

# Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 128 March 2019

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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](https://www.ons.gov.uk/universal-credit).

## 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 **1.8% in March 2019**. The South West rate remained the same as last month at 2.0% and the UK rate increased to 2.7%. Gloucestershire's rate was 0.2% lower than the South West average of 2.0%, and 0.9% lower than the UK average of 2.7%.

The claimant count in Gloucestershire in March 2019 increased by **225 people**. The amount of people claiming in March 2019 was 3.3% higher than the number in February 2019. This compares to a 2.3% increase in the South West and a 3.6% increase for the UK.

Produced by:

**Data & Analysis Team**  
Planning, Performance and Change  
Gloucestershire County Council  
April 2019

## 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 March 2019

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

**Claimant rate:** The % of working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work in February 2019

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

### CHELTEMHAM BOROUGH

Claim count:	1,320
Compared to last month:	1.9%
Claimant rate:	1.8%
Highest claiming ward	Hester's Way (4.4%)

### GLOUCESTER CITY

Claim count:	2,095
Compared to last month:	2.7%
Claimant rate:	2.6%
Highest claiming wards	Westgate (5.2%)

### COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claim count:	680
Compared to last month:	3.8%
Claimant rate:	1.3%
Highest claiming ward	Watermoor (3.6%)

### STROUD DISTRICT

Claim count:	925
Compared to last month:	3.4%
Claimant rate:	1.3%
Highest claiming wards	Slade (3.2%)

### FOREST OF DEAN

Claim count:	1,110
Compared to last month:	4.2%
Claimant rate:	2.2%
Highest claiming ward	Cinderford West (4.1%)

### TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claim count:	830
Compared to last month:	5.7%
Claimant rate:	1.5%
Highest claiming ward	Tewkesbury Prior's Park (3.6%)

## 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

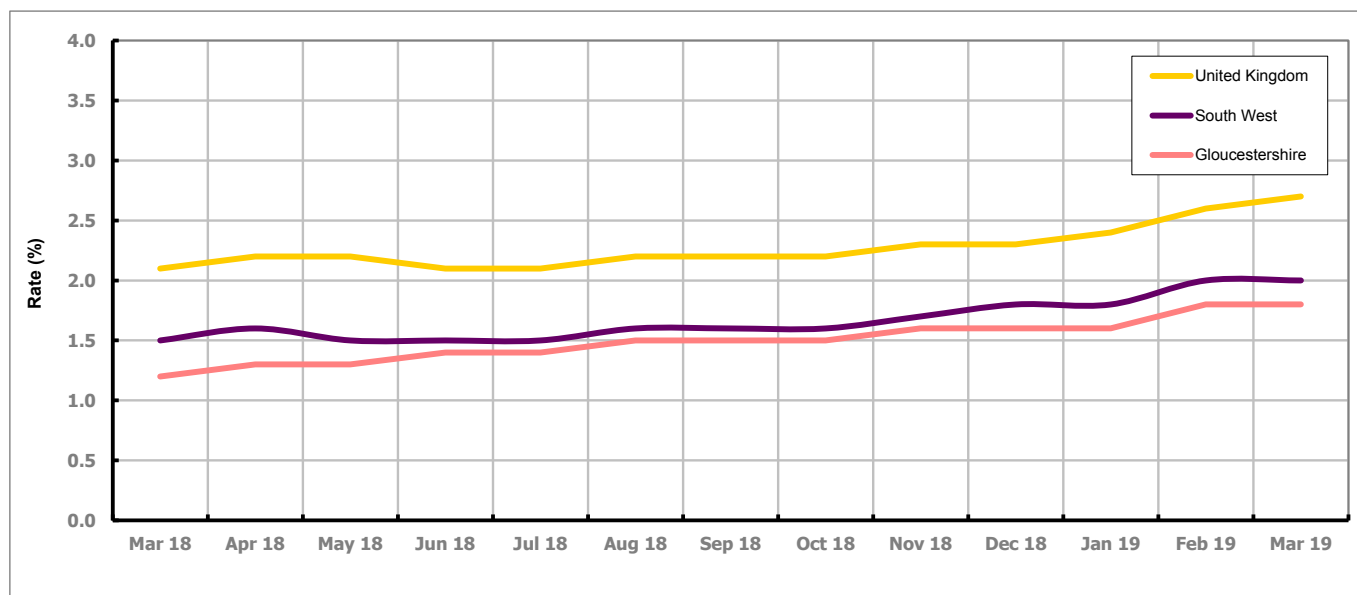


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 1.8% in March 2019. The Gloucestershire rate has been lower than the South West average since December 2015, with the exception of April and May 2016 when it was the same. It has been persistently lower by approximately 0.8% against the UK average.

### Claimant Count

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

Area	Claimant Count in March 2019	% change on February 2019	Consecutive months increasing
UK	1,100,090	3.6%	8
South West	68,040	2.3%	8
Gloucestershire	6,960	3.3%	9

Table 1 shows that in March 2019, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 3.3% higher than the number in February 2019.

## PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 2: Claimant Rate (%) across Gloucestershire - March 2019

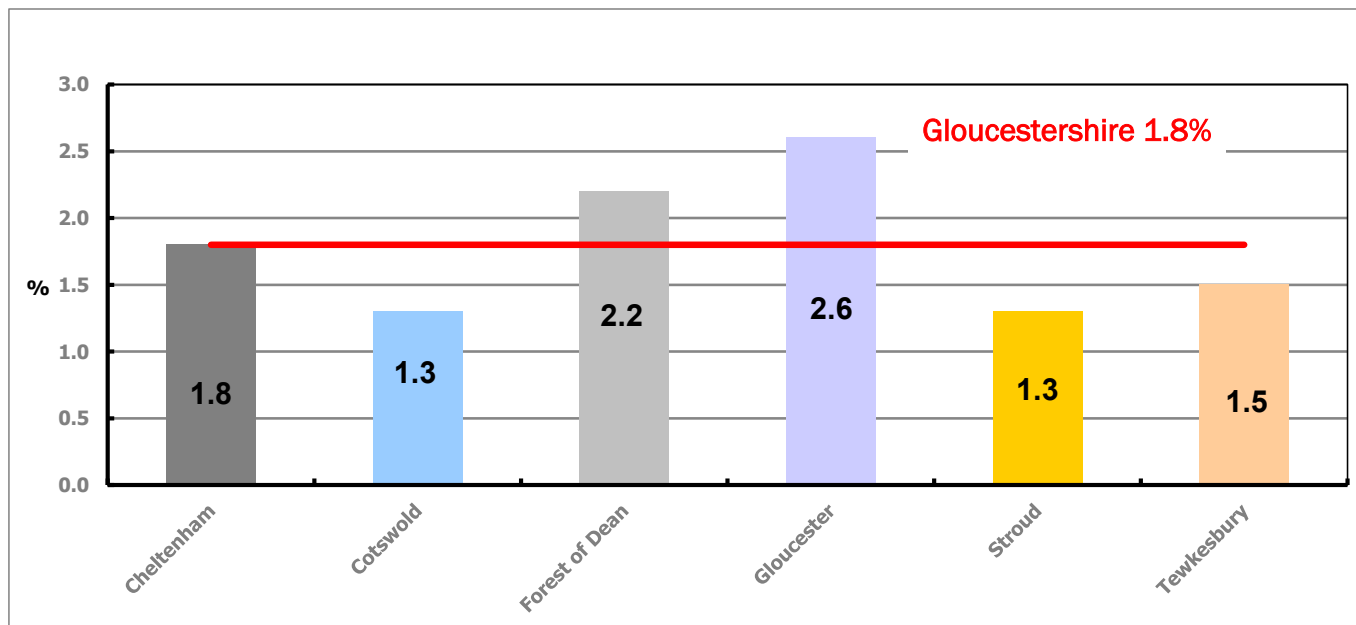


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for March 2019 in Gloucestershire. Between February 2019 and March 2019, the rate increased in Cheltenham, Forest of Dean and Gloucester and remained the same in Cotswold, Stroud and Tewkesbury.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	Mar 19 Number	Mar 19 Rate	Feb 19 Number	Feb 19 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	6,960	1.8	6,735	1.8	225	3.3%	0.0
Cheltenham	1,320	1.8	1,295	1.7	25	1.9%	0.1
Cotswold	680	1.3	655	1.3	25	3.8%	0.0
Forest of Dean	1,110	2.2	1,065	2.1	45	4.2%	0.1
Gloucester	2,095	2.6	2,040	2.5	55	2.7%	0.1
Stroud	925	1.3	895	1.3	30	3.4%	0.0
Tewkesbury	830	1.5	785	1.5	45	5.7%	0.0

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in March 2019 compared to February 2019. All districts saw an increase in the number of claimants.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	Mar 19 Number	Mar 19 Rate	Feb 19 Number	Feb 19 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	4,050	2.1	3,900	2.0	150	3.8%	0.1
Cheltenham	800	2.2	775	2.1	25	3.2%	0.1
Cotswold	370	1.5	365	1.5	5	1.4%	0.0
Forest of Dean	640	2.5	610	2.4	30	4.9%	0.1
Gloucester	1,270	3.1	1,220	3.0	50	4.1%	0.1
Stroud	520	1.5	485	1.4	35	7.2%	0.1
Tewkesbury	450	1.7	440	1.7	10	2.3%	0.0

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in March 2019 compared to February 2019. All districts saw an increase in the number of male claimants.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	Mar 19 Number	Mar 19 Rate	Feb 19 Number	Feb 19 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
<b>Gloucestershire</b>	2,910	1.5	2,835	1.5	75	2.6%	0.0
Cheltenham	520	1.4	520	1.4	0	0.0%	0.0
Cotswold	305	1.2	290	1.1	15	5.2%	0.1
Forest of Dean	470	1.8	455	1.8	15	3.3%	0.0
Gloucester	830	2.0	820	2.0	10	1.2%	0.0
Stroud	405	1.1	405	1.1	0	0.0%	0.0
Tewkesbury	380	1.4	345	1.3	35	10.1%	0.1

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in March 2019 compared to February 2019. Cheltenham and Stroud saw no change in the number of female claimants, while all other districts saw an increase.

## 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

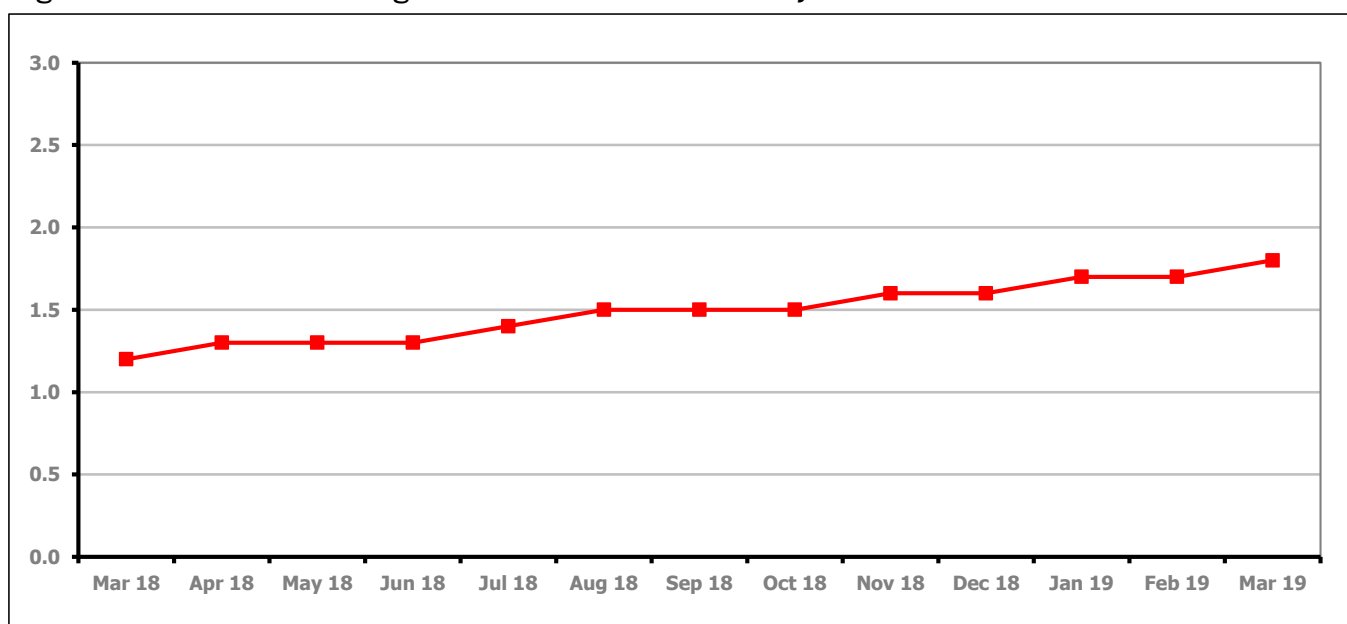


Figure 3 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham increased in March 2019 to 1.8%.

Figure 4: Claimant rates across Cheltenham Borough wards - March 2019

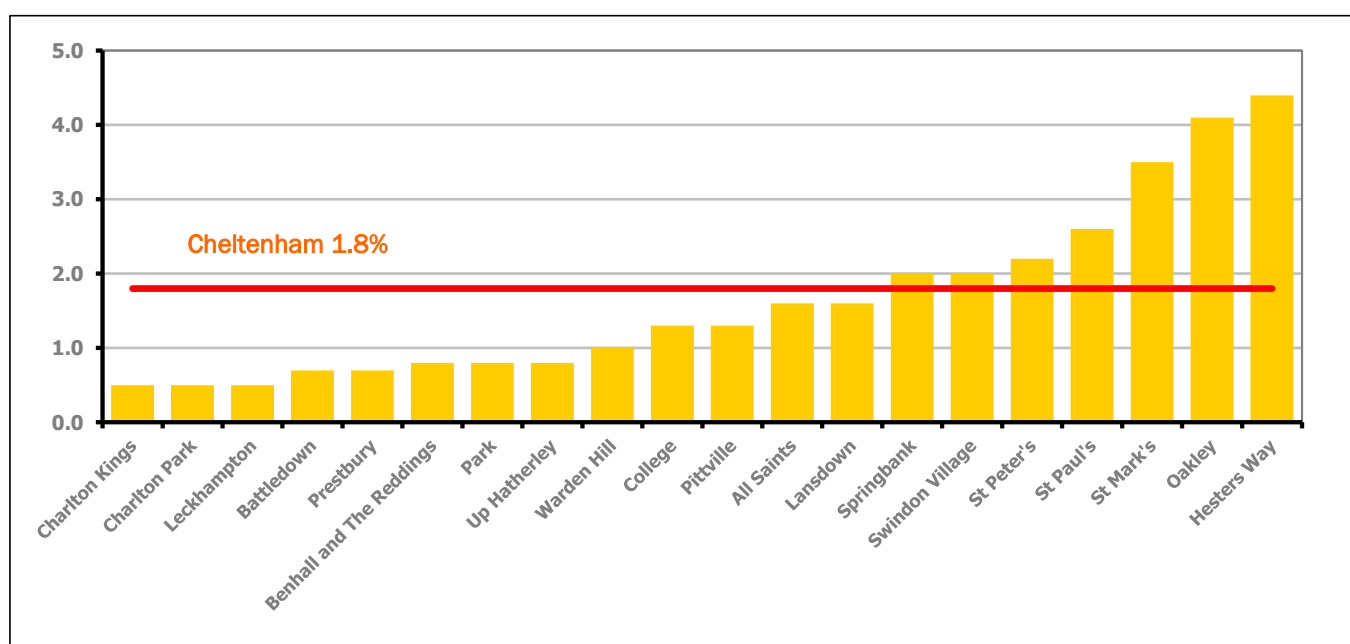


Figure 4 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 1.8%. Seven wards lie above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

Table 5: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cheltenham Borough ward level - March 2019

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	0.5	4
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	0.5	4
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	0.5	4
Cheltenham	Battledown	0.7	15
Cheltenham	Prestbury	0.7	15
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	0.8	22
Cheltenham	Park	0.8	22
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	0.8	22
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	1.0	38
Cheltenham	College	1.3	70
Cheltenham	Pittville	1.3	70
Cheltenham	All Saints	1.6	94
Cheltenham	Lansdown	1.6	94
Cheltenham	Springbank	2.0	108
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	2.0	108
Cheltenham	St Peter's	2.2	119
Cheltenham	St Paul's	2.6	125
Cheltenham	St Mark's	3.5	133
Cheltenham	Oakley	4.1	139
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	4.4	143

	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

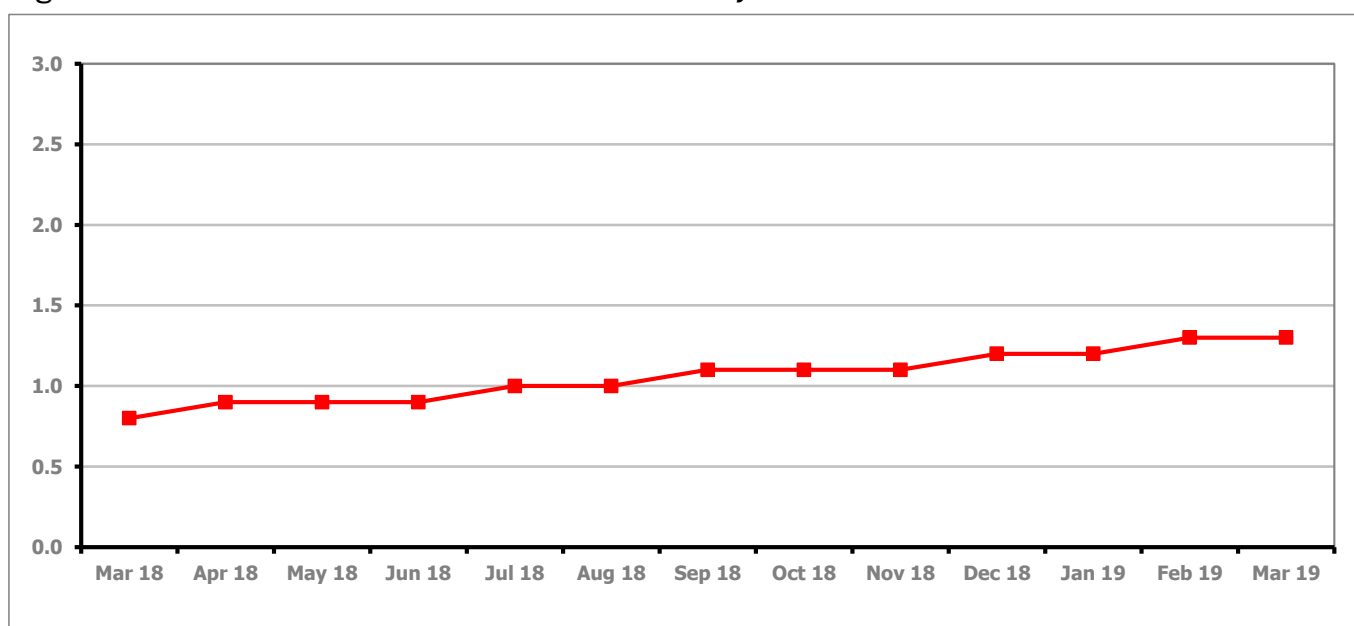


Figure 5 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District remained the same as last month at 1.3%.

Figure 6: Claimant rates across Cotswold District wards - March 2019

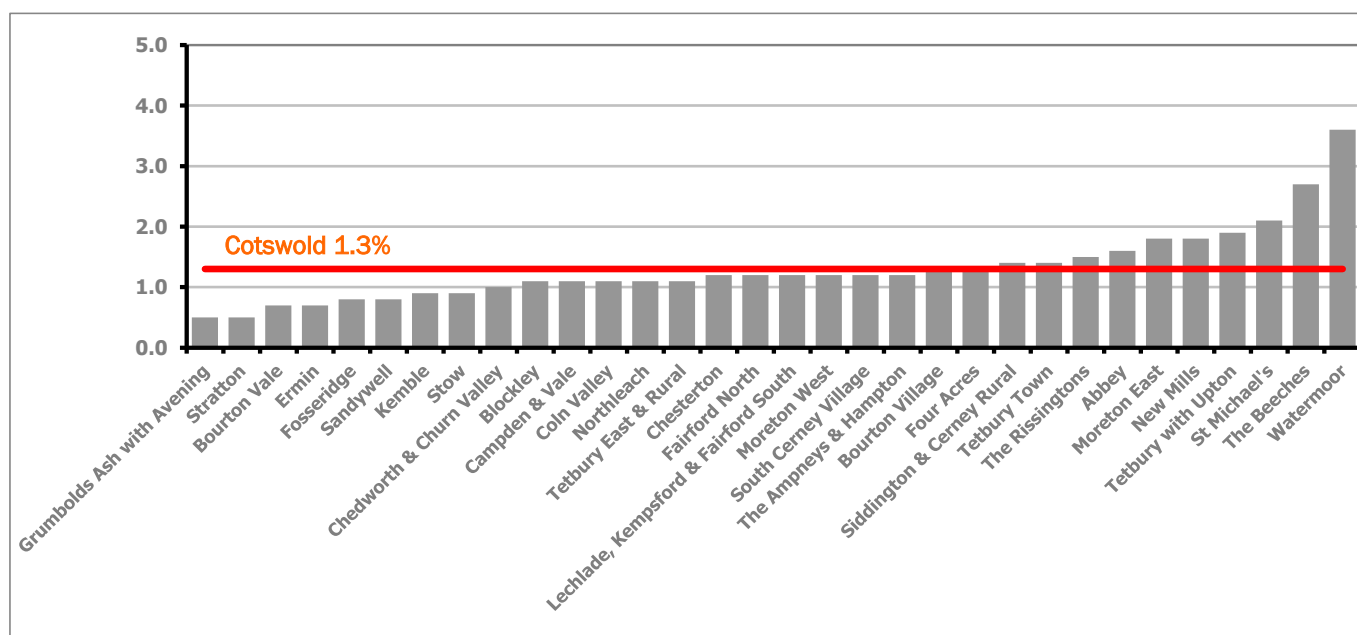


Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.3%. Ten wards lie above the average.



## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

## 4.2 Cotswold District continued...

Table 6: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cotswold District ward level - March 2019

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswolds	Grumbolds Ash with Avening	0.5	4
Cotswolds	Stratton	0.5	4
Cotswolds	Bourton Vale	0.7	15
Cotswolds	Ermin	0.7	15
Cotswolds	Fosseridge	0.8	22
Cotswolds	Sandywell	0.8	22
Cotswolds	Kemble	0.9	30
Cotswolds	Stow	0.9	30
Cotswolds	Chedworth & Churn Valley	1.0	38
Cotswolds	Blockley	1.1	47
Cotswolds	Campden & Vale	1.1	47
Cotswolds	Coln Valley	1.1	47
Cotswolds	Northleach	1.1	47
Cotswolds	Tetbury East & Rural	1.1	47
Cotswolds	Chesterton	1.2	57
Cotswolds	Fairford North	1.2	57
Cotswolds	Lechlade, Kempsford & Fairford South	1.2	57
Cotswolds	Moreton West	1.2	57
Cotswolds	South Cerney Village	1.2	57
Cotswolds	The Ampneys & Hampton	1.2	57
Cotswolds	Bourton Village	1.3	70
Cotswolds	Four Acres	1.3	70
Cotswolds	Siddington & Cerney Rural	1.4	79
Cotswolds	Tetbury Town	1.4	79
Cotswolds	The Rissingtons	1.5	91
Cotswolds	Abbey	1.6	94
Cotswolds	Moreton East	1.8	101
Cotswolds	New Mills	1.8	101
Cotswolds	Tetbury with Upton	1.9	106
Cotswolds	St Michael's	2.1	116
Cotswolds	The Beeches	2.7	127
Cotswolds	Watermoor	3.6	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

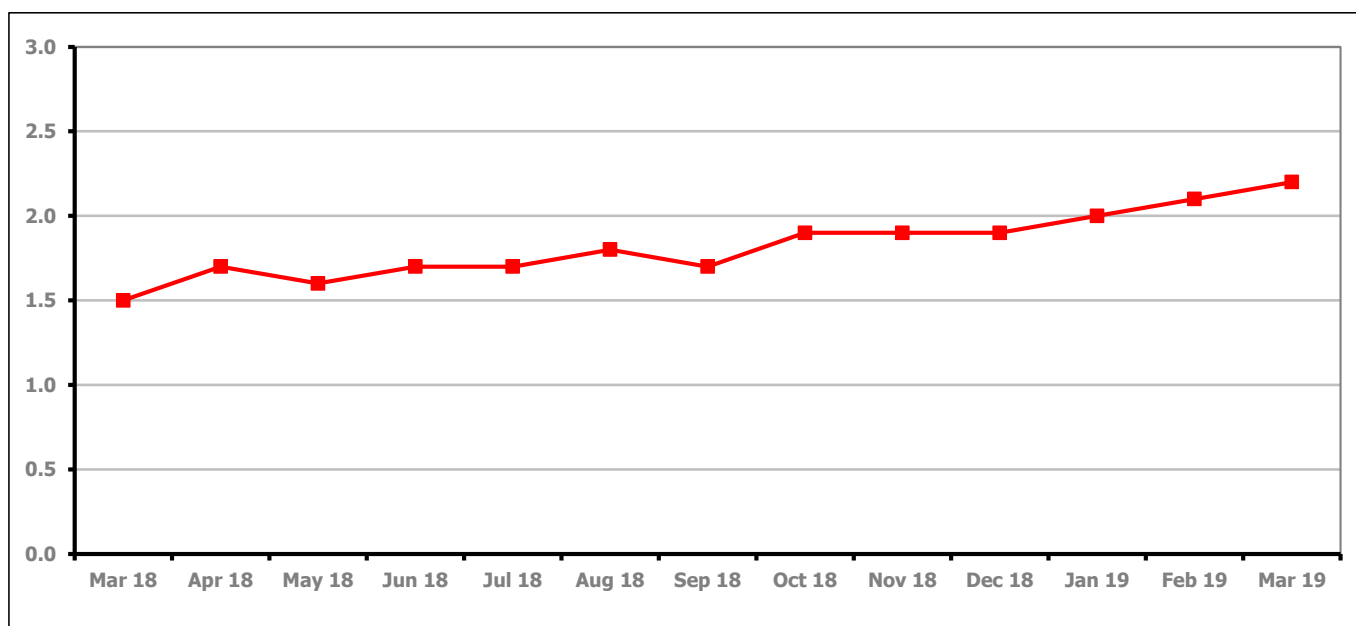


Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean increased in March 2019 to 2.2%.

Figure 8: Claimant rates across Forest of Dean District wards - March 2019

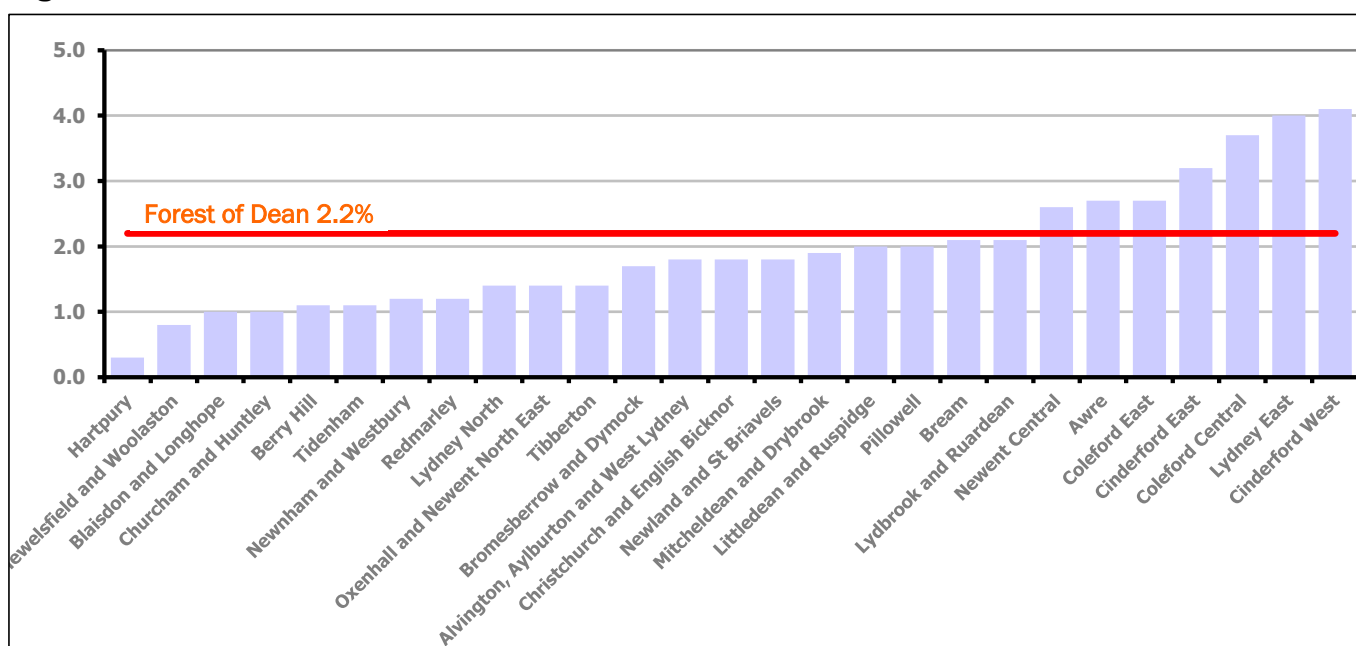


Figure 8 shows the claimant rates for the Forest of Dean District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 2.2%. Seven wards lie above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

### 4.3 Forest of Dean District continued...

Table 7: Analysis of Claimant Count at Forest of Dean District ward level - March 2019

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Hartpury	0.3	1
Forest	Hewelsfield and Woolaston	0.8	22
Forest	Blaisdon and Longhope	1.0	38
Forest	Churcham and Huntley	1.0	38
Forest	Berry Hill	1.1	47
Forest	Tidenham	1.1	47
Forest	Newnham and Westbury	1.2	57
Forest	Redmarley	1.2	57
Forest	Lydney North	1.4	79
Forest	Oxenhall and Newent North East	1.4	79
Forest	Tibberton	1.4	79
Forest	Bromesberrow and Dymock	1.7	100
Forest	Alvington, Aylburton and West Lydney	1.8	101
Forest	Christchurch and English Bicknor	1.8	101
Forest	Newland and St Briavels	1.8	101
Forest	Mitcheldean and Drybrook	1.9	106
Forest	Littledean and Ruspidge	2.0	108
Forest	Pillowell	2.0	108
Forest	Bream	2.1	116
Forest	Lydbrook and Ruardean	2.1	116
Forest	Newent Central	2.6	125
Forest	Awre	2.7	127
Forest	Coleford East	2.7	127
Forest	Cinderford East	3.2	131
Forest	Coleford Central	3.7	137
Forest	Lydney East	4.0	138
Forest	Cinderford West	4.1	139

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

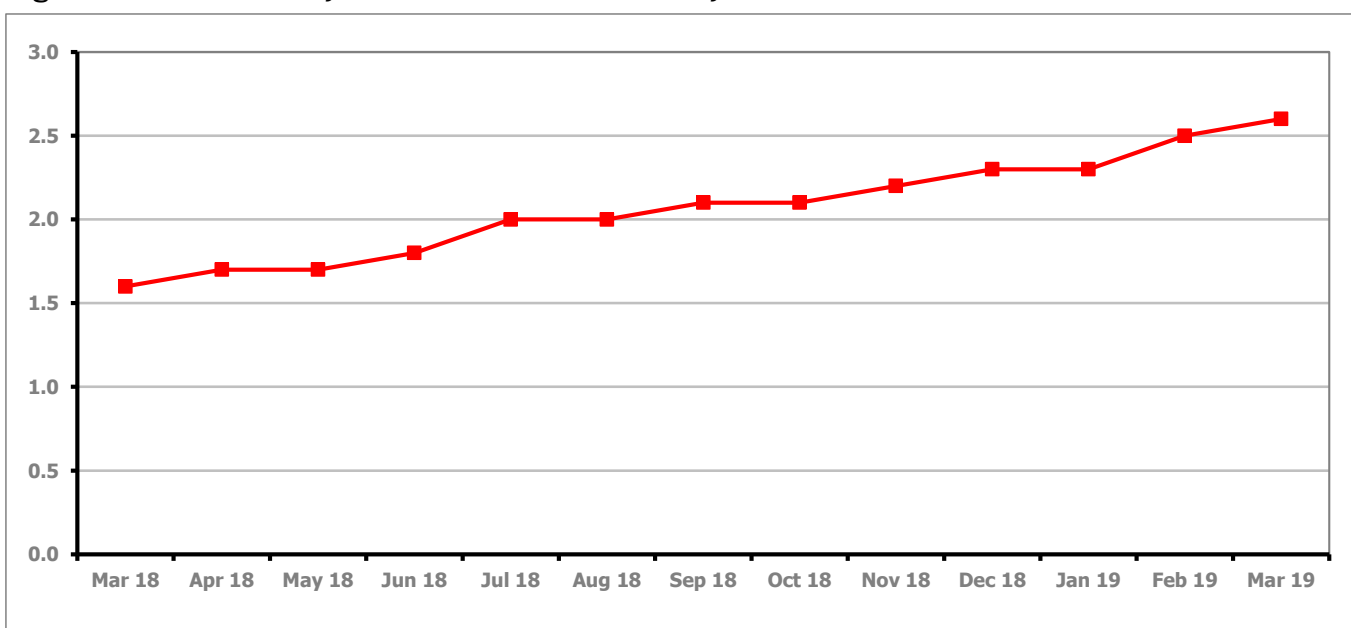
**PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS****4.4 Gloucester City****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 9: Gloucester City claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 9 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City increased in March 2019 to 2.6%.

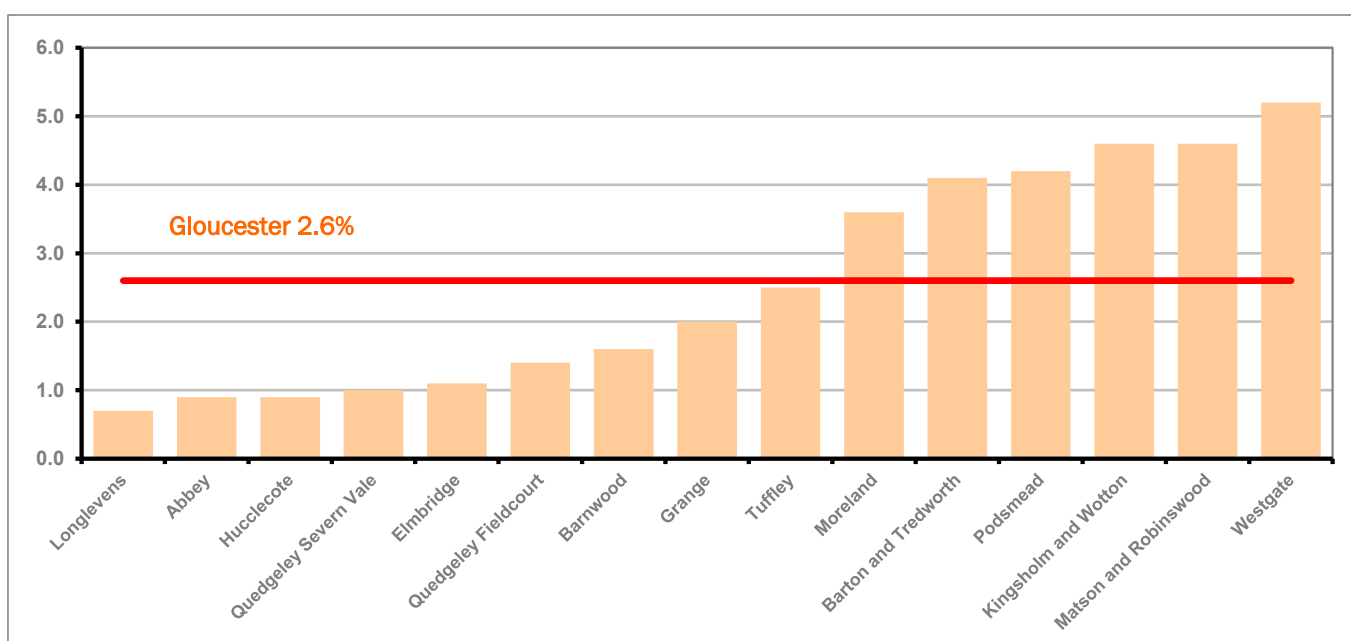
*Figure 10: Claimant rates across Gloucester City wards - March 2019*

Figure 10 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 2.6%. 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 - March 2019

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Longlevens	0.7	15
Gloucester	Abbey	0.9	30
Gloucester	Hucclecote	0.9	30
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	1.0	38
Gloucester	Elmbridge	1.1	47
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	1.4	79
Gloucester	Barnwood	1.6	94
Gloucester	Grange	2.0	108
Gloucester	Tuffley	2.5	123
Gloucester	Moreland	3.6	134
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	4.1	139
Gloucester	Podsmead	4.2	142
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	4.6	144
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	4.6	144
Gloucester	Westgate	5.2	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

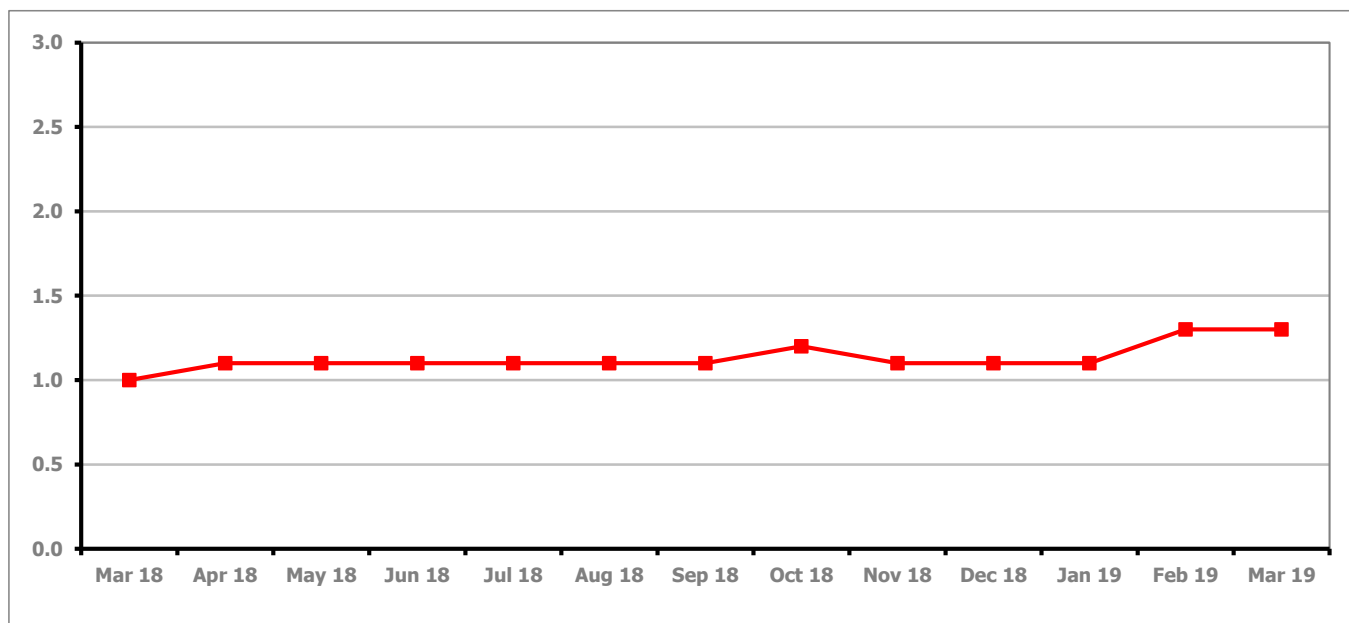


Figure 11 shows the claimant rate for Stroud remained the same as last month at 1.3%.

Figure 12: Claimant rates across Stroud District wards - March 2019

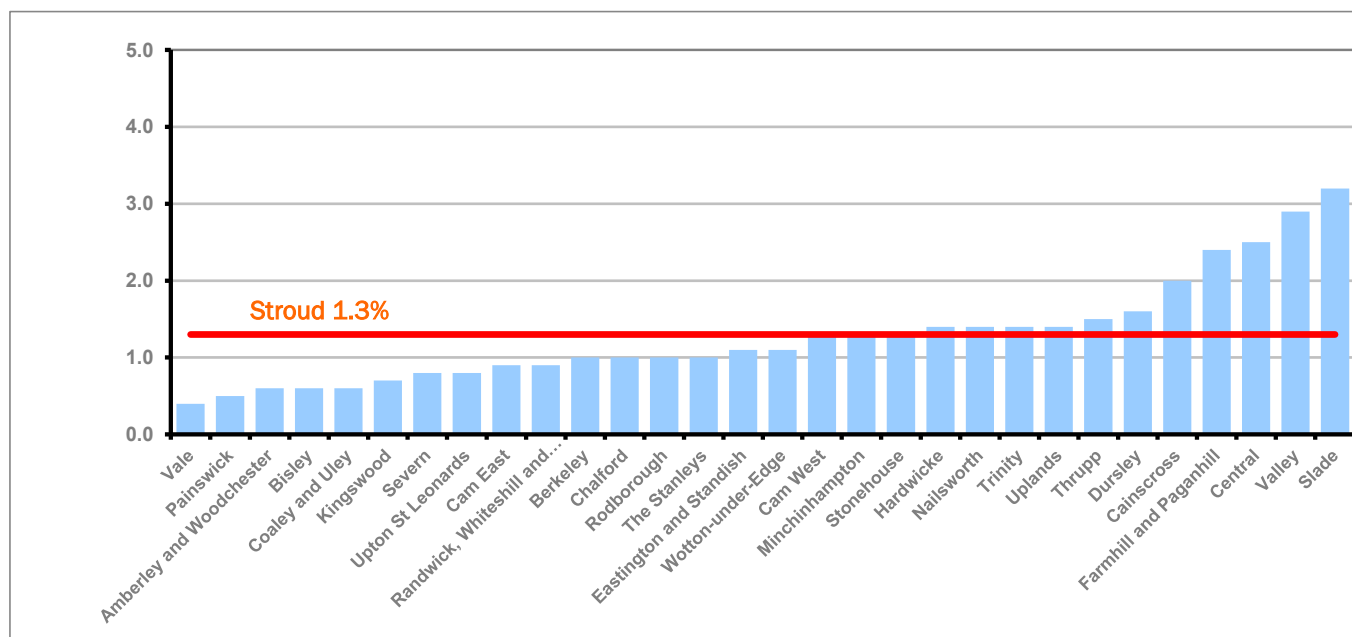


Figure 12 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.3%. Eleven wards are above the average.

## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### 4.5 Stroud District continued...

Table 9: Analysis of Claimant Count at Stroud District ward level - March 2019

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Vale	0.4	2
Stroud	Painswick	0.5	4
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	0.6	11
Stroud	Bisley	0.6	11
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	0.6	11
Stroud	Kingswood	0.7	15
Stroud	Severn	0.8	22
Stroud	Upton St Leonards	0.8	22
Stroud	Cam East	0.9	30
Stroud	Randwick, Whiteshill and Ruscombe	0.9	30
Stroud	Berkeley	1.0	38
Stroud	Chalford	1.0	38
Stroud	Rodborough	1.0	38
Stroud	The Stanleys	1.0	38
Stroud	Eastington and Standish	1.1	47
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	1.1	47
Stroud	Cam West	1.3	70
Stroud	Minchinhampton	1.3	70
Stroud	Stonehouse	1.3	70
Stroud	Hardwicke	1.4	79
Stroud	Nailsworth	1.4	79
Stroud	Trinity	1.4	79
Stroud	Uplands	1.4	79
Stroud	Thrupp	1.5	91
Stroud	Dursley	1.6	94
Stroud	Cainscross	2.0	108
Stroud	Farmhill and Paganhill	2.4	122
Stroud	Central	2.5	123
Stroud	Valley	2.9	130
Stroud	Slade	3.2	131

	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 District

#### Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 13: Tewkesbury District claimant rate over the last year

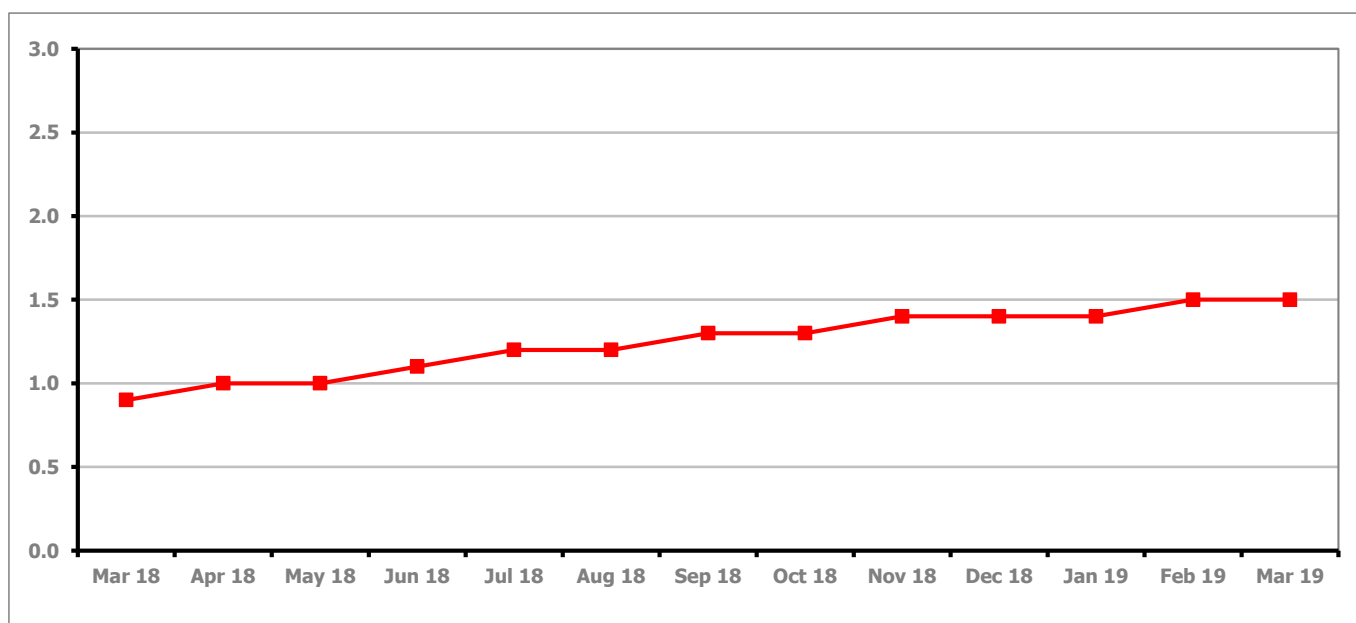


Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury District remained the same as last month at 1.5%.

Figure 14: Claimant rates across Tewkesbury District wards - March 2019

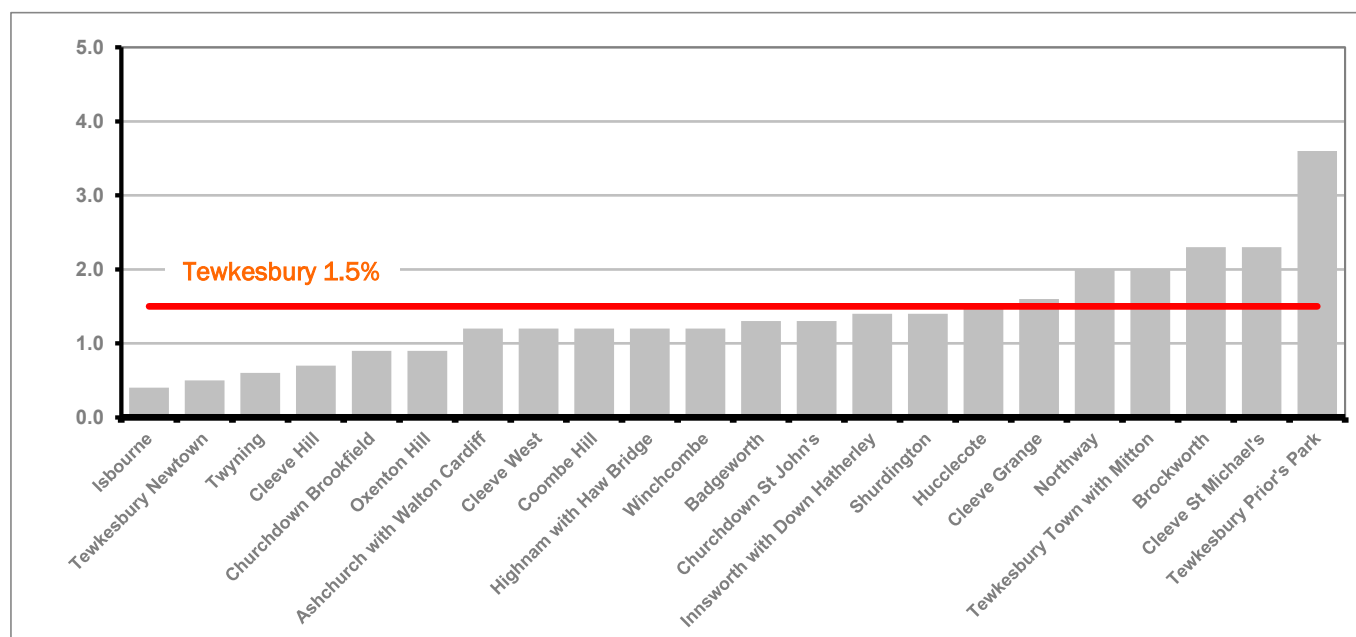


Figure 14 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 1.5%. Six wards are above the average.



## PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

### 4.6 Tewkesbury District continued...

Table 10: Analysis of Claimant Count at Tewkesbury District level - March 2019

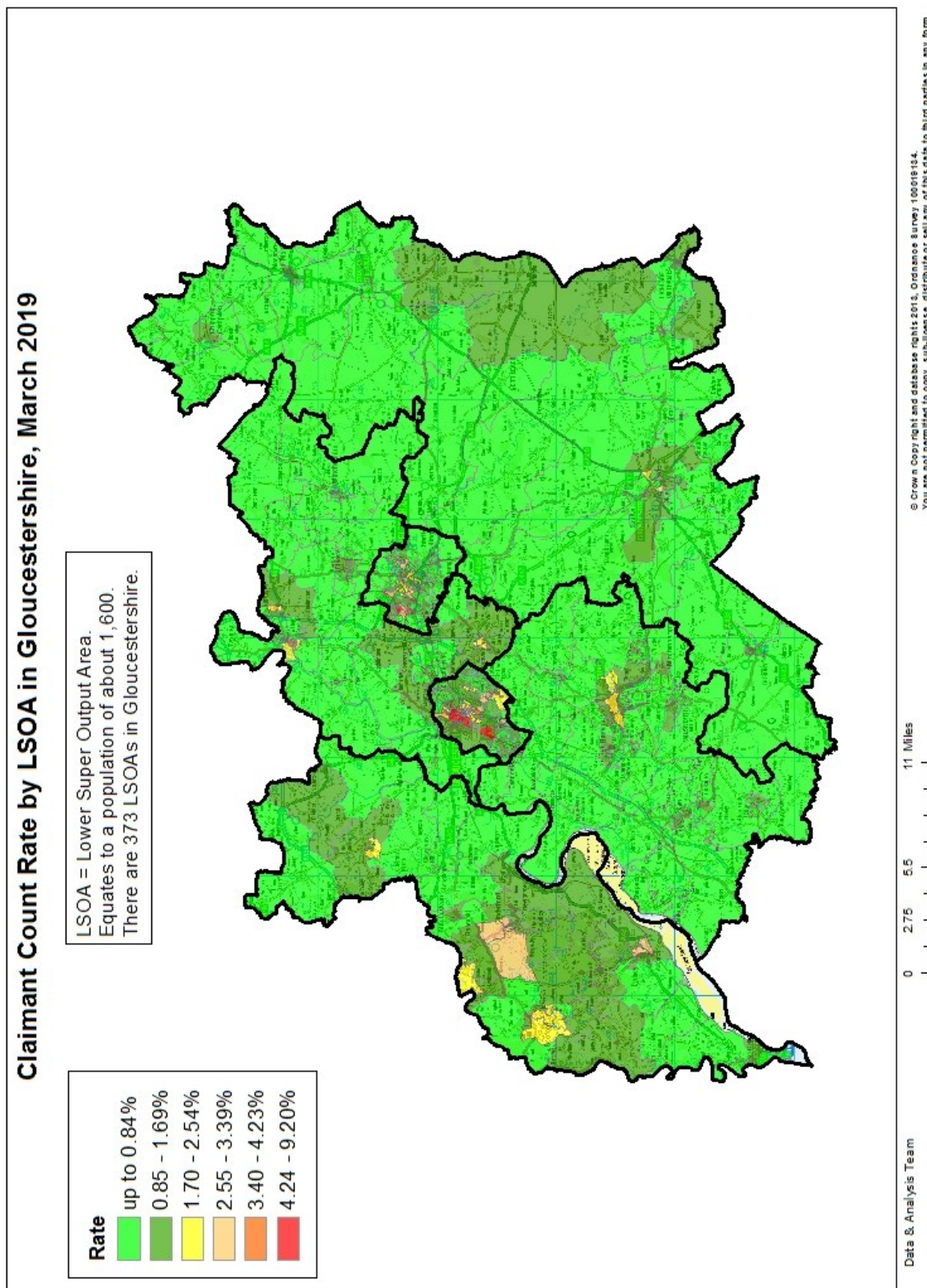
District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	0.4	2
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Newtown	0.5	4
Tewkesbury	Twynning	0.6	11
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	0.7	15
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield	0.9	30
Tewkesbury	Oxenton Hill	0.9	30
Tewkesbury	Ashchurch with Walton Cardiff	1.2	57
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	1.2	57
Tewkesbury	Coombe Hill	1.2	57
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	1.2	57
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	1.2	57
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	1.3	70
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	1.3	70
Tewkesbury	Innsworth with Down Hatherley	1.4	79
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	1.4	79
Tewkesbury	Hucclecote	1.5	91
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	1.6	94
Tewkesbury	Northway	2.0	108
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Town with Mitton	2.0	108
Tewkesbury	Brockworth	2.3	120
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	2.3	120
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury Prior's Park	3.6	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

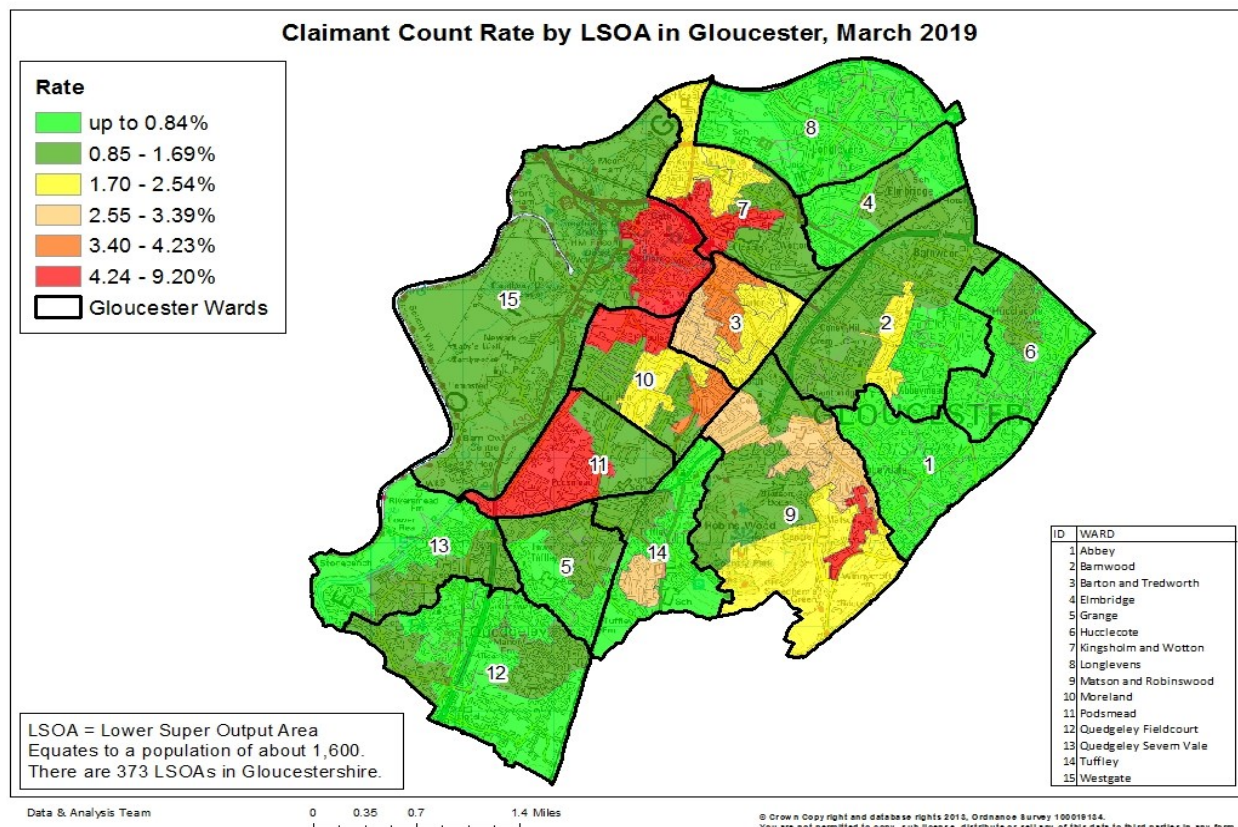
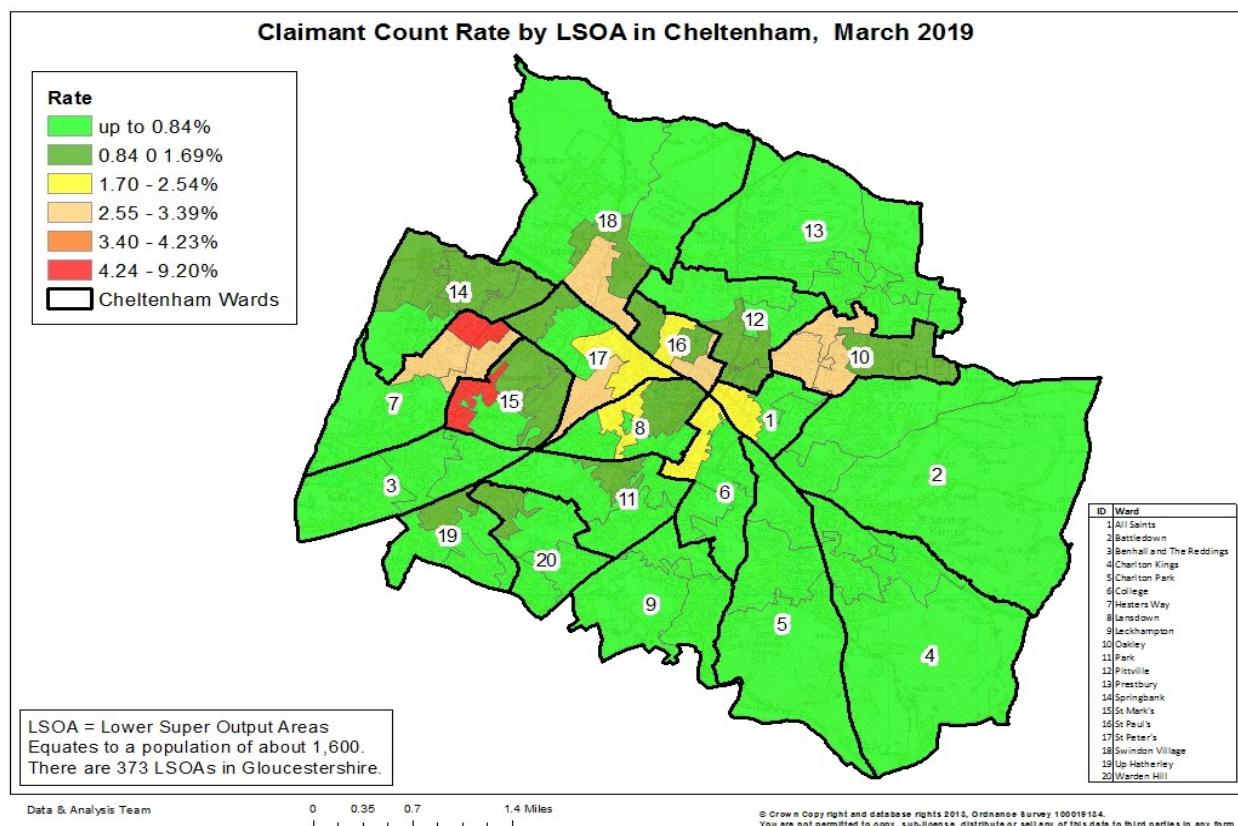
\* 1 = "best" and 146 = "worst"

Table 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: YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT(18-24 year olds)

### Youth Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 15: Claimant Count for Gloucestershire over the past year

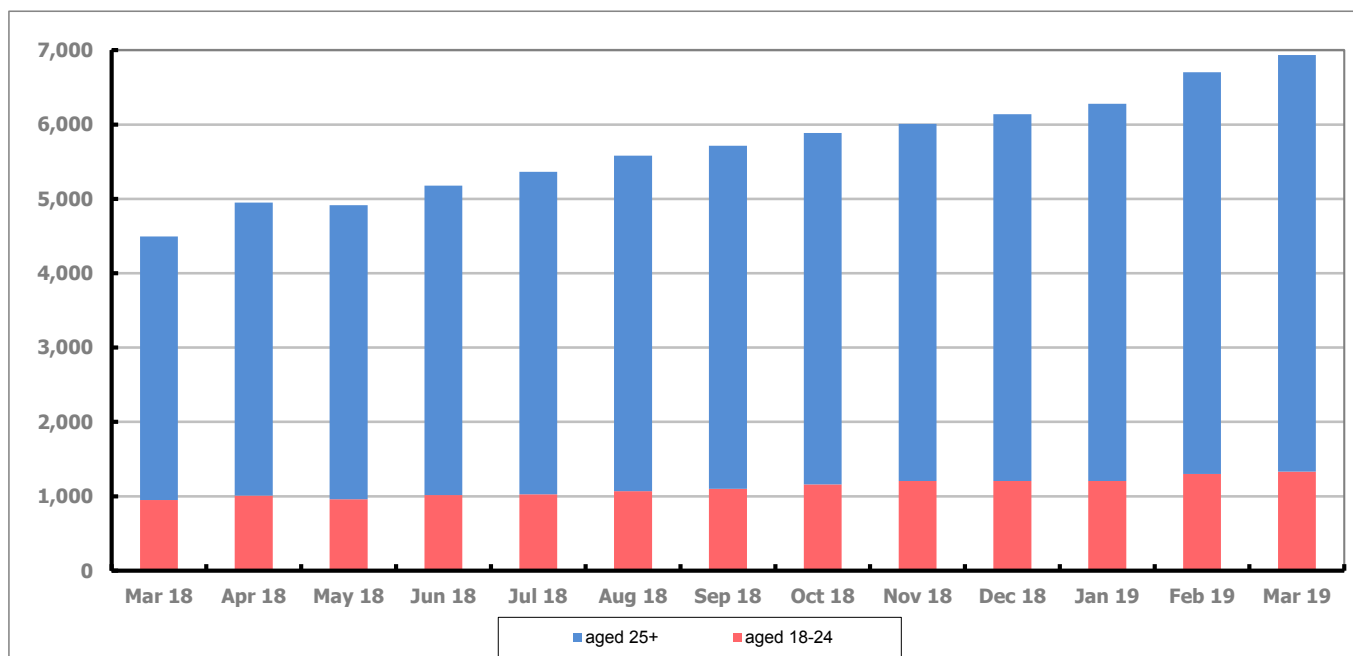


Figure 15 shows that in March 2019, 1,330 people aged 18-24 were claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who were not in work in Gloucestershire, this represents 19.1% of total working age claimants.



## 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 March 2019 there were 346 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 2.40%. The total number of NEET young people decreased by 31 in March 2019 compared to February 2019, five districts saw a decrease in their figures and one district stayed the same.

### Total NEET Group by District Area

#### March 2019 NEET data

	Cheltenham	Cotswold	Forest	Gloucester	Stroud	Tewkesbury	Total
<b>Total NEET</b>	75	25	50	108	51	37	346
<b>Cohort</b>	2576	2044	2008	3606	3084	2151	15469
<b>% NEET</b>	2.91	1.22	2.49	3.00	1.65	1.72	2.40*

If you would like to receive any further information on Gloucestershire's NEET strategy then please contact [Ruth.Critchlow@Prospects.co.uk](mailto:Ruth.Critchlow@Prospects.co.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.