Data note 1 - Gender difference in claimant count (updated)

- Over the past three years the number of male claimants of job seeker allowance (JSA) fell whilst the number of female claimants increased or remained relatively unchanged. This is similar to the national trend.
- Overall the number of female claimants remains well below that of males.
- The 3 year trend difference between males and females has been most noticeable in South Oxfordshire district.
- Welfare reform will have been a contributor as lone parents move from income support to JSA.
 - According to the Dept of Work and Pensions: "From 25 October 2010, most lone parents with a youngest child aged 7 or over will no longer be entitled to Income Support only on the grounds of being a lone parent. Instead, those able to take up paid employment may claim Jobseeker's Allowance ...

1.400

1,200

1.000

600

400

200

South Oxfordshire

Females

Males

500

450

400

350 300 Female

250

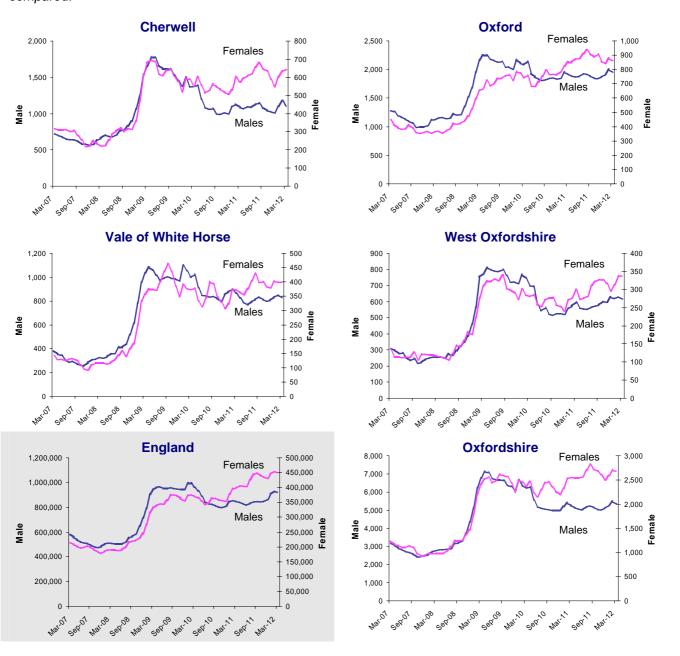
200

150

100

50

Note that the charts show male and female claimants on two separate axes so that the trends can be compared.



Recent trend in Male, Female and Total Claimants of Job Seeker Allowance

MALES	March 2007	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	2012 vs 2009	%
Cherwell	725	664	1,650	1,373	1,088	1,109	-541	-75%
Oxford	1,284	1,126	2,159	2,083	1,921	1,953	-206	-16%
South Oxfordshire	477	401	1,143	1,060	818	836	-307	-64%
Vale of White Horse	383	329	1,034	998	863	828	-206	-54%
West Oxfordshire	310	255	773	699	596	617	-156	-50%
Oxfordshire	3,179	2,775	6,759	6,213	5,286	5,343	-1,416	-45%
England	582,561	510,755	942,211	962,496	848,089	920,838	-21,373	-4%

FEMALES	March 2007	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	2012 vs 2009	%
Cherwell	318	222	678	550	574	645	-33	-10%
Oxford	448	368	653	742	851	863	+210	47%
South Oxfordshire	198	163	417	424	463	433	+16	8%
Vale of White Horse	142	117	357	373	373	398	+41	29%
West Oxfordshire	132	117	310	282	300	338	+28	21%
Oxfordshire	1,238	987	2,415	2,371	2,561	2,677	+262	21%
England	215,048	189,678	330,647	371,163	398,465	449,666	+119,019	55%

TOTAL	March 2007	March 2008	March 2009	March 2010	March 2011	March 2012	2012 vs 2009	%
Cherwell	1,043	886	2,328	1,923	1,662	1,754	-574	-55%
Oxford	1,732	1,494	2,812	2,825	2,772	2,816	+4	0%
South Oxfordshire	675	564	1,560	1,484	1,281	1,269	-291	-43%
Vale of White Horse	525	446	1,391	1,371	1,236	1,226	-165	-31%
West Oxfordshire	442	372	1,083	981	896	955	-128	-29%
Oxfordshire	4,417	3,762	9,174	8,584	7,847	8,020	-1,154	-26%
England	797,609	700,433	1,272,858	1,333,659	1,246,554	1,370,504	+97,646	12%

Source: Department of Work and Pensions claimant count downloaded from www.nomisweb.co.uk March 2012 claimant count was released 18th April 2012

Note on unemployment data

The count of Job Seeker Allowance claimants is not the official measure of unemployment. For that the government uses the ONS Annual Population Survey, a snapshot sample survey. The Annual Population survey is less reliable than claimant count at local authority level and to compensate for this ONS have produced "model based estimates" of unemployment at LA level which can be downloaded from www.nomisweb.co.uk.

A useful explanation and comparison of the unemployment measures is available at www.bbc.co.uk/news/10604117

Data note prepared by: On behalf of: Margaret Melling, District Data Analysis Service, mmelling@oxford.gov.uk 07958 239857 Cherwell District Council, Oxford City Council, South Oxfordshire District Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council