

This bulletin includes;

- latest Claimant Count information
- total job posting numbers
- job posting numbers by occupation



# Jobs and Economic Bulletin

**August 2023**

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## August 2023

Please find the **August** update below, which includes the latest **Claimant Count** information, total **Job Posting** numbers and job posting numbers by **occupation**.

### Executive summary

- The **Claimant Count** in Gloucestershire **increased** by **105 persons** to **9,230** and the rate was **2.3%**
- **Job posting numbers**<sup>1</sup> for the month of **August** were around **20,766** which is a monthly **decrease** of around **5,828** job postings when compared to the revised July figure of 26,594.

### August Claimant Count

**Note:** the reference period for these Claimant Count figures is 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

This month saw the publication of the August **\*Claimant Count** figures: the **Gloucestershire** rate remained at **2.3%** (the value is expressed as a proportion of residents aged 16-64). The August total now stands at **9,230** compared to the July figure of 9,125 which is a monthly **increase of 105 persons**. All districts saw an increase in the estimated number of unemployed claimants, except Cheltenham which saw a decrease.

The August figure for the **South West** was **2.5%**, **England** was **3.8%** and the **UK** figure was **3.7%**.

For more information on the claimant count, please refer to the Gloucestershire County Council's monthly publications [here](#).

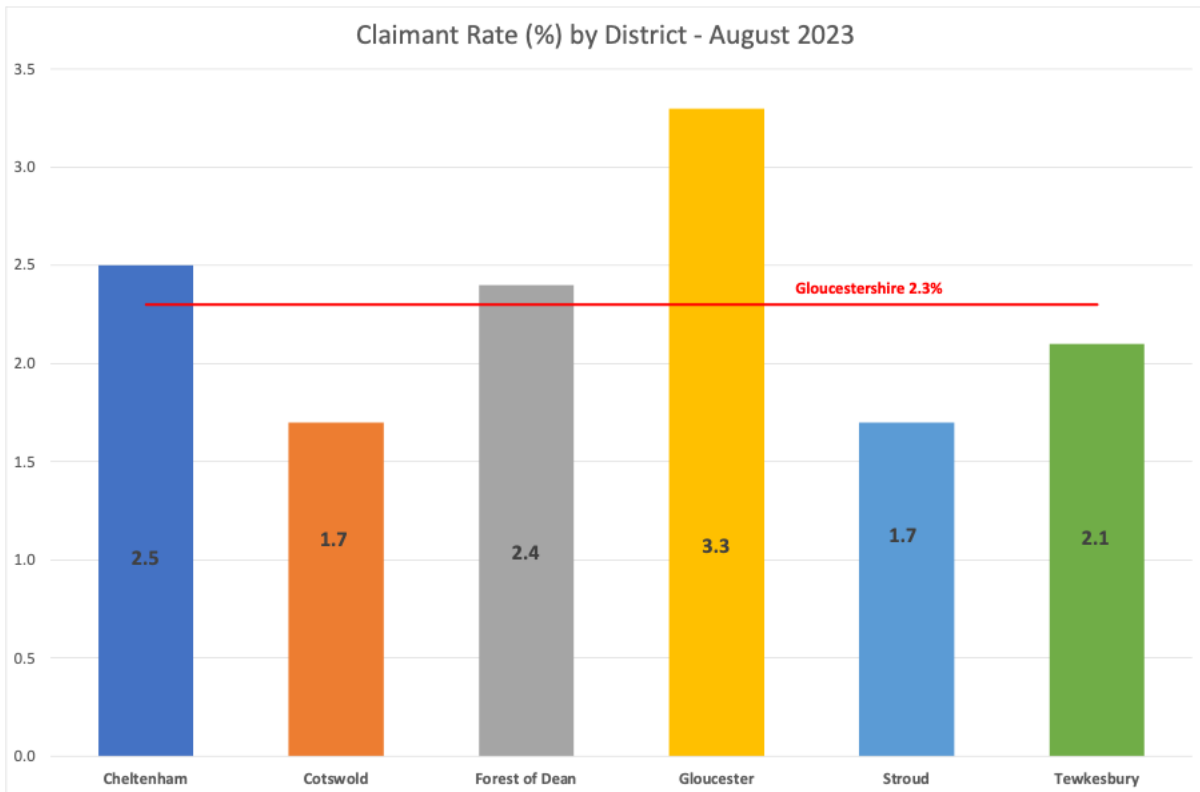
*\*The Claimant Count is a measure of the number of people who are unemployed and claiming benefits. For more information about Universal Credit please see the [ONS website](#).*

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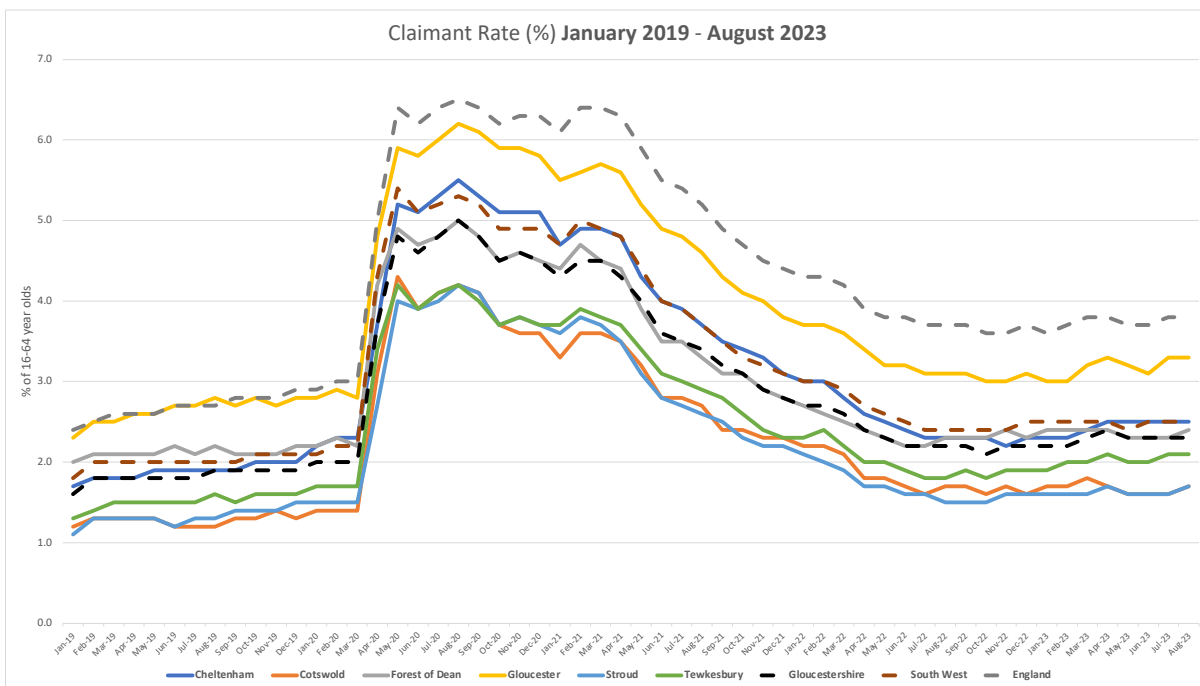
<sup>1</sup> Please note, this update replaces an earlier published August bulletin and includes an update to job posting numbers. An issue was identified with the August Lightcast job posting data, meaning the revised August figure is showing a lower number than was previously quoted. This issue has now been resolved, which was caused by postings for June and July that had expired being added to the total for August, inflating the figure.



The below shows the claimant rate for August 2023 in Gloucestershire.



The below shows the current claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 2.3%, compared with all six districts, the South West and England from January 2019 to August 2023. The rate for Gloucestershire continues to be below that of England and the South West.

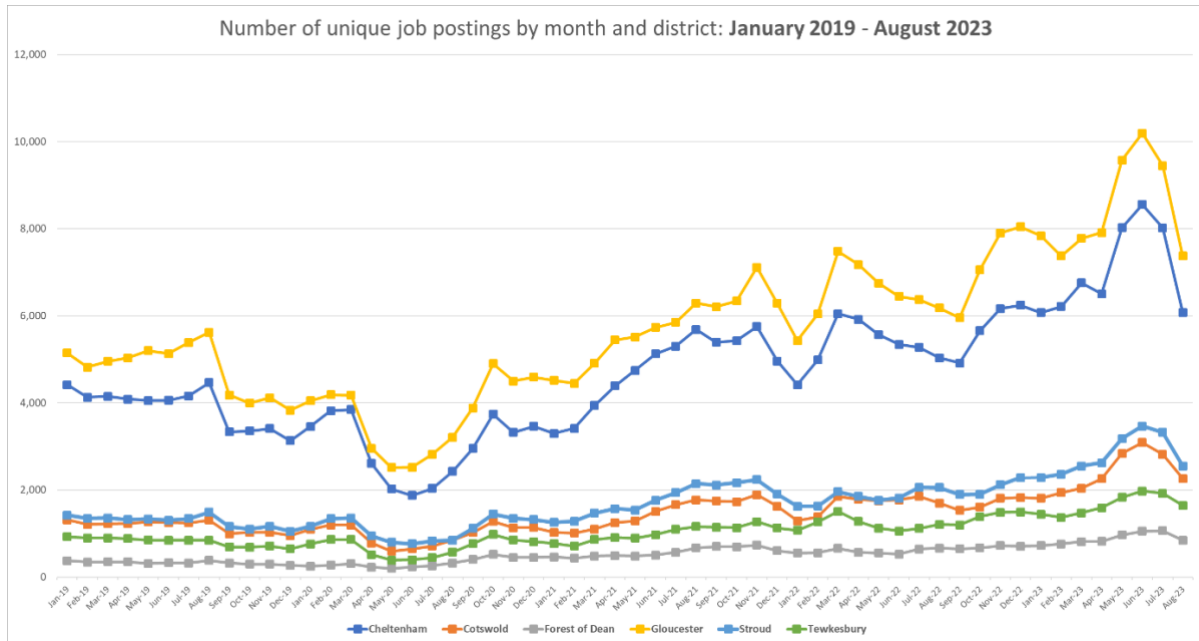




**Job posting numbers**

**Job posting numbers** for the month of **August 2023** were around **20,766** which is a monthly **decrease** of around **5,828** job postings, when compared to the revised July 2023 figure of 26,594.

The below shows total jobs posted by district from **January 2019 to August 2023**. All districts saw a decrease in numbers when compared to July 2023.

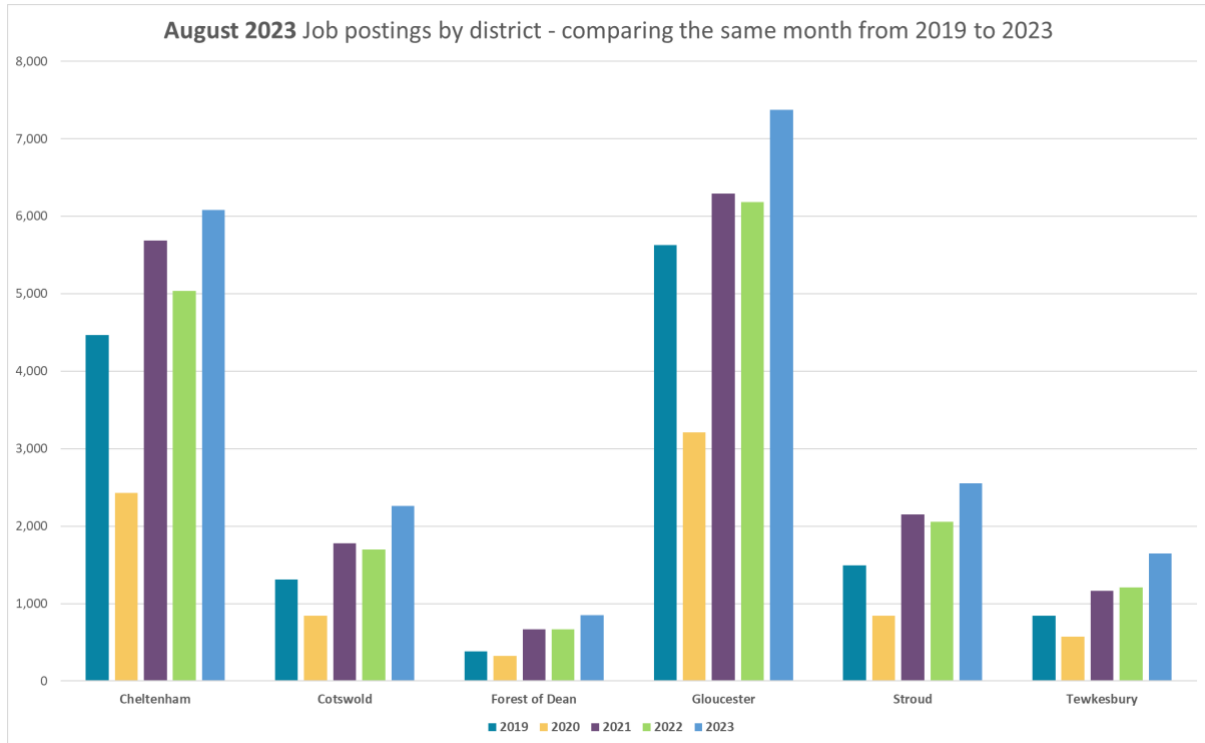


Source: Lightcast™. 2023



**Job posting numbers – district comparison**

The below gives a district overview of total job postings for the month of August 2023, comparing the same month in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. Job posting numbers in August 2023 (light blue bar) are higher than August in previous years, with Gloucester seeing the largest increase.



Source: Lightcast™. 2023

**Please note** – job posting numbers are based on snapshot data taken on the 12<sup>th</sup> October, numbers are provisional and subject to change. Job postings are collected from online sources, it doesn't capture postings that are not advertised online, this might result in undercounting for some occupations. This data shows any active posting rather than newly listed postings. A posting is removed from the count after it has been online for 61 days. A job posting does not necessarily result in a job and some jobs will be created without a job posting.



## Occupations

The table below shows changes in the number of postings by broad occupation, comparing pre-pandemic February 2020 numbers with August 2021, August 2022, and August 2023.

The trend displayed (chart on the right) is for the 4-year period January 2019 to August 2023. Cells highlighted green show the occupations that have seen an increase when compared to February 2020.

All occupations saw an increase in August 2023 compared with February 2020 numbers. The green bars in the trend chart show the peak in postings for that occupation and red bars highlighting the lowest number of postings for the period January 2019 to August 2023.

The trend shows that all occupations peaked in June 2023, with numbers falling back in recent months. Some of the biggest increases since February 2020 can be seen in the **Elementary Occupations** – examples of some occupations that fall under this category are **agricultural, construction, process plant occupations, goods storage, administration, personal services, cleaning, security, and sales occupations.**

Vacancies by broad occupation	Feb 2020 Unique Postings	Aug 2021 Unique Postings	Aug 2022 Unique Postings	August 2023 Unique Postings	% change Feb 2020 - August 2023	Trend between January 2019 - August 2023
Managers, Directors and Senior Officials	869	1,301	1,211	1,425	64%	
Professional Occupations	3,284	4,263	4,001	4,484	37%	
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	2,025	2,923	2,854	3,270	61%	
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	1,095	2,009	1,718	2,269	107%	
Skilled Trades Occupations	1,014	1,445	1,217	1,876	85%	
Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations	981	1,575	1,718	2,024	106%	
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	1,082	1,764	1,619	1,989	84%	
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	570	898	904	1,207	112%	
Elementary Occupations	708	1,414	1,555	2,155	204%	
<b>Total Across All Occupations</b>	<b>11,689</b>	<b>17,727</b>	<b>16,848</b>	<b>20,766</b>	<b>78%</b>	

Source: Lightcast™. 2023

Occupation data can be viewed at a high level (as shown in the above table), which uses broad category one-digit Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) codes to group similar jobs together, or at a granular level, using four-digit Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) codes. These four-digit Standard Occupation Classification (SOC) codes provide more detailed descriptions and have been used in the table below.

The below lists the **top ten occupations by four-digit SOC code for August 2023**, alongside total jobs advertised and what proportion this was as a percentage of the total jobs posted in Gloucestershire for this month. **Care Workers and Home Carers** accounted for **4.2%** of the overall jobs posted in Gloucestershire in August 2023, followed by **Other Administrative Occupations n.e.c. 4.2%** and **Sales Related Occupations n.e.c. 3.0%**, with the remaining occupations accounting for smaller numbers.



Top ten Occupations by four-digit SOC code	August 2023 Unique Postings	As a percentage of jobs posted
Care Workers and Home Carers	879	4.2%
Other Administrative Occupations n.e.c.	865	4.2%
Sales Related Occupations n.e.c.	630	3.0%
Customer Service Occupations n.e.c.	587	2.8%
Programmers and Software Development Professionals	554	2.7%
Kitchen and Catering Assistants	554	2.7%
Nurses	482	2.3%
Chefs	427	2.1%
Cleaners and Domestic	370	1.8%
Van Drivers	367	1.8%

Source: Lightcast™. 2023

Please note: **n.e.c.** stands for **not elsewhere classified** – for a classification that cannot fit into any other grouping

### Top companies posting

The top ten companies posting jobs in Gloucestershire in August 2023 were:

- NHS
- Ultra Group Company Limited
- Compass Group
- Tesco
- Gloucestershire County Council
- The Orders of St John Care Trust
- Bupa
- General Electric
- Gloucestershire College
- Safran

**Please note** this does not include employment agencies, however employment agencies do form part of the total jobs posted in the report.