

This bulletin includes;

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

This update also includes a section on Business Floorspace in Gloucestershire and how this has changed between 2016 and 2022.



Jobs and Economic Bulletin

May 2023

Jute Blackmon
jute.blackmon@gfirstlep.com



May 2023

Please find the **May** update below, which includes the latest **Claimant Count** information, total **Job Posting** numbers and job posting numbers by **occupation**. This update also includes a section on **Business Floorspace** in Gloucestershire and how this has changed between 2016 and 2022.

Executive summary

- The **Claimant Count** in Gloucestershire **decreased** by **240 persons** to **9,290** and the rate was **2.3%**
- **Job posting numbers** for the month of **May** were around **29,212** which is a monthly **increase** of around **6,531** job postings when compared to the revised April figure of 22,681.
- In Gloucestershire business floorspace is predominantly **industrial**, with **61.8% of total space dedicated to industrial** use compared to 57.6% in England and 56.9% in the South West
- Stroud and Tewkesbury have seen large increases in floorspace when compared to 2016. Tewkesbury has seen an 10.8% increase in retail, 8.8% increase in office and 5.3% increase in industrial floorspace. While Stroud has seen an 7.9% increase in other floorspace, 6.6% increase in industrial and 3.3% increase in office floorspace.
- Between 2016 and 2022, Cheltenham has seen some of the largest decreases, with a 9.8% decrease in office floorspace and a 9.7% decrease in industrial floorspace.

May Claimant Count

Note: the reference period for these Claimant Count figures is 11th May 2023.

This month saw the publication of the May ***Claimant Count** figures: the **Gloucestershire** rate has gone **down** to **2.3%** (the value is expressed as a proportion of residents aged 16-64). The May total now stands at **9,010** compared to the April figure of 9,250 which is a monthly **decrease of 240 persons**. All districts saw a decrease in the estimated number of unemployed claimants.

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

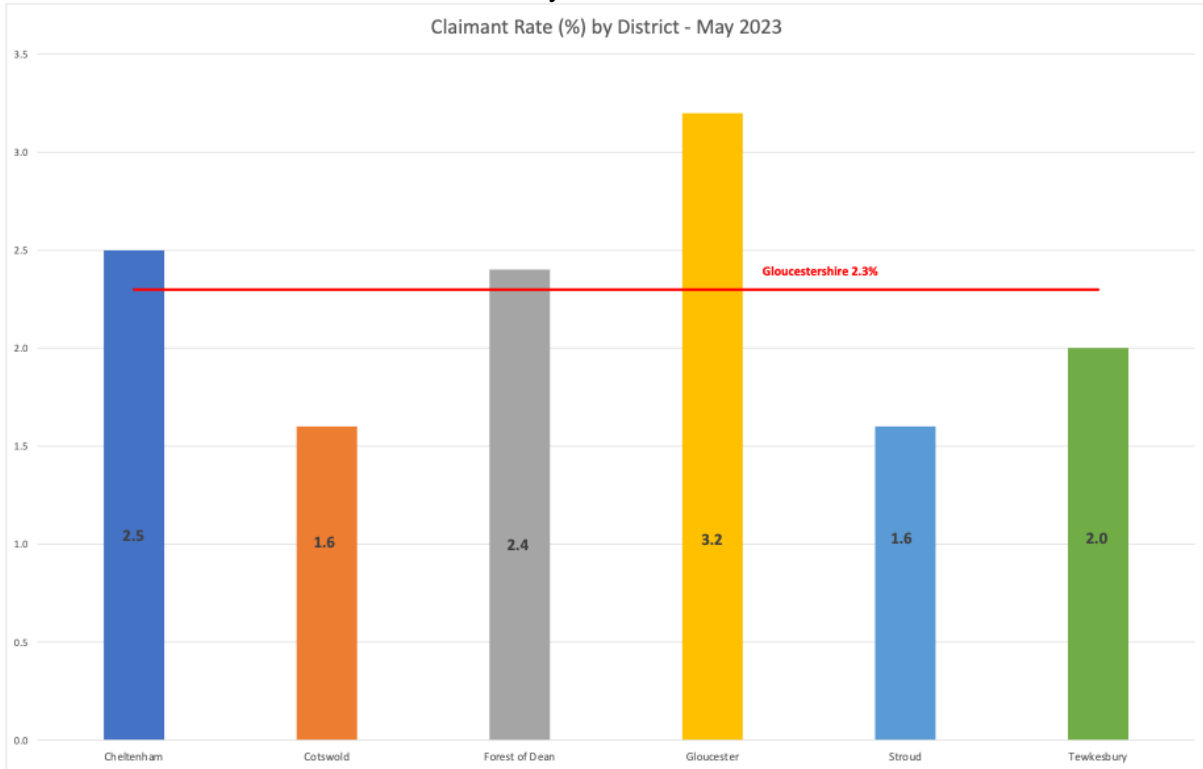
For reference, prior to the pandemic in February 2020, the Gloucestershire rate was 2.0% with 7,895 people claiming, peaking in August 2020 to 5.0% and 19,155 people claiming.

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

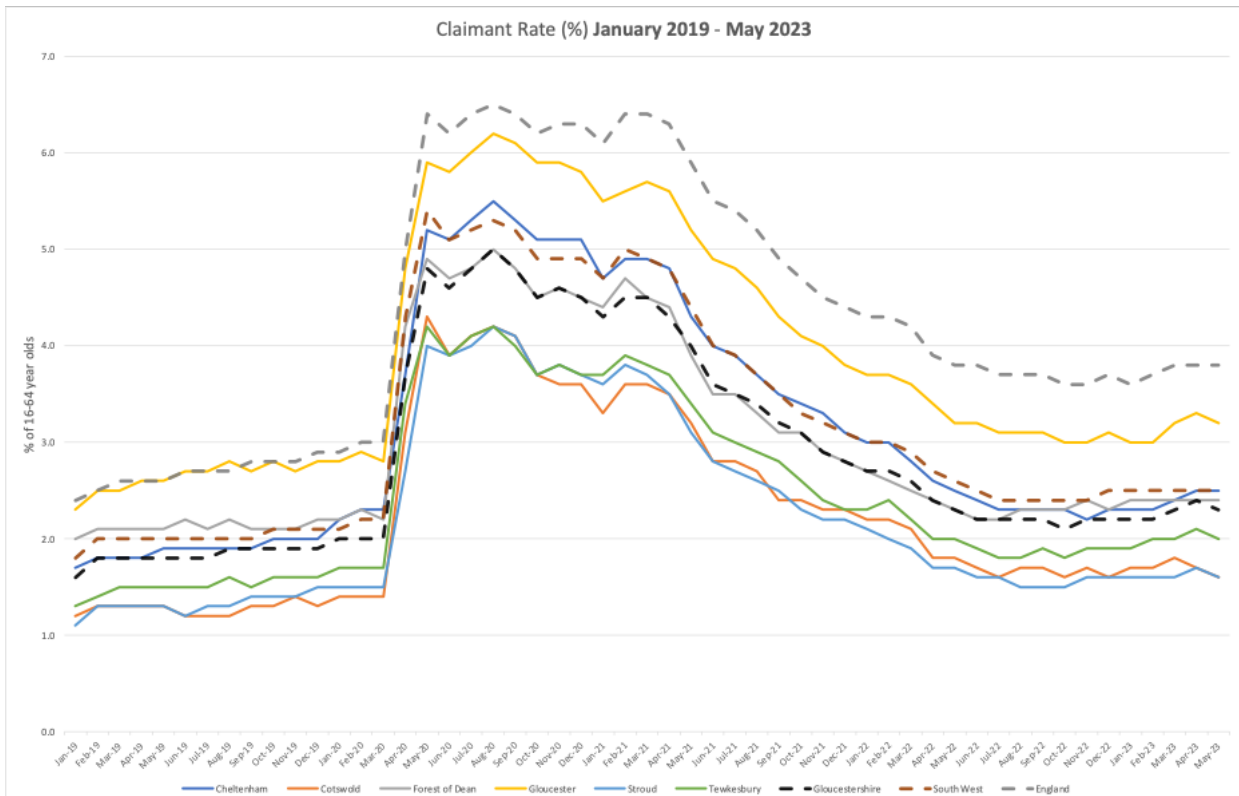
**The Claimant Count is a measure of the number of people who are unemployed and claiming benefits. For more information about Universal Credit please see the [ONS website](#).*



The below shows the claimant rate for May 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 May 2023. The rate for Gloucestershire continues to be below that of England and the South West.

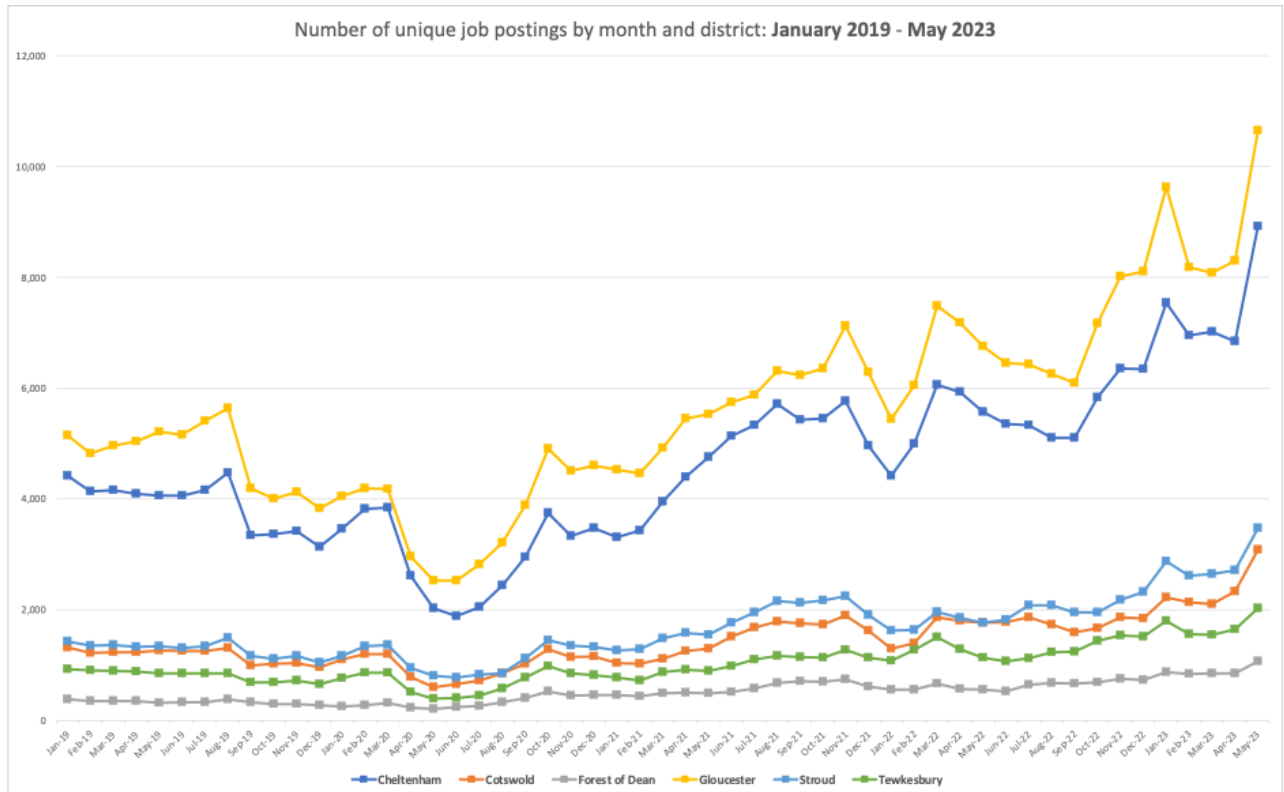




Job posting numbers

Job posting numbers for the month of **May 2023** were around **29,212** which is a monthly **increase** of around **6,531** job postings, when compared to the revised April 2023 figure of 22,681.

The below shows total jobs posted by district from **January 2019 to May 2023**. All districts have seen an increase in numbers when compared to April 2023, with some of the biggest increases seen in Cheltenham and Gloucester.

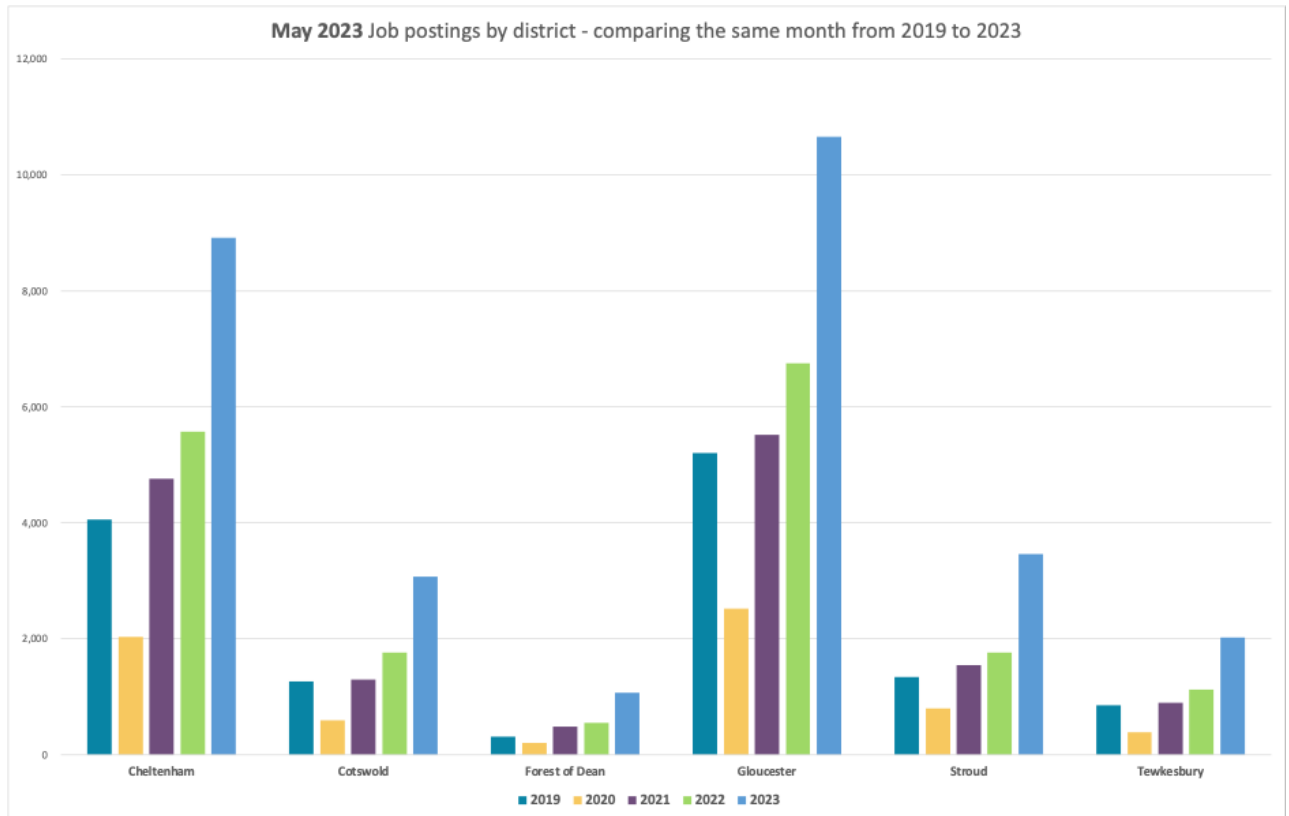


Source: Lightcast™. 2023



Job posting numbers – district comparison

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



Source: Lightcast™. 2023

Please note – job posting numbers are based on snapshot data taken on the 15th June, 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 May 2021, May 2022, and May 2023.

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

All occupations saw an increase in May 2023 compared with pre-pandemic 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 May 2023.

The trend shows that most occupations have peaked in May 2023, except for caring, leisure and other service occupations which peaked in January 2023. 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	May 2021 Unique Postings	May 2022 Unique Postings	May 2023 Unique Postings	% change Feb 2020 - May 2023	Trend between January 2019 - May 2023
Managers, Directors and Senior Officials	869	1,138	1,323	1,993	129%	
Professional Occupations	3,288	4,036	4,433	6,580	100%	
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	2,025	2,385	2,848	4,614	128%	
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	1,095	1,538	1,753	3,345	205%	
Skilled Trades Occupations	1,014	1,197	1,308	2,482	145%	
Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations	981	1,218	1,931	2,698	175%	
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	1,082	1,209	1,469	2,552	136%	
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	570	741	846	1,719	202%	
Elementary Occupations	708	941	1,569	3,136	343%	
Total Across All Occupations	11,693	14,505	17,528	29,212	150%	

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 May 2023**, alongside total jobs advertised and what proportion this was as a percentage of the total jobs posted in Gloucestershire for this month. **Other Administrative Occupations n.e.c.** accounted for **4.0%** of the overall jobs posted in Gloucestershire in May 2023, followed by **Care Workers and Home Carers 3.8%** and **Programmers and Software Development Professionals 3.1%**, with the remaining occupations accounting for smaller numbers.



Top ten Occupations by four-digit SOC code	May 2023 Unique Postings	As a percentage of jobs posted
Other Administrative Occupations n.e.c.	1,162	4.0%
Care Workers and Home Carers	1,117	3.8%
Programmers and Software Development Professionals	915	3.1%
Sales Related Occupations n.e.c.	855	2.9%
Kitchen and Catering Assistants	770	2.6%
Customer Service Occupations n.e.c.	752	2.6%
Nurses	649	2.2%
Cleaners and Domestic	590	2.0%
Van Drivers	556	1.9%
Book-keepers, Payroll Managers and Wages Clerks	544	1.9%

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 May 2023 were:

- NHS
- Ultra Group Company Limited
- Gloucestershire County Council
- General Electric
- The Orders of St John Care Trust
- GCHQ Holdings
- Tesco
- Northrop Grumman
- Barchester PLC
- EDF Energy

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

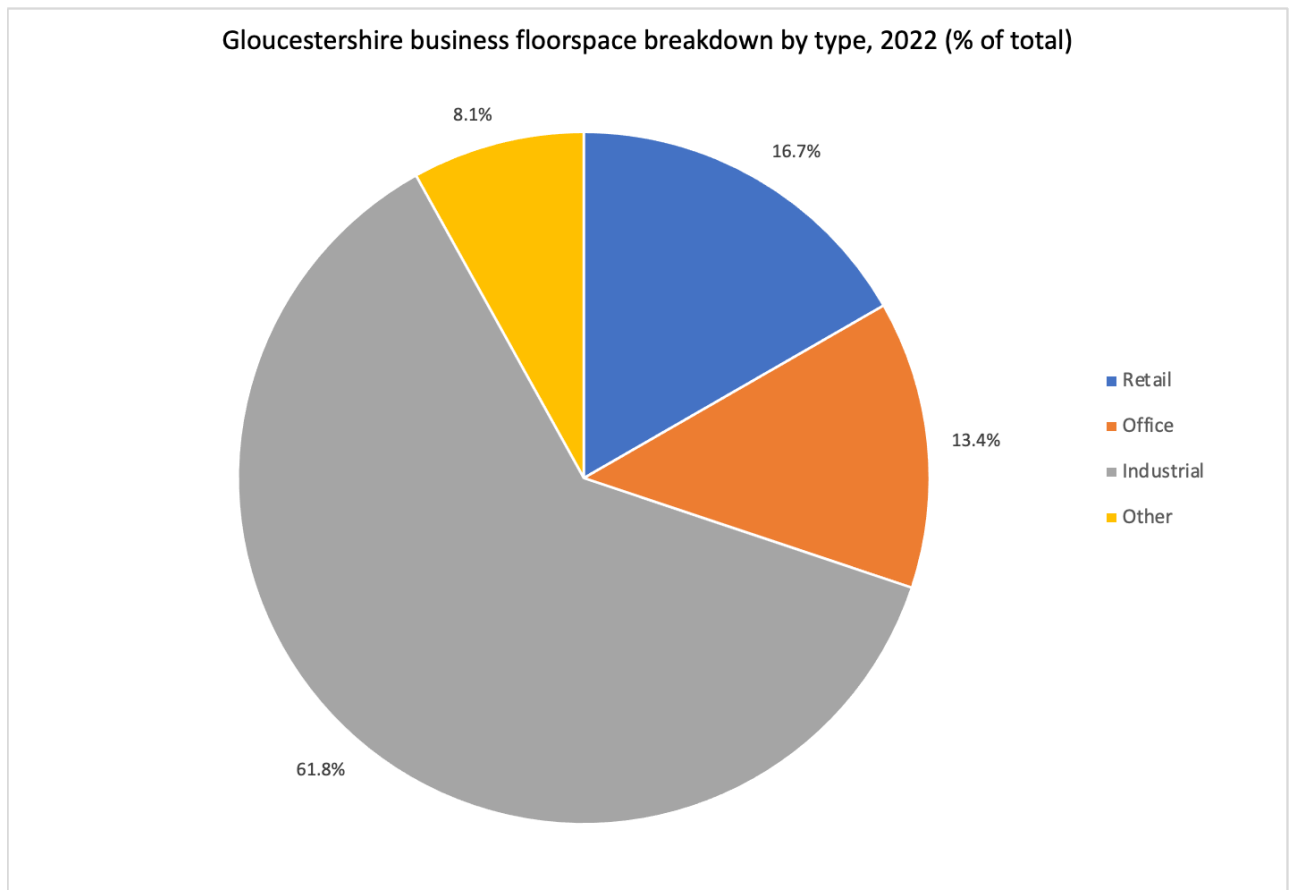


Business floorspace in Gloucestershire

Business floorspace serves as a crucial component of a vibrant economy. It provides physical locations for businesses to operate and generate economic activity. This includes retail stores, office spaces, manufacturing facilities, warehouses, and other commercial establishments. These spaces create job opportunities, attract investment, and contribute to local economic growth.

In Gloucestershire business floorspace is predominantly industrial, with 61.8% of total space dedicated to industrial use compared to 57.6% in England and 56.9% in the South West. This reflects the county's relative specialisation in Manufacturing, and the relative availability of rural land for industrial business parks.

The below shows the total split of business floorspace in Gloucestershire in 2022, with 61.8% dedicated to industrial and 16.7% retail and smaller proportions for office (13.4%) and other (8.1%).



Source: NDR Business Floorspace, 2022

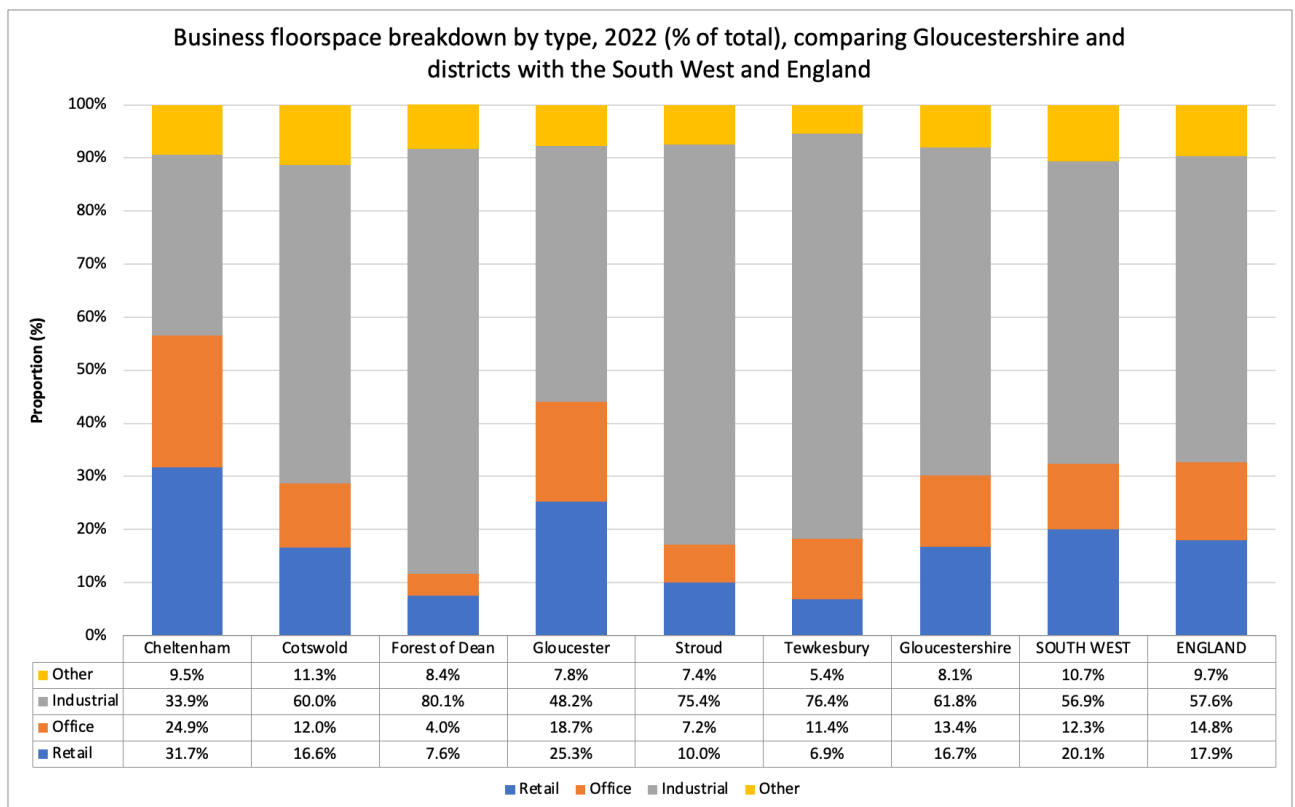


The graph below shows the breakdown of business floorspace (% of total), broken down by type, comparing Gloucestershire and districts with the South West and England.

The overall picture for Gloucestershire is similar to that of both the South West and England, with Gloucestershire seeing more industrial floorspace (61.8%) compared to the South West (56.9%) and England (57.6%). Retail floorspace is slightly less in Gloucestershire (16.7%), compared to the South West (20.1%) and England (17.9%).

Cheltenham and Gloucester, which are both urban, can be seen to have more mixed floorspace composition and are the only two districts with less than 50% of floorspace being industrial. Both Cheltenham and Gloucester show a higher proportion of retail floorspace with Cheltenham (31.7%) retail and Gloucester (25.3%).

Office floorspace is also higher in Cheltenham and Gloucester, at 24.9% and 18.7% respectively. The Forest of Dean is mostly industrial (80.1%), while Tewkesbury has 76.4% industrial floorspace and Stroud 75.4%.



Source: NDR Business Floorspace, 2022



Change in business floorspace in Gloucestershire from 2016 to 2022

When looking at the change in total business floorspace; overall Gloucestershire has seen a 0.8% increase, the South West has seen a 1.9% increase and England has seen a 0.6% increase.

Looking at the change in total business floorspace across each of the six districts; increases have been seen in Cotswold (2.6%), Stroud (5.5%) and Tewkesbury (5.4%). While Cheltenham has seen a 6.1% decrease, the Forest of Dean has seen a 0.8% decrease and Gloucester a 1.6% decrease.

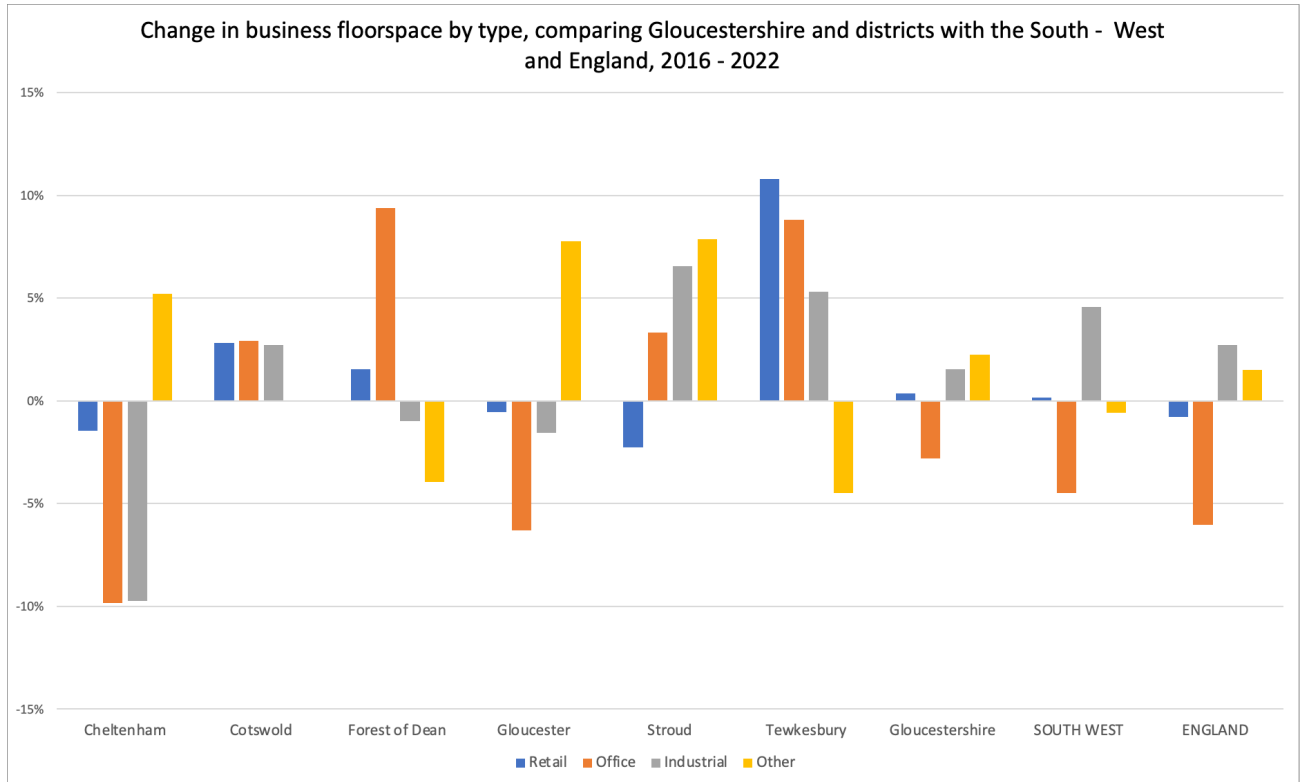
Gloucestershire has seen a 1.5% increase in industrial floorspace, while the South West has seen 4.6% increase and England has seen a 2.7% increase. Gloucestershire has seen a 2.8% decrease in office floorspace, compared to the South West which has seen a 4.5% decrease and England seeing a 6.0% decrease.

Gloucestershire has seen a larger increase in other floorspace (2.3%), compared to the South West which has seen a 0.6% decrease and England seeing a 1.5% increase. When looking at the changes between 2016 and 2022 in each of Gloucestershire's six districts, the following can be seen:

- Cheltenham has seen some of the largest decreases, with a 9.8% decrease in office and 9.7% decrease in industrial floorspace. Gloucester has also seen a decrease in these two areas but to a lesser extent, with a 6.3% decrease in office and 1.6% decrease in industrial floorspace.
- Stroud and Tewkesbury have seen large increases, with Tewkesbury seeing some of the biggest increases when compared to 2016. Tewkesbury has seen an 10.8% increase in retail, 8.8% increase in office and 5.3% increase in industrial floorspace. While Stroud has seen an 7.9% increase in other floorspace, 6.6% increase in industrial and 3.3% increase in office floorspace.
- The Forest of Dean has seen a 9.4% increase in office floorspace, but a 3.9% decrease in other floorspace, and Gloucester has seen an 7.8% increase in other but a 6.3% decrease in office floorspace.
- Cotswold has seen a 2.8% increase in retail floorspace, 2.9% increase in office floorspace and a 2.7% increase in industrial floorspace. The total for other floorspace has remained the same.



The graph below displays the change in business floorspace across each of Gloucestershire’s six districts, compared with Gloucestershire overall, the South West and England between 2016 and 2022.



Source: NDR Business Floorspace, 2022