

I am the Senior Research Manager at GFirst LEP, and I have been collating data and analysis to assist us as we progress through our economic recovery. With this in mind, and how valuable the reporting and analysis is, it was felt that the most recent report on job posting numbers below would benefit with being shared with the wider audience.

Please find below the first monthly job posting report for August, which has been produced using the labour market tool called EMSI. This delivers real time access to job vacancies from a comprehensive range of sources including job boards, employer sites, newspapers, public agencies etc. Data extraction and analysis technologies mine and code data from each job listing to provide analysis on industries, occupations, skills and qualifications. However, the tool will inevitably not capture all vacancies.

EMSI also offers lots more in terms of reporting functionality outside of labour market information, because of this, the way in which monthly reports are produced may evolve over time as we become more familiar with the data. Another advantage of EMSI is that it can provide a more local district breakdown, as shown in the tables below.

Today also sees the publication of the latest **claimant count** figures: **Gloucestershire** has seen an **increase to 5.1%** from the July figure of 4.8% (the value is expressed as a proportion of residents aged 16-64). The August total now stands at **19,460** compared to the July figure of 18,535 which is a monthly **increase of 925**. Gloucestershire totals for the year to date are tabled towards the bottom of this email. The August figure for the **South West** is **5.4%**, **England** is **6.6%** and the **UK** figure is **6.5%**.

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

EMSI job posting numbers

The below focuses on **all** jobs posted throughout August, across all six districts in Gloucestershire.

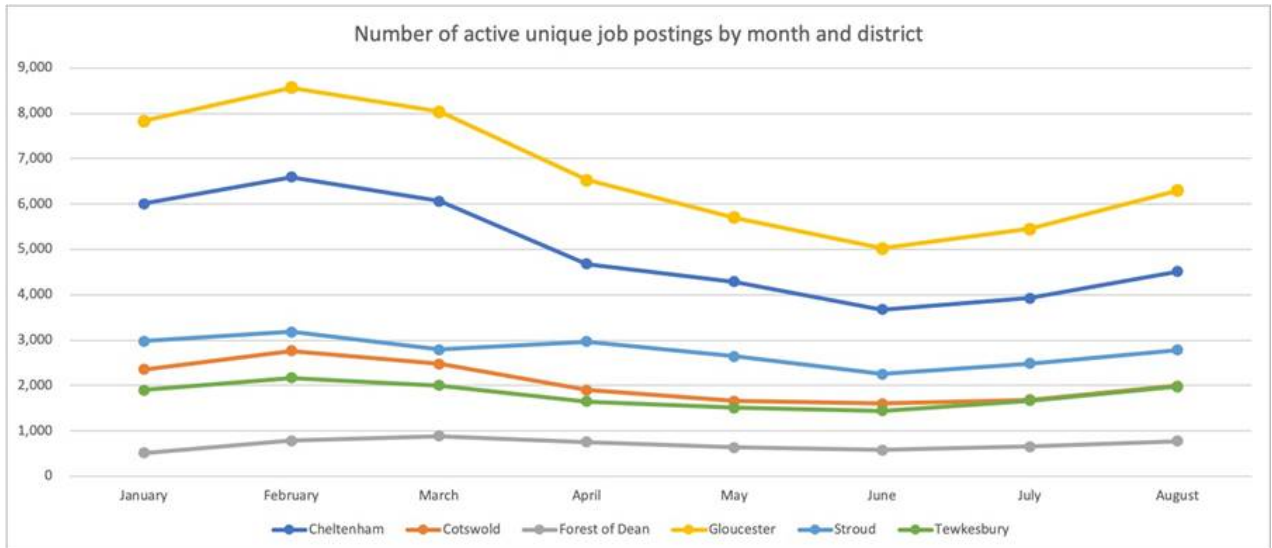
The following shows the total number of unique job postings for Gloucestershire by month for 2019 and 2020, which although still lower compared to 2019, have **increased** slightly over the past few months. The **total** unique job postings in **August 2020** was **18,330** which is up from the **July** figure of **15,872** and this is a month on month **increase of 2,458**. The August figure is just **22.1% lower** when compared to the same month last year.

Month	Number of active unique job postings by month, Gloucestershire		
	2019	2020	% comparison to 2019
January	19,336	21,596	11.7
February	19,692	24,052	22.1
March	20,930	22,258	6.3
April	21,252	18,488	-13.0
May	24,223	16,441	-32.1
June	25,410	14,593	-42.6
July	26,973	15,872	-41.2
August	23,527	18,330	-22.1

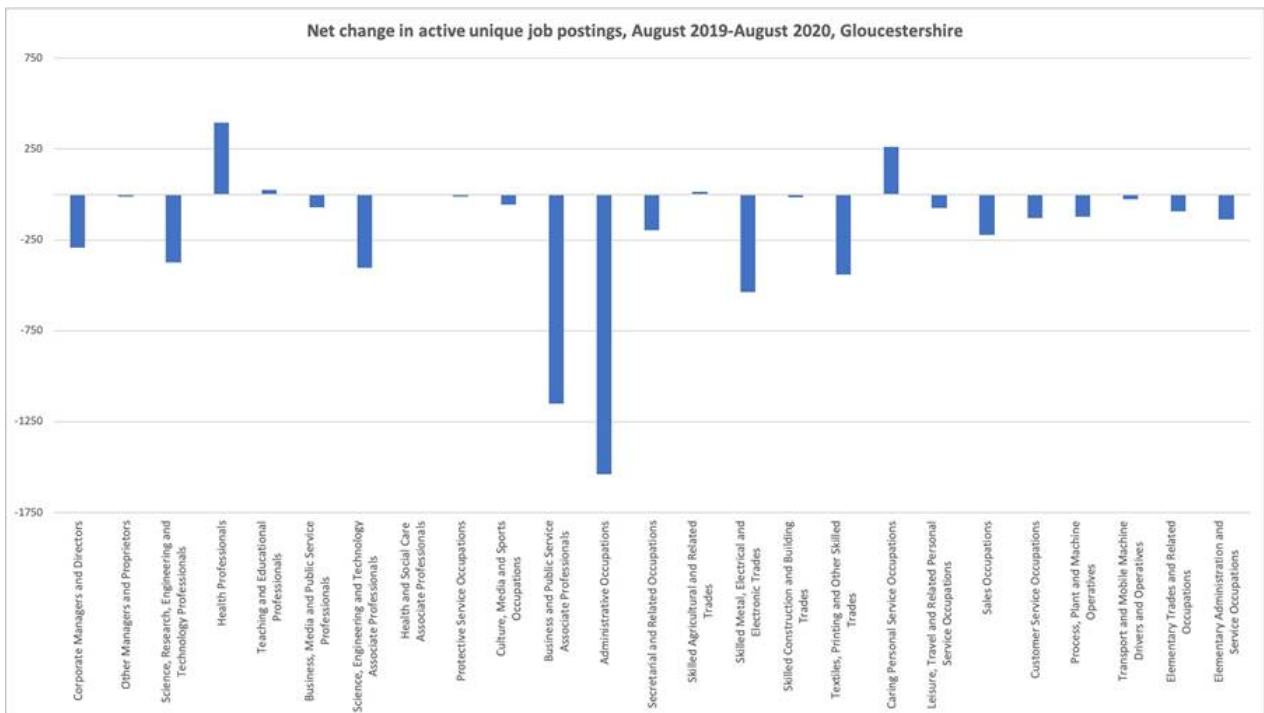
The below table gives a district overview of total jobs in August 2020 when compared to August 2019, with the Forest of Dean showing an increase, as to is Tewkesbury but this number is small.

August 2020	Number of active unique job postings by district		
	2019	2020	% comparison to 2019
Cheltenham	6,770	4,513	-33.3
Cotswold	2,319	1,991	-14.1
Forest of Dean	600	776	29.3
Gloucester	8,348	6,294	-24.6
Stroud	3,536	2,782	-21.3
Tewkesbury	1,954	1,974	1.0
	23,527	18,330	

The below expands on the above table and shows total job postings by district to date since January 2020, as you can see both Cheltenham and Gloucester show the largest decline but overall have more job postings throughout. The Forest of Dean has seen little change throughout the year, but an upward trend can be seen across all areas when compared to March.



The below shows the net change in the number of job postings by top level occupation (two-digit SOC), comparing August 2019 to August 2020. As can be seen almost all occupations saw a decline in job postings with the exception of a few, including **Health Professionals** with an increase of 396 and **Caring Personal Service Occupations** with an increase of 263. The greatest falls show to be in **Administrative Occupations** and **Business and Public Service Associate Professionals**.



The below highlights the top companies posting jobs, job titles and the most frequent hard and common skills.

Top companies posting jobs in August include; **NHS, Tesco PLC, Gloucestershire County Council, Barchester Healthcare Limited, University of Gloucestershire** and **Aldi** – **please note** that I have not included employment agencies here which are detailed throughout the report

Top posted job titles in August include; **Family Support Workers, Home Care Social Workers, HGV/Large Goods Vehicle (LGV) Drivers, Personal Care Assistants and Teaching Assistants.**

Top hard skills listed in job postings in August include; **Auditing, Nursing, Accounting, Agile software development and Mental health.**

Top common skills listed in job postings in August include; **Communications, Management, Customer service, Sales and Enthusiasm.**

August claimant count figures

Claimant count by sex and age

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The below (from ONS) summarises Gloucestershire claimant count figures for the year to date, which as highlighted above, has seen another monthly increase.

Date	Claimant count	Claimants as a proportion of residents aged 16-64
January 2020	7,715	2.0
February 2020	7,895	2.1
March 2020	7,855	2.0
April 2020	14,150	3.7
May 2020	18,675	4.9
June 2020	17,900	4.7
July 2020	18,535	4.8
August 2020	19,460	5.1

The Claimant Count is a measure of the number of people who are unemployed and claiming benefits.

- Under Universal Credit a broader span of claimants are required to look for work than under Jobseeker's Allowance. As Universal Credit Full Service is rolled out in particular areas, the number of people recorded as being on the Claimant Count is therefore likely to rise.
- This dataset only includes claimant records with information to sufficiently classify them within the dataset. Totals from this dataset may not tally with the total number of claim records shown elsewhere as a small number of records do not have this information.
- All data are rounded to the nearest 5 and may not precisely add to the sum of the number of people claiming JSA, published on Nomis, and the number of people claiming Universal Credit required to seek work, published by DWP, due to independent rounding.
- Rates for local authorities from 2019 onwards are calculated using the mid-2019 resident population aged 16-64.