



NORTH EAST UNEMPLOYMENT 2012

This bulletin provides a summary of Unemployment in North East England, Newcastle and Gateshead

KEY POINTS

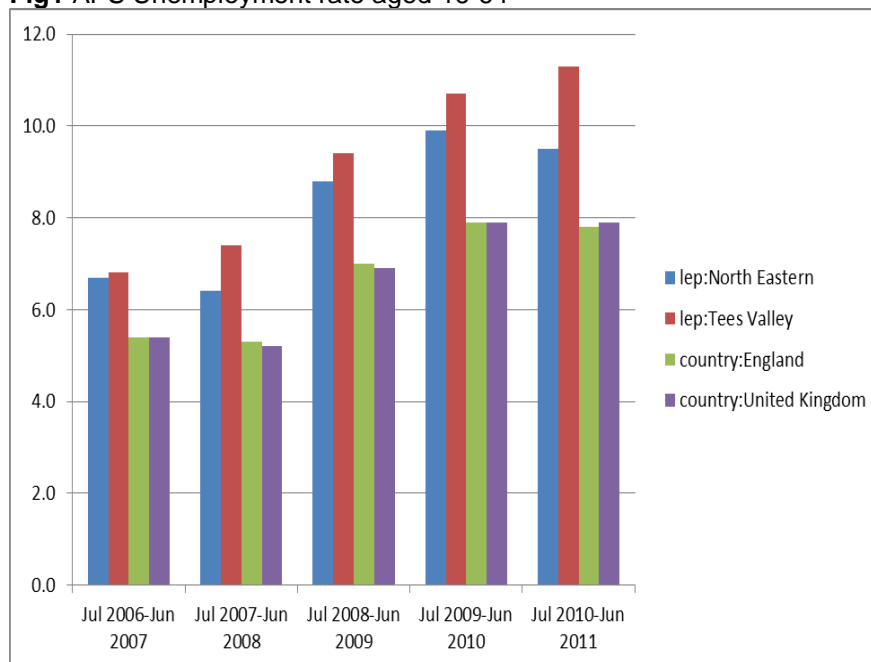
ONS seasonally adjusted Labour Market Statistics (released 14 March 2012¹) showed that the **UK unemployment** rate was **8.4%** of the economically active population, up 0.1% on the quarter. The unemployment rate has not been higher since 1995. (The unemployment rate for 16 to 24 year olds was 22.5% in the three months to January 2012). There were 1.61 million people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) in February 2012, up 7,200 on January and up 162,100 on a year earlier. The **UK claimant count** rate was **5.0%**, unchanged on the previous month but up 0.5 percentage points from a year earlier. The unemployment rate is highest in the **North East (10.8%)** and lowest in the South West (6.3%). The claimant count rate is highest in the **North East (7.4%)** and lowest in the South East (3.3%).

Looking at 1] the unadjusted Nomis data from Feb 2012 (JSA) and 2] the ILO (APS) unemployment (Jun 2011) data, patterns can be explored in more detail. Figure 1 shows that:

APS Unemployment...

- Unemployment increased annually from 2007 to 2011 in the Tees Valley LEP.
- There was a slight reduction in unemployment the North Eastern LEP and across England between 2010 and 2011.

Fig1 APS Unemployment rate aged 16-64



Source: Nomis

For comparison, JSA claimant count data for the same period is shown in Figure 2. Although the absolute rates are lower compared to the APS data, the pattern is similar for the Tees Valley LEP but there is an increase in the North Eastern LEP between June 2010 and June 2011, after a decrease between June 2009 and June 2010. Tracking the JSA claimant count rates from February 2011 to February 2012 shows that Middlesbrough has consistently experienced the highest rate in North East England, except in December 2011 when Hartlepool experienced 7.7% compared to Middlesbrough's 7.6%. Furthermore, Figure 3 demonstrates that:

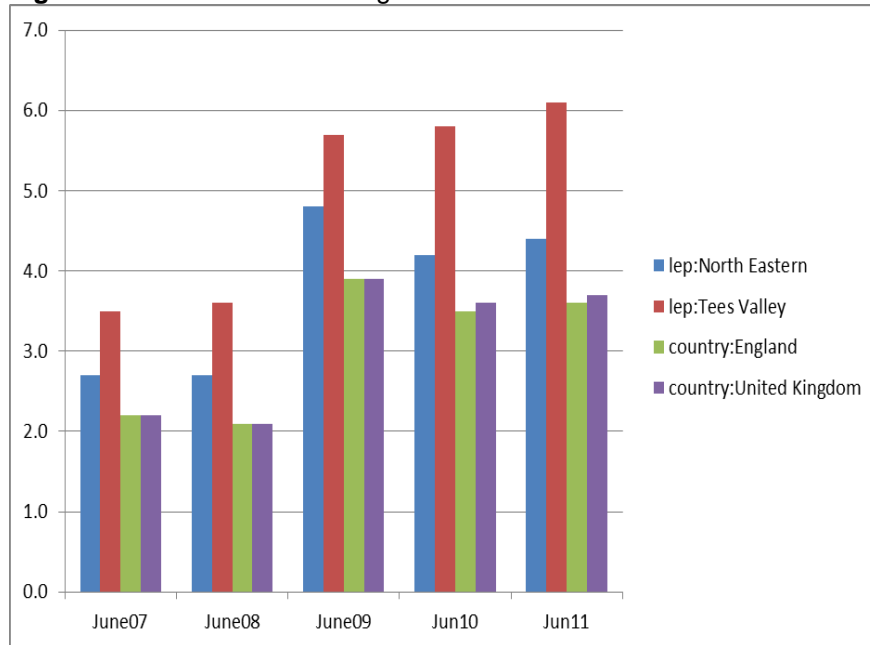
JSA Claimant Count...

- When compared to the North Eastern LEP as a whole, Northumberland and County Durham show consistently lower rates in the period.
- Northumberland is closest to the England rate although remains at a higher level, except back in August 2011.

Please note that all of the analyses and geographies contained in this bulletin can be tailored to your precise needs.

¹ <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/march-2012/index.html>, http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/dcp171778_257901.pdf

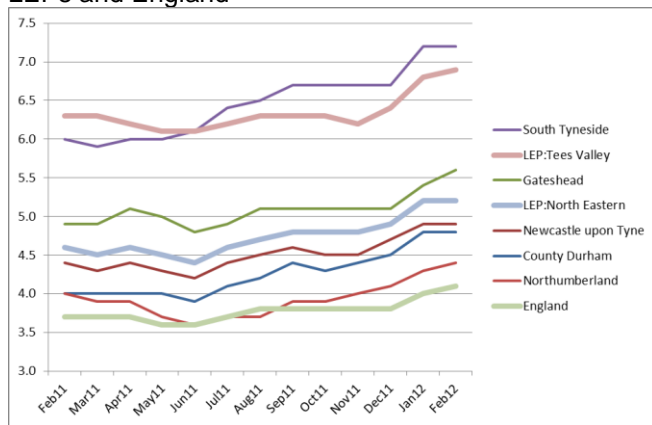
Fig2 JSA claimant count rate aged 16-64



Source: Nomis

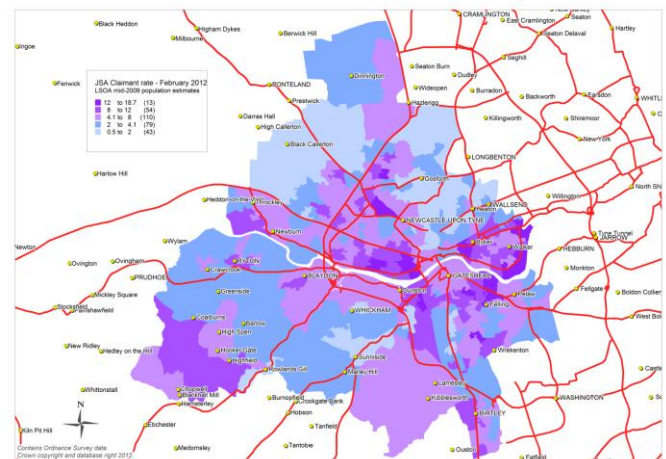
The February 2012 JSA (unadjusted) JSA claimant rate from Nomis across England is 4.1%. Figure 4 demonstrates how much variation continues to occur at the small area level across the Newcastle and Gateshead local authorities. Some localities (shaded blue) are clearly below the threshold, including Dinnington, Black Callerton, Gosforth, Greenside and Barlow. Localities shaded magenta exhibit higher rates than the England average and include Newburn, Blaydon, Chopwell, Byker, Walker, Dunston, Birtley and larger swathes both west and south of Newcastle City centre specifically on the north bank of the Tyne. [Note that the working-age denominator for the rates in Figure 4, use the latest mid-2009 LSOA population indicators. Caution should be exercised with small area rates].

Fig 3 JSA claimant count rates aged 16-64 LADs, LEPs and England



Source: Nomis

Fig 4 Newcastle Gateshead JSA claimant count rates aged 16-64. Principal A-Roads shown for reference.



Source: Nomis