

Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 18 January 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.

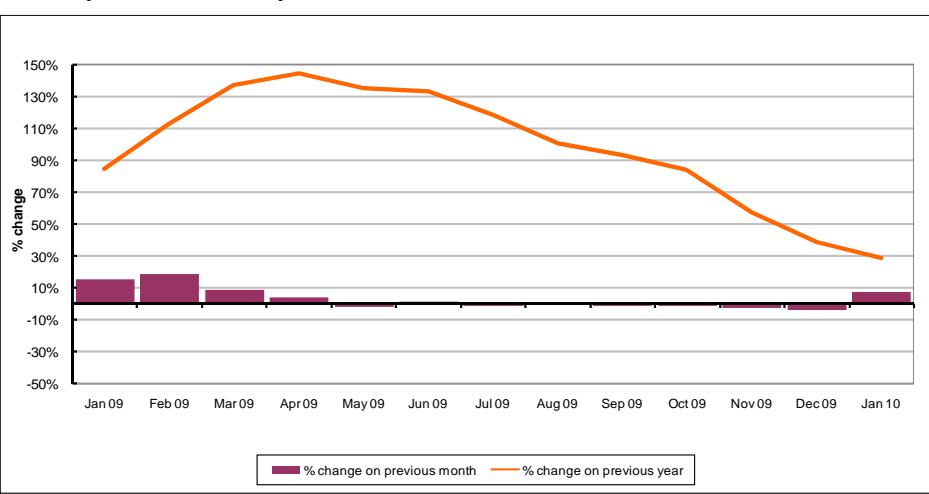
PART 1: SUMMARY

The claimant rate in Gloucestershire was 3.5% in January 2010. This was an increase of 0.2% on the December 2009 figure. This was the first increase since August 2009. The UK and South West rate also increased to 4.3% and 3.1% respectively. Gloucestershire's rate remains above the South West average of 3.1%, but 0.8% lower than the UK average of 4.3%.

The claimant count in Gloucestershire in January 2010 increased by 809 people. The amount of people claiming in January 2010 was 7.1% higher than the number in December 2009 compared to a 8.6% increase in the South West and a 5.6% increase for the UK.

The year on year claimant count in Gloucestershire has decreased. The count was 29% higher in January 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:
January 2009 to January 2010



Source: ONS Crown Copyright Reserved

Produced by:

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

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

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

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

CHELTENHAM BOROUGH

Claim count:	2,811
Compared to last month:	+6.9%
Claimant rate:	4.0%
Highest claiming ward	Hesters Way (7.8%)

GLOUCESTER CITY

Claim count:	3,282
Compared to last month:	+6.5%
Claimant rate:	4.6%
Highest claiming ward	Westgate (8.9%)

COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claim count:	1,077
Compared to last month:	+7.0%
Claimant rate:	2.2%
Highest claiming ward	Cirencester Watermoor (5.0%)

STROUD DISTRICT

Claim count:	1,951
Compared to last month:	+5.5%
Claimant rate:	3.0%
Highest claiming ward	Central (7.5%)

FOREST OF DEAN

Claim count:	1,704
Compared to last month:	+8.7%
Claimant rate:	3.5%
Highest claiming ward	Cinderford West (6.0%)

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claim count:	1,382
Compared to last month:	+9.5%
Claimant rate:	3.0%
Highest claiming ward	Tewkesbury Prior's Park (6.4%)

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

As at the end of January 2010 there were 603 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 3.7%.

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

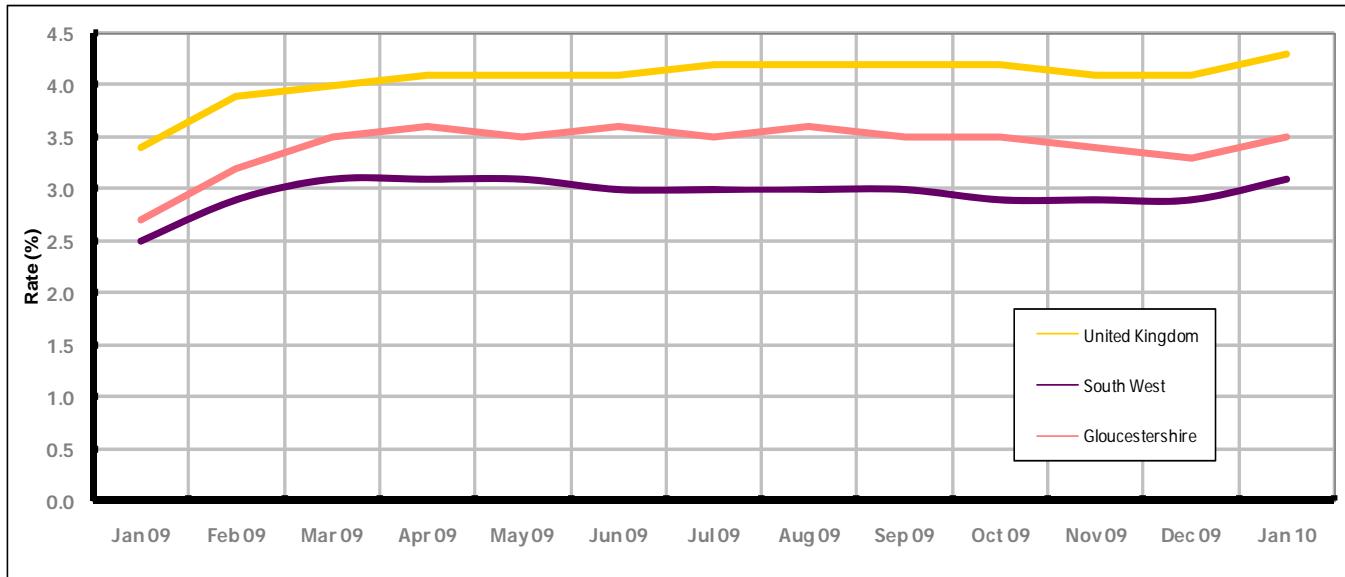


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 3.5% in January 2010. The rate has remained slightly higher than the South West average over the past year, but persistently lower by approximately 0.8% against the UK average during the same period. The January 2010 rate represented a 0.2% increase on December 2009.

Claimant Count

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

Area	Claimant Count in January 2010	% change on December 2009	Average % increase over the last six months	Consecutive months increasing
UK	1,654,025	5.6%	0.5%	0
South West	97,758	8.6%	0.5%	0
Gloucestershire	12,207	7.1%	-0.4%	0

Table 1 shows that in January 2010, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 7.1% higher than the number in December 2009.

The average growth in claimants in Gloucestershire for the six months to January 2010 was -0.4%. This is 1.1% lower than the UK and South West average.

PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

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

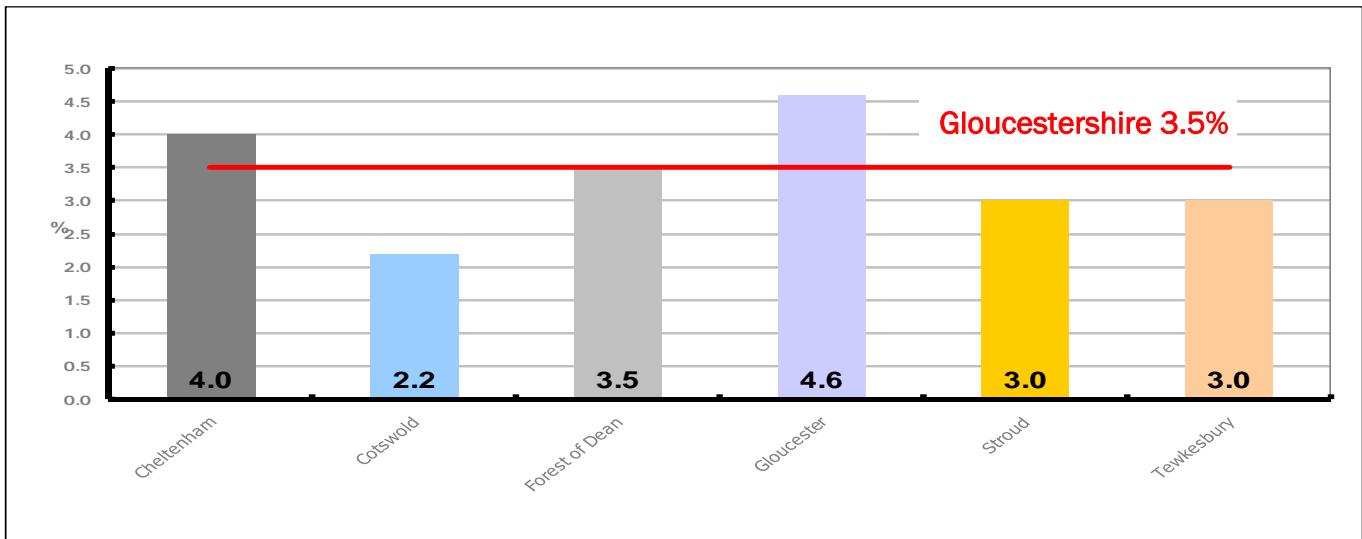


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for January 2010 in Gloucestershire. Between December 2009 and January 2010 all districts increased.

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

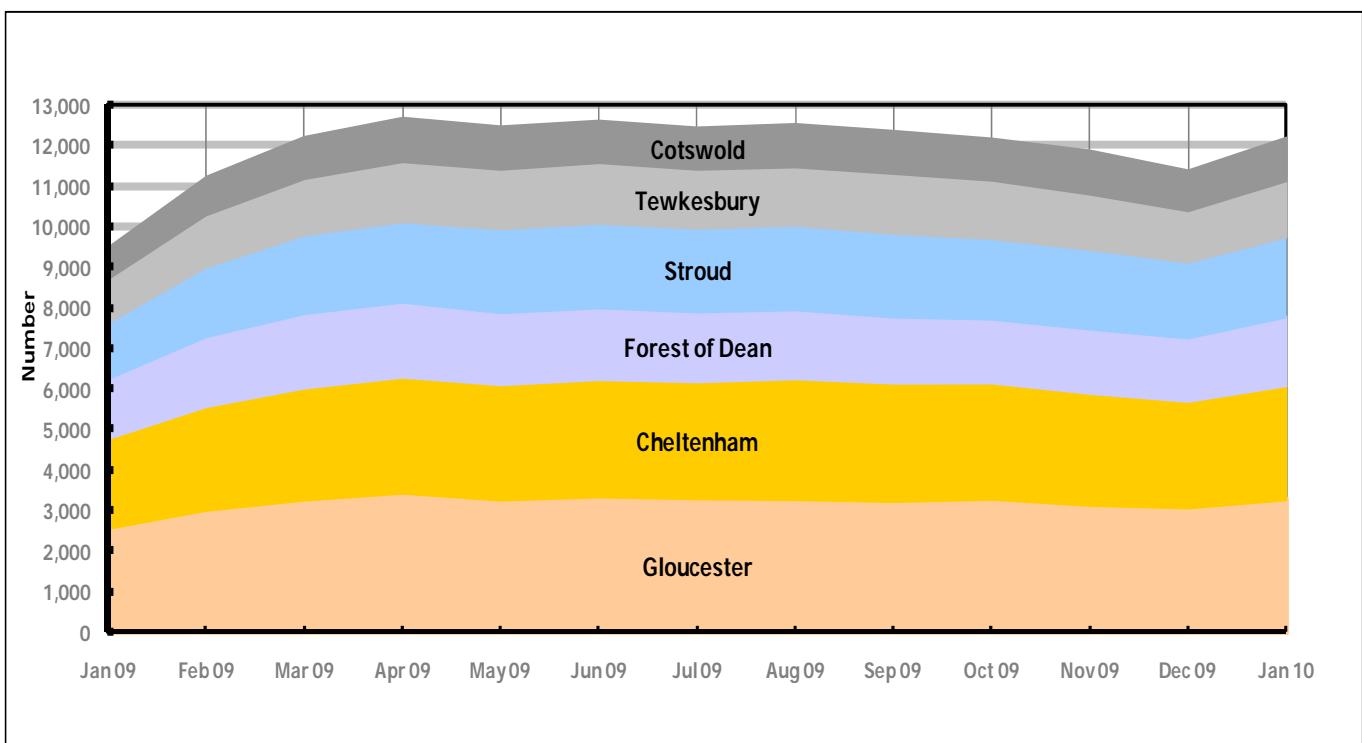


Figure 3 shows the overall claimant count by district for Gloucestershire over the past year. It shows the number of claimants declined between September and December 2009. This downward trend reversed in January 2010, however this could just be a seasonal effect.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	Jan 10 Number	Jan 10 Rate	Dec 09 Number	Dec 09 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	12,207	3.5	11,398	3.3	809	7.1%	0.2
Cheltenham	2,811	4.0	2,629	3.8	182	6.9%	0.2
Cotswold	1,077	2.2	1,007	2.1	70	7.0%	0.1
Forest of Dean	1,704	3.5	1,568	3.2	136	8.7%	0.3
Gloucester	3,282	4.6	3,082	4.3	200	6.5%	0.3
Stroud	1,951	3.0	1,850	2.8	101	5.5%	0.2
Tewkesbury	1,382	3.0	1,262	2.7	120	9.5%	0.3

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in January 2010 compared to December 2009. All districts experienced an increase in the number of claimants.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	Jan 10 Number	Jan 10 Rate	Dec 09 Number	Dec 09 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	9,018	4.9	8,390	4.6	628	7.5%	0.3
Cheltenham	2,136	5.8	2,004	5.5	132	6.6%	0.3
Cotswold	777	3.1	724	2.9	53	7.3%	0.2
Forest of Dean	1,237	4.8	1,138	4.4	99	8.7%	0.4
Gloucester	2,474	6.7	2,305	6.2	169	7.3%	0.5
Stroud	1,421	4.1	1,336	3.9	85	6.4%	0.2
Tewkesbury	973	4.0	883	3.6	90	10.2%	0.4

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in January 2010 compared to December 2009. All districts experienced an increase in the number of male claimants.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	Jan 10 Number	Jan 10 Rate	Dec 09 Number	Dec 09 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	3,189	1.9	3,008	1.8	181	6.0%	0.1
Cheltenham	675	2.1	625	1.9	50	8.0%	0.2
Cotswold	300	1.3	283	1.2	17	6.0%	0.1
Forest of Dean	467	2.1	430	1.9	37	8.6%	0.2
Gloucester	808	2.4	777	2.3	31	4.0%	0.1
Stroud	530	1.7	514	1.7	16	3.1%	0.0
Tewkesbury	409	1.8	379	1.7	30	7.9%	0.1

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in January 2010 compared to December 2009. All districts experienced 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 4: Cheltenham Borough claimant rate over the last year

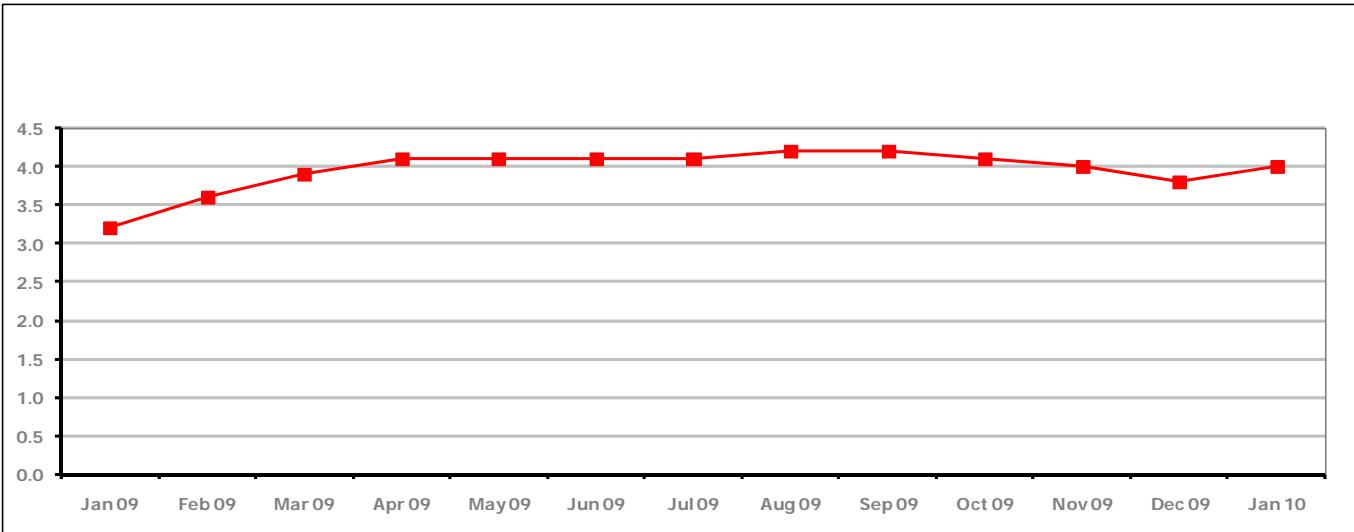


Figure 4 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham increased in January 2010 to 4.0%. The first increase since August 2009.

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

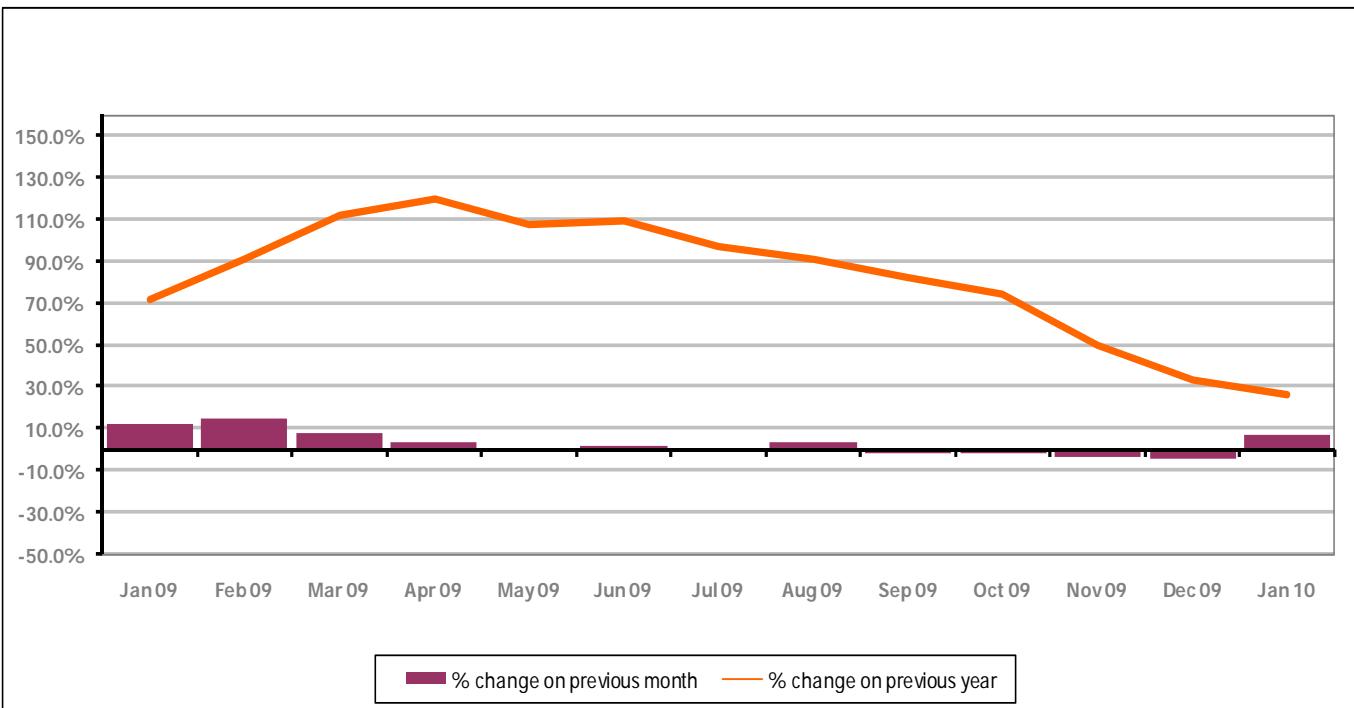


Figure 5 shows the claimant count increased by 6.9% since last month. In contrast the change on the previous year has gone down in January 2010 compared to December 2009 to 26%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

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

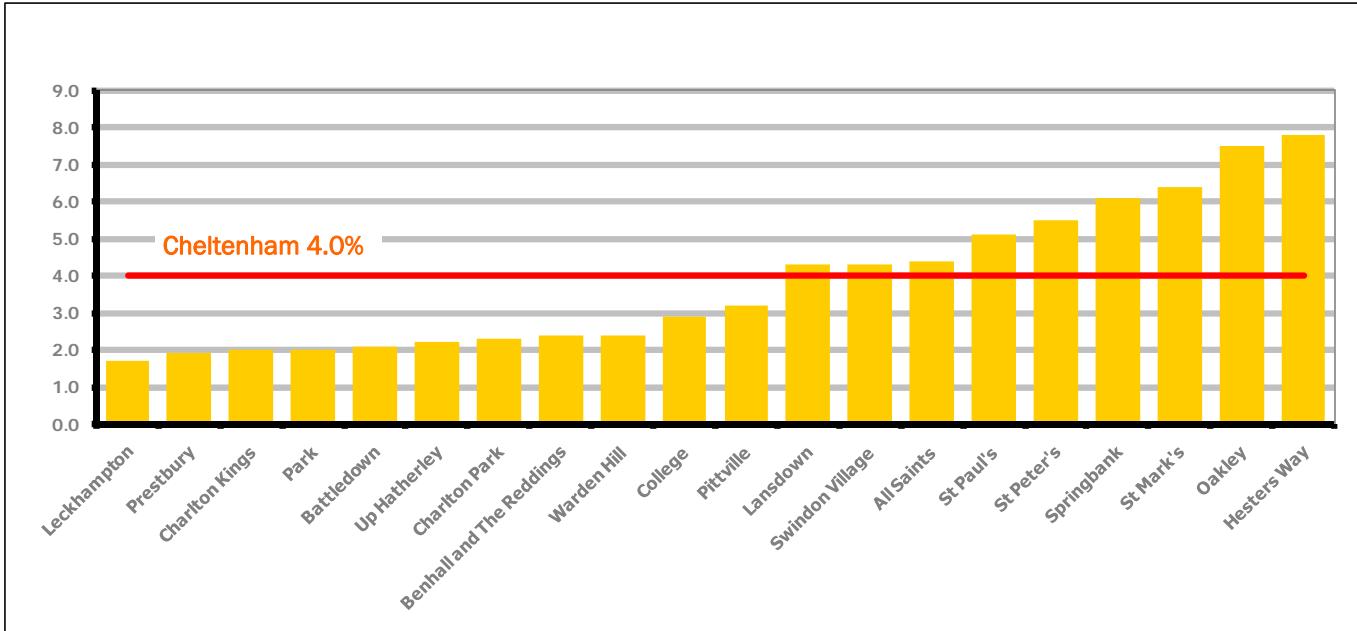
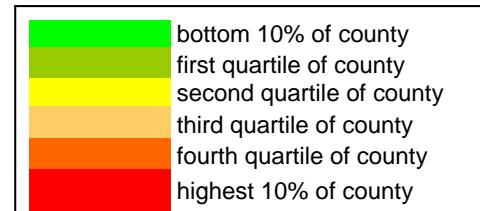


Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 4.0%. Nine wards lie above the average.

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

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	1.7	19
Cheltenham	Prestbury	1.9	31
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	2.0	37
Cheltenham	Park	2.0	37
Cheltenham	Battledown	2.1	45
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	2.2	50
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	2.3	55
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	2.4	58
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	2.4	58
Cheltenham	College	2.9	81
Cheltenham	Pittville	3.2	90
Cheltenham	Lansdown	4.3	113
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	4.3	113
Cheltenham	All Saints	4.4	116
Cheltenham	St Paul's	5.1	125
Cheltenham	St Peter's	5.5	128
Cheltenham	Springbank	6.1	132
Cheltenham	St Mark's	6.4	134
Cheltenham	Oakley	7.5	138
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	7.8	141



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

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

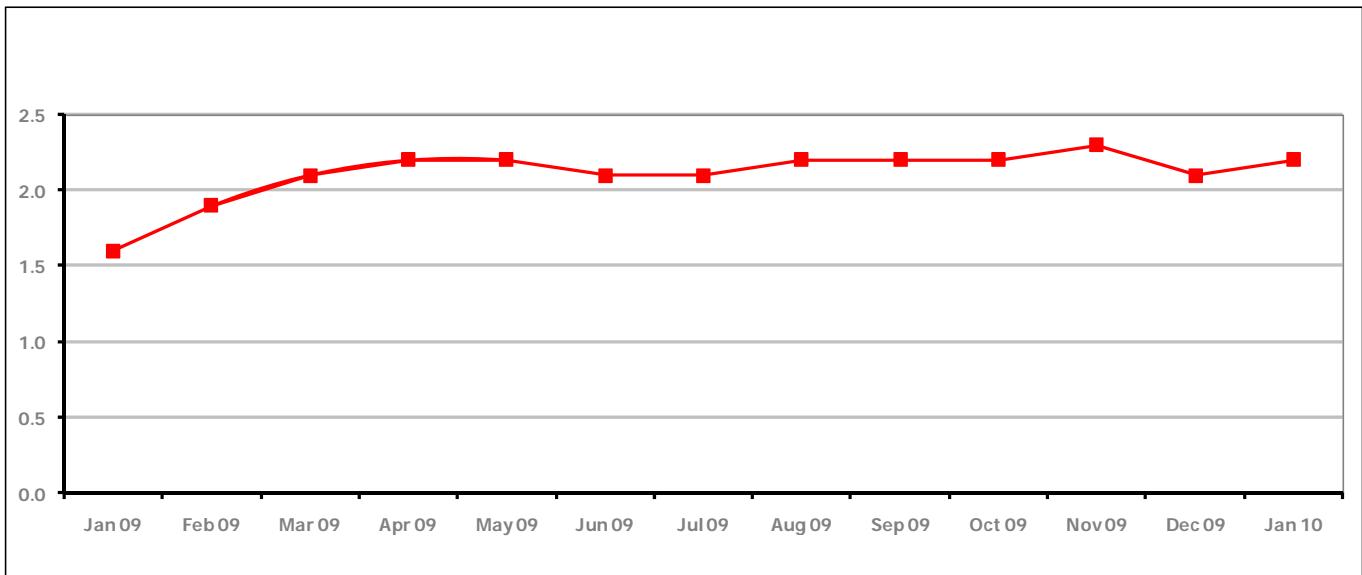
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.2 Cotswold District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 7: Cotswold District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District increased in January 2010 to 2.2%.

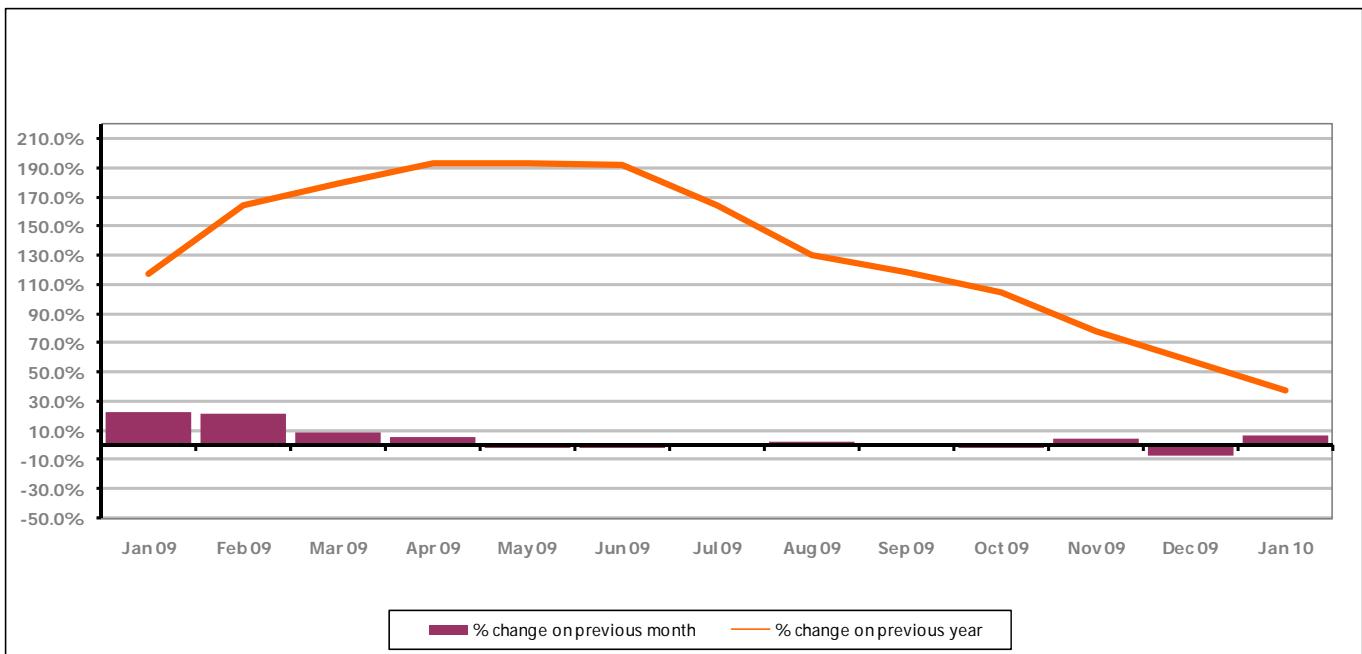
Figure 8: Cotswold District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 8 shows the claimant count increased by 7.0% since December 2009. The change on the previous year has decreased from December 2009 to January 2010 to 38%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.2 Cotswold District continued...

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

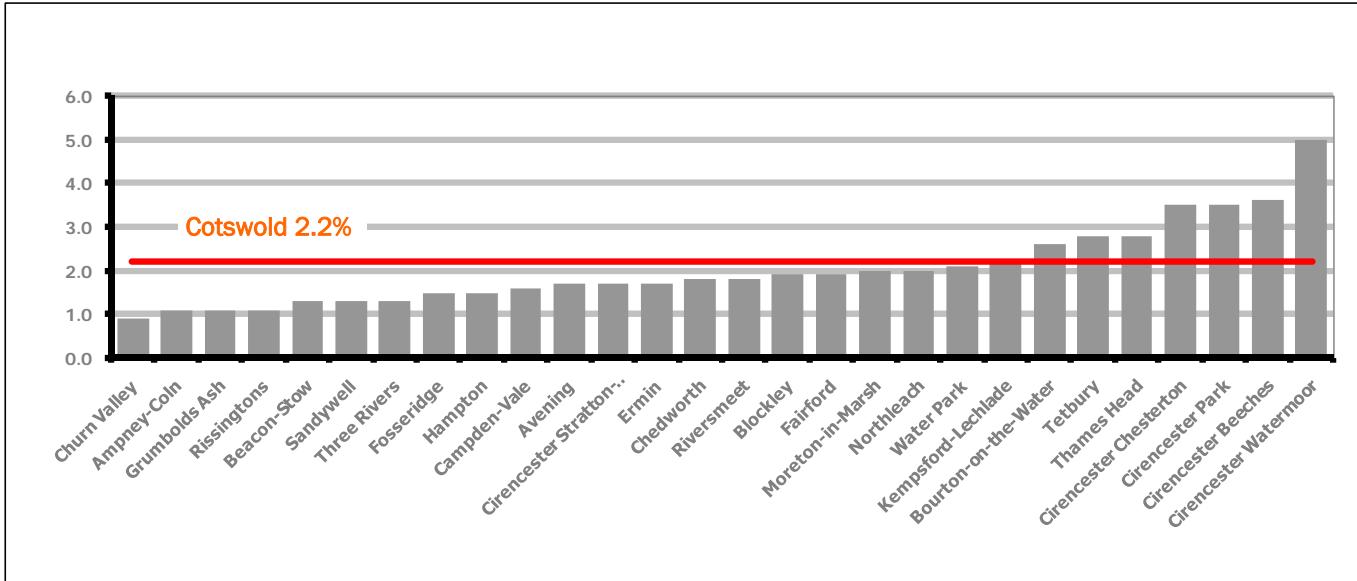
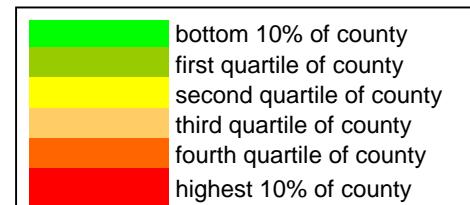


Figure 9 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 2.2%. Seven wards lie above the average.

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

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswolds	Churn Valley	0.9	2
Cotswolds	Ampney-Colin	1.1	6
Cotswolds	Grumbolds Ash	1.1	6
Cotswolds	Rissingtons	1.1	6
Cotswolds	Beacon-Stow	1.3	10
Cotswolds	Sandywell	1.3	10
Cotswolds	Three Rivers	1.3	10
Cotswolds	Fosseridge	1.5	14
Cotswolds	Hampton	1.5	14
Cotswolds	Campden-Vale	1.6	17
Cotswolds	Avening	1.7	19
Cotswolds	Cirencester Stratton-Whiteway	1.7	19
Cotswolds	Ermin	1.7	19
Cotswolds	Chedworth	1.8	25
Cotswolds	Riversmeet	1.8	25
Cotswolds	Blockley	1.9	31
Cotswolds	Fairford	1.9	31
Cotswolds	Moreton-in-Marsh	2.0	37
Cotswolds	Northleach	2.0	37
Cotswolds	Water Park	2.1	45
Cotswolds	Kempsford-Lechlade	2.2	50
Cotswolds	Bourton-on-the-Water	2.6	71
Cotswolds	Tetbury	2.8	78
Cotswolds	Thames Head	2.8	78
Cotswolds	Cirencester Chesterton	3.5	97
Cotswolds	Cirencester Park	3.5	97
Cotswolds	Cirencester Beeches	3.6	103
Cotswolds	Cirencester Watermoor	5.0	123



* 1 = "best" and 123 = "worst"

Table 6 shows overall claimant rates for Cotswold District wards and their position relative to all wards in Gloucestershire.

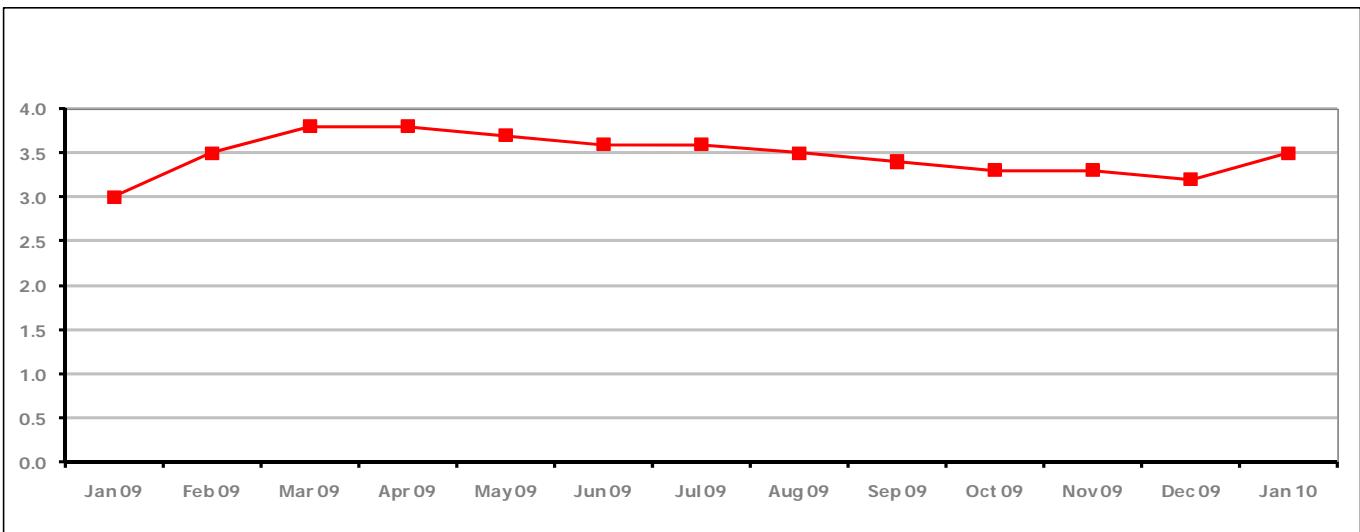
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.3 Forest of Dean District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 10: Forest of Dean District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 10 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean increased in January 2010 to 3.5%. The first increase since August 2009.

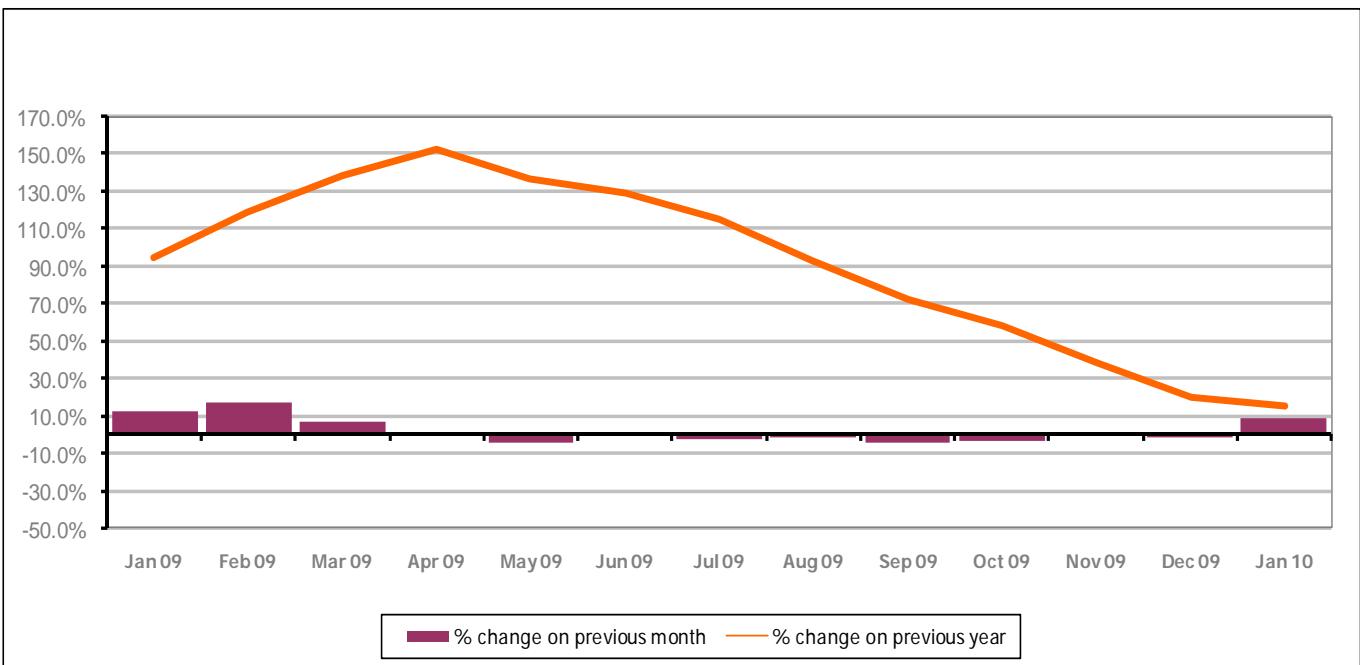
Figure 11: Forest of Dean District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 11 shows the claimant count increased by 8.7% since December 2009. The change on the previous year decreased between January 2010 and December 2009 to 16%.

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 - January 2010

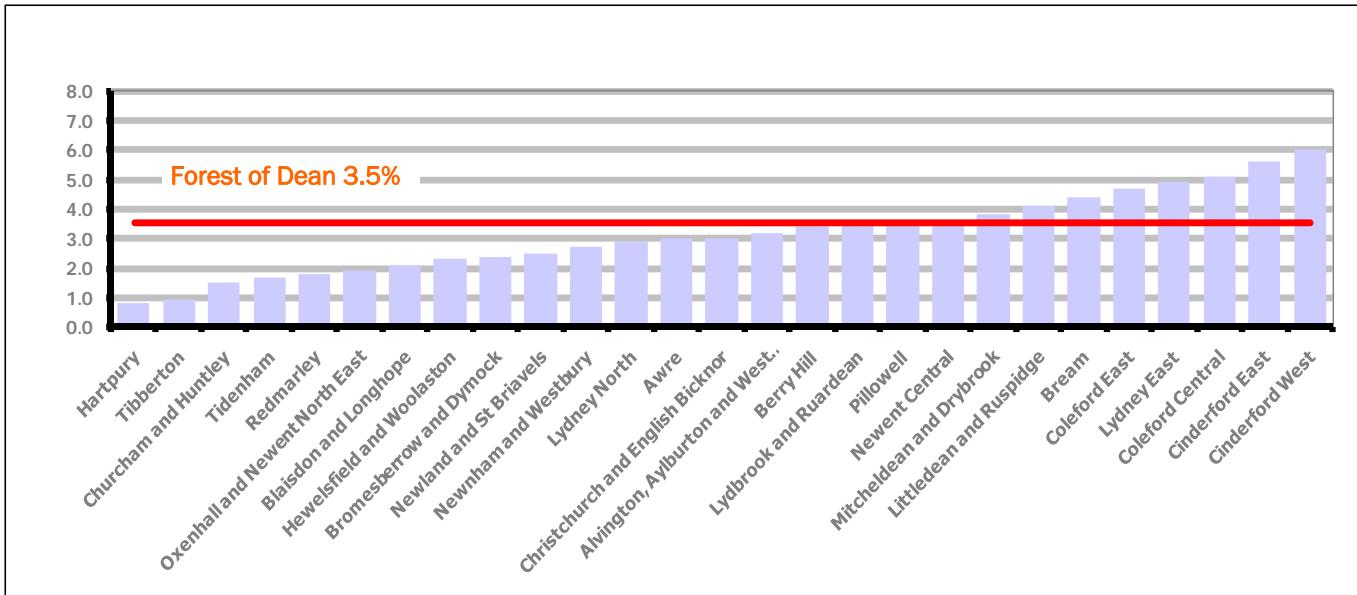
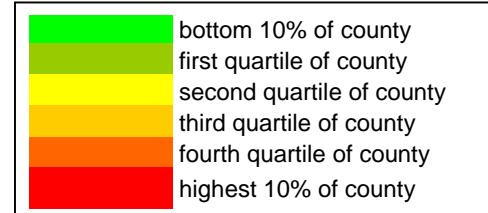


Figure 12 shows the claimant rates for Forest of Dean District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.5%. Nine wards lie above the average.

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

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Hartpury	0.8	1
Forest	Tibberton	0.9	2
Forest	Churcham and Huntley	1.5	14
Forest	Tidenham	1.7	19
Forest	Redmarley	1.8	25
Forest	Oxenhall and Newent North East	1.9	31
Forest	Blaiston and Longhope	2.1	45
Forest	Hewelsfield and Woolaston	2.3	55
Forest	Bromesberrow and Dymock	2.4	58
Forest	Newland and St Briavels	2.5	67
Forest	Newnham and Westbury	2.7	76
Forest	Lydney North	2.9	81
Forest	Awre	3.0	85
Forest	Christchurch and English Bicknor	3.0	85
Forest	Alvington, Aylburton and West Lydney	3.2	90
Forest	Berry Hill	3.4	92
Forest	Lydbrook and Ruardean	3.5	97
Forest	Pillowell	3.5	97
Forest	Newent Central	3.6	103
Forest	Mitcheldean and Drybrook	3.8	108
Forest	Littledean and Ruspidge	4.1	110
Forest	Bream	4.4	116
Forest	Coleford East	4.7	120
Forest	Lydney East	4.9	122
Forest	Coleford Central	5.1	125
Forest	Cinderford East	5.6	129
Forest	Cinderford West	6.0	131



* 1 = "best" and 131 = "worst"

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

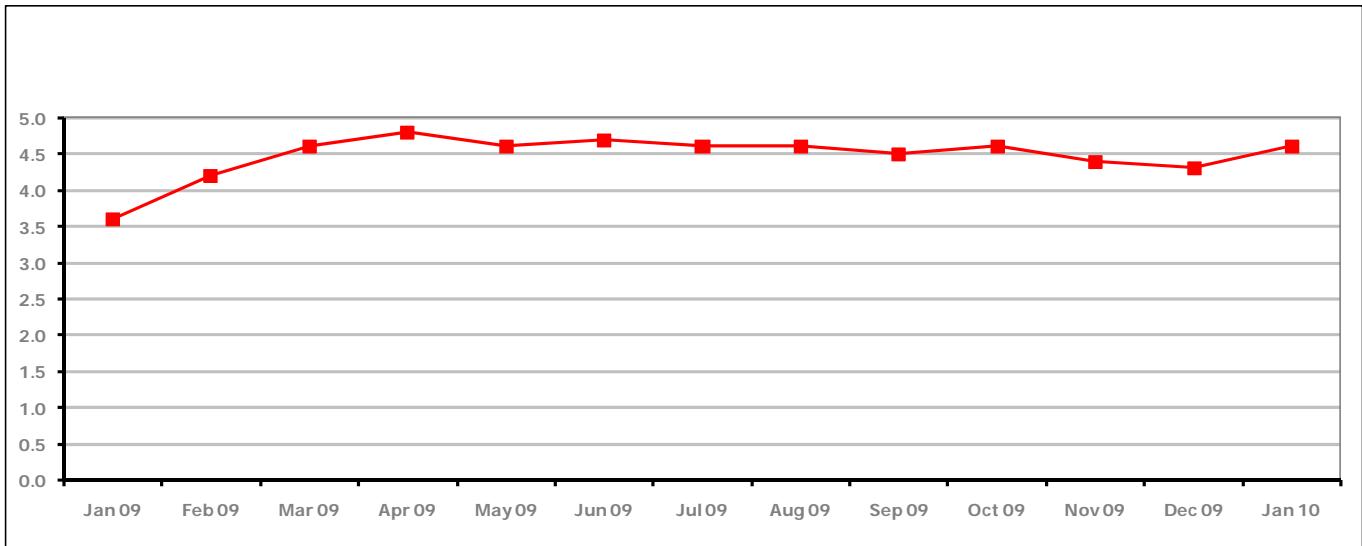
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.4 Gloucester City****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 13: Gloucester City claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City increased in January 2010 to 4.6%.

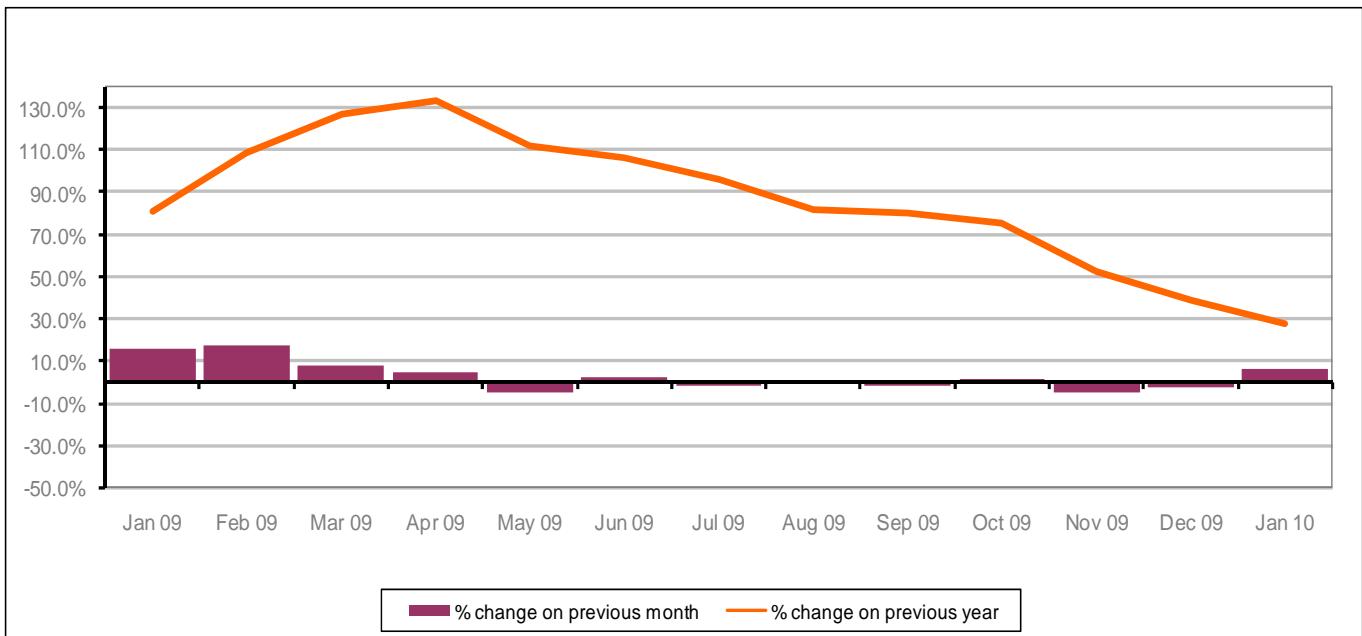
Figure 14: Gloucester City claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 14 shows the monthly claimant count increased by 6.5% since December 2009. The change on the previous year has decreased between December 2009 and January 2010 to 27%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.4 Gloucester City continued...

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

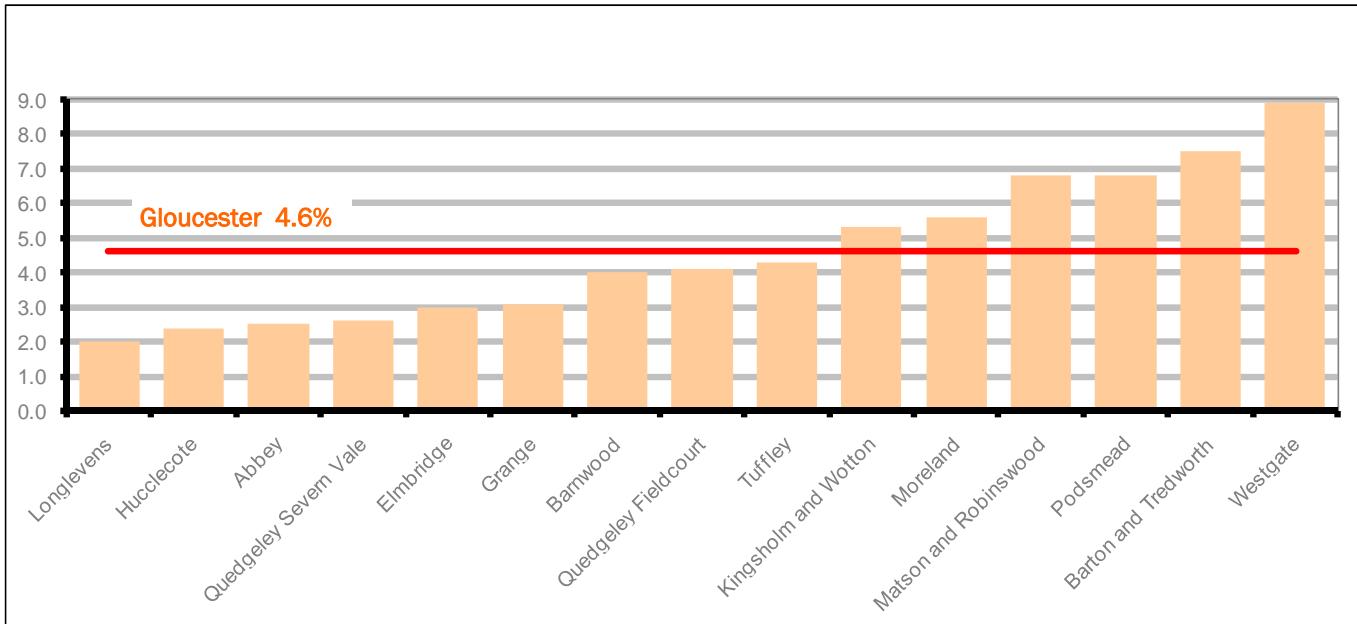
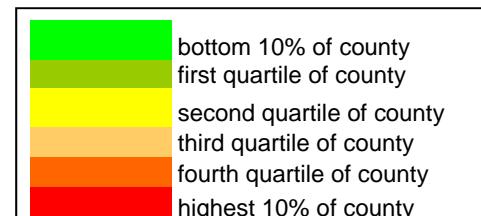


Figure 15 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 4.6%. Six wards lie above the average.

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

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Longlevens	2.0	37
Gloucester	Hucclecote	2.4	58
Gloucester	Abbey	2.5	67
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	2.6	71
Gloucester	Elmbridge	3.0	85
Gloucester	Grange	3.1	88
Gloucester	Barnwood	4.0	109
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	4.1	110
Gloucester	Tuffley	4.3	113
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	5.3	127
Gloucester	Moreland	5.6	129
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	6.8	136
Gloucester	Podsmead	6.8	136
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	7.5	138
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.

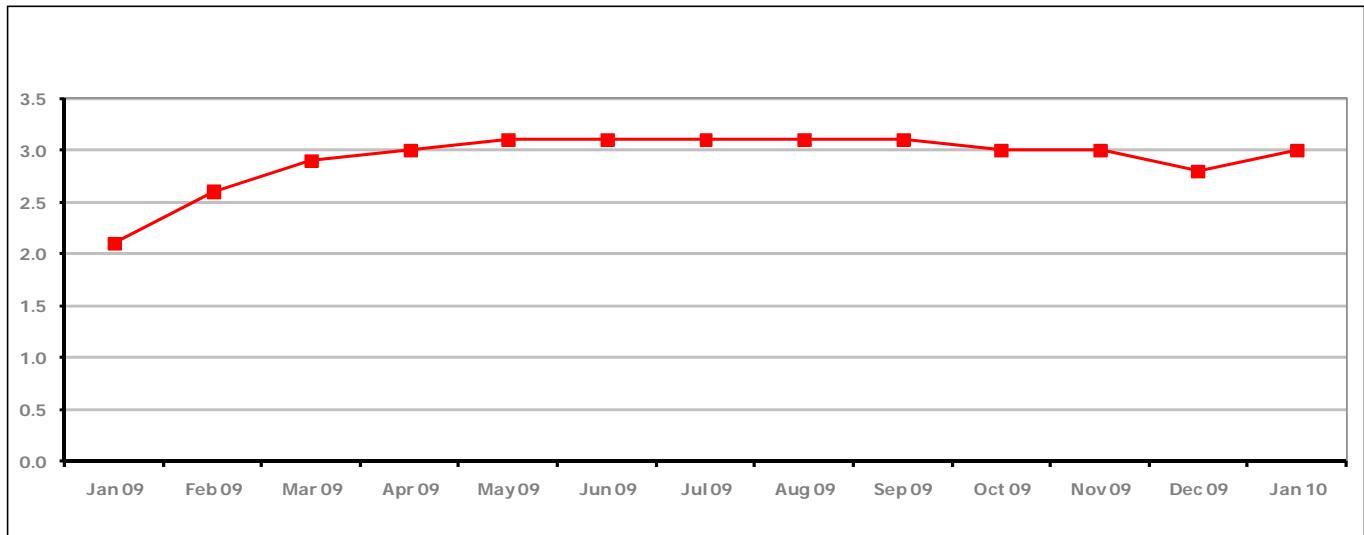
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.5 Stroud District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 16: Stroud District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 16 shows the claimant rate for Stroud District increased in January 2010 to 3.0%. The first increase since May 2009.

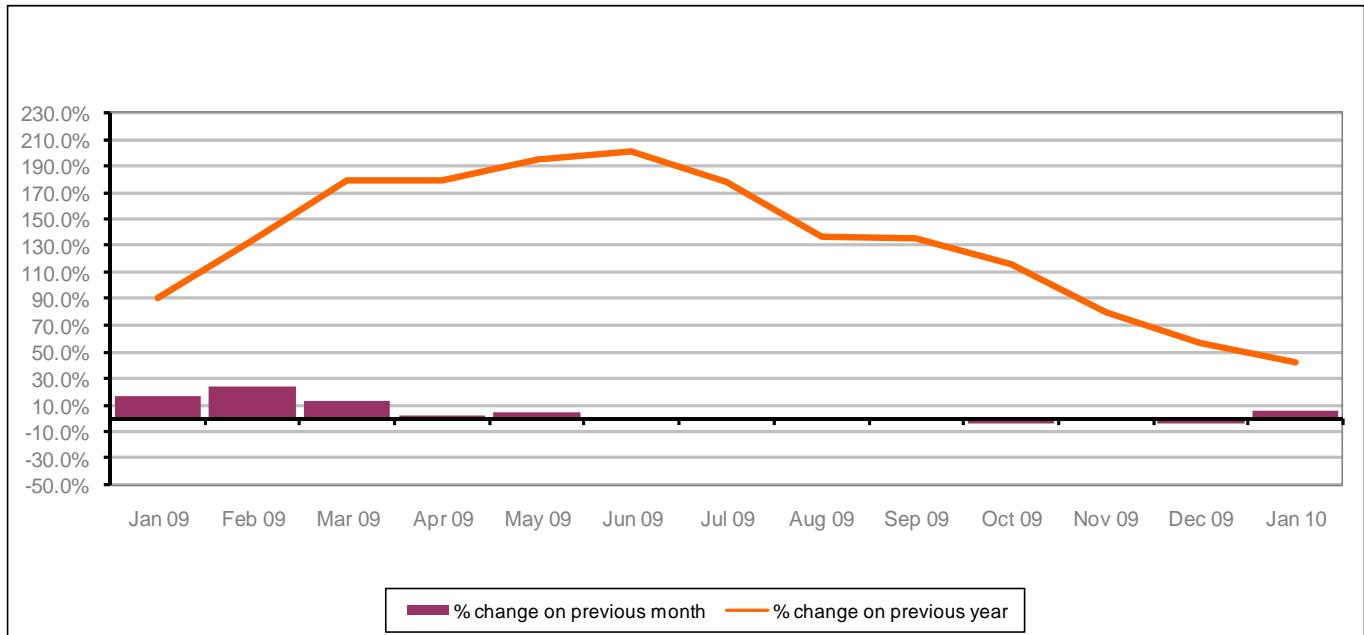
Figure 17: Stroud District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 17 shows the monthly claimant count increased by 5.5% since December 2009. The change on the previous year has decreased between December 2009 and January 2010 to 43%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.5 Stroud District continued...

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

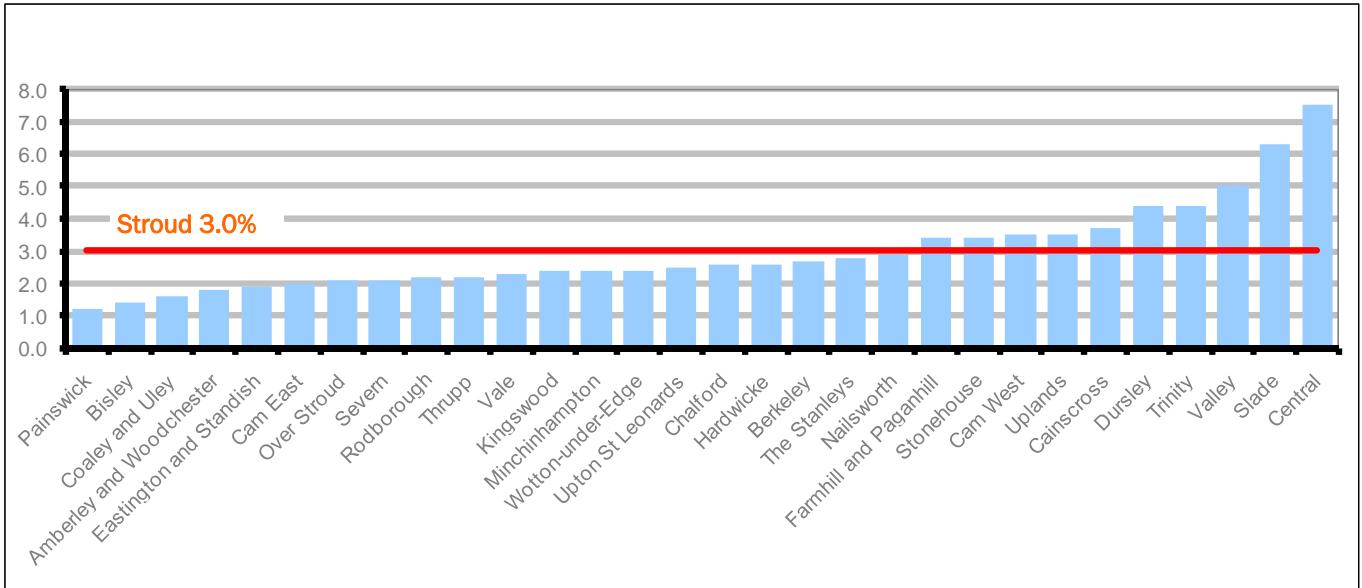
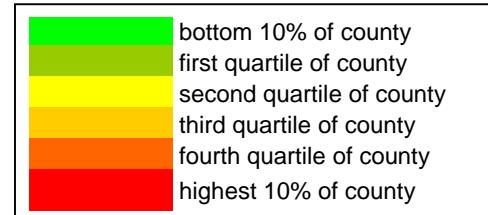


Figure 18 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.0%. Ten wards are above the average.

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

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Painswick	1.2	9
Stroud	Bisley	1.4	13
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	1.6	17
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	1.8	25
Stroud	Eastington and Standish	1.9	31
Stroud	Cam East	2.0	37
Stroud	Over Stroud	2.1	45
Stroud	Severn	2.1	45
Stroud	Rodborough	2.2	50
Stroud	Thrupp	2.2	50
Stroud	Vale	2.3	55
Stroud	Kingswood	2.4	58
Stroud	Minchinhampton	2.4	58
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	2.4	58
Stroud	Upton St Leonards	2.5	67
Stroud	Chalford	2.6	71
Stroud	Hardwicke	2.6	71
Stroud	Berkeley	2.7	76
Stroud	The Stanleys	2.8	78
Stroud	Nailsworth	2.9	81
Stroud	Farmhill and Paganhill	3.4	92
Stroud	Stonehouse	3.4	92
Stroud	Cam West	3.5	97
Stroud	Uplands	3.5	97
Stroud	Cainscross	3.7	107
Stroud	Dursley	4.4	116
Stroud	Trinity	4.4	116
Stroud	Valley	5.0	123
Stroud	Slade	6.3	133
Stroud	Central	7.5	138



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

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

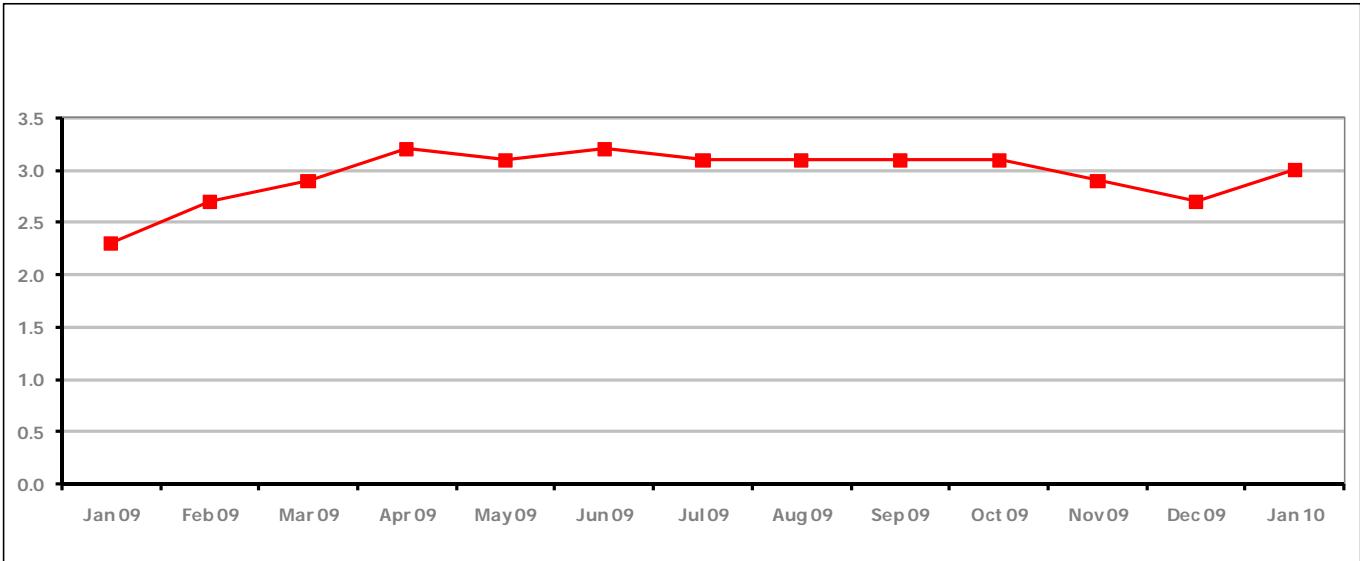
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.6 Tewkesbury District****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 19: Tewkesbury District claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 19 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury District increased in January 2010 to 3.0%. The first increase since August 2009.

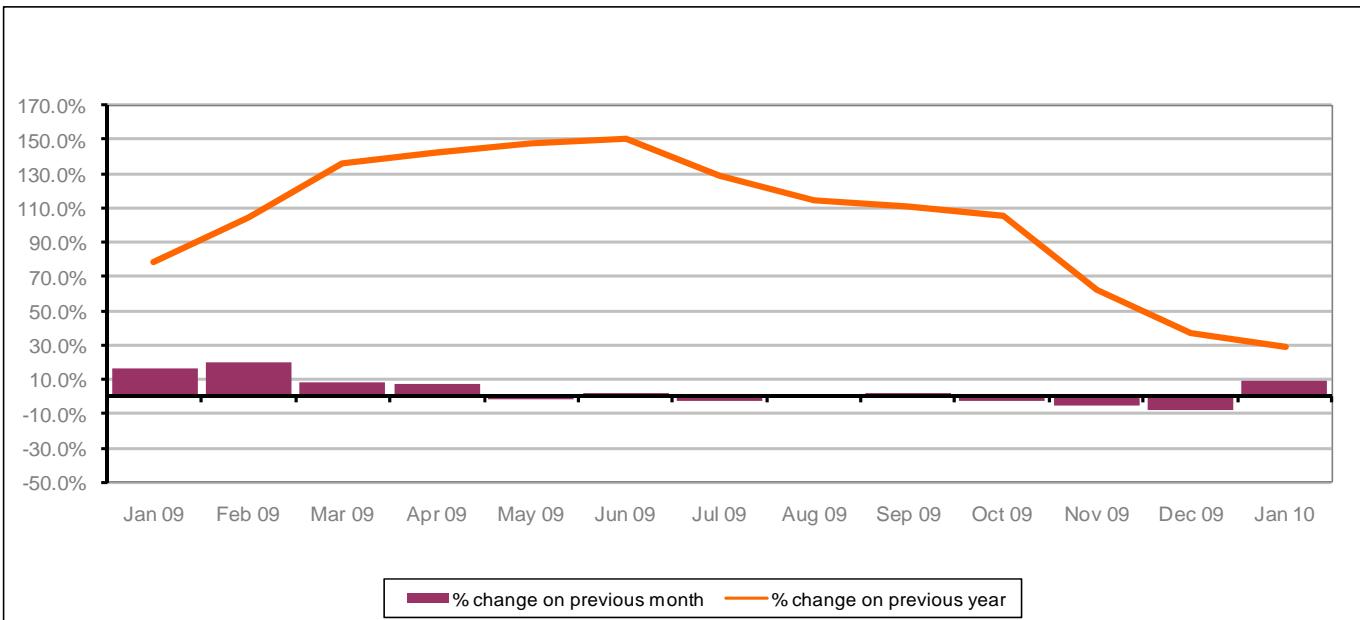
Figure 20: Tewkesbury District claimants - Month on Month and Year on Year change

Figure 20 shows that the monthly claimant count increased in January 2010 by 9.5%. The change on the previous year decreased between December 2009 and January 2010 to 29%.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.6 Tewkesbury District continued...

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

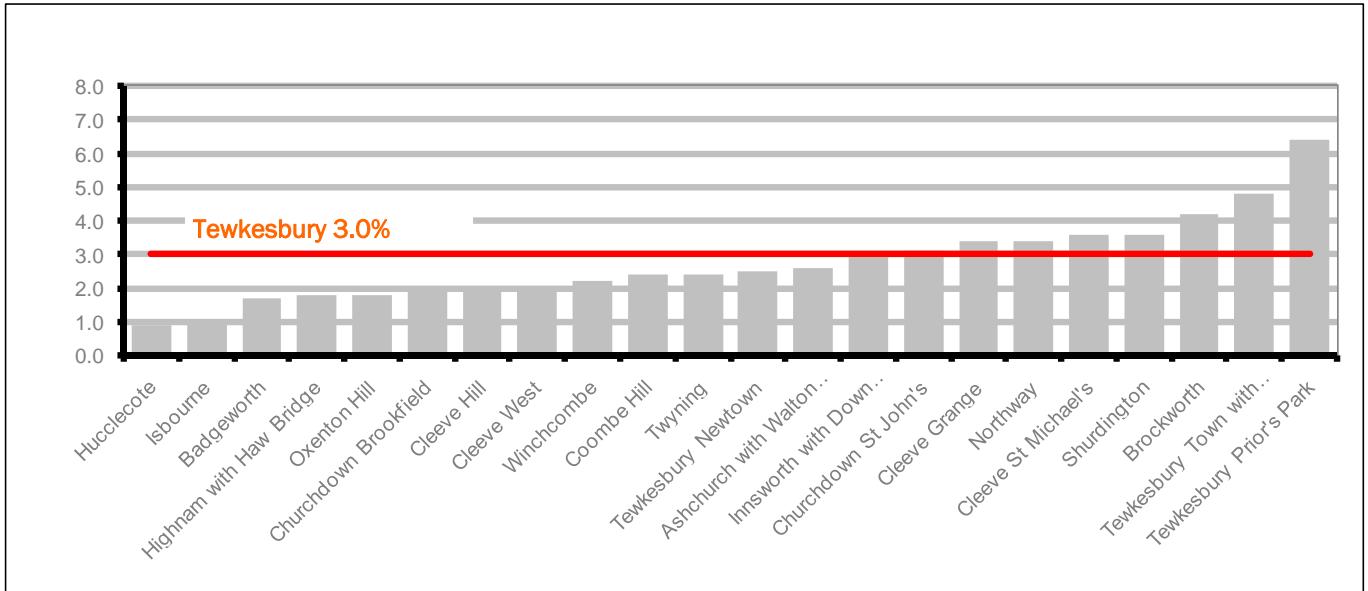
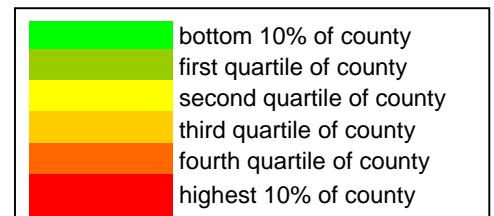


Figure 21 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.0% and eight wards are above the average.

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

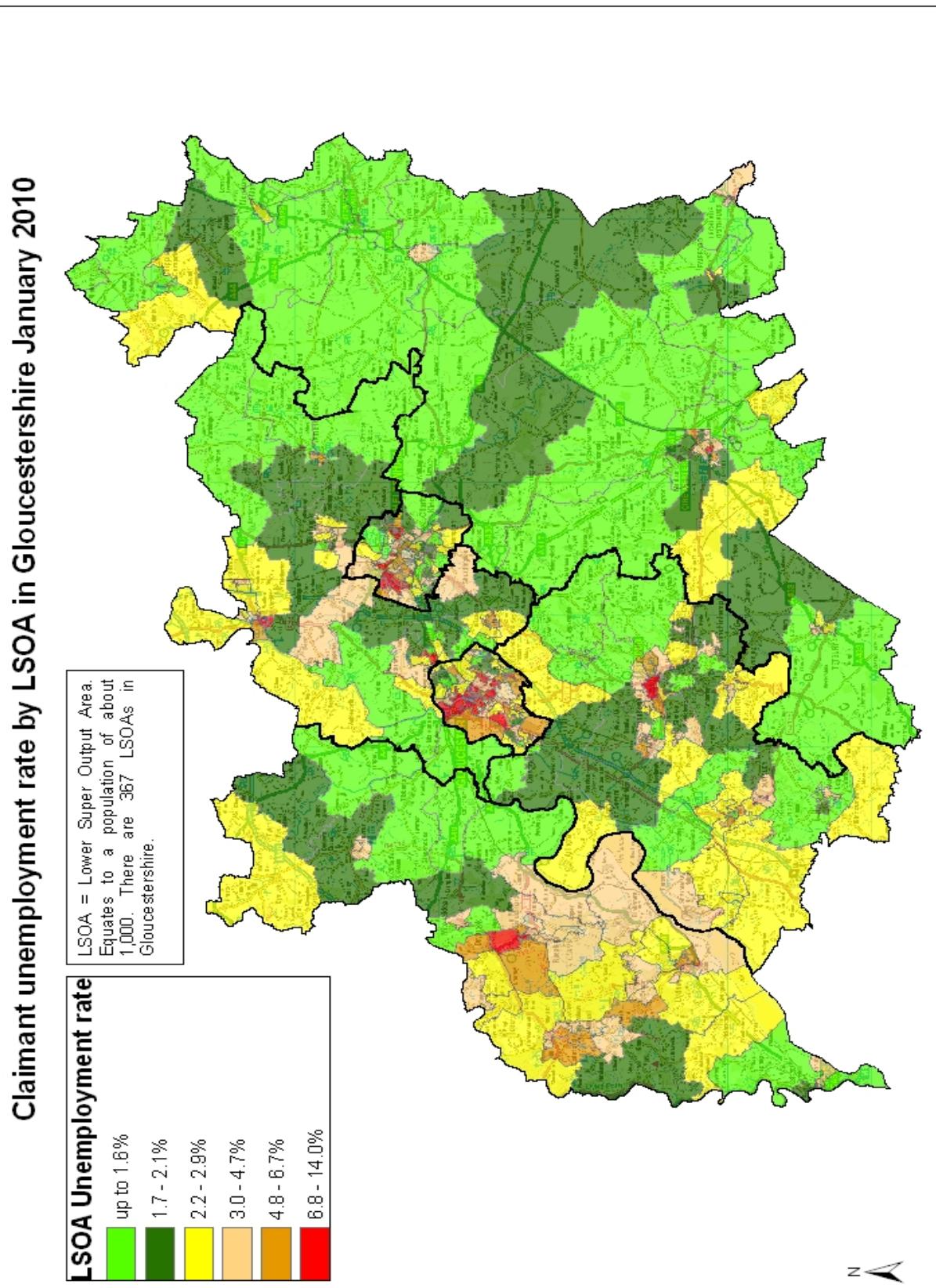
District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Hucclecote	0.9	2
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	1.0	5
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	1.7	19
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	1.8	25
Tewkesbury	Oxenton Hill	1.8	25
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield	1.9	31
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	2.0	37
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	2.0	37
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	2.2	50
Tewkesbury	Coombe Hill	2.4	58
Tewkesbury	Twynning	2.4	58
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Newtown	2.5	67
Tewkesbury	Ashchurch with Walton Cardiff	2.6	71
Tewkesbury	Innsworth with Down Hatherley	2.9	81
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	3.1	88
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	3.4	92
Tewkesbury	Northway	3.4	92
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	3.6	103
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	3.6	103
Tewkesbury	Brockworth	4.2	112
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Town with Mitton	4.8	121
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Prior's Park	6.4	134



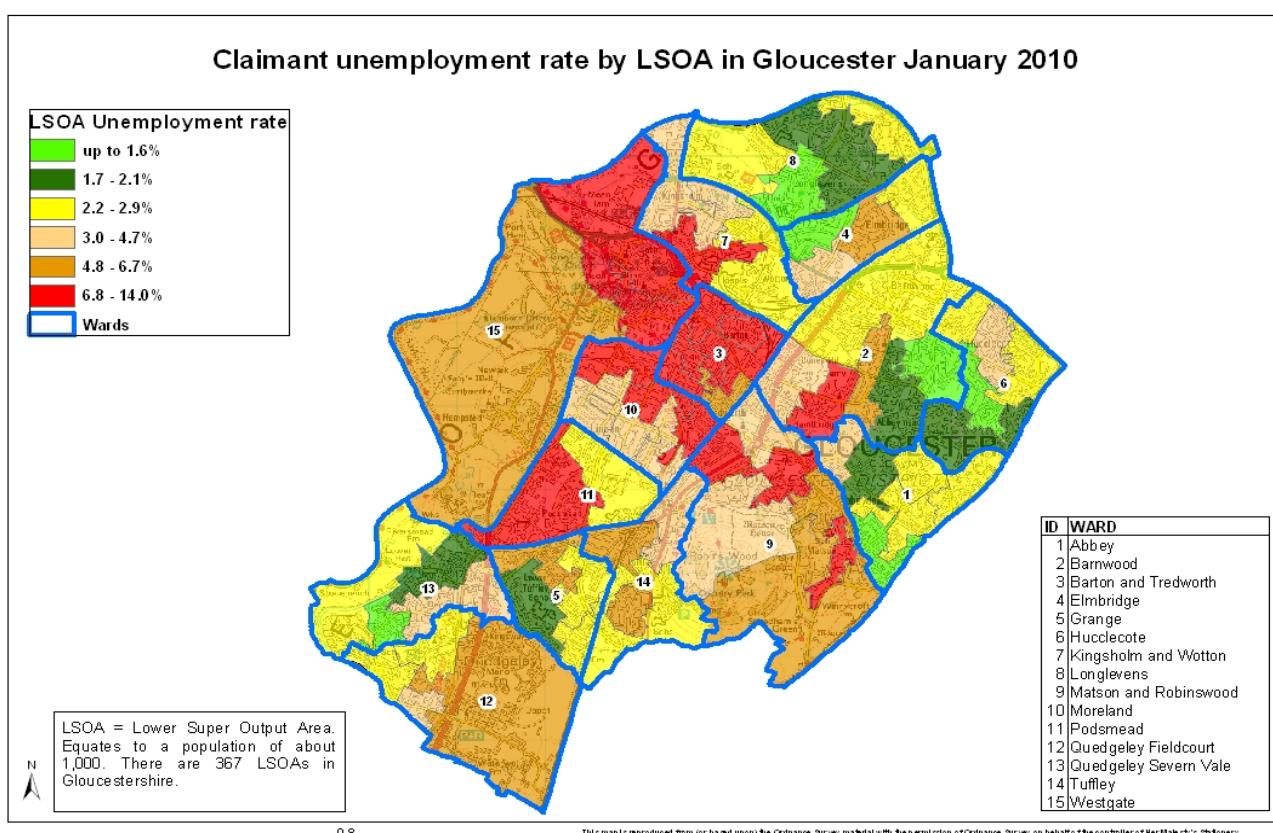
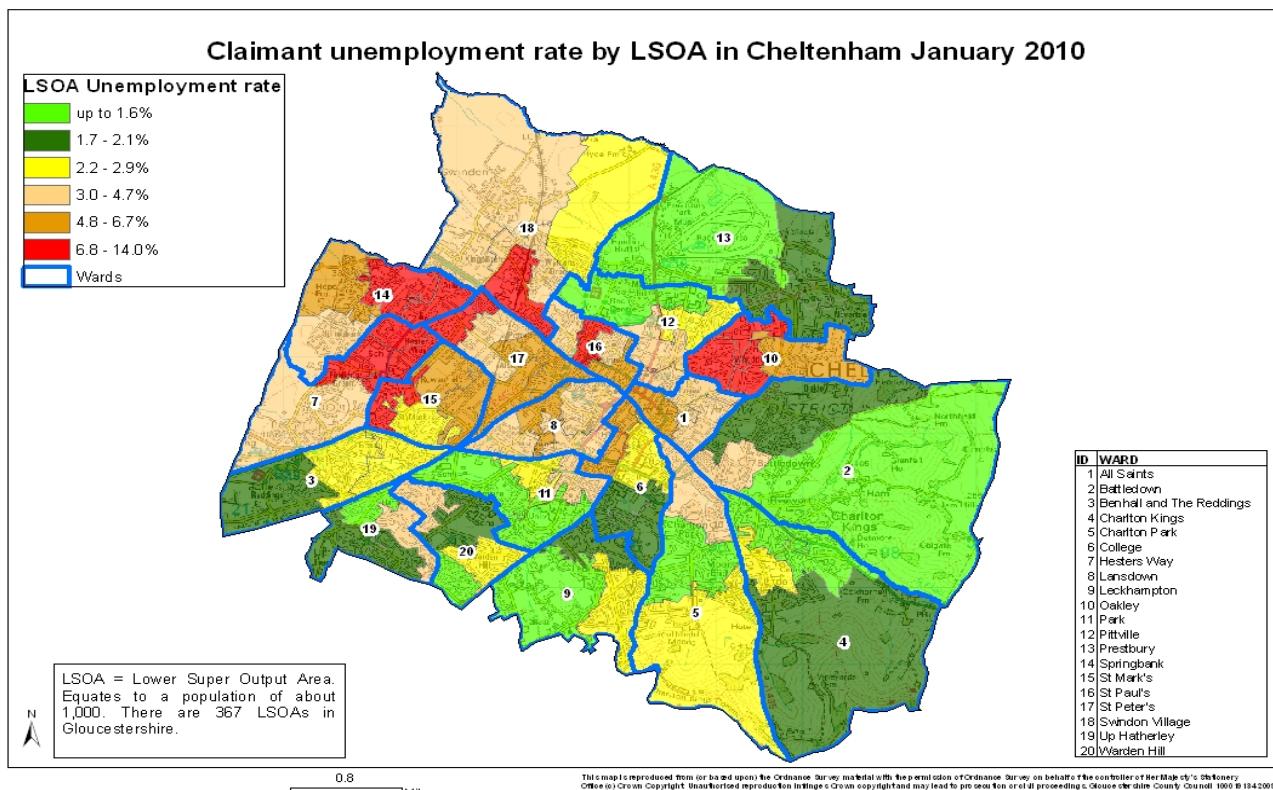
* 1 = "best" and 142 = "worst"

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 January 2010 there were 603 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 3.7%. This figure evidences a 0.3% decrease from the performance achieved at the end of December 2009. All but one of the area Teams have seen a reduction in NEETs this month compared to last month. January's performance is of particular significance as it is the last of the three consecutive months from which NEET performance is calculated, to provide a measurement against this years LAA NEET target.

Total NEET Group by District Area 31st January 2010

	Cheltenham	Cotswold	Forest	Gloucester	Stroud	Tewkesbury	Total
Number of NEET	134	65	81	165	106	52	603
Cohort	2863	2535	2685	4835	3015	2055	17988
% NEET	4.7%	2.6%	3.0%	3.4%	3.5%	2.5%	3.7%

January Guarantee

The Prime Minister announced on 18th November plans to build on the September guarantee by guaranteeing the offer of a place on an Entry to Employment programme to all 16 and 17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) in January 2010.

January is a key point in the year when additional support is needed. Seasonal employment and short courses come to an end and some young people realise that their initial choice was not right for them and do not return to school/College after the Christmas holiday. This Guarantee will allow young people who are NEET to reengage quickly in positive and productive learning, remain motivated and engaged. We will thereby reduce the risk of long term disengagement.

In Gloucestershire we are supporting this and have contacted young people for whom the guarantee applies to encourage them to take up this opportunity.

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