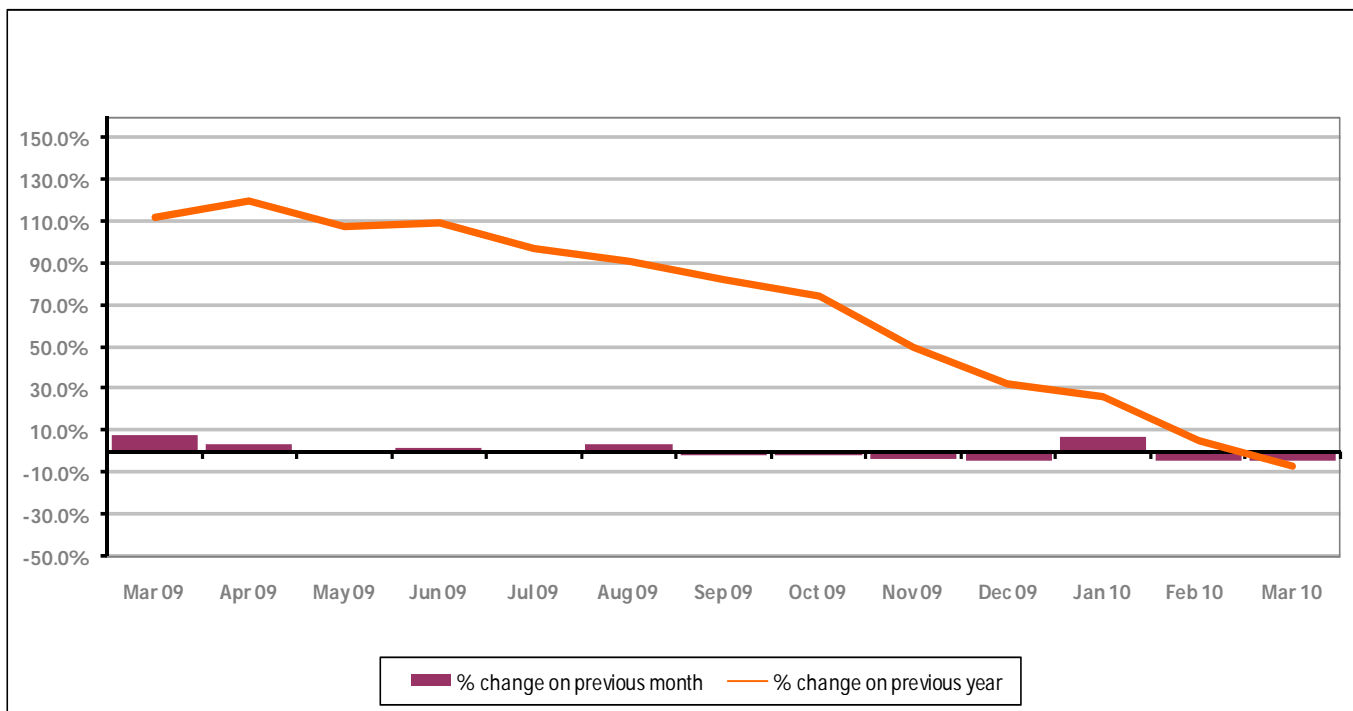


Figure 5 shows the claimant count decreased by 4.3% since last month. In addition the change on the previous year has gone down in March 2010 compared to February 2010 to -6.6%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

Figure 6: Claimant rates across Cheltenham Borough wards - March 2010

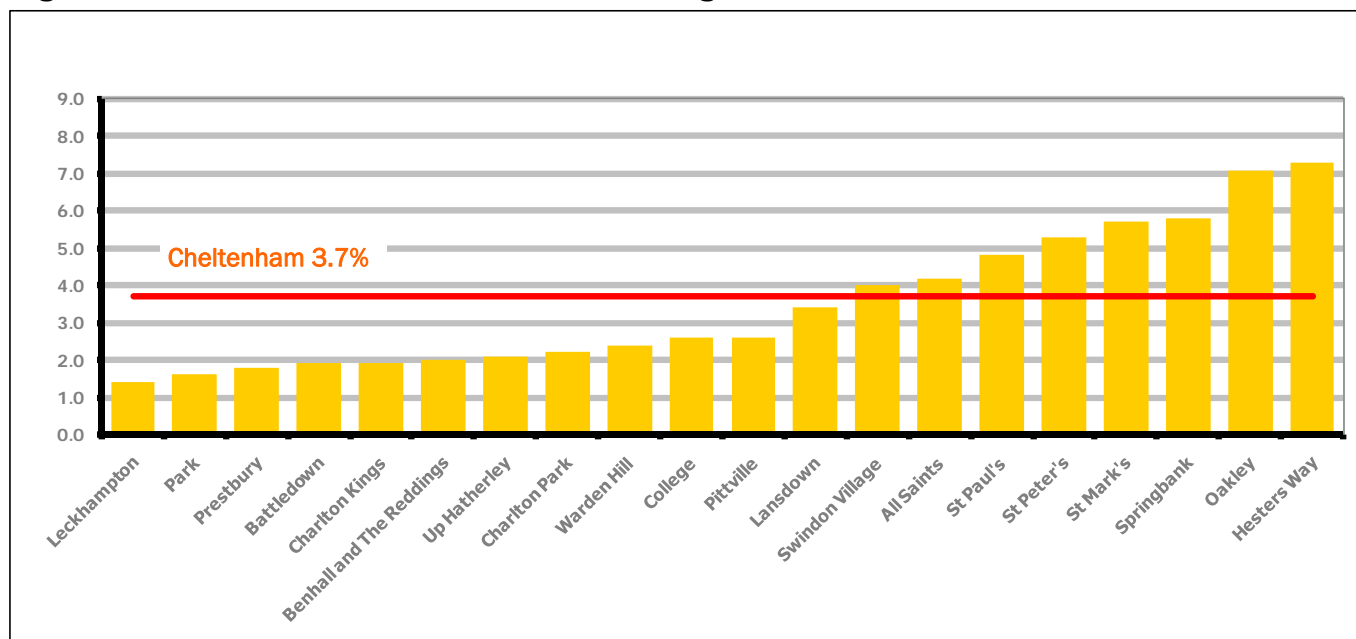
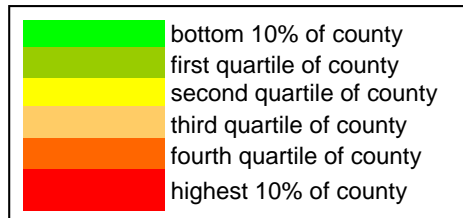


Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 3.7%. Eight wards lie above the average.

Table 5: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cheltenham Borough ward level - March 2010

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	1.4	12
Cheltenham	Park	1.6	24
Cheltenham	Prestbury	1.8	34
Cheltenham	Battledown	1.9	40
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	1.9	40
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	2.0	47
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	2.1	55
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	2.2	60
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	2.4	74
Cheltenham	College	2.6	81
Cheltenham	Pittville	2.6	81
Cheltenham	Lansdown	3.4	100
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	4.0	115
Cheltenham	All Saints	4.2	119
Cheltenham	St Paul's	4.8	125
Cheltenham	St Peter's	5.3	129
Cheltenham	St Mark's	5.7	130
Cheltenham	Springbank	5.8	132
Cheltenham	Oakley	7.1	139
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	7.3	140



* 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

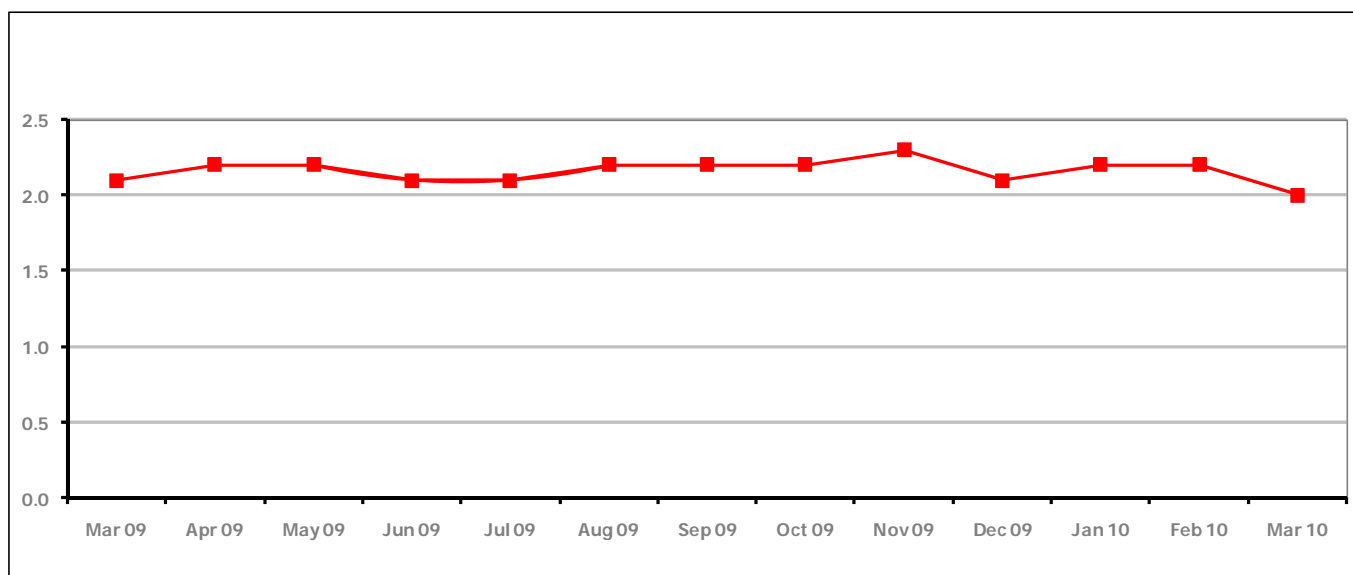


Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District decreased in March 2010 to 2.0%.

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

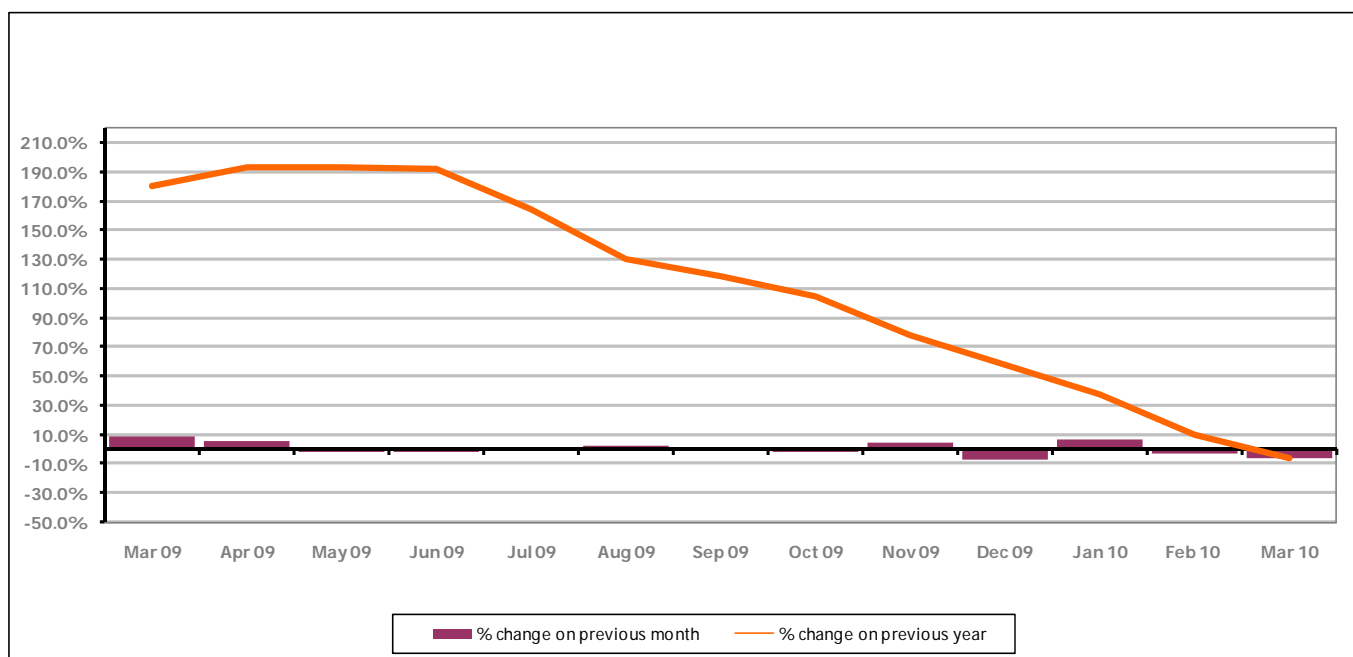


Figure 8 shows the claimant count decreased by 6.7% since February 2010. The change on the previous year has decreased from February 2010 to March 2010 to -6.5%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.2 Cotswold District continued...

Figure 9: Claimant rates across Cotswold District wards - March 2010

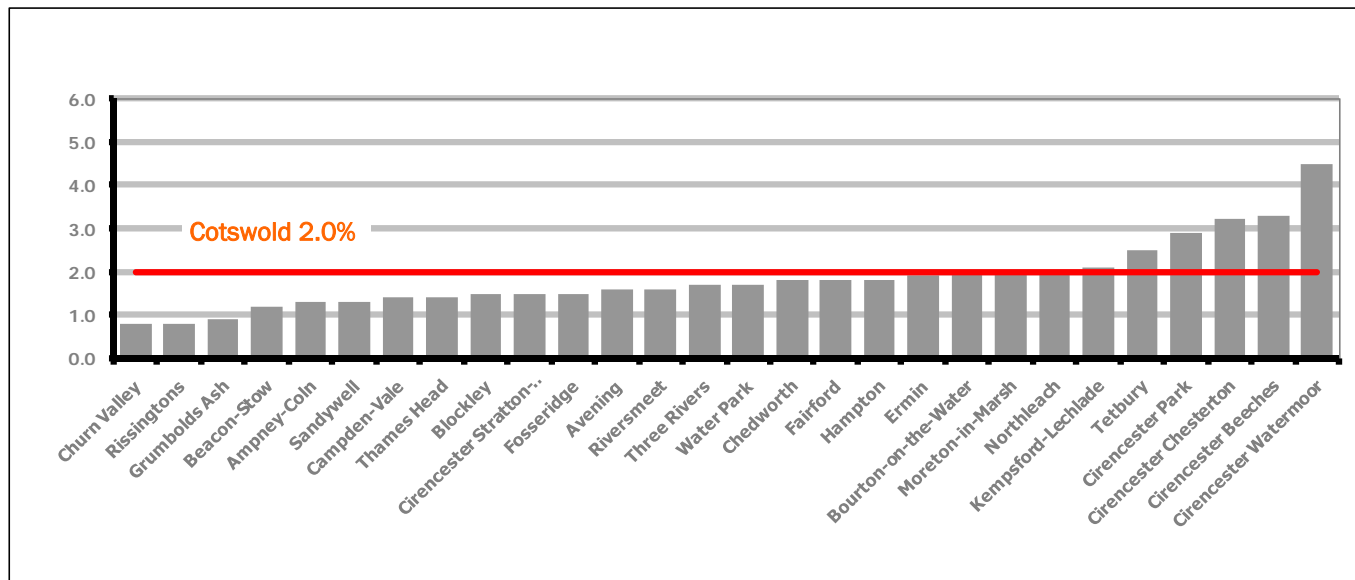
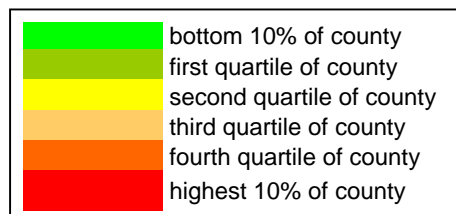


Figure 9 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 2.0%. Six wards lie above the average.

Table 6: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cotswold District ward level - March 2010

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswolds	Churn Valley	0.8	3
Cotswolds	Rissingtons	0.8	3
Cotswolds	Grumbolds Ash	0.9	5
Cotswolds	Beacon-Stow	1.2	8
Cotswolds	Ampney-Coln	1.3	9
Cotswolds	Sandywell	1.3	9
Cotswolds	Campden-Vale	1.4	12
Cotswolds	Thames Head	1.4	12
Cotswolds	Blockley	1.5	18
Cotswolds	Cirencester Stratton-Whiteway	1.5	18
Cotswolds	Fosseridge	1.5	18
Cotswolds	Avening	1.6	24
Cotswolds	Riversmeet	1.6	24
Cotswolds	Three Rivers	1.7	29
Cotswolds	Water Park	1.7	29
Cotswolds	Chedworth	1.8	34
Cotswolds	Fairford	1.8	34
Cotswolds	Hampton	1.8	34
Cotswolds	Ermin	1.9	40
Cotswolds	Bourton-on-the-Water	2.0	47
Cotswolds	Moreton-in-Marsh	2.0	47
Cotswolds	Northleach	2.0	47
Cotswolds	Kempsford-Lechlade	2.1	55
Cotswolds	Tetbury	2.5	78
Cotswolds	Cirencester Park	2.9	88
Cotswolds	Cirencester Chesterton	3.2	97
Cotswolds	Cirencester Beeches	3.3	98
Cotswolds	Cirencester Watermoor	4.5	123



* 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

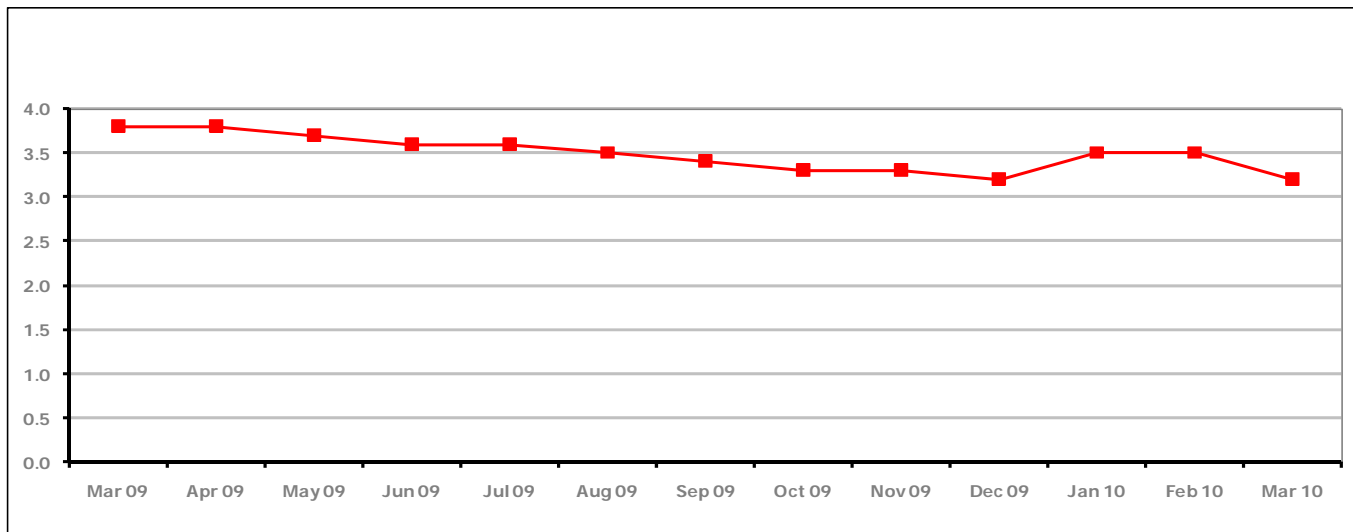


Figure 10 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean decreased in March 2010 to 3.2%.

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

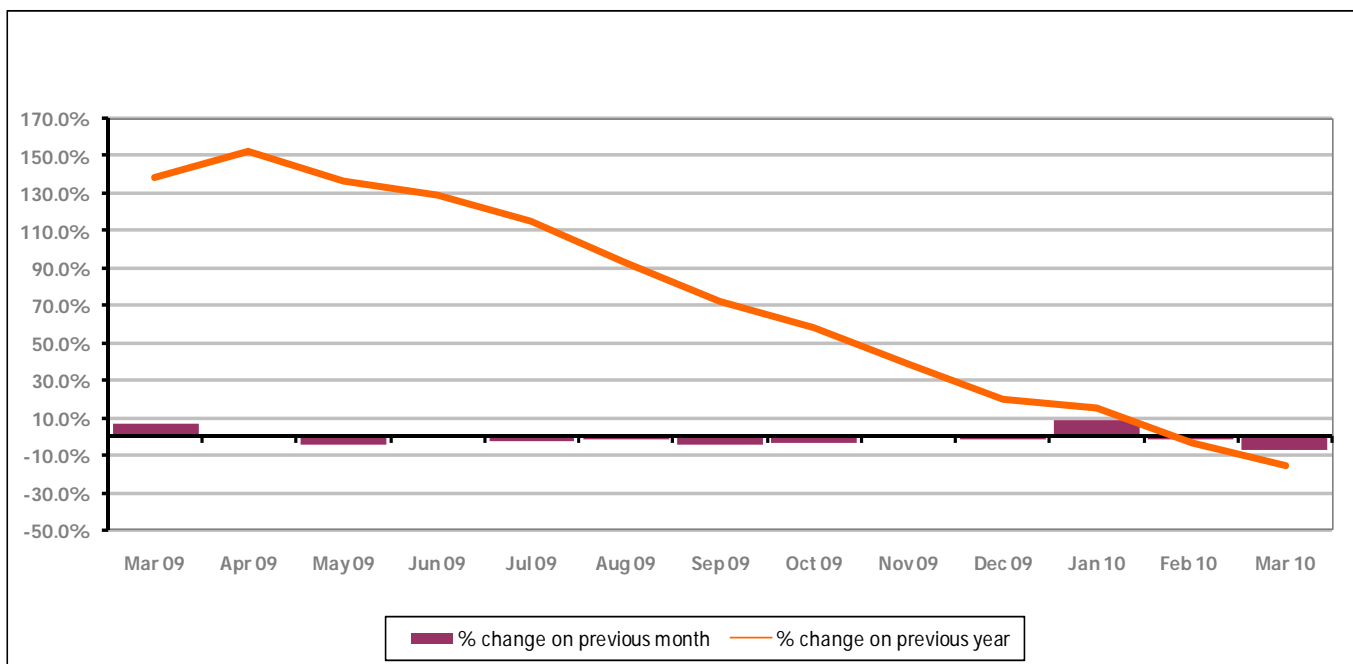


Figure 11 shows the claimant count decreased by 6.8% since February 2010. The change on the previous year decreased between March 2010 and February 2010 to -15.1%.

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 2010

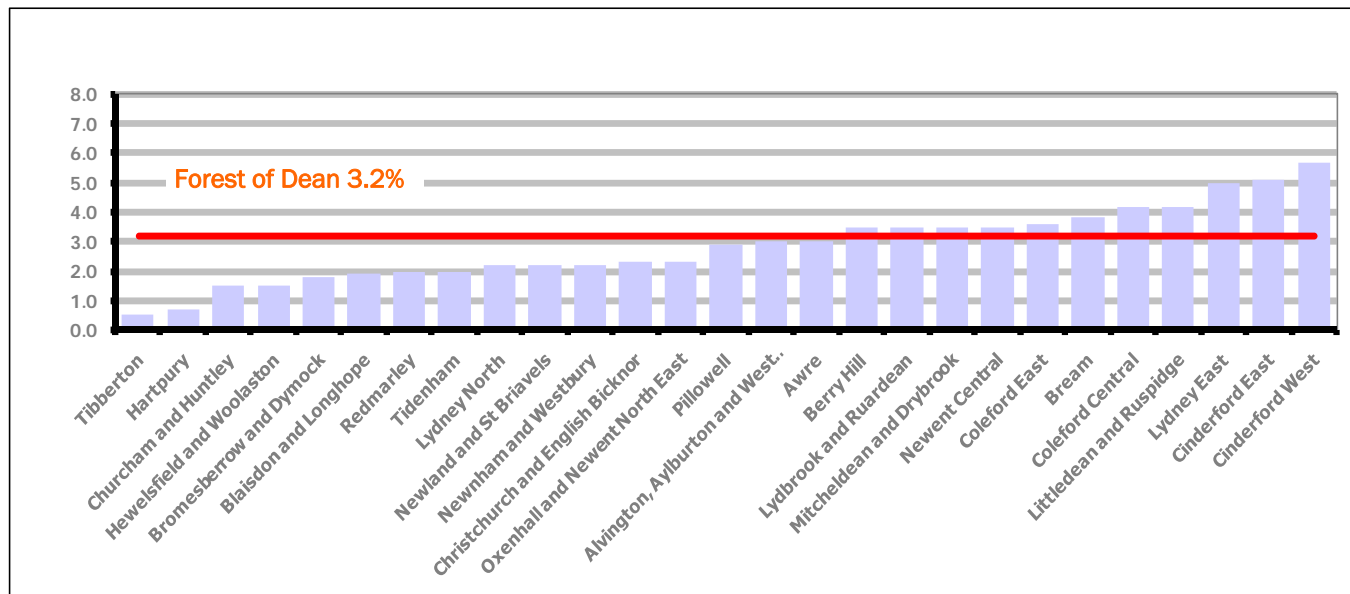
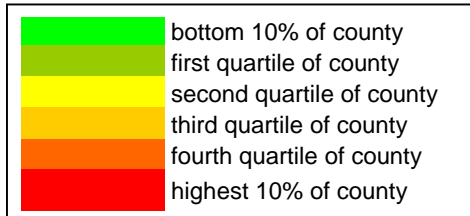


Figure 12 shows the claimant rates for Forest of Dean District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.2%. Eleven wards lie above the average.

Table 7: Analysis of Claimant Count at Forest of Dean District ward level - March 2010

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Tibberton	0.5	1
Forest	Hartpury	0.7	2
Forest	Churcham and Huntley	1.5	18
Forest	Hewelsfield and Woolaston	1.5	18
Forest	Bromesberrow and Dymock	1.8	34
Forest	Blaisdon and Longhope	1.9	40
Forest	Redmarley	2.0	47
Forest	Tidenham	2.0	47
Forest	Lydney North	2.2	60
Forest	Newland and St Briavels	2.2	60
Forest	Newnham and Westbury	2.2	60
Forest	Christchurch and English Bicknor	2.3	69
Forest	Oxenhall and Newent North East	2.3	69
Forest	Pillowell	2.9	88
Forest	Alvington, Aylburton and West Lydney	3.0	92
Forest	Awre	3.0	92
Forest	Berry Hill	3.5	101
Forest	Lydbrook and Ruardean	3.5	101
Forest	Mitcheldean and Drybrook	3.5	101
Forest	Newent Central	3.5	101
Forest	Coleford East	3.6	107
Forest	Bream	3.8	111
Forest	Coleford Central	4.2	119
Forest	Littledean and Ruspidge	4.2	119
Forest	Lydney East	5.0	126
Forest	Cinderford East	5.1	128
Forest	Cinderford West	5.7	130



* 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

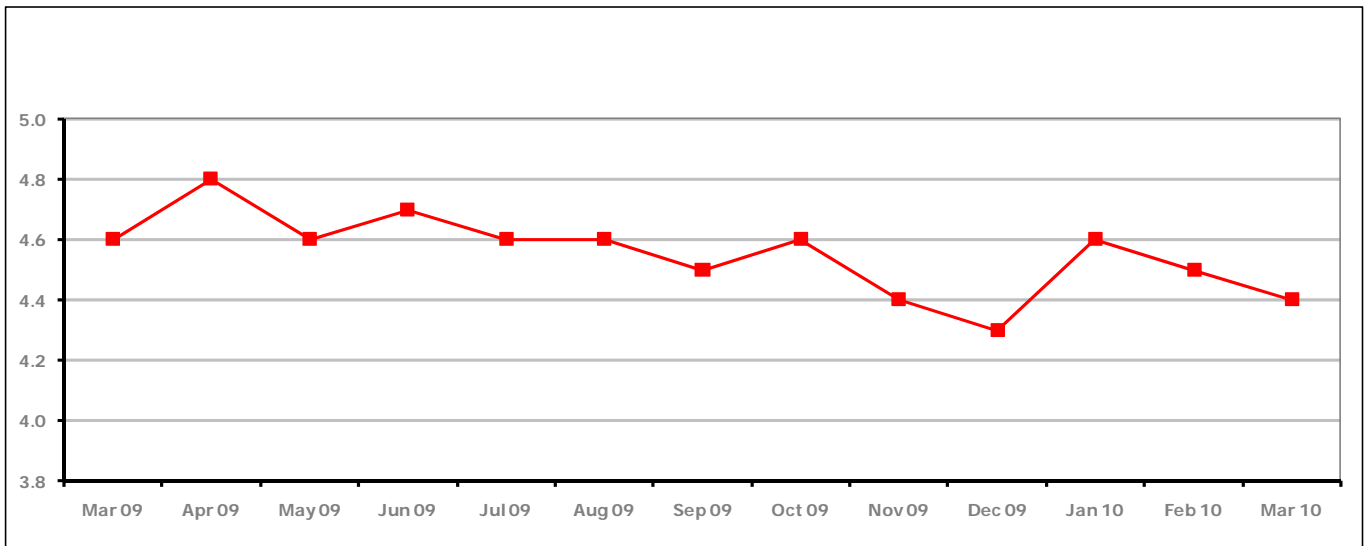


Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City decreased in March 2010 to 4.4%.

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

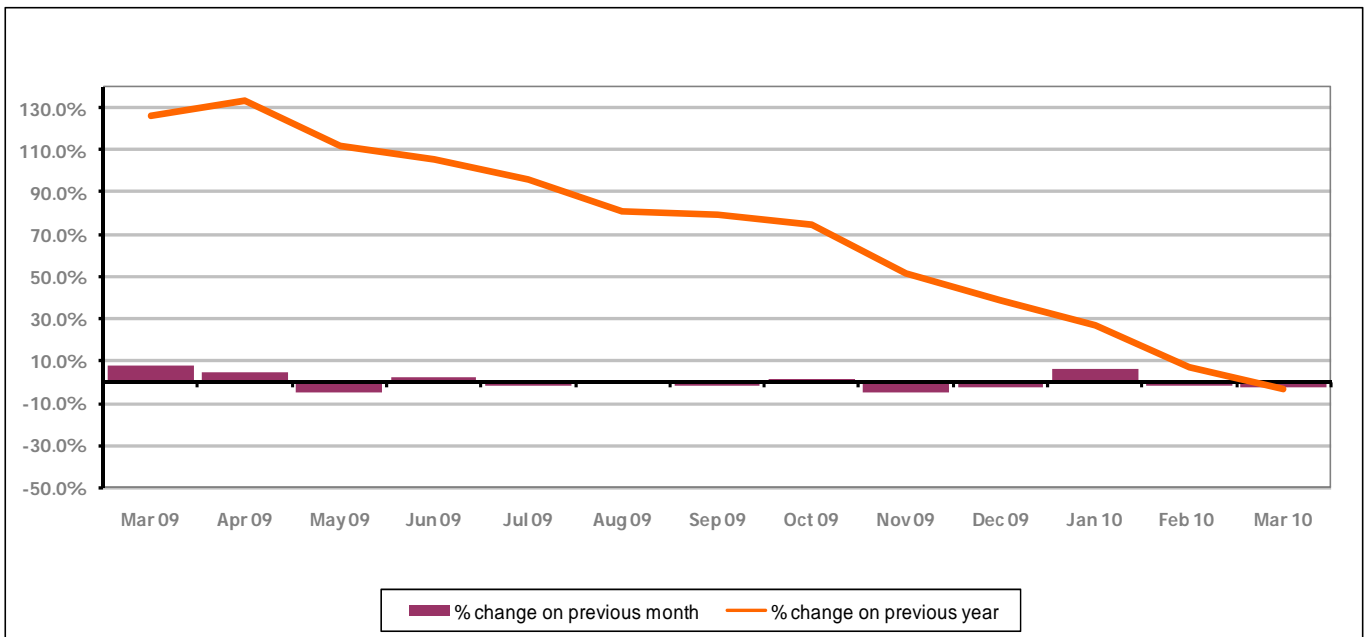


Figure 14 shows the monthly claimant count decreased by 2.3% since February 2010. The change on the previous year has decreased between February 2010 and March 2010 to -3.2%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.4 Gloucester City continued...

Figure 15: Claimant rates across Gloucester City wards - March 2010

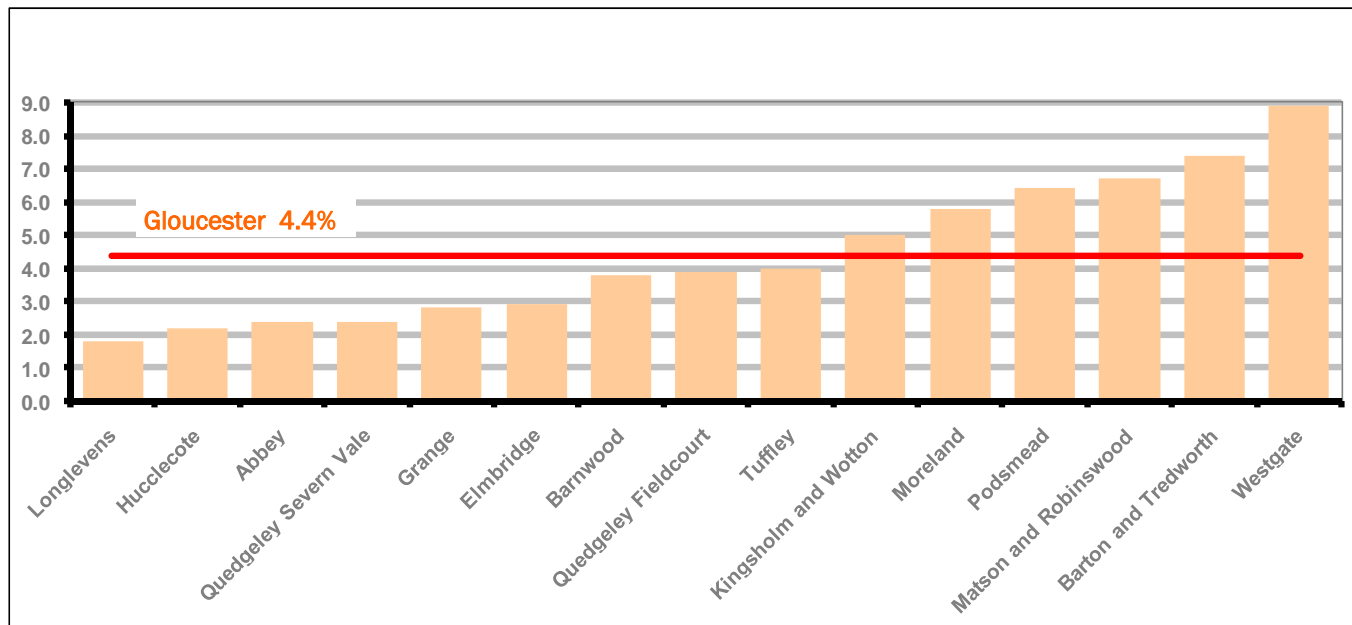
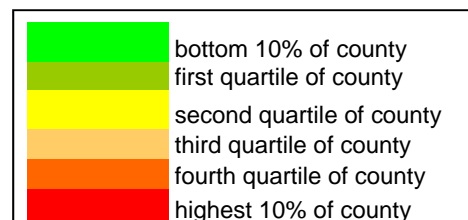


Figure 15 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 4.4%. Six wards lie above the average.

Table 8: Analysis of Claimant Count at Gloucester City ward level - March 2010

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Longlevens	1.8	34
Gloucester	Hucclecote	2.2	60
Gloucester	Abbey	2.4	74
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	2.4	74
Gloucester	Grange	2.8	84
Gloucester	Elmbridge	2.9	88
Gloucester	Barnwood	3.8	111
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	3.9	113
Gloucester	Tuffley	4.0	115
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	5.0	126
Gloucester	Moreland	5.8	132
Gloucester	Podsmead	6.4	136
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	6.7	138
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	7.4	141
Gloucester	Westgate	8.9	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.

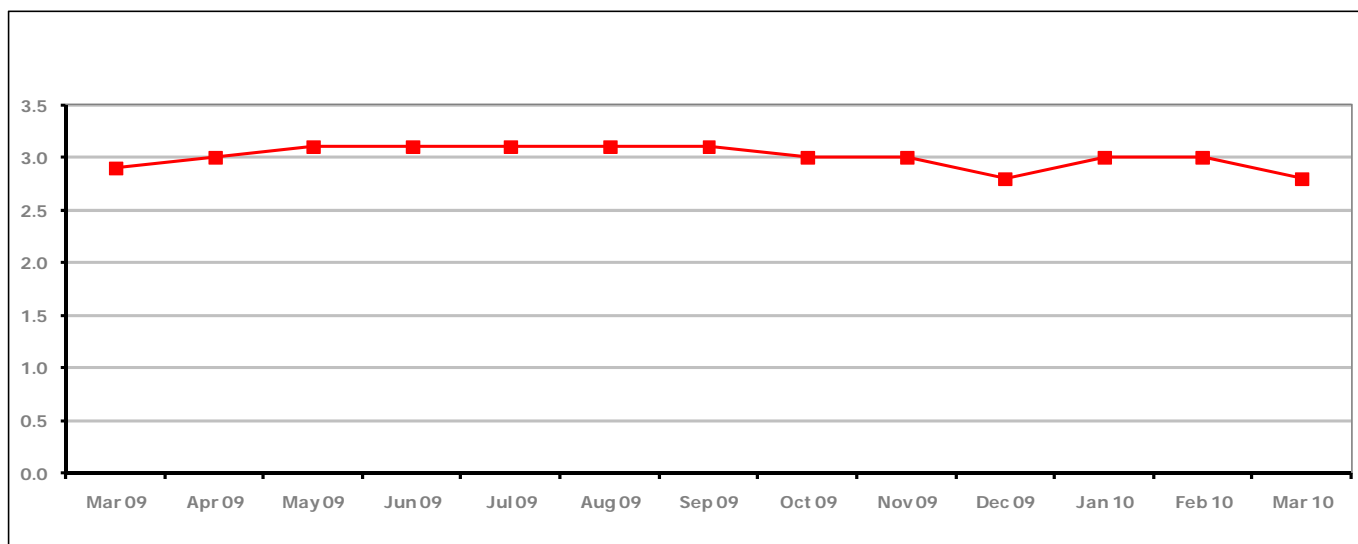
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.5 Stroud District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 16: Stroud District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 16 shows the claimant rate for Stroud District Decreased in March 2010 to 2.8%.

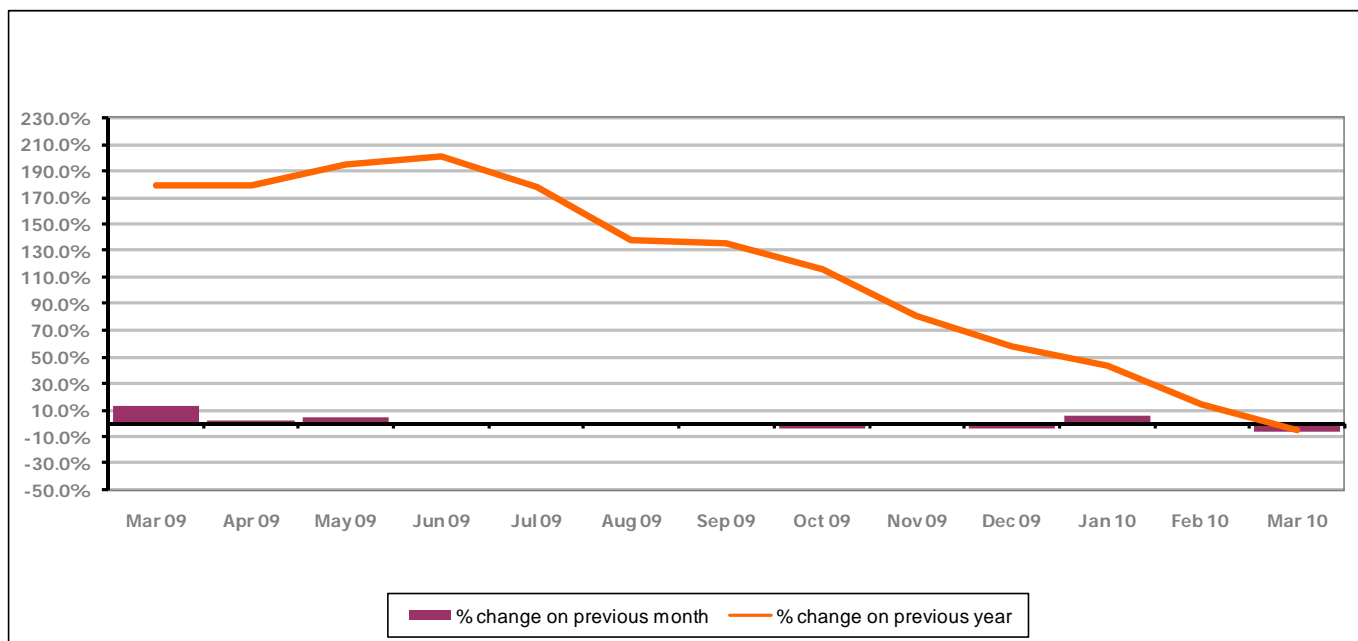
Figure 17: Stroud District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 17 shows the monthly claimant count decreased by 6.9% since February 2010. The change on the previous year has decreased between February 2010 and March 2010 to -5.7%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.5 Stroud District continued...

Figure 18: Claimant rates across Stroud District wards - March 2010

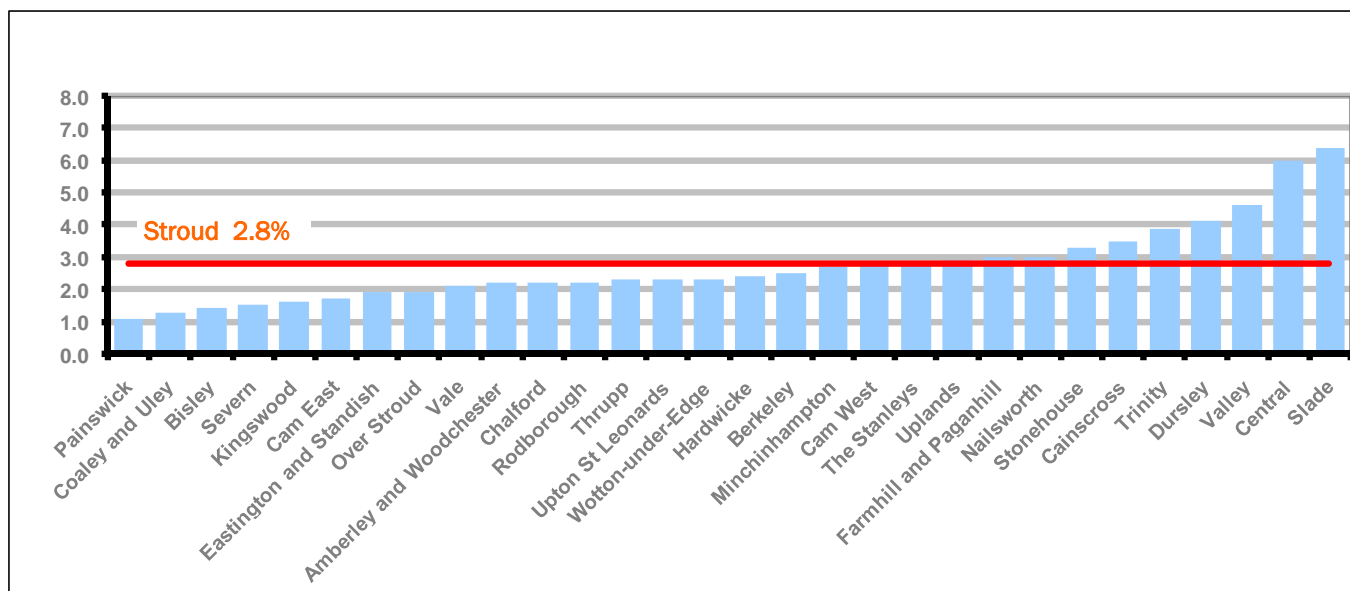
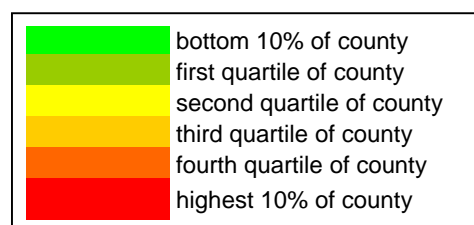


Figure 18 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 2.8%. Ten wards are above the average.

Table 9: Analysis of Claimant Count at Stroud District ward level - March 2010

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Painswick	1.1	7
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	1.3	9
Stroud	Bisley	1.4	12
Stroud	Severn	1.5	18
Stroud	Kingswood	1.6	24
Stroud	Cam East	1.7	29
Stroud	Eastington and Standish	1.9	40
Stroud	Over Stroud	1.9	40
Stroud	Vale	2.1	55
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	2.2	60
Stroud	Chalford	2.2	60
Stroud	Rodborough	2.2	60
Stroud	Thrupp	2.3	69
Stroud	Upton St Leonards	2.3	69
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	2.3	69
Stroud	Hardwicke	2.4	74
Stroud	Berkeley	2.5	78
Stroud	Minchinhampton	2.7	83
Stroud	Cam West	2.8	84
Stroud	The Stanleys	2.8	84
Stroud	Uplands	2.9	88
Stroud	Farmhill and Paganhill	3.0	92
Stroud	Nailsworth	3.0	92
Stroud	Stonehouse	3.3	98
Stroud	Cainscross	3.5	101
Stroud	Trinity	3.9	113
Stroud	Dursley	4.1	117
Stroud	Valley	4.6	124
Stroud	Central	6.0	134
Stroud	Slade	6.4	136



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

Table 9 shows overall claimant rates for Stroud District wards and their position relative to all wards in Gloucestershire.

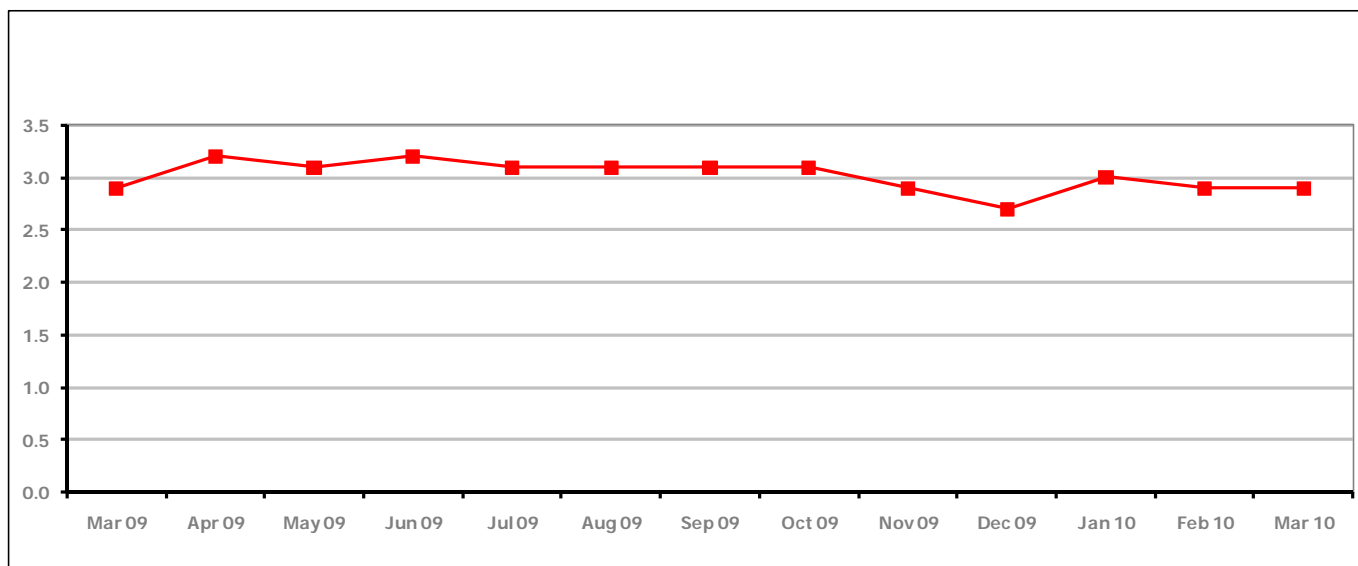
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.6 Tewkesbury District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 19: Tewkesbury District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 19 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury District remained the same as last month at 2.9%.

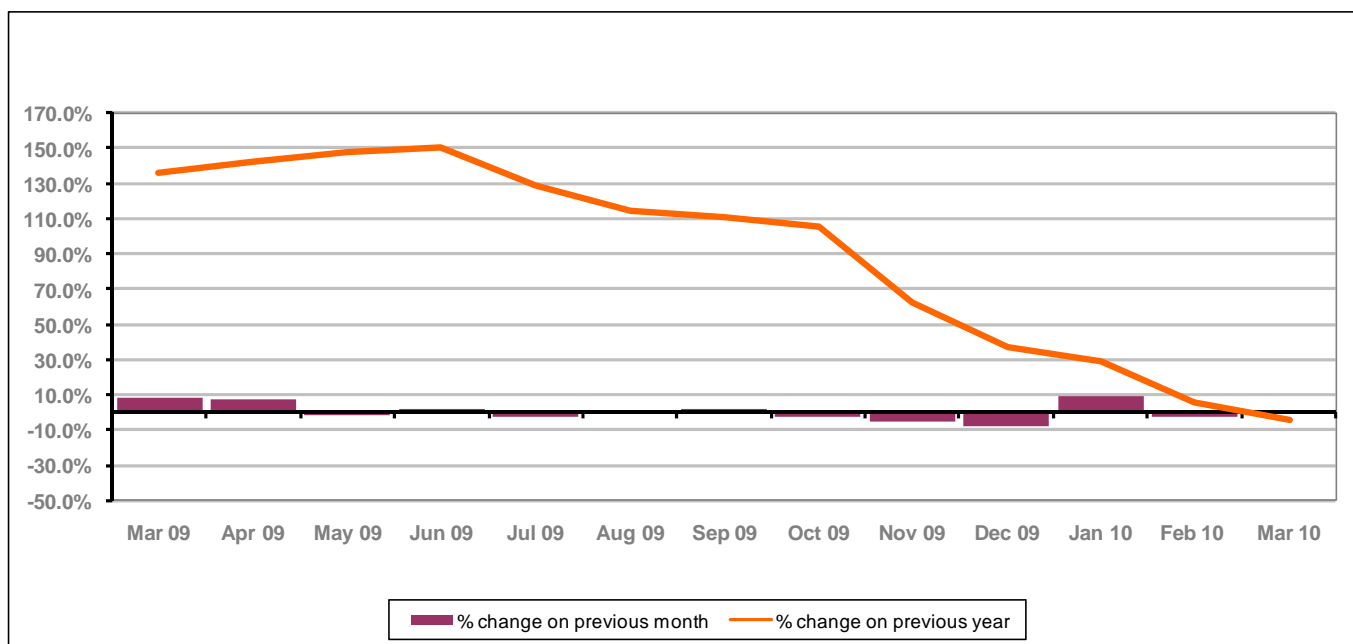
Figure 20: Tewkesbury District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 20 shows that the monthly claimant count decreased in March 2010 by 1.5%. The change on the previous year decreased between February 2010 and March 2010 to -4.2%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.6 Tewkesbury District continued...

Figure 21: Claimant rates across Tewkesbury District wards - March 2010

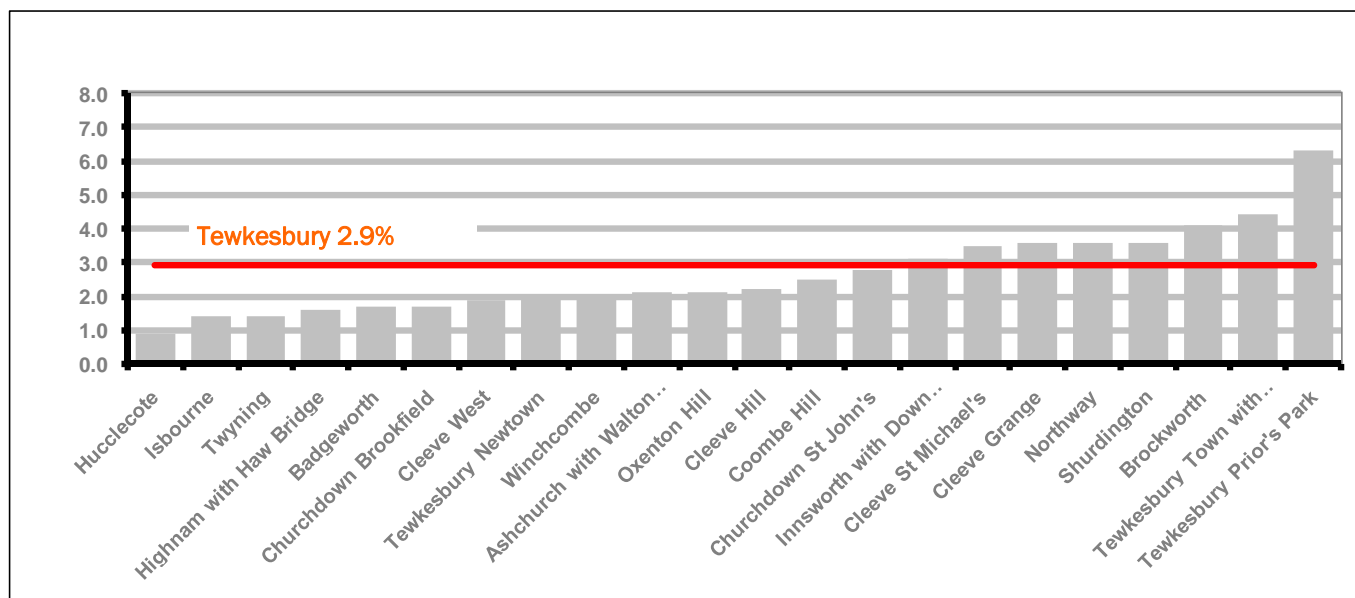
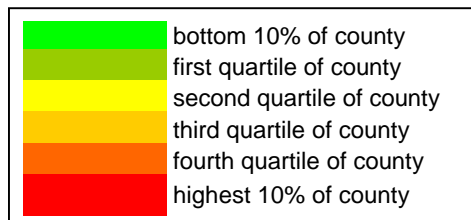


Figure 21 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 2.9% and eight wards are above the average.

Table 10: Analysis of Claimant Count at Tewkesbury District level - March 2010

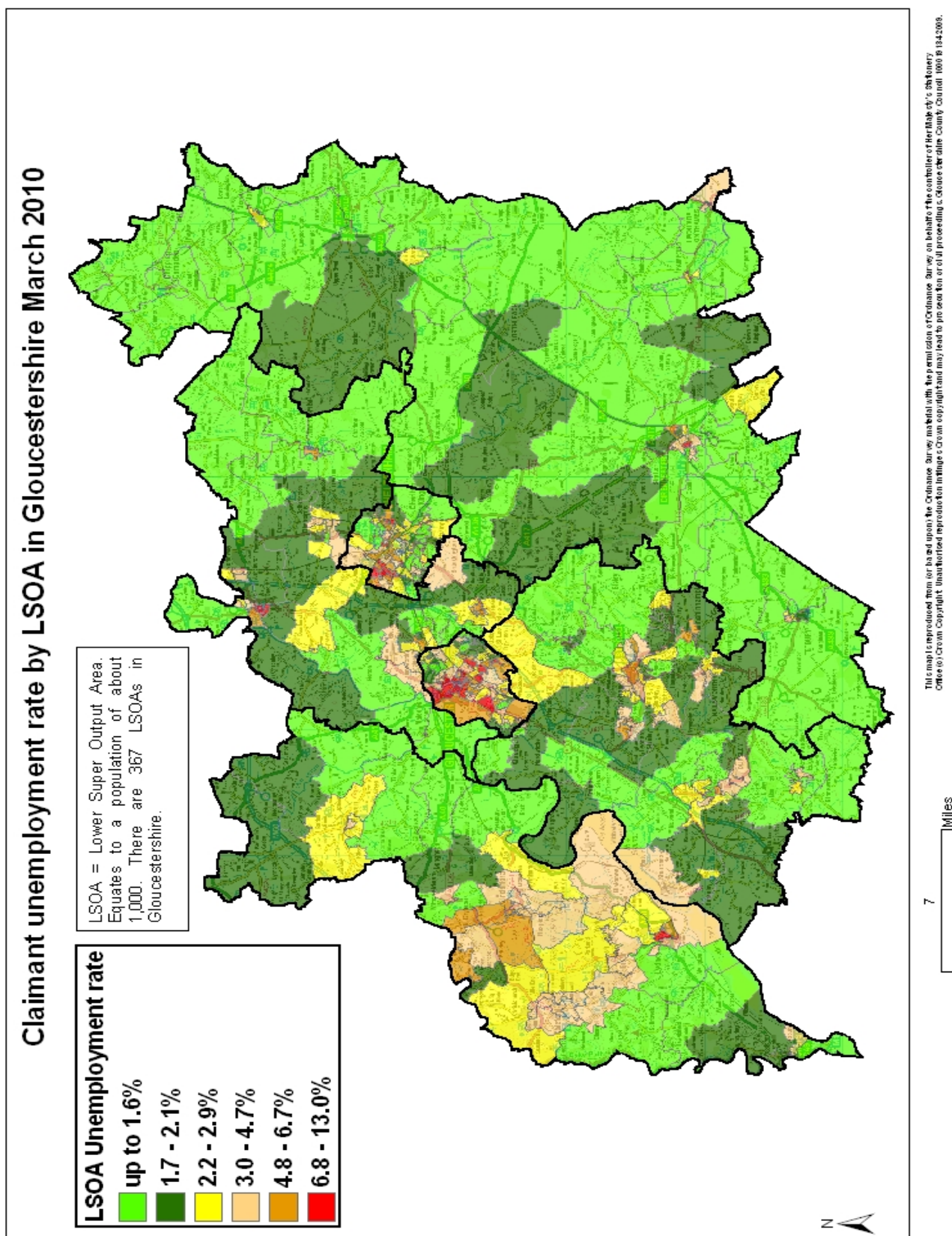
District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Hucclecote	0.9	5
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	1.4	12
Tewkesbury	Twynning	1.4	12
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	1.6	24
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	1.7	29
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield	1.7	29
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	1.9	40
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Newtown	2.0	47
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	2.0	47
Tewkesbury	Ashchurch with Walton Cardiff	2.1	55
Tewkesbury	Oxenton Hill	2.1	55
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	2.2	60
Tewkesbury	Coombe Hill	2.5	78
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	2.8	84
Tewkesbury	Innsworth with Down Hatherley	3.1	96
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	3.5	101
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	3.6	107
Tewkesbury	Northway	3.6	107
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	3.6	107
Tewkesbury	Brockworth	4.1	117
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Town with Mitton	4.4	122
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Prior's Park	6.3	135



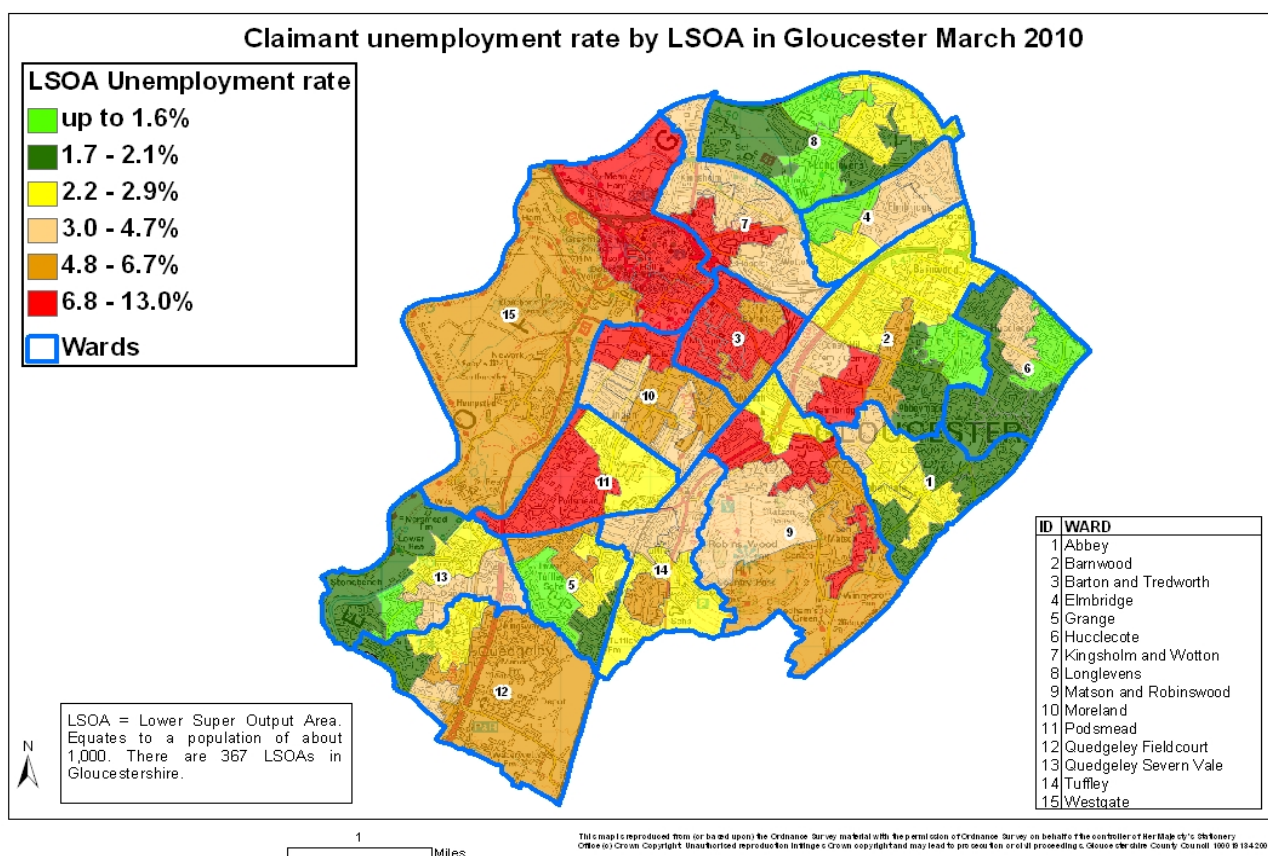
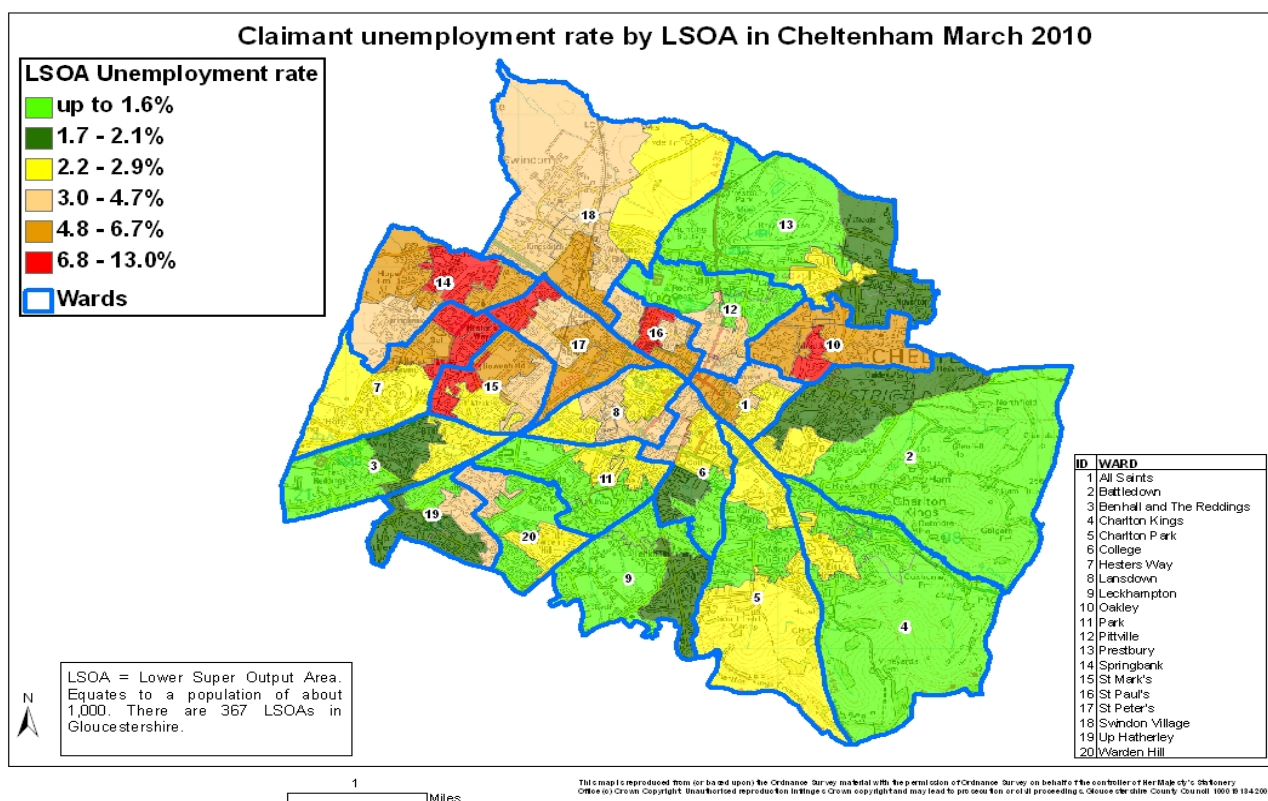
* 1 = "best" and 142 = "worst"

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



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 Prospects, the Connexions service in Gloucestershire on the situation of young people (16-18) in Gloucestershire who are not in education, employment or formal training.

Connexions Gloucestershire 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

As at the end of March 2010 there were 585 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 3.8%. The total number of NEET was 25 lower in March 2010 compared to February 2010. Two Area Teams showed an increase in their NEET percentage, 3 teams had a lower NEET percentage, and 1 team maintained their February NEET percentage. March 2010 NEET Performance was 0.6% lower than March 2009.

Total NEET Group by District Area 31st March 2010

	Cheltenham	Cotswold	Forest	Gloucester	Stroud	Tewkesbury	Total
Number of NEET	135	42	76	163	104	65	585
Cohort	2677	2398	2524	4591	2822	1943	16955
% NEET	5.0%	1.8%	3.0%	3.6%	3.7%	3.3%	3.8%

If you would like to receive any further information on Gloucestershire's NEET strategy then please contact Ruth.Critchlow@gloucestershire.gov.uk or telephone 01452 551267.

(*) Adjustment includes a proportion of young people aged 16-18 whose outcomes are not-known to Connexions Gloucestershire