

Unemployment Bulletin

Issue 153 April 2021

Notes on Claimant Count (Experimental Statistics) from ONS:

These Claimant Count Experimental Statistics relate to 08 April 2021. Enhancements to Universal Credit as part of the UK government's response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) mean that an increasing number of people became eligible for unemployment-related benefit support, although still employed. Consequently changes in the Claimant Count will not be wholly because of changes in the number of people who are unemployed. We are not able to identify to what extent people who are employed or unemployed have affected the numbers.

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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). 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 4.5% in April 2021. The South West rate decreased to 5.0% and the UK rate decreased to 6.3%. Gloucestershire's rate was 0.5% lower than the South West average of 5.0%, and 1.8% lower than the UK average of 6.3%.

The claimant count in Gloucestershire in April 2021 decreased by 420 people. The amount of people claiming in April 2021 was 2.4% lower than the number in March 2021. This compares to a 1.7% decrease in the South West and a 1.0% decrease in the UK.

Produced by:

Data & Analysis Team
Planning, Performance and Change
Gloucestershire County Council
May 2021

DISTRICTS AT A GLANCE

At a glance unemployment information grouped by district. Includes:

Claimant count: Total number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work in April 2021

Claimant count change on previous month: How much larger/smaller April's claimant count is compared to March expressed as a %

Claimant rate: The % of working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who are not in work in April 2021

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

CHELTENHAM BOROUGH

Claimant count:	3,625
Claimant count change on previous month:	-1.9%
Claimant rate:	5.0%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Oakley (8.4%)

GLOUCESTER CITY

Claimant count:	4,735
Claimant count change on previous month:	-2.2%
Claimant rate:	5.8%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Barton and Tredworth (12.1%)

COTSWOLD DISTRICT

Claimant count:	1,875
Claimant count change on previous month:	-1.1%
Claimant rate:	3.6%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Watermoor (6.8%)

STROUD DISTRICT

Claimant count:	2,575
Claimant count change on previous month:	-4.1%
Claimant rate:	3.6%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Stroud Slade (7.9%)

FOREST OF DEAN

Claimant count:	2,270
Claimant count change on previous month:	-1.9%
Claimant rate:	4.4%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Lydney East (8.1%)

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH

Claimant count:	2,110
Claimant count change on previous month:	-3.2%
Claimant rate:	3.8%
Highest claiming ward(s)	Cleeve St Michael's (5.6%)

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

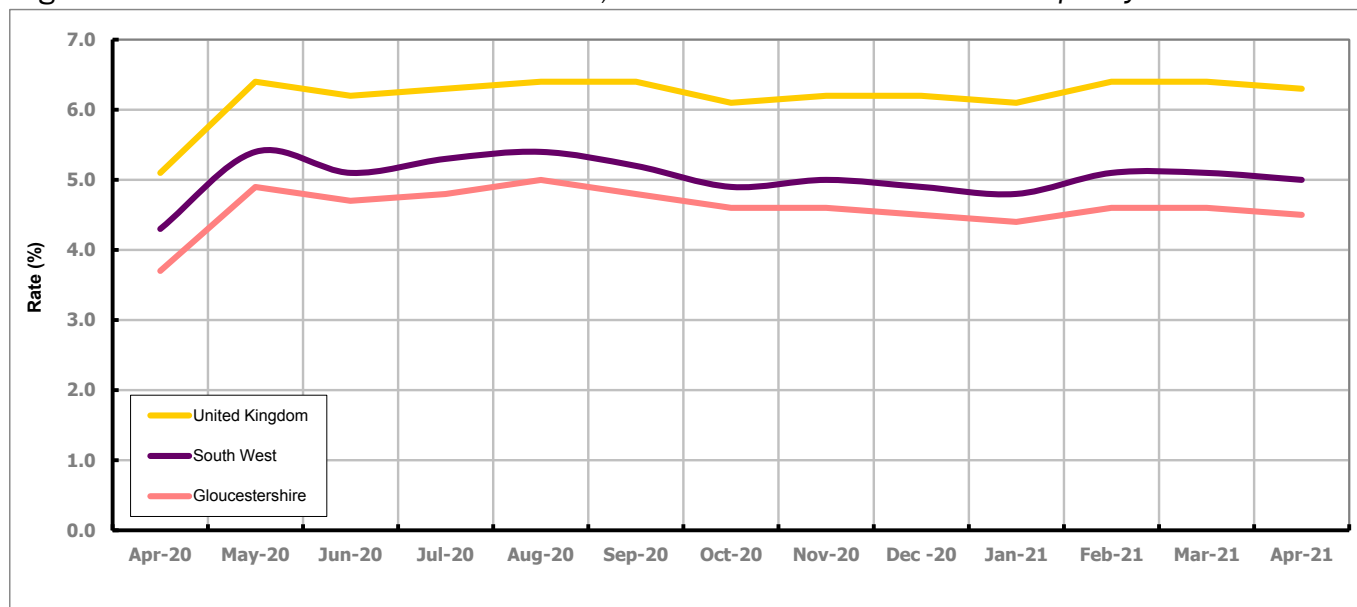


Figure 1 shows the claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 4.5% in April 2021. The Gloucestershire rate has been lower than the South West average since December 2015, with the exception of April and May 2016 when it was the same. On average, it has been approximately 1.6% lower than the UK average since the same month of the previous year.

Claimant Count

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

Area	Claimant Count in April 2021	% change on March 2021	Consecutive months increasing
UK	2,647,555	-1.0%	0
South West	168,365	-1.7%	0
Gloucestershire	17,190	-2.4%	0

Table 1 shows that in April 2021, the number of claimants in Gloucestershire was 2.4% lower than the number in March 2021.

PART 3: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT ANALYSIS

Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 2: Claimant Rate (%) across Gloucestershire - April 2021

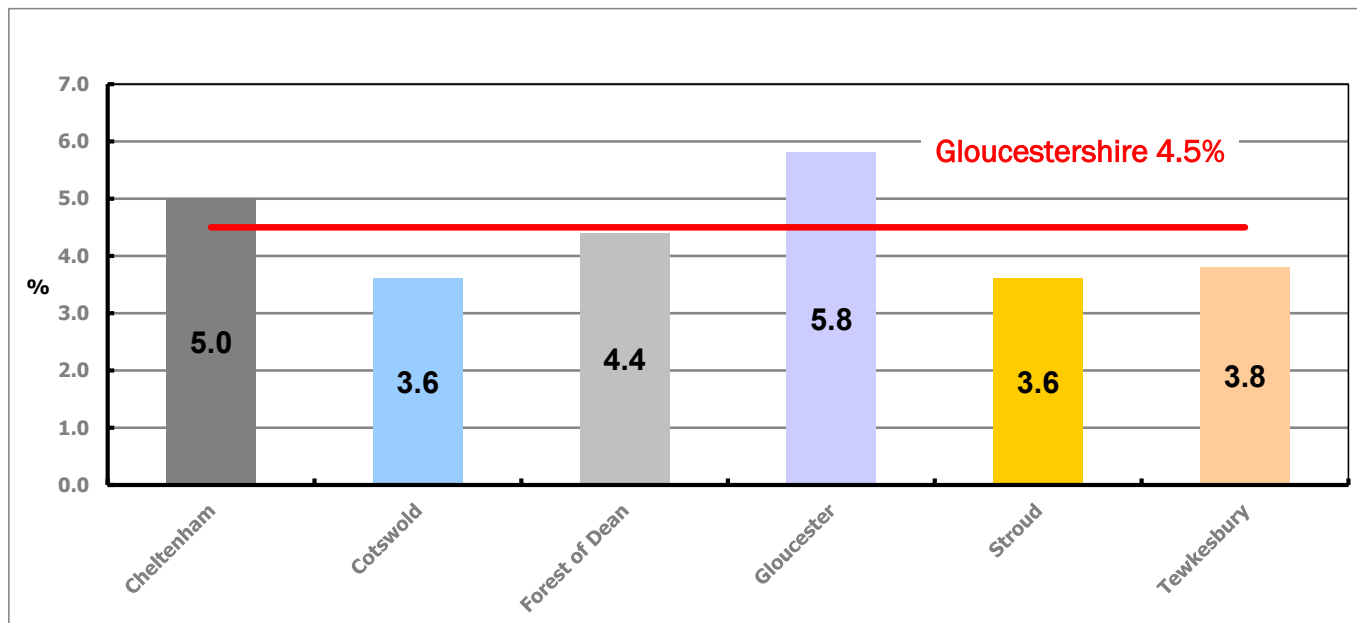


Figure 2 shows the claimant rate for April 2021 in Gloucestershire. Between March 2021 and April 2021 the rate decreased in all districts.

Table 2: Analysis of Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Total	Apr 21 Number	Apr 21 Rate	Mar 21 Number	Mar 21 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	17,190	4.5	17,610	4.6	-420	-2.4%	-0.1
Cheltenham	3,625	5.0	3,695	5.1	-70	-1.9%	-0.1
Cotswold	1,875	3.6	1,895	3.7	-20	-1.1%	-0.1
Forest of Dean	2,270	4.4	2,315	4.5	-45	-1.9%	-0.1
Gloucester	4,735	5.8	4,840	5.9	-105	-2.2%	-0.1
Stroud	2,575	3.6	2,685	3.8	-110	-4.1%	-0.2
Tewkesbury	2,110	3.8	2,180	3.9	-70	-3.2%	-0.1

Table 2 shows the change in the claimant count in April 2021 compared to March 2021. All districts saw a decrease in the number of claimants.

Table 3: Analysis of Male Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Male	Apr 21 Number	Apr 21 Rate	Mar 21 Number	Mar 21 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	10,095	5.3	10,315	5.4	-220	-2.1%	-0.1
Cheltenham	2,195	6.0	2,215	6.0	-20	-0.9%	0.0
Cotswold	1,025	4.1	1,030	4.1	-5	-0.5%	0.0
Forest of Dean	1,295	5.1	1,335	5.3	-40	-3.0%	-0.2
Gloucester	2,935	7.2	2,985	7.3	-50	-1.7%	-0.1
Stroud	1,430	4.0	1,490	4.2	-60	-4.0%	-0.2
Tewkesbury	1,210	4.4	1,265	4.6	-55	-4.3%	-0.2

Table 3 shows the change in the male claimant count in April 2021 compared to March 2021. All districts saw a decrease in the number of male claimants.

Table 4: Analysis of Female Gloucestershire and District Claimant Counts

Female	Apr 21 Number	Apr 21 Rate	Mar 21 Number	Mar 21 Rate	Monthly change	% monthly change	Monthly change of rate
Gloucestershire	7,095	3.7	7,290	3.8	-195	-2.7%	-0.1
Cheltenham	1,430	4.0	1,480	4.1	-50	-3.4%	-0.1
Cotswold	850	3.2	865	3.3	-15	-1.7%	-0.1
Forest of Dean	970	3.8	980	3.8	-10	-1.0%	0.0
Gloucester	1,795	4.4	1,855	4.6	-60	-3.2%	-0.2
Stroud	1,150	3.2	1,195	3.3	-45	-3.8%	-0.1
Tewkesbury	900	3.1	915	3.2	-15	-1.6%	-0.1

Table 4 shows the change in the female claimant count in April 2021 compared to March 2021. All districts saw 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 3: Cheltenham Borough claimant rate over the last year

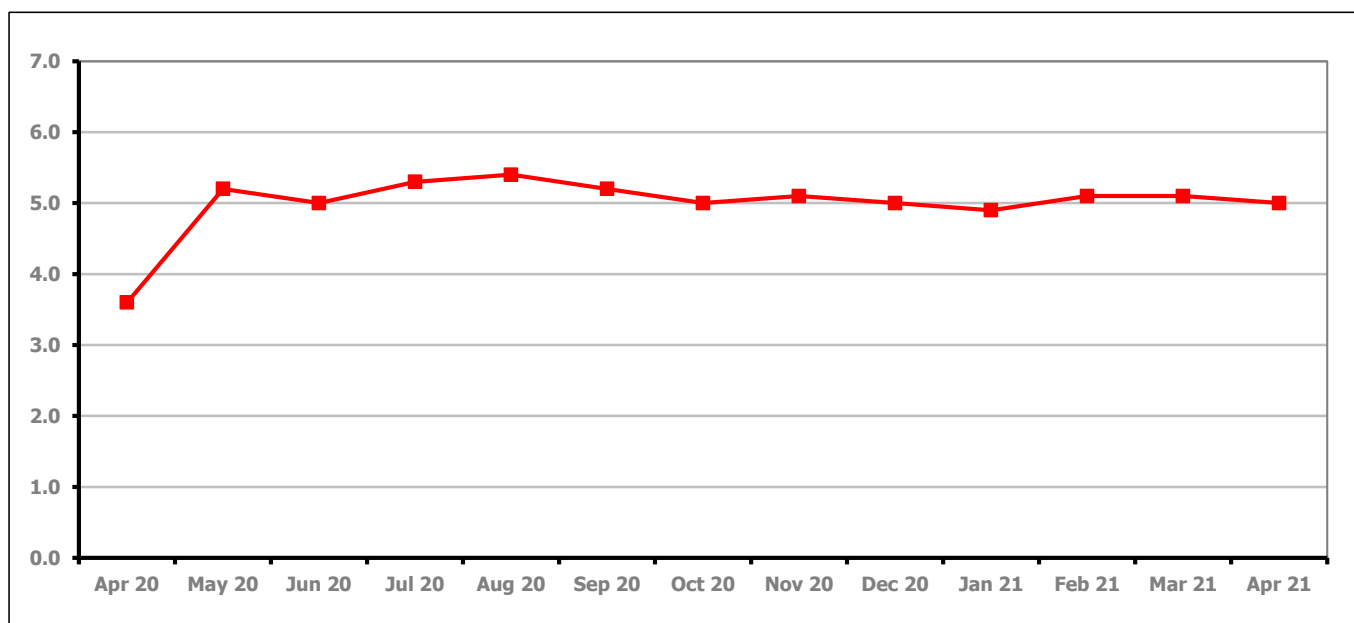


Figure 3 shows the claimant rate in Cheltenham decreased to 5.0% in April 2021.

Figure 4: Claimant rates across Cheltenham Borough wards - April 2021

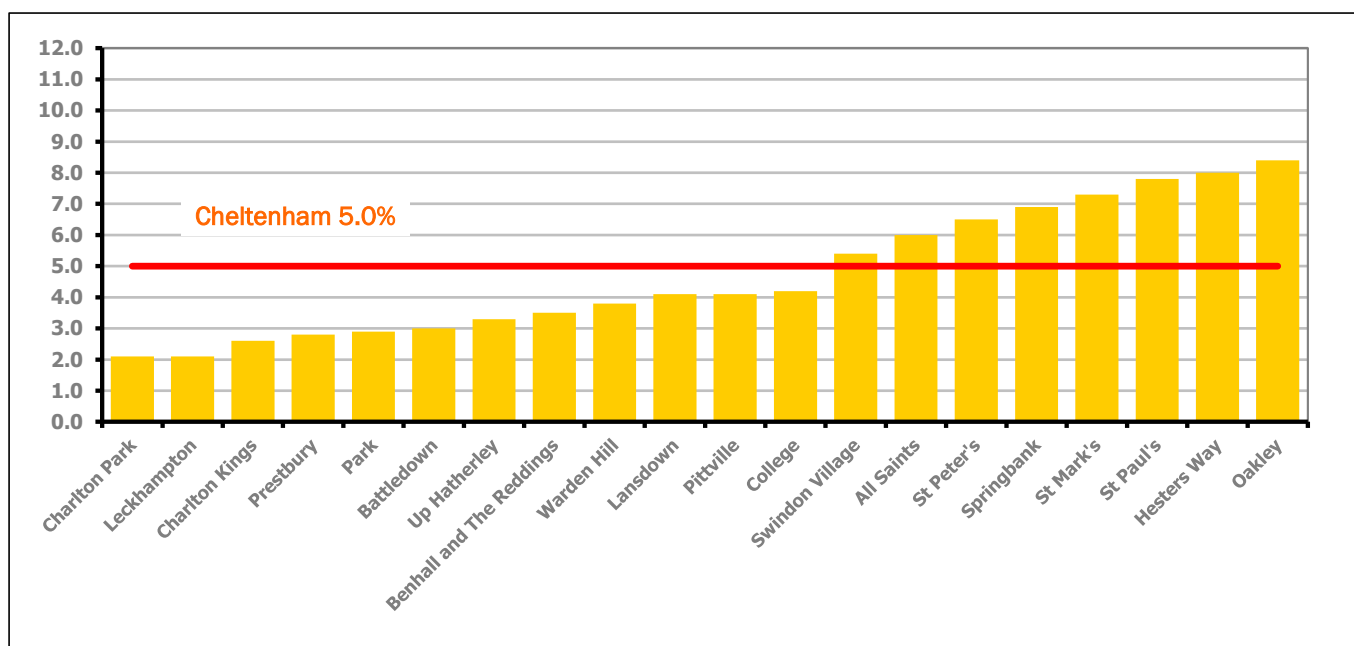


Figure 4 shows the claimant rates for Cheltenham Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the Borough of 5.0%. Eight wards lie above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.1 Cheltenham Borough continued...

Table 5: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cheltenham Borough ward level - April 2021

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cheltenham	Charlton Park	2.1	4
Cheltenham	Leckhampton	2.1	4
Cheltenham	Charlton Kings	2.6	18
Cheltenham	Prestbury	2.8	24
Cheltenham	Park	2.9	27
Cheltenham	Battledown	3.0	32
Cheltenham	Up Hatherley	3.3	52
Cheltenham	Benhall and The Reddings	3.5	61
Cheltenham	Warden Hill	3.8	71
Cheltenham	Lansdown	4.1	83
Cheltenham	Pittville	4.1	83
Cheltenham	College	4.2	89
Cheltenham	Swindon Village	5.4	114
Cheltenham	All Saints	6.0	121
Cheltenham	St Peter's	6.5	122
Cheltenham	Springbank	6.9	125
Cheltenham	St Mark's	7.3	126
Cheltenham	St Paul's	7.8	130
Cheltenham	Hesters Way	8.0	133
Cheltenham	Oakley	8.4	135

	lowest 10% of county
	first quartile of county
	second quartile of county
	third quartile of county
	fourth quartile of county
	highest 10% of county

* 1 = "best" and 138 = "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

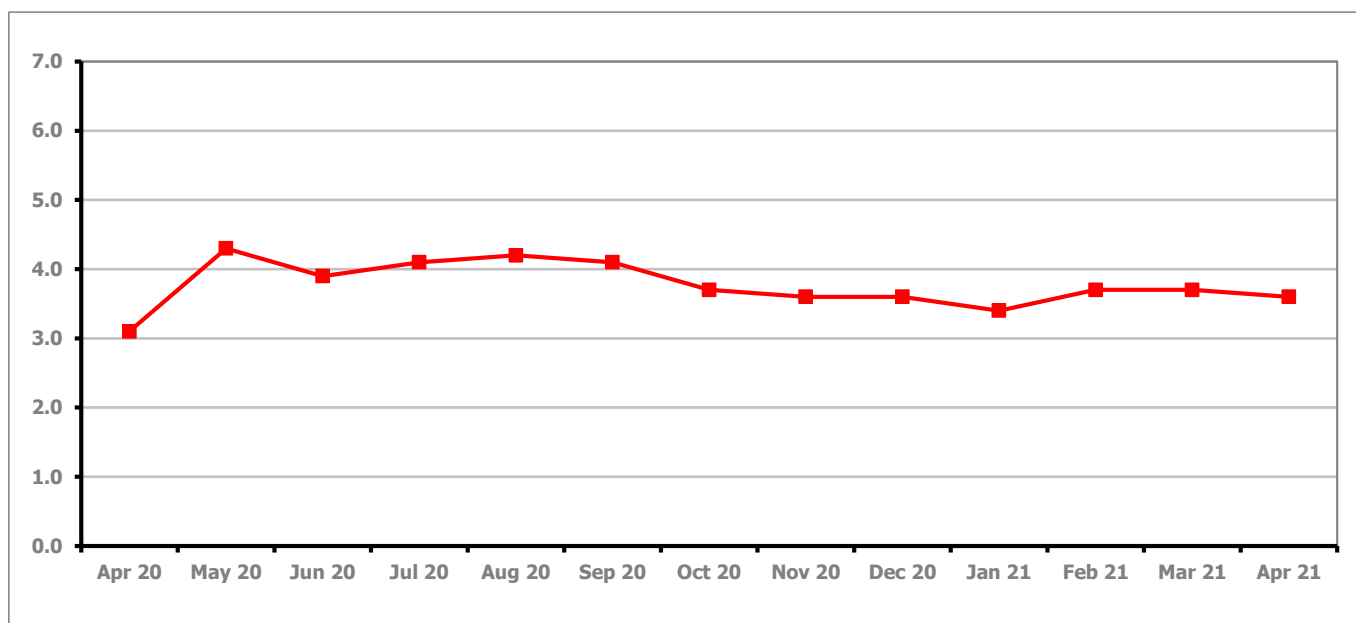


Figure 5 shows the claimant rate in Cotswold District decreased to 3.6% in April 2021.

Figure 6: Claimant rates across Cotswold District wards - April 2021

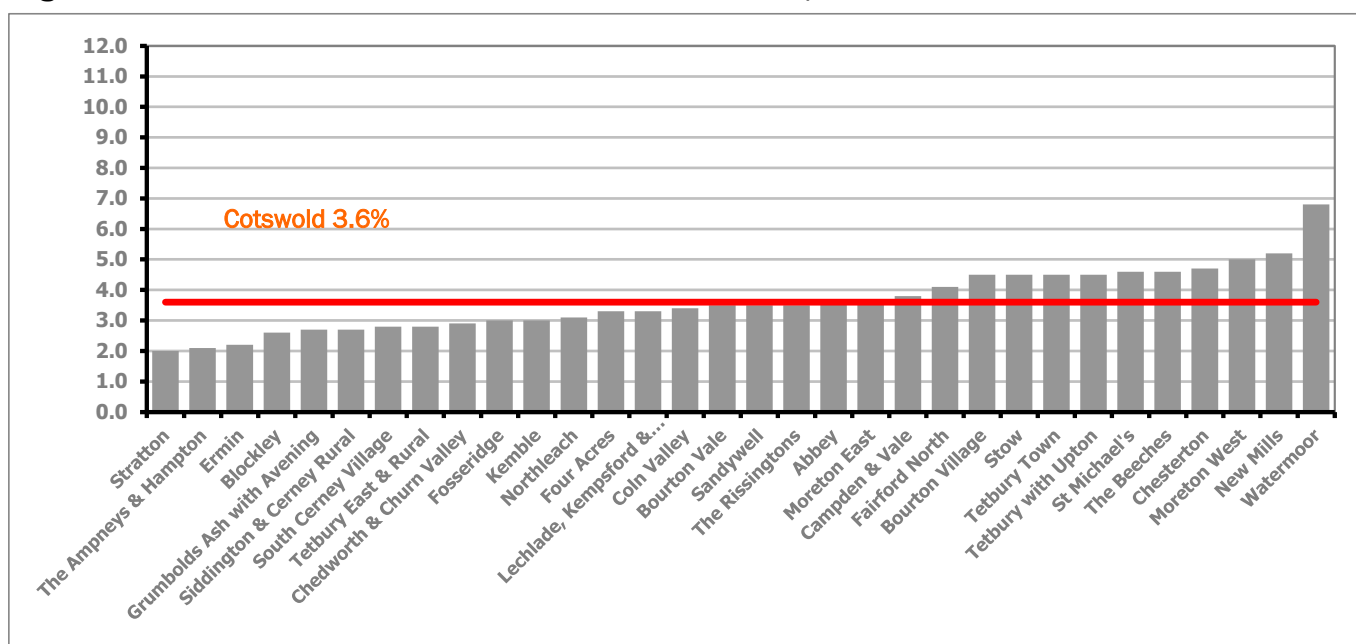


Figure 6 shows the claimant rates for Cotswold District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.6%. Twelve wards lie above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.2 Cotswold District continued...

Table 6: Analysis of Claimant Count at Cotswold District ward level - April 2021

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Cotswolds	Stratton	2.0	3
Cotswolds	The Ampneys & Hampton	2.1	4
Cotswolds	Ermin	2.2	10
Cotswolds	Blockley	2.6	18
Cotswolds	Grumbolds Ash with Avening	2.7	20
Cotswolds	Siddington & Cerney Rural	2.7	20
Cotswolds	South Cerney Village	2.8	24
Cotswolds	Tetbury East & Rural	2.8	24
Cotswolds	Chedworth & Churn Valley	2.9	27
Cotswolds	Fosseridge	3.0	32
Cotswolds	Kemble	3.0	32
Cotswolds	Northleach	3.1	39
Cotswolds	Four Acres	3.3	52
Cotswolds	Lechlade, Kempsford & Fairford South	3.3	52
Cotswolds	Coln Valley	3.4	57
Cotswolds	Bourton Vale	3.5	61
Cotswolds	Sandywell	3.5	61
Cotswolds	The Rissingtons	3.5	61
Cotswolds	Abbey	3.6	66
Cotswolds	Moreton East	3.6	66
Cotswolds	Campden & Vale	3.8	71
Cotswolds	Fairford North	4.1	83
Cotswolds	Bourton Village	4.5	94
Cotswolds	Stow	4.5	94
Cotswolds	Tetbury Town	4.5	94
Cotswolds	Tetbury with Upton	4.5	94
Cotswolds	St Michael's	4.6	100
Cotswolds	The Beeches	4.6	100
Cotswolds	Chesterton	4.7	102
Cotswolds	Moreton West	5.0	107
Cotswolds	New Mills	5.2	109
Cotswolds	Watermoor	6.8	123

	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 138 = "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

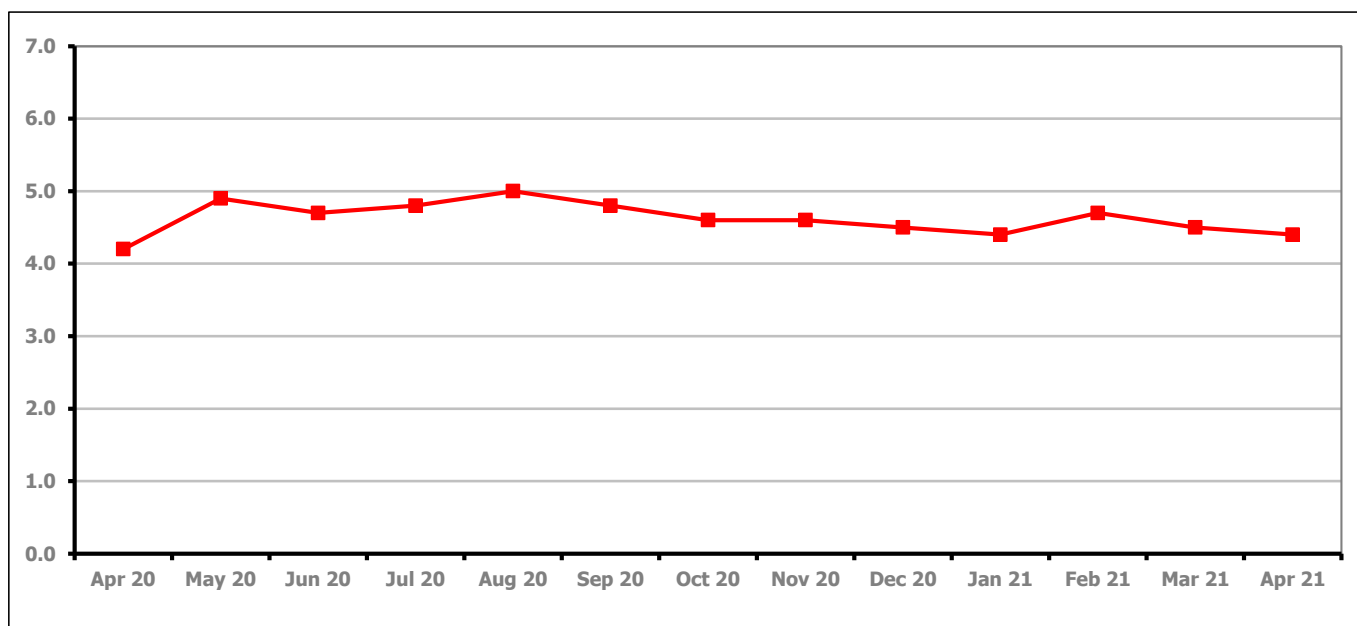


Figure 7 shows the claimant rate in the Forest of Dean decreased to 4.4% in April 2021.

Figure 8: Claimant rates across Forest of Dean District wards - April 2021

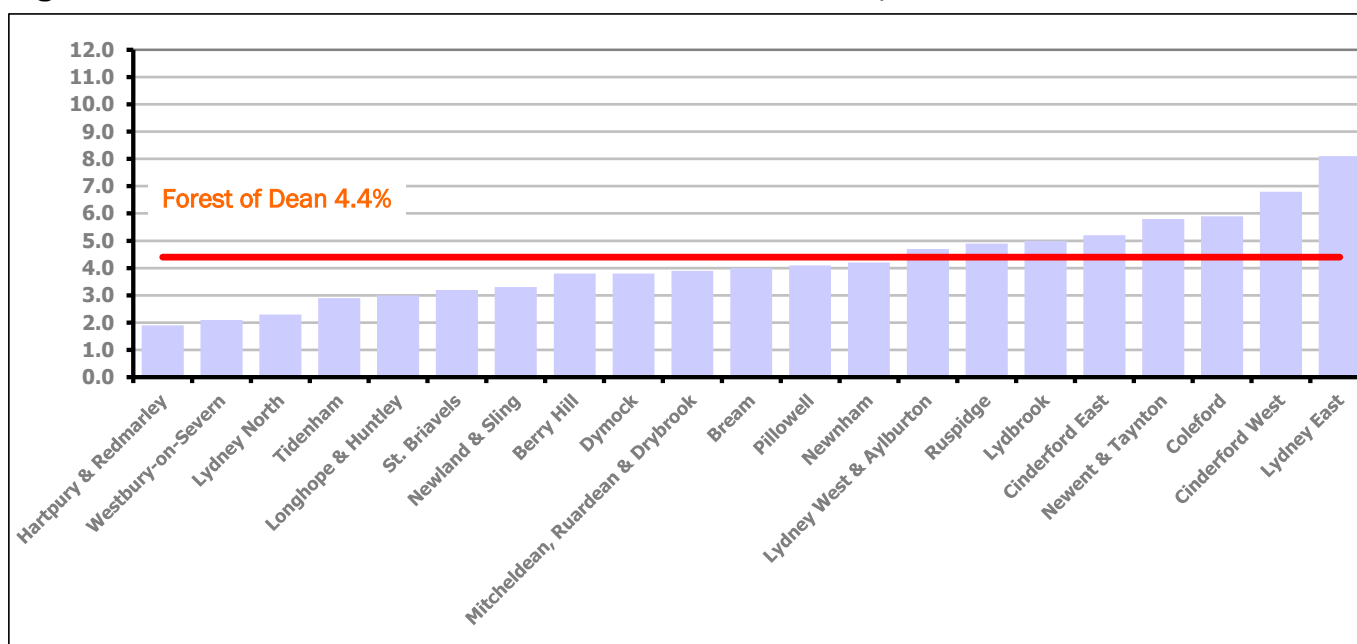


Figure 8 shows the claimant rates for the Forest of Dean District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 4.4%. Eight wards lie above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.3 Forest of Dean District continued...***Table 7: Analysis of Claimant Count at Forest of Dean District ward level - April 2021*

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Forest	Hartpury & Redmarley	1.9	2
Forest	Westbury-on-Severn	2.1	4
Forest	Lydney North	2.3	11
Forest	Tidenham	2.9	27
Forest	Longhope & Huntley	3.0	32
Forest	St. Briavels	3.2	47
Forest	Newland & Sling	3.3	52
Forest	Berry Hill	3.8	71
Forest	Dymock	3.8	71
Forest	Mitcheldean, Ruardean & Drybrook	3.9	78
Forest	Bream	4.0	82
Forest	Pillowell	4.1	83
Forest	Newnham	4.2	89
Forest	Lydney West & Aylburton	4.7	102
Forest	Ruspidge	4.9	105
Forest	Lydbrook	5.0	107
Forest	Cinderford East	5.2	109
Forest	Newent & Taynton	5.8	119
Forest	Coleford	5.9	120
Forest	Cinderford West	6.8	123
Forest	Lydney East	8.1	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 138 = "worst"

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

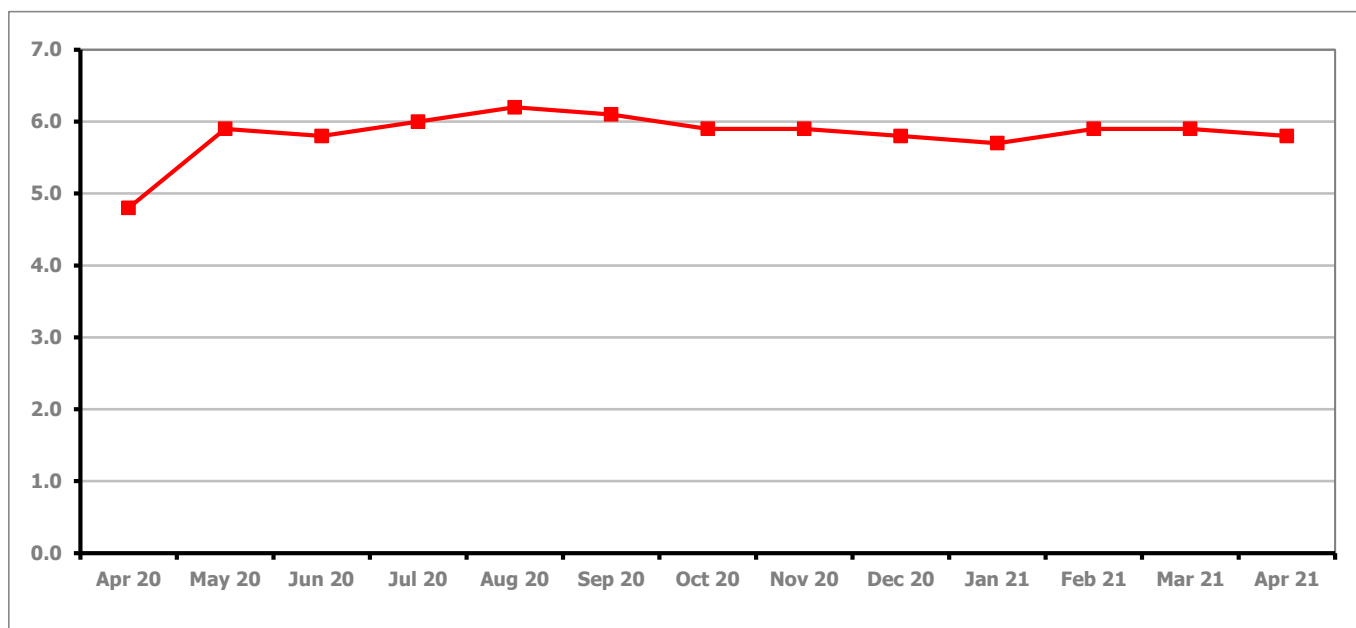
PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS**4.4 Gloucester City****Claimant Rate and Claimant Count***Figure 9: Gloucester City claimant rate over the last year*

Figure 9 shows the claimant rate for Gloucester City decreased to 5.8% in April 2021.

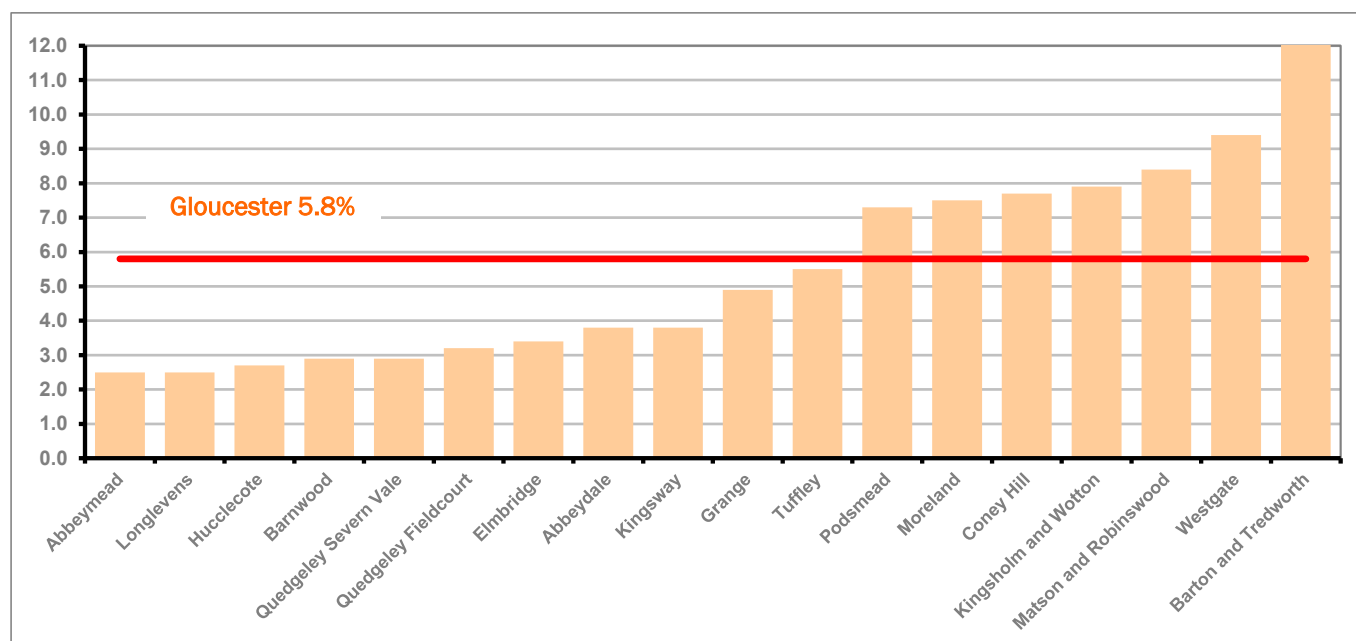
Figure 10: Claimant rates across Gloucester City wards - April 2021

Figure 10 shows the claimant rates for Gloucester City district wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the City of 5.8%. Seven wards lie above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.4 Gloucester City continued...

Table 8: Analysis of Claimant Count at Gloucester City ward level - April 2021

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Gloucester	Abbeymead	2.5	15
Gloucester	Longlevens	2.5	15
Gloucester	Hucclecote	2.7	20
Gloucester	Barnwood	2.9	27
Gloucester	Quedgeley Severn Vale	2.9	27
Gloucester	Quedgeley Fieldcourt	3.2	47
Gloucester	Elmbridge	3.4	57
Gloucester	Abbeydale	3.8	71
Gloucester	Kingsway	3.8	71
Gloucester	Grange	4.9	105
Gloucester	Tuffley	5.5	116
Gloucester	Podsmead	7.3	126
Gloucester	Moreland	7.5	128
Gloucester	Coney Hill	7.7	129
Gloucester	Kingsholm and Wotton	7.9	131
Gloucester	Matson and Robinswood	8.4	135
Gloucester	Westgate	9.4	137
Gloucester	Barton and Tredworth	12.1	138

	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 138 = "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

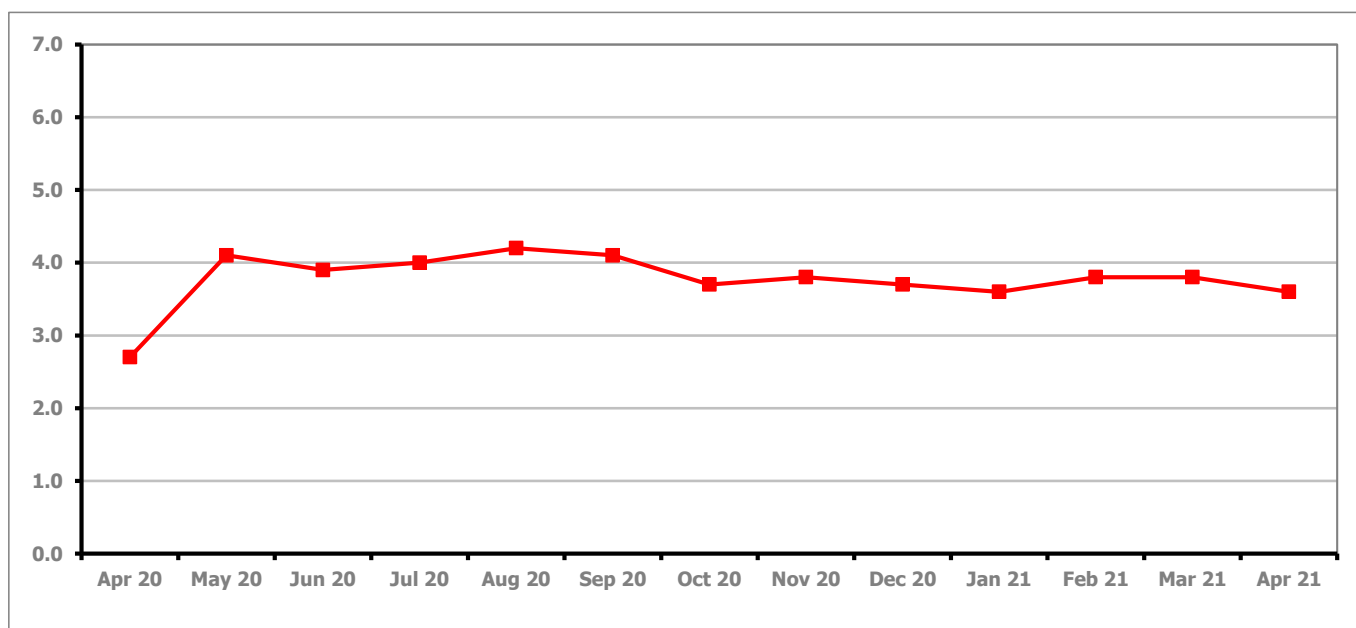


Figure 11 shows the claimant rate for Stroud decreased to 3.6% in April 2021.

Figure 12: Claimant rates across Stroud District wards - April 2021

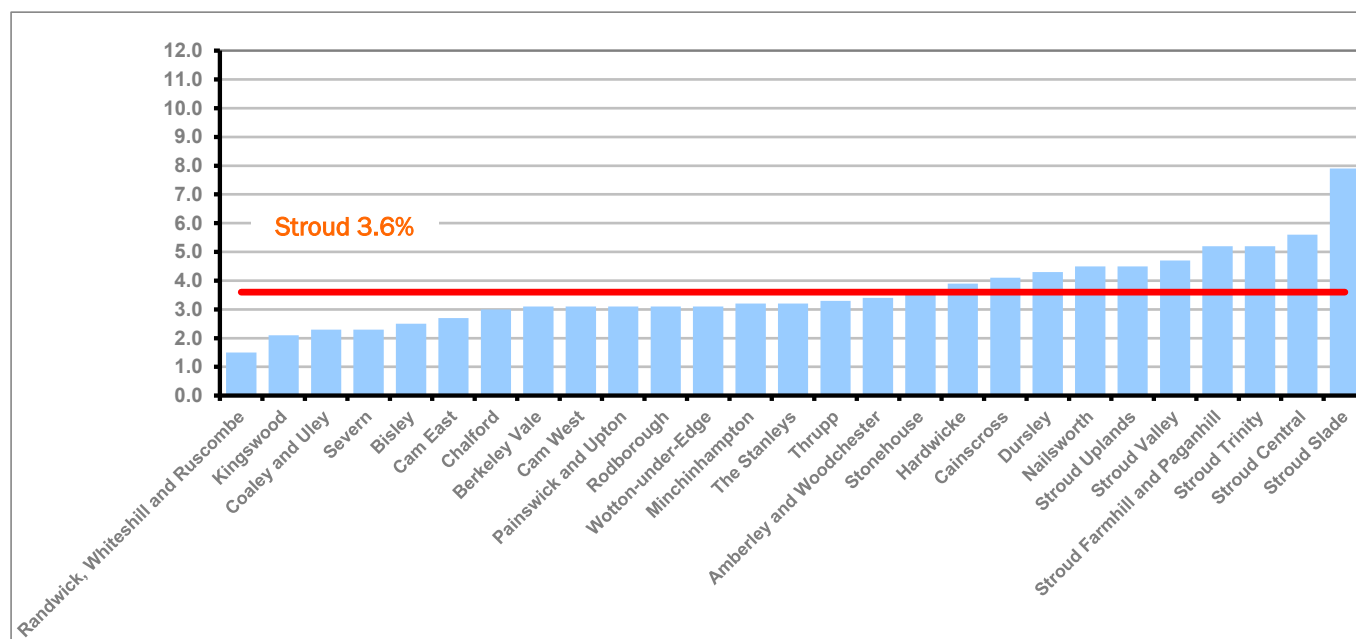


Figure 12 shows the claimant rates in Stroud District wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.6%. Ten wards are above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.5 Stroud District continued...

Table 9: Analysis of Claimant Count at Stroud District ward level - April 2021

District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Stroud	Randwick, Whiteshill and Ruscombe	1.5	1
Stroud	Kingswood	2.1	4
Stroud	Coaley and Uley	2.3	11
Stroud	Severn	2.3	11
Stroud	Bisley	2.5	15
Stroud	Cam East	2.7	20
Stroud	Chalford	3.0	32
Stroud	Berkeley Vale	3.1	39
Stroud	Cam West	3.1	39
Stroud	Painswick and Upton	3.1	39
Stroud	Rodborough	3.1	39
Stroud	Wotton-under-Edge	3.1	39
Stroud	Minchinhampton	3.2	47
Stroud	The Stanleys	3.2	47
Stroud	Thrupp	3.3	52
Stroud	Amberley and Woodchester	3.4	57
Stroud	Stonehouse	3.6	66
Stroud	Hardwicke	3.9	78
Stroud	Cainscross	4.1	83
Stroud	Dursley	4.3	93
Stroud	Nailsworth	4.5	94
Stroud	Stroud Uplands	4.5	94
Stroud	Stroud Valley	4.7	102
Stroud	Stroud Farmhill and Paganhill	5.2	109
Stroud	Stroud Trinity	5.2	109
Stroud	Stroud Central	5.6	117
Stroud	Stroud Slade	7.9	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 138 = "worst"

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

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY DISTRICT AND WARD ANALYSIS

4.6 Tewkesbury Borough

Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 13: Tewkesbury Borough claimant rate over the last year

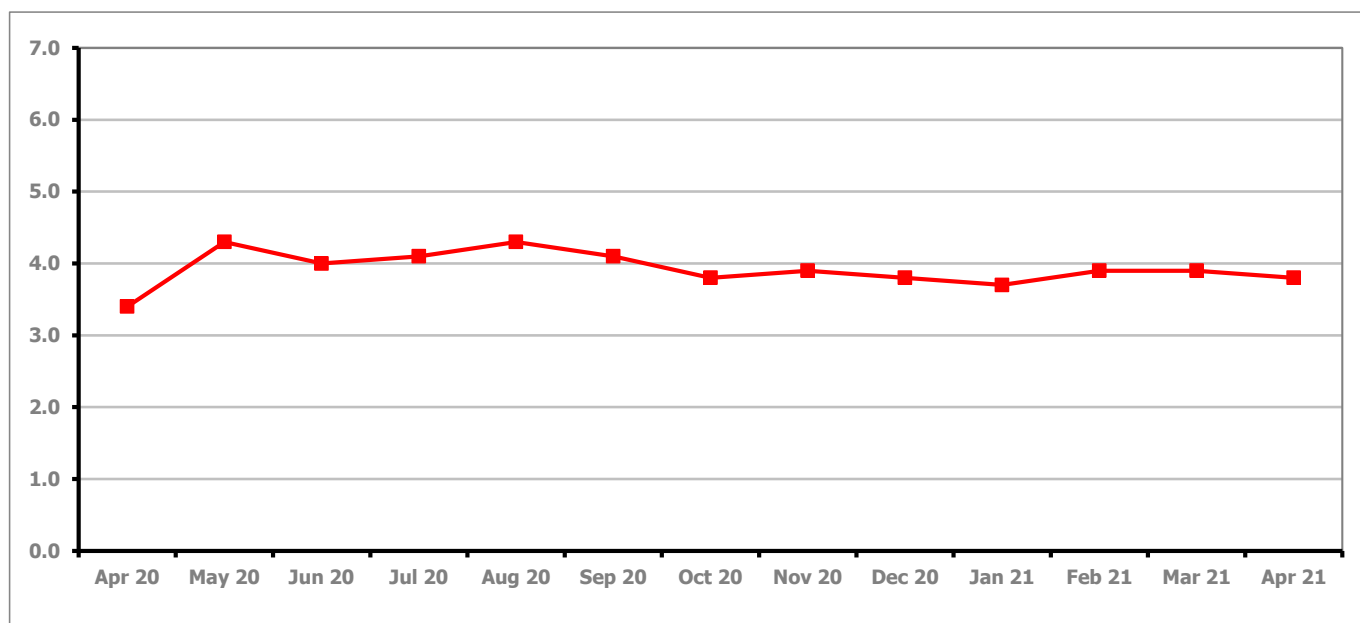


Figure 13 shows the claimant rate for Tewkesbury Borough decreased to 3.8% in April 2021.

Figure 14: Claimant rates across Tewkesbury Borough wards - April 2021

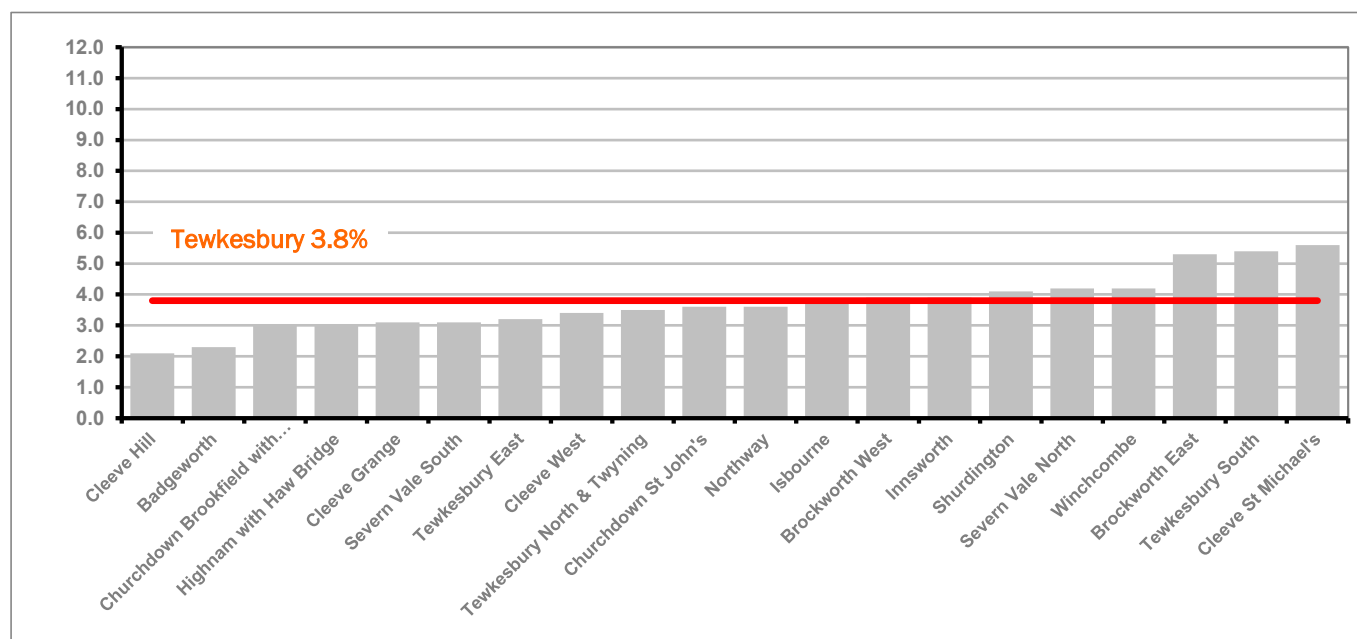


Figure 14 shows the claimant rates in Tewkesbury Borough wards. The red line represents the average claimant rate across the District of 3.8%. Eight wards are above the average.

PART 4: LOCAL AUTHORITY AND DISTRICT ANALYSIS

4.6 Tewkesbury Borough continued...

Table 10: Analysis of Claimant Count at Tewkesbury Borough level - April 2021

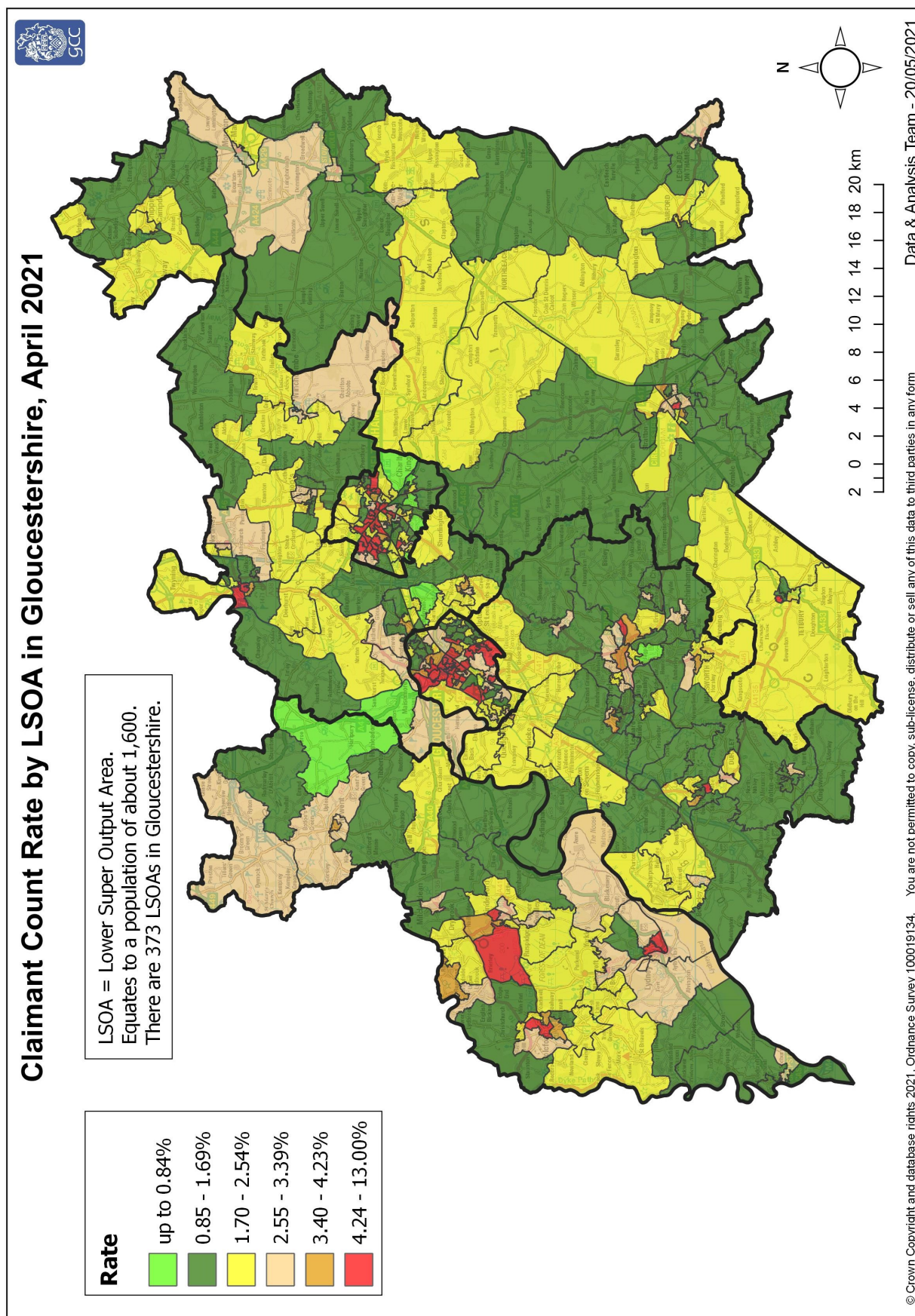
District	Ward	Rate	Rank*
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Hill	2.1	4
Tewkesbury	Badgeworth	2.3	11
Tewkesbury	Churchdown Brookfield with Hucclecote	3.0	32
Tewkesbury	Highnam with Haw Bridge	3.0	32
Tewkesbury	Cleeve Grange	3.1	39
Tewkesbury	Severn Vale South	3.1	39
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury East	3.2	47
Tewkesbury	Cleeve West	3.4	57
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury North & Twynning	3.5	61
Tewkesbury	Churchdown St John's	3.6	66
Tewkesbury	Northway	3.6	66
Tewkesbury	Isbourne	3.8	71
Tewkesbury	Brockworth West	3.9	78
Tewkesbury	Innsworth	3.9	78
Tewkesbury	Shurdington	4.1	83
Tewkesbury	Severn Vale North	4.2	89
Tewkesbury	Winchcombe	4.2	89
Tewkesbury	Brockworth East	5.3	113
Tewkesbury	Tewkesbury South	5.4	114
Tewkesbury	Cleeve St Michael's	5.6	117

	lowest 10% of county
	first quartile of county
	second quartile of county
	third quartile of county
	fourth quartile of county
	highest 10% of county

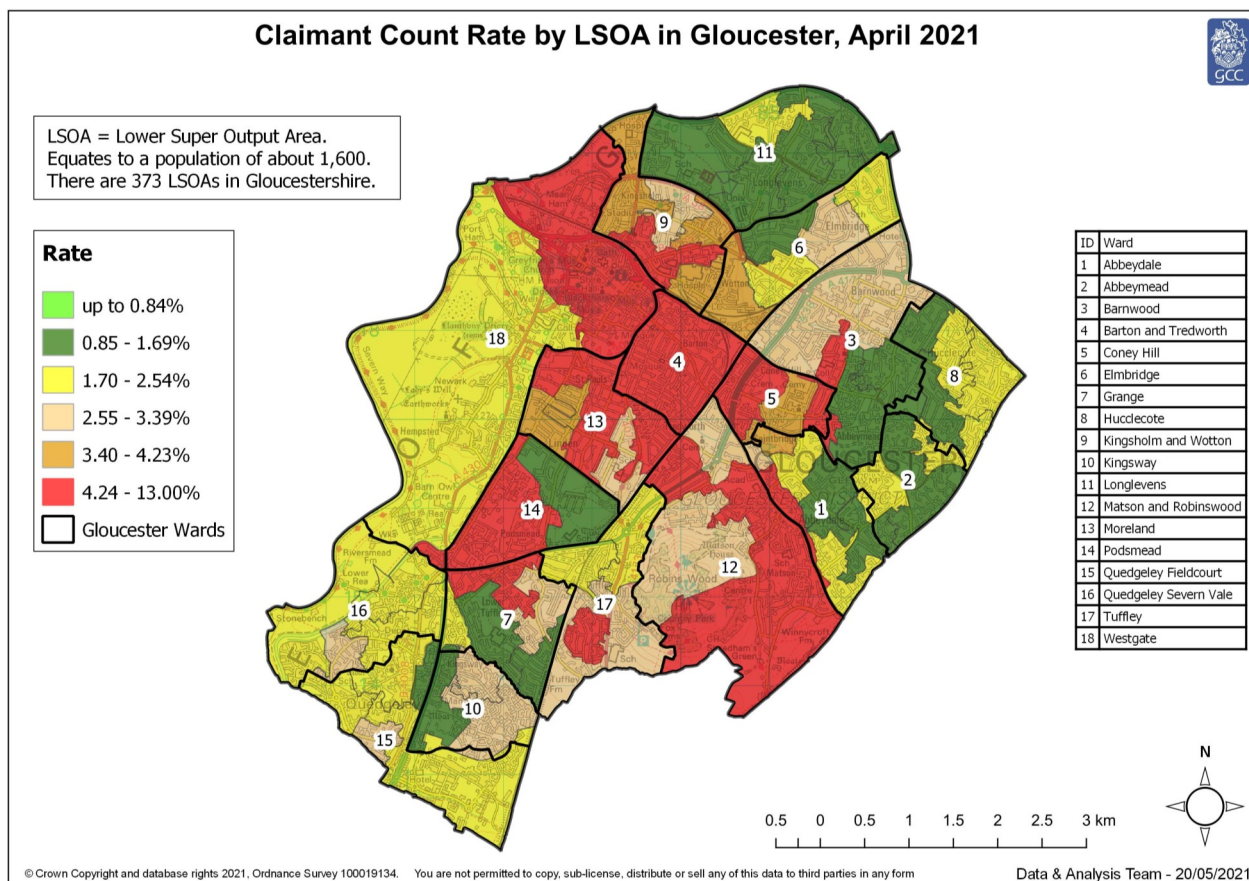
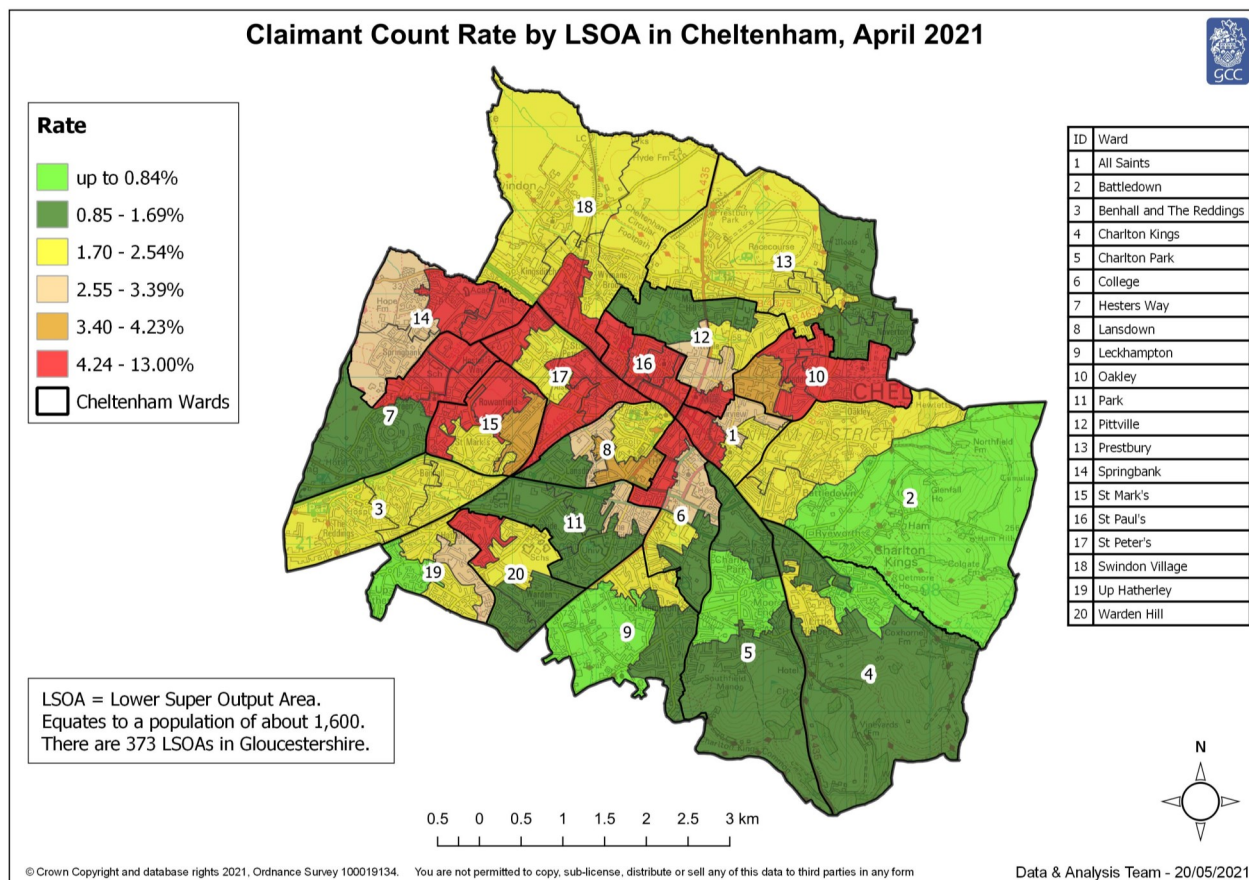
* 1 = "best" and 138 = "worst"

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

PART 5: MAP SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF CLAIMANT RATE ACROSS GLOUCESTERSHIRE



PART 5: MAP SHOWING DISTRIBUTION OF CLAIMANT RATE ACROSS GLOUCESTERSHIRE



Rates calculated using Lower Layer Super Output Area Population Estimates Mid-2019, Office for National Statistics

PART 6: YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT(18-24 year olds)

Youth Claimant Rate and Claimant Count

Figure 15: Claimant Count for Gloucestershire over the past year

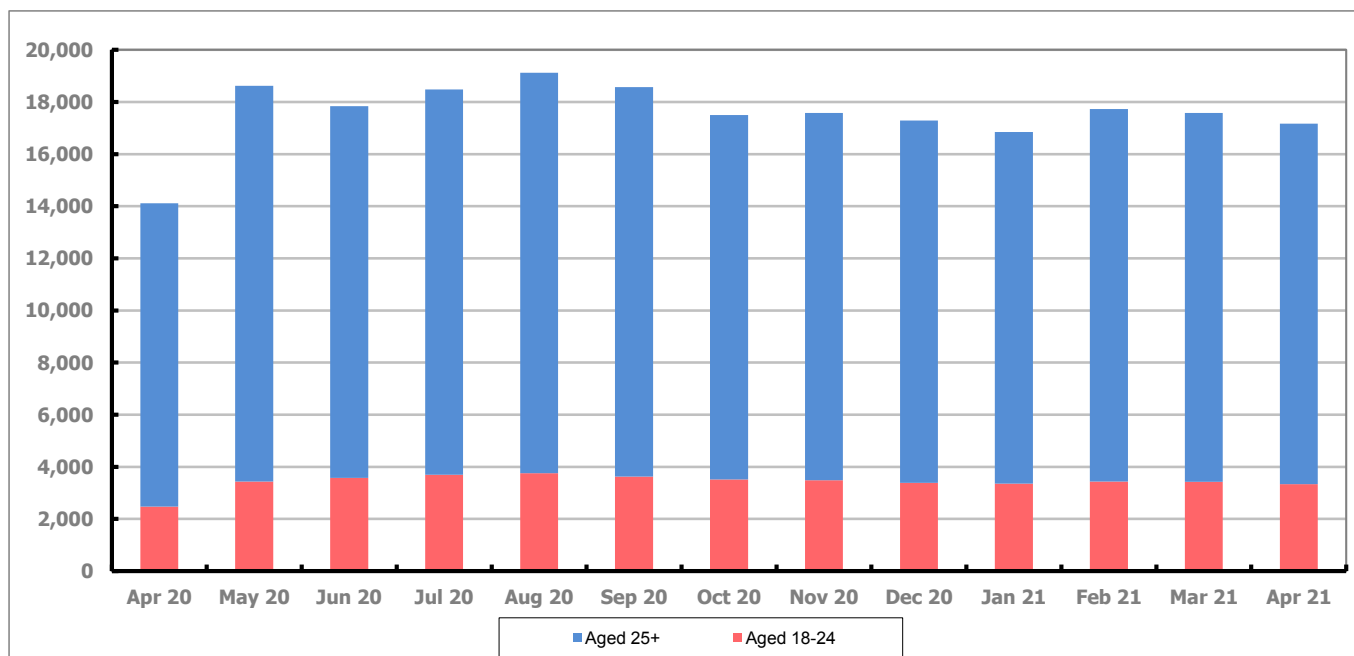


Figure 15 shows that in April 2021, 3,330 people aged 18-24 were claiming Job Seekers Allowance and Universal Credit who were not in work in Gloucestershire, this represents 19.4% of total working age claimants.

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 on the Academic Year 12 and 13 (16/17 age) against nationally defined criteria for counting the NEET group to the Department for Education (DfE) on a monthly basis. 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.

April 2021

Academic Year 12-13 Summary

	NEET	Cohort	%
Cheltenham	56	2196	2.55%
Cotswold	34	1732	1.96%
Forest	46	1702	2.70%
Gloucester	120	2925	4.10%
Stroud	43	2653	1.62%
Tewkesbury	42	1973	2.13%
Total	341	13181	2.59%

16-18 Age Summary

	NEET	Cohort	%
Cheltenham	67	2564	2.61%
Cotswold	43	2026	2.12%
Forest	61	1994	3.06%
Gloucester	144	3447	4.18%
Stroud	55	3067	1.79%
Tewkesbury	54	2271	2.38%
Total	424	15369	2.76%

16-18 Adjust NEET*	2.88%
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Monthly Change	17	10	0.13%
Previous month	324	13171	2.46%

Monthly Change	-2	-538	0.08%
Previous month	426	15907	2.68%

The academic year 12-13 group contains a proportion of young people who turn 18 in the academic year but were 17 on the 31st August the previous academic year so are entitled to learning through RPA (raising participation age).

Please note all figures quoted above are subject to change before the submission date to the DfE which usually happens in the second or third week of the month for the previous month.

If you would like to receive any further information on Gloucestershire's NEET strategy, then please contact Lynne.Speak@Prospects.co.uk or telephone 07900 391182.

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