

Unemployment Briefing

Latest claimant count unemployment figures released by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) show that seasonally adjusted unemployment in the UK has risen in June 2009.

Birmingham's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has remained at 12.2% in June 2009. This compares to a rate of 8.4% a year ago.

The unadjusted (actual) number of unemployed in Birmingham decreased to 48,384 in June, a fall of 109 on the previous month.

The unadjusted claimant rate remained at 12.1% (from 12.1% in May).

Latest Unemployment Figures

Table 1—Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment in June 2009

	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Claimant Rate	Number	Claimant Rate	Number	Claimant Rate
United Kingdom	1,154,900	7.6%	405,200	3.3%	1,560,100▲	5.7%
West Midlands Region	132,900	9.8%	44,300	4.1%	177,200▲	7.3%
Birmingham	36,845	16.4%	11,854	6.7%	48,699▼	12.2%

Note: ▼ has decreased since last month, ▲ has increased since last month

Source: BEIC/ONS/NOMIS

June 2009 unemployment figures published on the 15th of July 2009 show that:

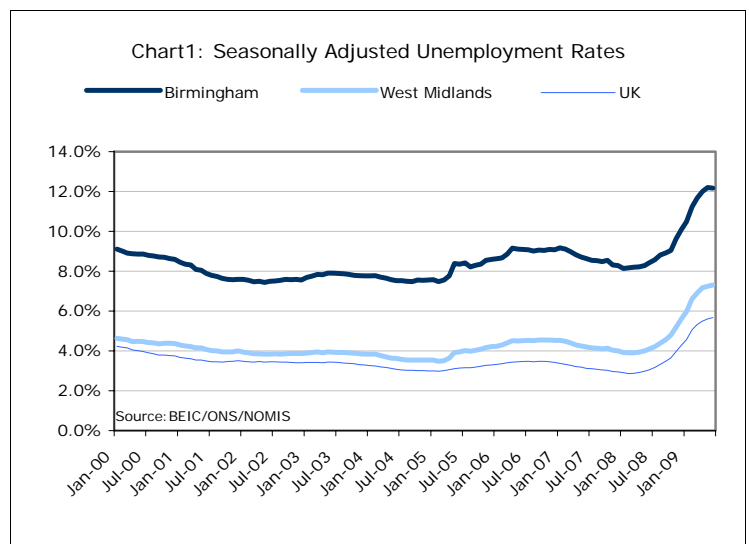
- The seasonally adjusted Unemployment Benefit Count (UBC) for the UK rose by 15,300 in June. The Count now stands at 1,560,100. The rate increased to 5.7%.
- The unadjusted count fell by 11,722 in June to 1,553,256. The unadjusted rate decreased to 5.6%.

West Midlands

- The adjusted West Midlands Region UBC rose by 1,700 to 177,200 in June. The rate increased to 7.3%.
- The unadjusted count in the region fell by 842 to 176,625. The unadjusted rate remained at 7.3%.

Birmingham

- In Birmingham the seasonally adjusted claimant rate remained at 12.2%, although the seasonally adjusted level of unemployment fell by 159 to 48,699.
- In the same month last year, the adjusted unemployment rate was 8.4%.



- On an unadjusted basis, the UBC fell by 109 to 48,384 in June. The unadjusted claimant rate remained at 12.1%.
- Compared with this point last year the number of people claiming Job Seeker's Allowance has risen by 14,871 from 33,513 in June 2008.

Unemployment Methodology Notes

Changes to the Benefit System

The Government has recently set out major changes to the benefits system. As part of these changes the majority of lone parents whose youngest child is over 7 years old will no longer be eligible to claim Income Support. Over a three-year period beginning in December 2008 those lone parents able to work will be gradually transferred onto JSA.

Whilst the impact on the number of JSA claimants will be gradual over this period, it is estimated that this change will result in several thousand additional JSA claims and thus will have a significant impact on the unemployment rate in the city. It is also likely that some of the more deprived areas of the city will be disproportionately affected.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment

The seasonally adjusted unemployment count and rate is our headline measure of unemployment. Seasonally adjusted data removes the changes in the series that are merely due to seasonal factors, such as the dip in unemployment caused by seasonal employment over the Christmas period. It therefore gives a more accurate picture of real trends and movements in unemployment.

Unemployment Rates and Proportions

Claimant count unemployment can be expressed as a rate or a proportion. The *Unemployment Briefing* provides both measures, published side-by-side (tables 2 and 4).

Unemployment Rate

The claimant unemployment *rate* is the number of claimant count unemployed as a percentage of the economically active working age population (16-pensionable age). The unemployment *rate* is the most robust measure of unemployment – and allows Birmingham (and the wards that make up Birmingham) to be compared with national claimant rates published by the ONS.

Claimant Proportion

The *claimant proportion* is simply the proportion of the working age population who are claimant unemployed. This includes those who are economically active and those who are economically inactive and who are not engaged in the labour market. The claimant proportion is therefore always smaller than the claimant unemployment rate due to having a larger denominator.

Denominators

The denominators used for both rates and proportions are based on the latest available data. For the *unemployment rate* the economically active working age population from the 2001 Census is used. For the *claimant proportion* the total working age population is used, derived from the ONS 2007 Mid Year Population Estimates.

If you require further information or guidance please email: esi@birmingham.gov.uk

Unadjusted unemployment

Nationally

- Birmingham has a comparatively high proportion of the working age population claiming unemployment benefit. Table 2 shows that Birmingham has the highest Claimant Proportion within the core cities.
- In terms of a claimant unemployment rate, at 12.1% Birmingham has the second highest rate behind Liverpool (12.3%), and is significantly above the core cities average of 9.3%. Birmingham was one of four core cities to experience a fall in unadjusted unemployment in June, along with the West Midlands region.

Within Birmingham

- There are 10 constituencies in Birmingham - each containing 4 wards. Unemployment data relating to constituencies is displayed in Table 4. It shows that the inner-city constituency of Ladywood has the highest unemployment rate (23.9%). The Sutton Coldfield constituency has the lowest unemployment rate (4.3%).
- Map 1 (on page 4) displays estimates of unemployment in Birmingham by Super Output Area (SOA). It shows that the highest levels of unemployment are largely concentrated in the inner-city areas of Birmingham.
- Unemployment rates vary widely between wards (see table 3). The 4 Sutton wards have the lowest rates within Birmingham. The Aston ward has the highest unemployment rate at 28.2%.

Table 2—Unadjusted Claimant Unemployed: comparison to other major cities – June 2009

	Number	Claimant Proportion	Claimant Rate
Birmingham	48,384 ▼	7.7%	12.1%
Bristol	11,281 ▼	4.0%	6.2%
Leeds	23,998 ▲	4.8%	7.2%
Liverpool	21,298 ▲	7.5%	12.3%
Manchester	17,003 ▼	5.4%	10.9%
Newcastle-Upon-Tyne	8,743 ▲	4.9%	8.0%
Nottingham	11,667 ▼	5.9%	10.5%
Sheffield	15,442 ▲	4.6%	6.7%
Core Cities	157,816 ▼	5.6%	9.3%
Greater London	214,519 ▲	4.2%	6.2%
West Midlands	176,625 ▼	5.4%	7.3%
United Kingdom	1,553,256 ▼	4.1%	5.6%

Claimant proportion: claimants divided by population of working age.

Claimant rate: claimants divided by residents economically active.

Key: ▼ has decreased since last month, ▲ has increased since last month

- Table 5 (page 5) shows the change in unemployment, with Sparkbrook experiencing the largest monthly Claimant Rate increase (0.7%) and Shard End the largest annual increase (6.6%). Map 2 (page 6) displays the annual change in unemployment by SOA in Birmingham.

Data Appendix - Latest Unemployment

Table 3—Unadjusted Unemployment by Ward – June 2009						
	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Claimant Rate	Number	Claimant Rate	Number	Claimant Rate
Acocks Green	1,003	16.3%	307	6.2%	1,310▲	11.8%
Aston	1,822	35.6%	503	16.1%	2,325▼	28.2%
Bartley Green	955	16.3%	290	5.5%	1,245▲	11.2%
Billesley	848	14.2%	290	5.9%	1,138▼	10.4%
Bordesley Green	1,337	22.6%	400	12.6%	1,737▲	19.1%
Bournville	613	9.6%	212	3.7%	825▼	6.8%
Brandwood	829	15.2%	239	5.2%	1,068▲	10.6%
Edgbaston	580	11.6%	207	5.4%	787▲	8.9%
Erdington	813	14.6%	243	5.1%	1,056▼	10.2%
Hall Green	521	8.4%	186	3.6%	707▲	6.3%
Handsworth Wood	901	15.4%	330	6.8%	1,231▼	11.5%
Harborne	589	10.6%	162	3.5%	751▼	7.4%
Hodge Hill	999	17.7%	314	7.3%	1,313▲	13.2%
King's Norton	744	13.8%	272	5.9%	1,016▼	10.2%
Kingstanding	1,129	22.6%	339	8.5%	1,468▼	16.4%
Ladywood	1,182	29.4%	374	12.7%	1,556▼	22.4%
Longbridge	900	15.1%	267	5.2%	1,167▼	10.5%
Lozells & East Handsworth	1,683	29.8%	495	13.8%	2,178▼	23.6%
Moseley & Kings Heath	837	13.1%	230	4.5%	1,067▼	9.2%
Nechells	1,723	32.3%	492	13.5%	2,215▲	24.7%
Northfield	746	12.4%	232	4.5%	978▼	8.8%
Oscott	626	10.4%	204	4.0%	830▼	7.4%
Perry Barr	582	10.4%	239	5.1%	821▲	8.0%
Quinton	754	13.8%	236	5.1%	990▼	9.8%
Selly Oak	391	8.5%	175	4.3%	566▲	6.5%
Shard End	1,177	22.7%	356	8.2%	1,533▲	16.1%
Sheldon	648	12.5%	237	5.6%	885▲	9.4%
Soho	1,307	26.9%	433	11.6%	1,740▼	20.2%
South Yardley	1,267	18.9%	387	7.8%	1,654▲	14.2%
Sparkbrook	1,575	27.7%	467	15.6%	2,042▲	23.5%
Springfield	1,055	16.7%	376	9.9%	1,431▲	14.2%
Stechford & Yardley North	1,051	17.8%	351	7.6%	1,402▼	13.4%
Stockland Green	1,079	20.7%	345	8.0%	1,424▼	14.9%
Sutton Four Oaks	266	4.8%	111	2.4%	377▼	3.7%
Sutton New Hall	334	5.6%	126	2.5%	460▼	4.2%
Sutton Trinity	450	7.5%	155	3.0%	605▼	5.4%
Sutton Vesey	306	5.0%	114	2.2%	420▼	3.7%
Tyburn	1,032	21.2%	304	7.7%	1,336▲	15.1%
Washwood Heath	1,558	31.3%	482	19.9%	2,040▲	27.6%
Weoley	868	15.7%	261	5.3%	1,129▲	10.8%
Birmingham	36,739	16.5%	11,645	6.7%	48,384▼	12.2%

Note: ▼ has decreased since last month, ▲ has increased since last month

Source: BEIC/ONS/NOMIS

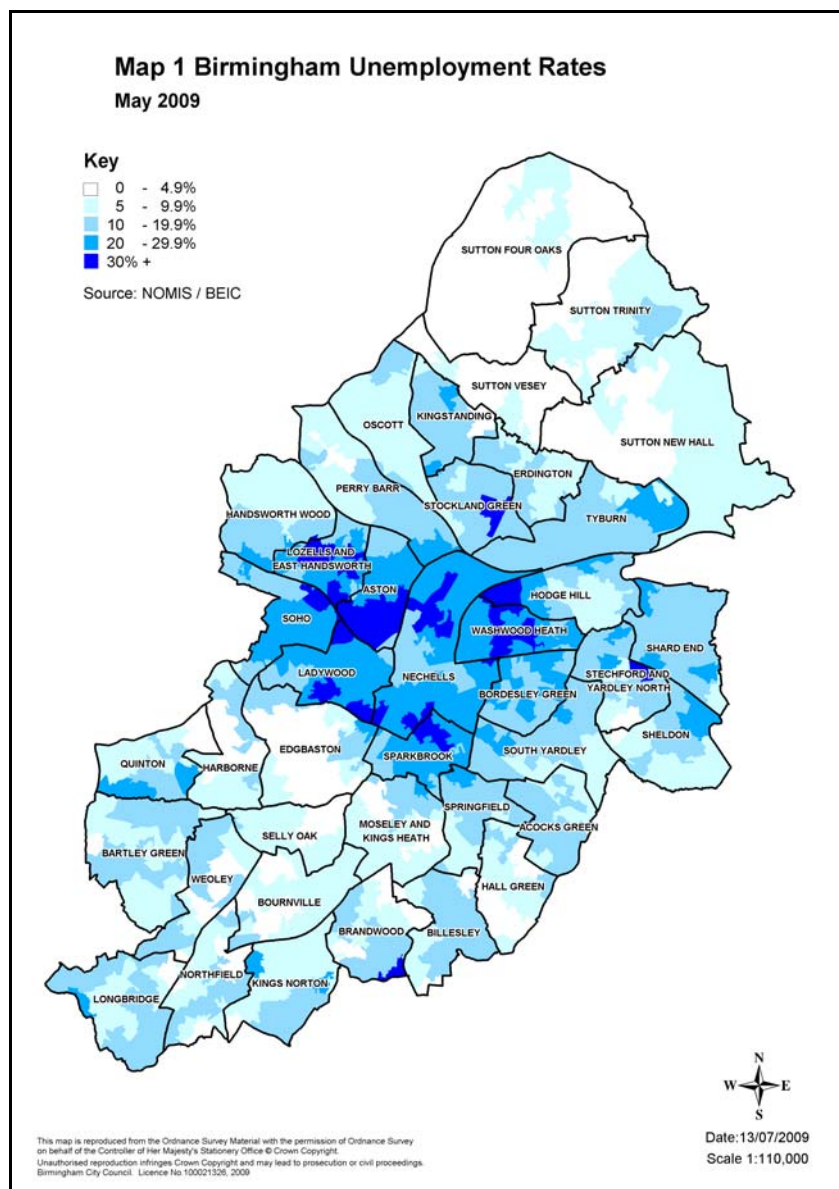


Table 4—Unadjusted Unemployment by Constituency June 2009

	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Edgbaston	2,878	13.2%	895	4.9%	3,773 ▲	9.4%
Erdington	4,053	19.6%	1,231	7.2%	5,284 ▼	14.0%
Hall Green	3,988	16.2%	1,259	7.4%	5,247 ▼	12.6%
Hodge Hill	5,071	23.3%	1,552	10.9%	6,623 ▲	18.4%
Ladywood	6,034	31.2%	1,802	13.4%	7,836 ▼	23.9%
Northfield	3,258	14.2%	1,032	5.2%	4,290 ▼	10.0%
Perry Barr	3,792	16.4%	1,268	7.0%	5,060 ▼	12.2%
Selly Oak	2,681	11.9%	916	4.8%	3,597 ▼	8.6%
Sutton Coldfield	1,356	5.7%	506	2.5%	1,862 ▼	4.3%
Yardley	3,969	16.6%	1,282	6.8%	5,251 ▼	12.3%
Birmingham	36,739	16.5%	11,645	6.7%	48,384 ▼	12.2%

Note: ▼ has decreased since last month, ▲ has increased since last month

Table 5—Unadjusted Unemployment Proportions, Rates and Changes by Ward – June 2009

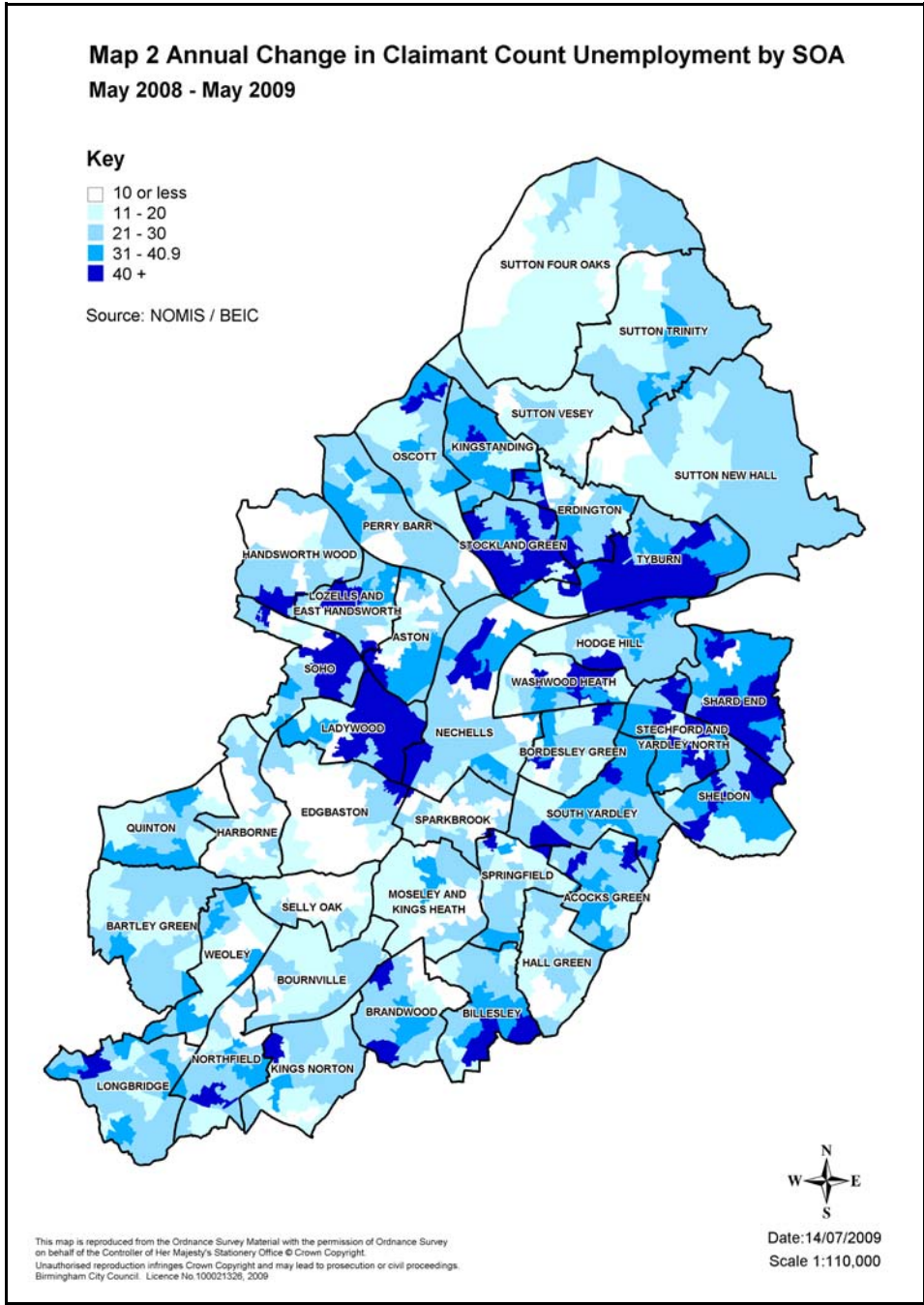
	Number	Claimant Proportion	Claimant Rate	Monthly Change May 09 – June 09		Annual Change June 08– June 09	
				Claimants	Claimant Rate % Point	Claimants	Claimant Rate % Point
Acocks Green	1,310	7.6%	11.8%	14	0.1	488	4.4
Aston	2,325	12.0%	28.2%	-10	-0.1	363	4.4
Bartley Green	1,245	8.1%	11.2%	19	0.2	411	3.7
Billesley	1,138	7.2%	10.4%	-7	-0.1	470	4.3
Bordesley Green	1,737	9.1%	19.1%	42	0.5	422	4.6
Bournville	825	5.2%	6.8%	-25	-0.2	310	2.6
Brandwood	1,068	7.4%	10.6%	21	0.2	355	3.5
Edgbaston	787	5.1%	8.9%	15	0.2	243	2.7
Erdington	1,056	7.5%	10.2%	-3	0.0	387	3.7
Hall Green	707	4.7%	6.3%	23	0.2	303	2.7
Handsworth Wood	1,231	7.1%	11.5%	-27	-0.3	352	3.3
Harborne	751	5.1%	7.4%	-1	0.0	215	2.1
Hodge Hill	1,313	8.9%	13.2%	21	0.2	498	5.0
King's Norton	1,016	7.4%	10.2%	-36	-0.4	335	3.4
Kingstanding	1,468	9.8%	16.4%	-10	-0.1	520	5.8
Ladywood	1,556	10.5%	22.4%	-14	-0.2	391	5.6
Longbridge	1,167	7.4%	10.5%	-5	0.0	442	4.0
Lozells & East Handsworth	2,178	12.0%	23.6%	-63	-0.7	336	3.6
Moseley & Kings Heath	1,067	6.6%	9.2%	-10	-0.1	265	2.3
Nechells	2,215	11.0%	24.7%	21	0.2	397	4.4
Northfield	978	6.5%	8.8%	-2	0.0	349	3.1
Oscott	830	5.8%	7.4%	-11	-0.1	395	3.5
Perry Barr	821	5.6%	8.0%	7	0.1	334	3.2
Quinton	990	6.9%	9.8%	-29	-0.3	290	2.9
Selly Oak	566	3.0%	6.5%	3	0.0	200	2.3
Shard End	1,533	10.1%	16.1%	9	0.1	627	6.6
Sheldon	885	7.2%	9.4%	1	0.0	396	4.2
Soho	1,740	10.2%	20.2%	-42	-0.5	346	4.0
South Yardley	1,654	9.4%	14.2%	19	0.2	572	4.9
Sparkbrook	2,042	10.7%	23.5%	64	0.7	368	4.2
Springfield	1,431	7.9%	14.2%	28	0.3	369	3.6
Stechford & Yardley North	1,402	9.3%	13.4%	-45	-0.4	529	5.0
Stockland Green	1,424	10.0%	14.9%	-8	-0.1	516	5.4
Sutton Four Oaks	377	2.9%	3.7%	-8	-0.1	194	1.9
Sutton New Hall	460	3.3%	4.2%	-14	-0.1	258	2.3
Sutton Trinity	605	4.2%	5.4%	-38	-0.3	291	2.6
Sutton Vesey	420	3.1%	3.7%	-20	-0.2	208	1.9
Tyburn	1,336	9.1%	15.1%	4	0.0	531	6.0
Washwood Heath	2,040	12.0%	27.6%	6	0.1	394	5.3
Weoley	1,129	7.4%	10.8%	3	0.0	368	3.5
Birmingham	48,384	7.7%	12.1%	-109	0.0	14,871	3.7

Claimant proportion: claimants divided by population of working age population from the 2007 MYE Population Estimates.

Claimant rate: claimants divided by residents economically active.

Key: ▼ has decreased since last month, ▲ has increased since last month

Source: BEIC/ONS/NOMIS



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