

This bulletin includes;

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



# Jobs and Economic Bulletin

September 2023

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## September 2023

Please find the **September** 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 **290 persons** to **9,405** and the rate was **2.4%**
- **Job posting numbers** for the month of **September** were around **17,902** which is a monthly **decrease** of around **2,864** job postings when compared to the revised<sup>1</sup> August figure of 20,766.

### September Claimant Count

**Note:** the reference period for these Claimant Count figures is 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

This month saw the publication of the September **\*Claimant Count** figures: the **Gloucestershire** rate increased to **2.4%** (the value is expressed as a proportion of residents aged 16-64). The September total now stands at **9,405** compared to the August figure of 9,115 which is a monthly **increase of 290 persons**. All districts saw an increase in the estimated number of unemployed claimants, except Cotswold which saw a decrease.

The September 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](#).

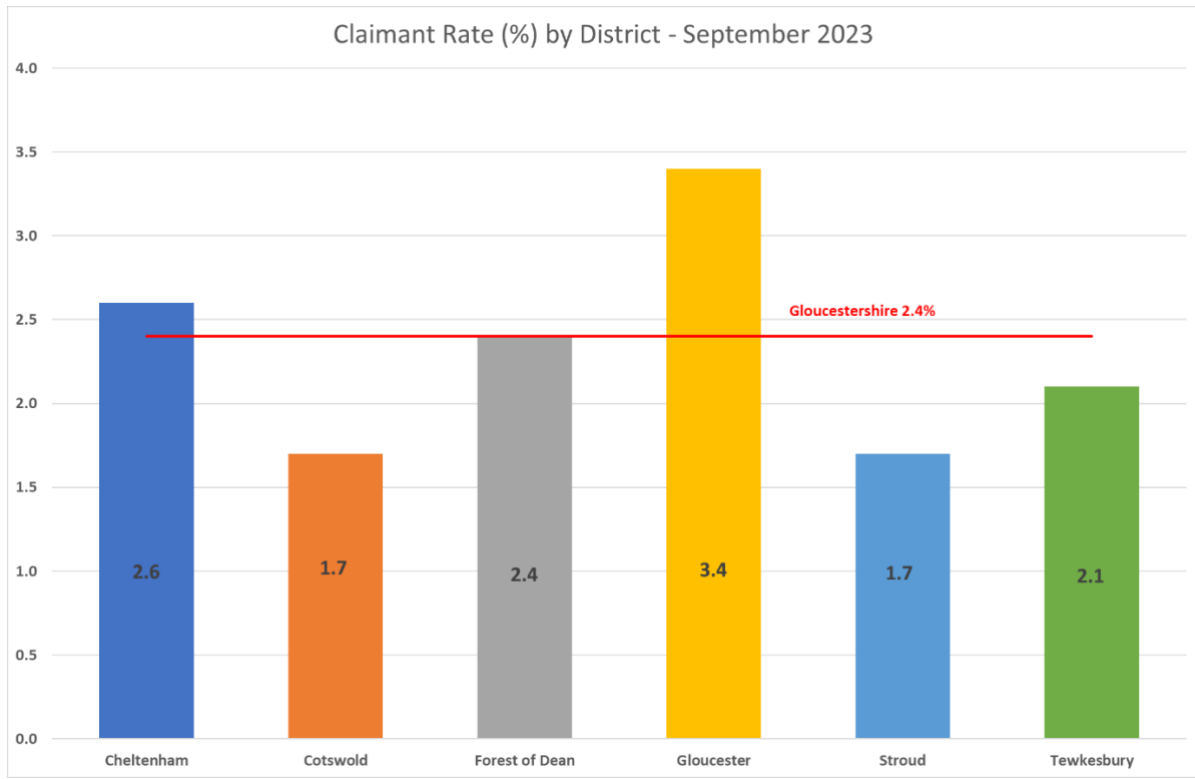
*\*The Claimant Count is a measure of the number of people who are unemployed and claiming benefits. For more information about Universal Credit please see the [ONS website](#).*

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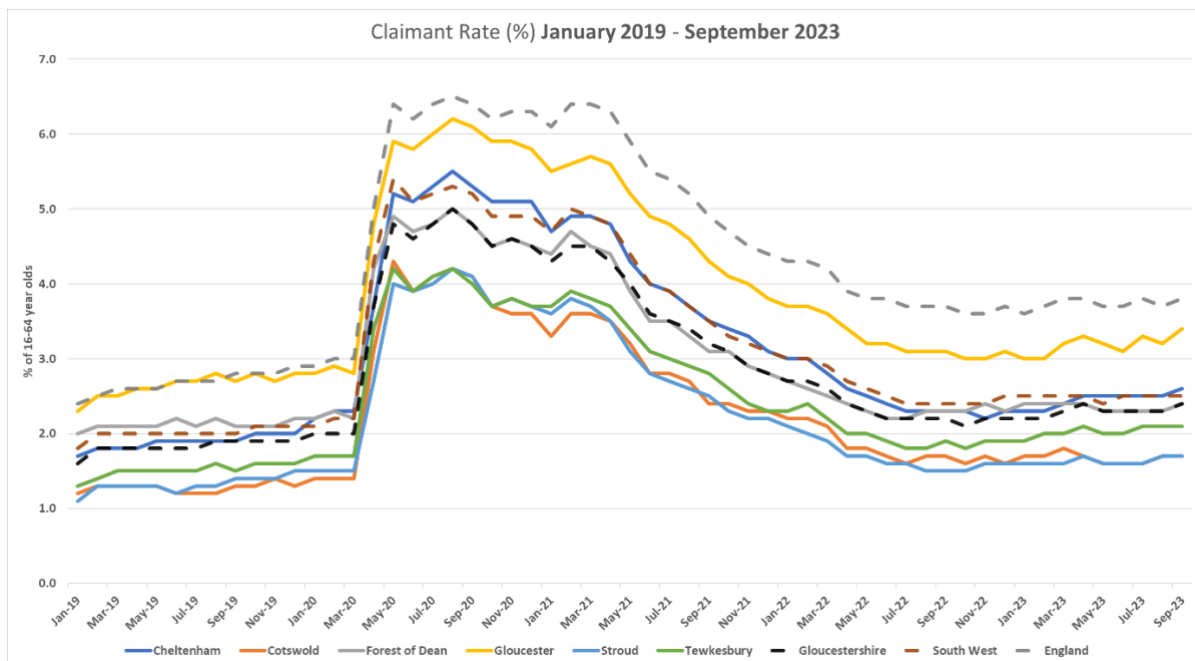
<sup>1</sup> An issue was identified with the August Lightcast job posting data, meaning the revised August figure is showing a lower number than was previously quoted. This issue has now been resolved, which was caused by postings for June and July that had expired being added to the total for August,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



The below shows the claimant rate for September 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.

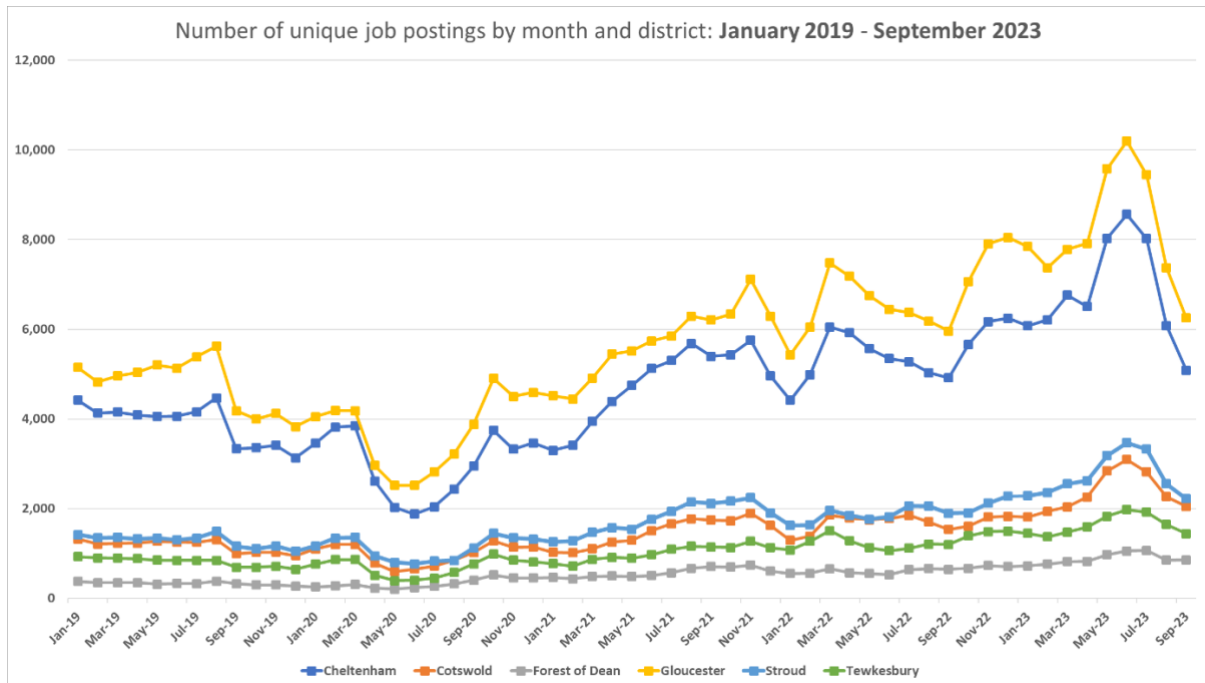




**Job posting numbers**

**Job posting numbers** for the month of **September 2023** were around **17,902** which is a monthly **decrease** of around **2,864** job postings, when compared to the revised August 2023 figure of 20,766.

The below shows total jobs posted by district from **January 2019 to September 2023**. All districts saw a decrease in numbers when compared to August 2023, except for the Forest of Dean which saw a small increase.

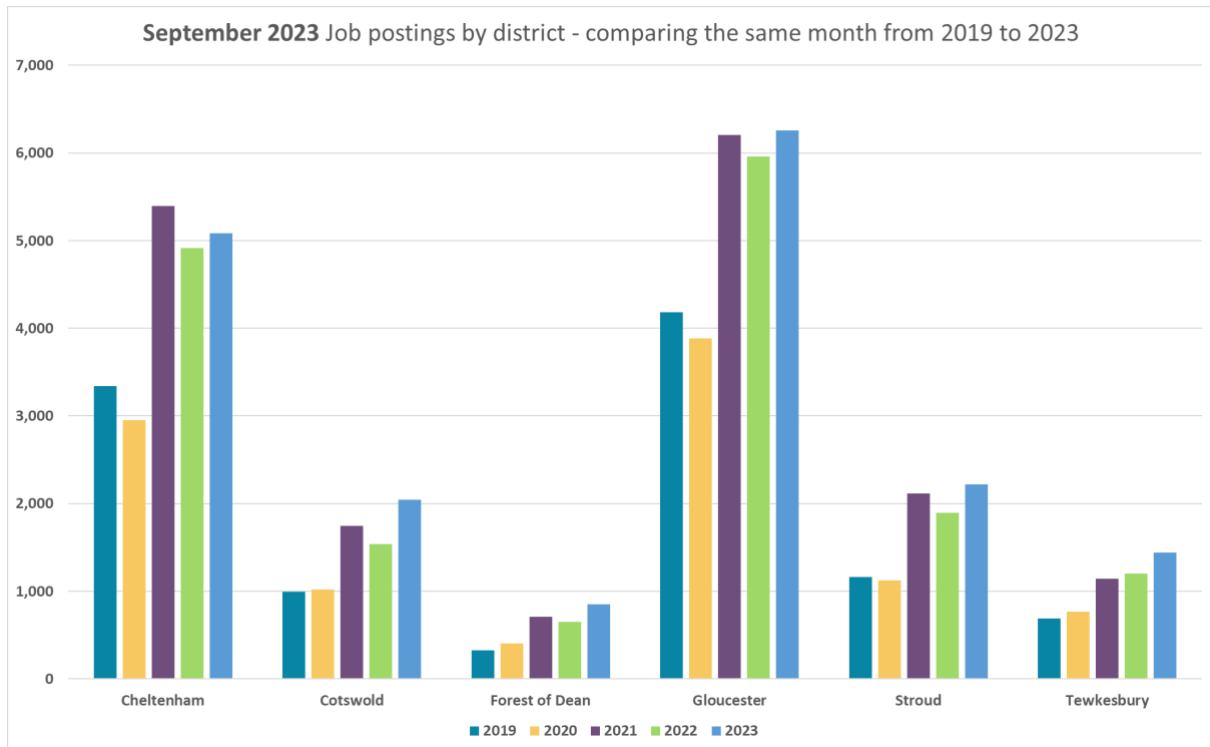


Source: Lightcast™. 2023



**Job posting numbers – district comparison**

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



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 September 2021, September 2022, and September 2023.

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

All occupations saw an increase in September 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 September 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	Sep 2021 Unique Postings	Sept 2022 Unique Postings	Sep 2023 Unique Postings	% change Feb 2020 - Sep 2023	Trend between January 2019 - September 2023
Managers, Directors and Senior Officials	869	1,241	1,188	1,106	27%	
Professional Occupations	3,284	4,136	4,061	3,724	13%	
Associate Professional and Technical Occupations	2,025	2,780	2,749	2,732	35%	
Administrative and Secretarial Occupations	1,095	1,972	1,489	1,921	75%	
Skilled Trades Occupations	1,014	1,384	1,232	1,559	54%	
Caring, Leisure and Other Service Occupations	981	1,584	1,493	1,795	83%	
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	1,082	1,800	1,546	1,825	69%	
Process, Plant and Machine Operatives	570	856	853	1,056	85%	
Elementary Occupations	708	1,440	1,462	2,128	201%	
<b>Total Across All Occupations</b>	<b>11,689</b>	<b>17,315</b>	<b>16,157</b>	<b>17,902</b>	<b>53%</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 September 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 **4.3%** of the overall jobs posted in Gloucestershire in September 2023, followed by **Other Administrative Occupations n.e.c.** **3.9%** and **Customer Service Occupations n.e.c.** **3.1%**, with the remaining occupations accounting for smaller numbers.



Top ten Occupations by four-digit SOC code	September 2023 Unique Postings	As a percentage of jobs posted
Care Workers and Home Carers	773	4.3%
Other Administrative Occupations n.e.c.	698	3.9%
Customer Service Occupations n.e.c.	561	3.1%
Kitchen and Catering Assistants	561	3.1%
Sales Related Occupations n.e.c.	528	2.9%
Cleaners and Domestic	389	2.2%
Programmers and Software Development Professionals	377	2.1%
Nurses	356	2.0%
Van Drivers	345	1.9%
Sales and Retail Assistants	314	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 September 2023 were:

- NHS
- Ultra Group Company Limited
- The Orders of St John Care Trust
- Safran
- Tesco
- Gloucestershire County Council
- General Electric
- St James Place
- Bupa
- EDF Energy

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