

This bulletin includes;

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



Jobs and Economic Bulletin

December 2023

Jute Blackmon
jute.blackmon@gfirstlep.com



December 2023

Please find the **December** 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 **115 persons** to **9,755** and the rate was **2.5%**
- **Job posting numbers** for the month of **December** were around **16,506** which is a monthly **decrease** of around **3,139** job postings when compared to the revised November figure of 19,645.

December Claimant Count

Note: the reference period for these Claimant Count figures is 14th December 2023.

This month saw the publication of the December ***Claimant Count** figures: the **Gloucestershire** rate was **2.5%** (the value is expressed as a proportion of residents aged 16-64). The December total now stands at **9,755** compared to the November figure of 9,640 which is a monthly **increase of 115 persons**. All districts saw an increase in the estimated number of unemployed claimants, except the Forest of Dean which saw a decrease.

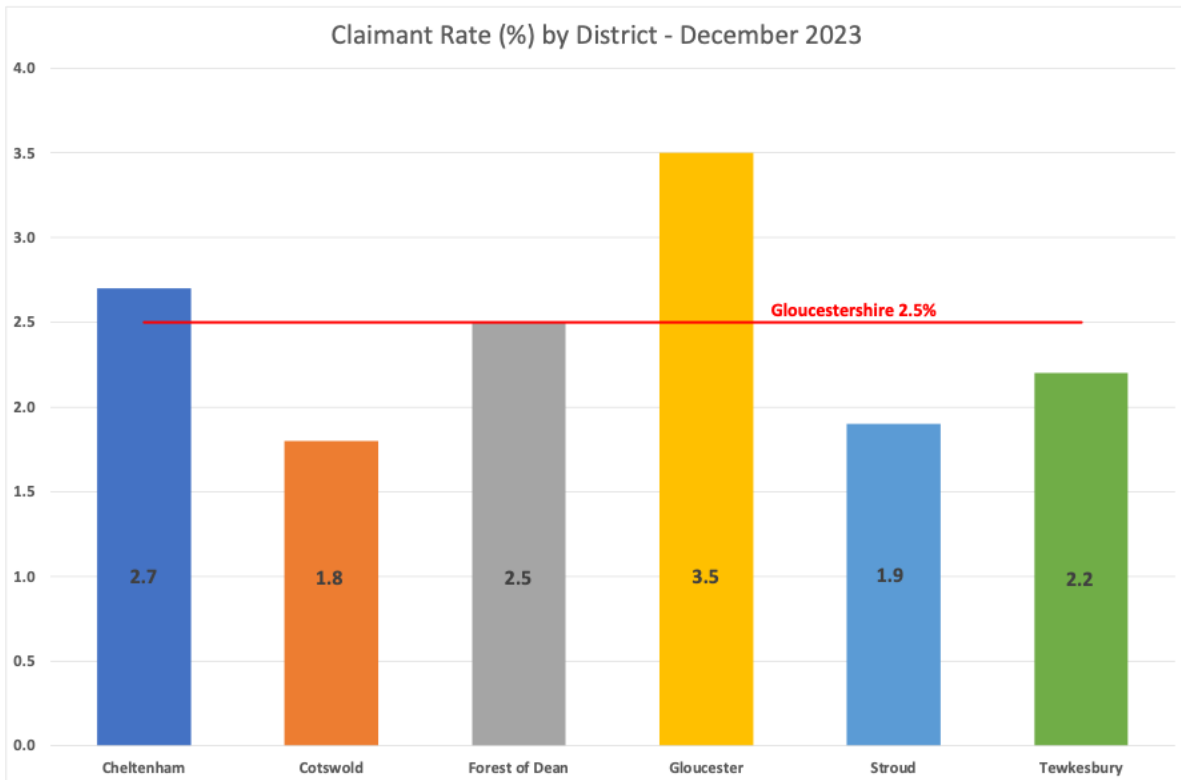
The December figure for the **South West** was **2.6%**, **England** was **3.8%** and the **UK** figure was **3.7%**.

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

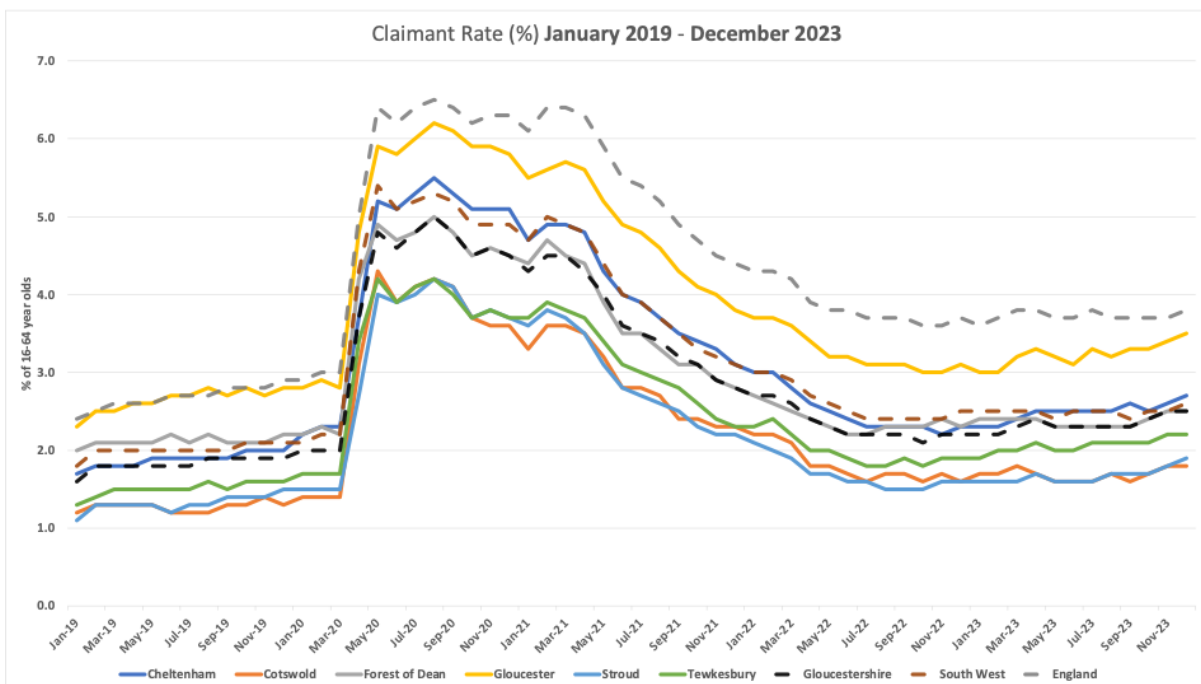
**The Claimant Count is a measure of the number of people who are unemployed and claiming benefits. For more information about Universal Credit please see the [ONS website](#).*



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



The below shows the current claimant rate for Gloucestershire at 2.5%, compared with all six districts, the South West and England from January 2019 to December 2023. The rate for Gloucestershire continues to be below that of England and the South West.

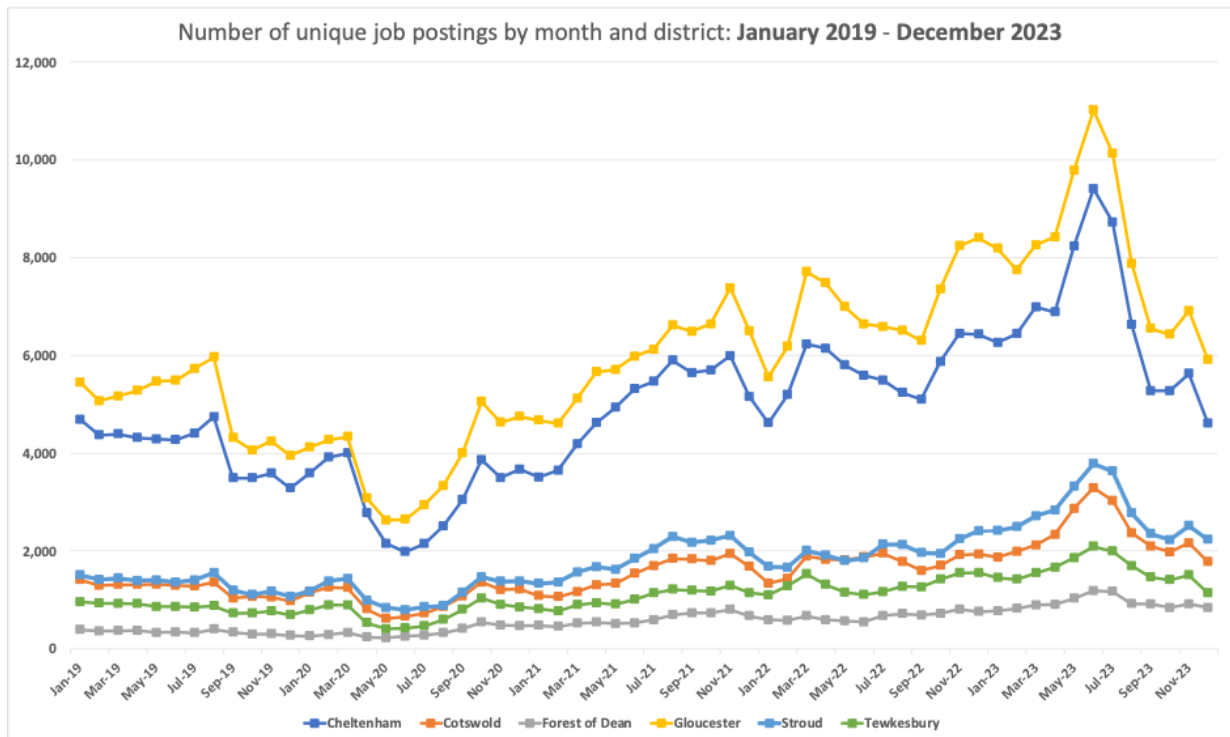




Job posting numbers

Job posting numbers for the month of **December 2023** were around **16,506** which is a monthly **decrease** of around **3,139** job postings, when compared to the revised November 2023 figure of 19,645.

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



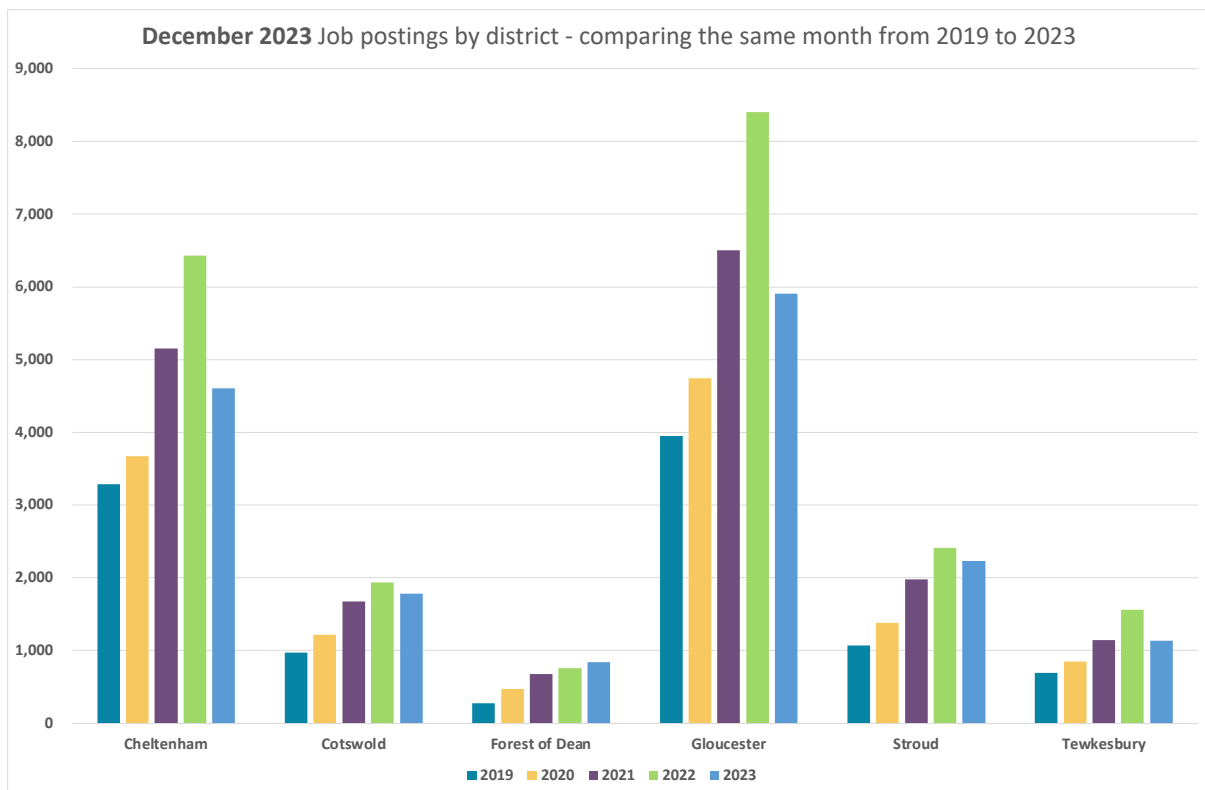
Source: Lightcast™. 2024



Job posting numbers – district comparison

The below gives a district overview of total job postings for the month of December 2023, comparing the same month in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022.

Job posting numbers in December 2023 (light blue bar) were lower than those seen in December 2022 across all districts, except for the Forest of Dean which saw higher numbers in December 2023 compared to previous years. Although December 2023 numbers were lower than those in 2022, they still exceeded 2019 and 2020 numbers in all districts, with some districts also exceeding those seen in 2021.



Source: Lightcast™. 2024

Please note – job posting numbers are based on snapshot data taken on the 17th January, 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 December 2021, December 2022, and December 2023.

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

All occupations saw an increase in December 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 December 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.**

Vancancies by broad occupation	Feb 2020 Unique Postings	Dec 2021 Unique Postings	Dec 2022 Unique Postings	Dec 2023 Unique Postings	% change Feb 2020 - Dec 2023	Trend between January 2019 - December 2023
Managers, Directors and Senior Officials	1,071	1,374	1,841	1,293	21%	
Professional Occupations	3,774	4,795	5,442	4,339	15%	
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	1,823	2,506	3,274	2,580	42%	
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	1,080	1,609	2,007	1,505	39%	
Skilled Trades Occupations	908	1,031	1,213	1,037	14%	
Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations	797	1,432	1,904	1,467	84%	
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	1,030	1,582	2,003	1,429	39%	
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	730	1,082	1,368	1,046	43%	
Elementary Occupations	751	1,648	2,345	1,746	132%	
Total Across All Occupations	12,001	17,124	21,498	16,506	38%	

Source: Lightcast™. 2024

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 December 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 **4.1%** of the overall jobs posted in Gloucestershire in December 2023, followed by **Sales Related Occupations n.e.c. 3.0%** and **Cleaners and Domestics 2.5%**, with the remaining occupations accounting for smaller numbers.



Top ten Occupations by four-digit SOC code	December 2023 Unique Postings	As a percentage of jobs posted
Care Workers and Home Carers	682	4.1%
Sales Related Occupations n.e.c.	497	3.0%
Cleaners and Domestic	411	2.5%
Programmers and Software Development Professionals	360	2.2%
Customer Service Occupations n.e.c.	317	1.9%
Teaching Assistants	308	1.9%
Other Administrative Occupations n.e.c.	295	1.8%
Other Registered Nursing Professionals	294	1.8%
Warehouse Operatives	251	1.5%
Social Workers	242	1.5%

Source: Lightcast™. 2024

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 December 2023 were:

- NHS
- Outcomes First Group
- The Orders of St John Care Trust
- Safran
- Tesco
- Barchester PLC
- Ministry of Justice
- Bupa
- Gloucestershire County Council
- St James's Place

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