



The Labour Market Bulletin provides summary information about the labour market in Aberdeenshire and is published quarterly.

Aberdeenshire is split into six administrative areas and this bulletin looks at unemployment figures for these areas as well as at the local authority and the Travel to Work Area (TTWA) level.

More information can be found at www.nomisweb.co.uk

local authorities, after the Shetland and Orkney Islands, both at 0.7%. North Ayrshire and West Dunbartonshire had highest unemployment rates, at 4.2% and 4.1% respectively.

The table below shows the mean average claimant count for Quarter 1 (average over January, February and March) 2015. This has been compared to the mean average from Quarter 4 (October, November, December) 2014.

Average claimants Q1

Quarterly Change Q4 2014 – Q1 2015

	No.	Rate	No.	% Points
Aberdeenshire	1,182	0.7	249	0.1
Scotland	85,125.7	2.4	4,116	0.1
United Kingdom	846,042.3	2.1	-7,203	0.0

Table 1 - Claimant Count Unemployment, March 2015
Source: Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)

Quarter 1 Summary

Over the first quarter of 2015 Aberdeenshire's unemployment rate (Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimant count) rose from 0.6% in December 2014 to 0.8% in March 2015. The total number of claimants also increased over the same period from 960 to 1,251.

During March 2015 Aberdeenshire had the third lowest unemployment rate of the 32 Scottish

Unemployment Trends 2015 (unadjusted rates)

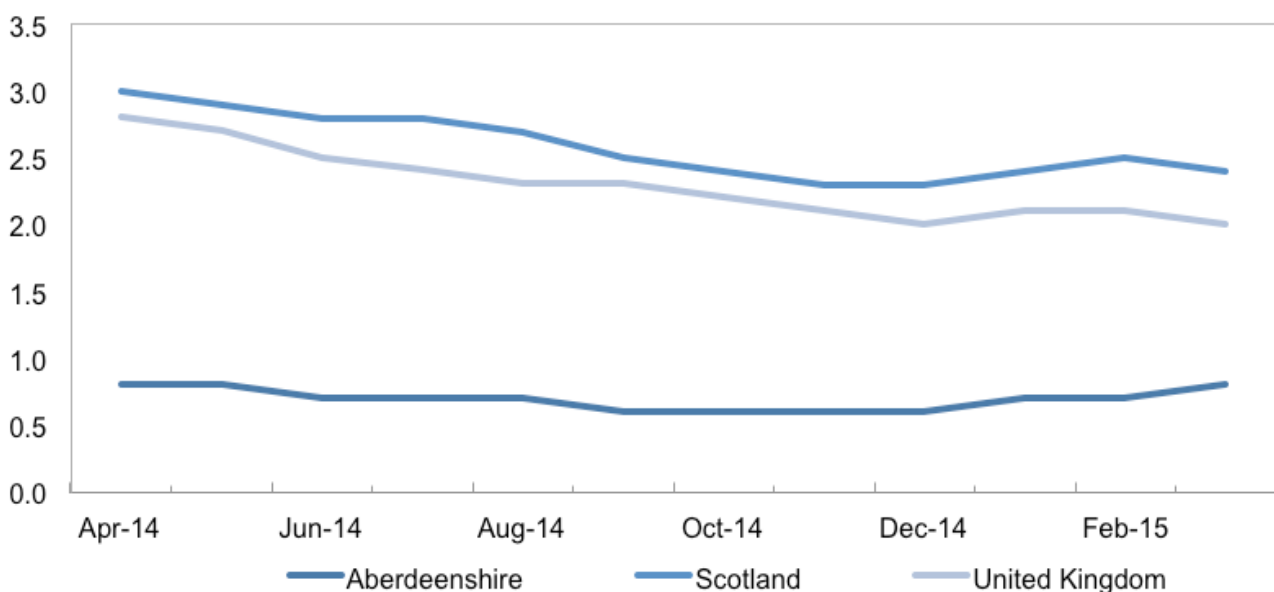


Figure 1 - Unemployment Trend (Unadjusted Rates) March 2015, Aberdeenshire, Scotland and the UK

Source: Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)

Over the last 12 months from April 2014 to March 2015 overall unemployment in Aberdeenshire has fallen by 116, from 1,367 claimants to 1,251, although the claimant rate has remained constant.

Local Trends

Administrative Area

The unemployment count and rate for each of Aberdeenshire's administrative areas has been tabled below.

While all regions are well below the national average there are some areas where the rate is notably higher than others. In March 2015 Banff and Buchan had the highest unemployment rate of the all the administrative areas at 1.3%, representing a claimant

count of 292. Formartine, Garioch and Kincardine & Mearns all had the lowest unemployment rate at 0.5%.

All six administrative areas in Aberdeenshire saw an increase in claimant counts between Quarter 4 2014 and Quarter 1 2015. The highest level was experienced in Banff and Buchan where the claimant rate increased by 0.3% from December 2014 to March 2015. Formartine, Garioch and Marr all saw the lowest increase in rates at 0.1% over the same period.

Admin Area	December 2014		March 2015		Quarterly Change	
	No.	Rate %	No.	Rate %	No.	% points
Banff and Buchan	216	0.9	292	1.3	76	0.3
Buchan	251	0.9	310	1.1	59	0.2
Formartine	128	0.5	147	0.5	19	0.1
Garioch	122	0.4	175	0.5	53	0.1
Kincardine and Mearns	130	0.4	179	0.6	49	0.2
Marr	113	0.5	148	0.6	35	0.1

Table 2 - Area claimant counts and rates December 2014 and March 2015, Aberdeenshire
Source: Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)

Unemployment Trends - Aberdeenshire Administrative Areas

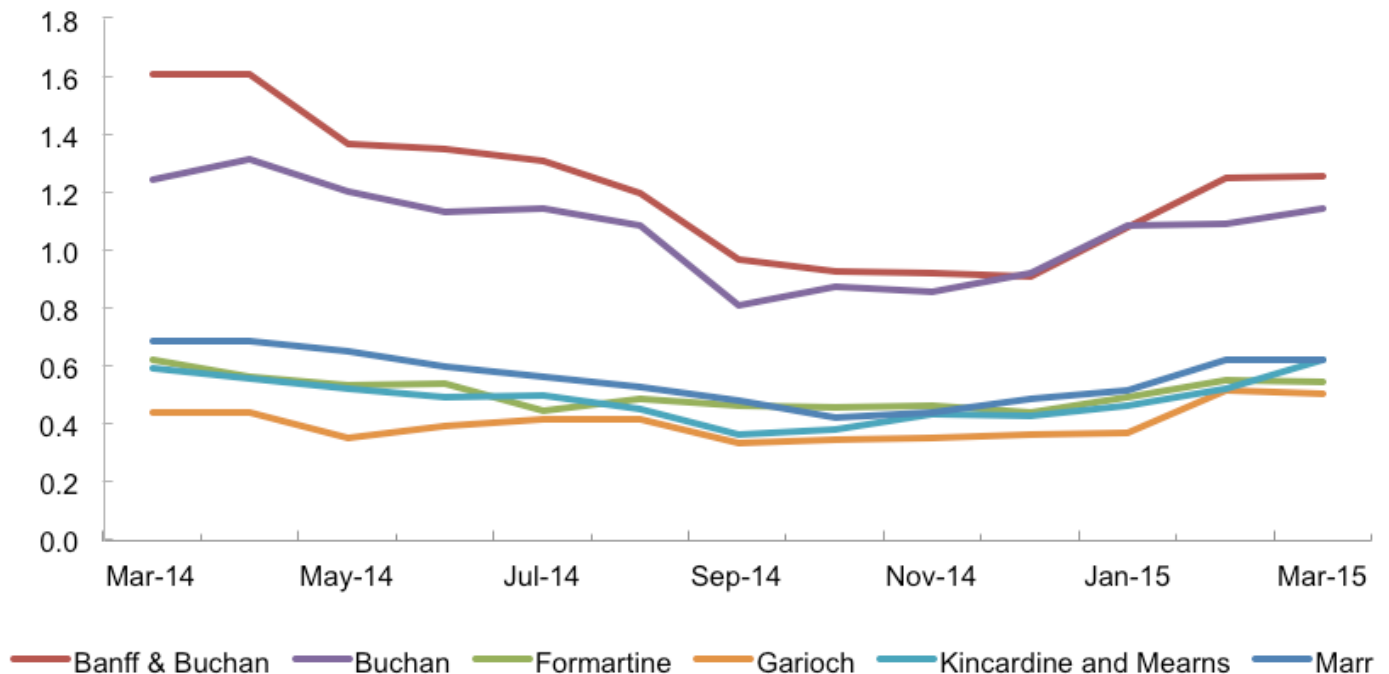


Figure 3 – Claimant Rate by Area March 2014 – March 2015, Aberdeenshire

Source: Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)

Travel to Work Areas

TTWA counts are also available from the Office of National Statistics. TTWAs are approximations of self-contained labour markets based on commuting to work patterns. There are four TTWAs which cover Aberdeenshire, including the Aberdeen TTWA which includes Aberdeen City (see map page X).

Over the first quarter of 2015, all 4 TTWAs experienced an increase in the claimant rate. The highest increase was in the Fraserburgh area, were

the claimant rate rose by 0.4% from December 2014 to March 2015. Aberdeen, Banff and Peterhead all saw a rise in claimants rates of 0.2% during the same period.

Comparing March 2014 and March 2015, all TTWAs showed reductions in the number of people out of work. The Banff TTWA experienced the biggest rate decrease, at -0.3%.

	March 2014		December 2014		March 2015		Quarterly Change		Yearly Change	
	No.	Rate %	No.	Rate %	No.	Rate %	No.	Rate %	No.	Rate %
Aberdeen	2,971	1.1	1,984	0.7	2,547	0.9	563	0.2	-424	-0.2
Banff	234	1.4	144	0.9	187	1.1	43	0.2	-47	-0.3
Fraserburgh	205	1.4	124	0.8	170	1.2	46	0.4	-35	-0.2
Peterhead	327	1.4	231	1.0	170	1.2	56	0.2	-40	-0.2

Table 3 - TTWA claimant counts and rates March and December 2014, March 2015, Aberdeenshire
Source: *Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)*

Aberdeenshire On/ Off Flows by Occupation

During the first quarter of 2015 (January, February and March combined) Aberdeenshire residents started a total of 1,385 new Job Seeker Allowance claims (on flow) while 1,080 claims ended (off flow).

17.7% of all new claims were from individuals aged over 50, 52.4% from those ages 25-48, 28.5% were aged between 18 and 24 and 1.4% from those aged under 18.

66.4% of new claims were made by men.

There were 560 new claims made from individuals whose usual occupation was in the sales and customer service industry. This was significantly higher than from any other occupational group. This industry also saw the highest number of individuals to end their claim (435 in quarter one), suggesting a high turnover within this profession. The second highest on/off flow was from the elementary occupations (350 on, 275 off). This group includes elementary trades, plant and storage related occupations and elementary administration and service occupations.

On and Off Flows in Aberdeenshire during Quarter 1 2015, by usual occupation

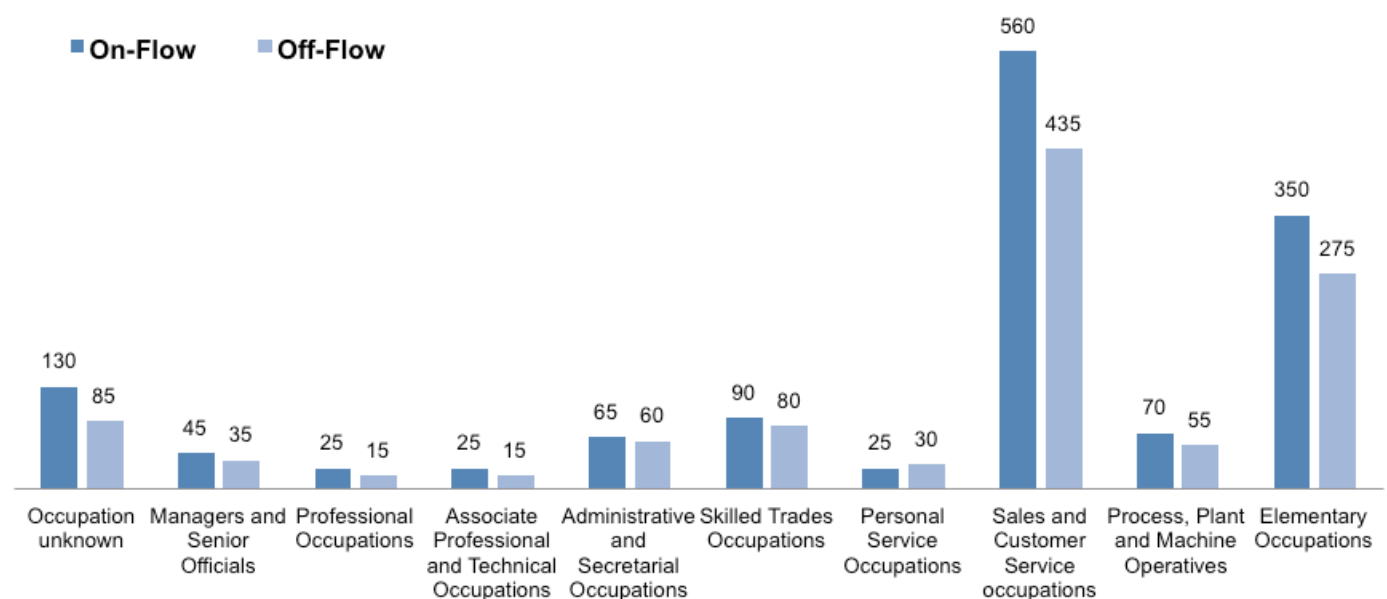
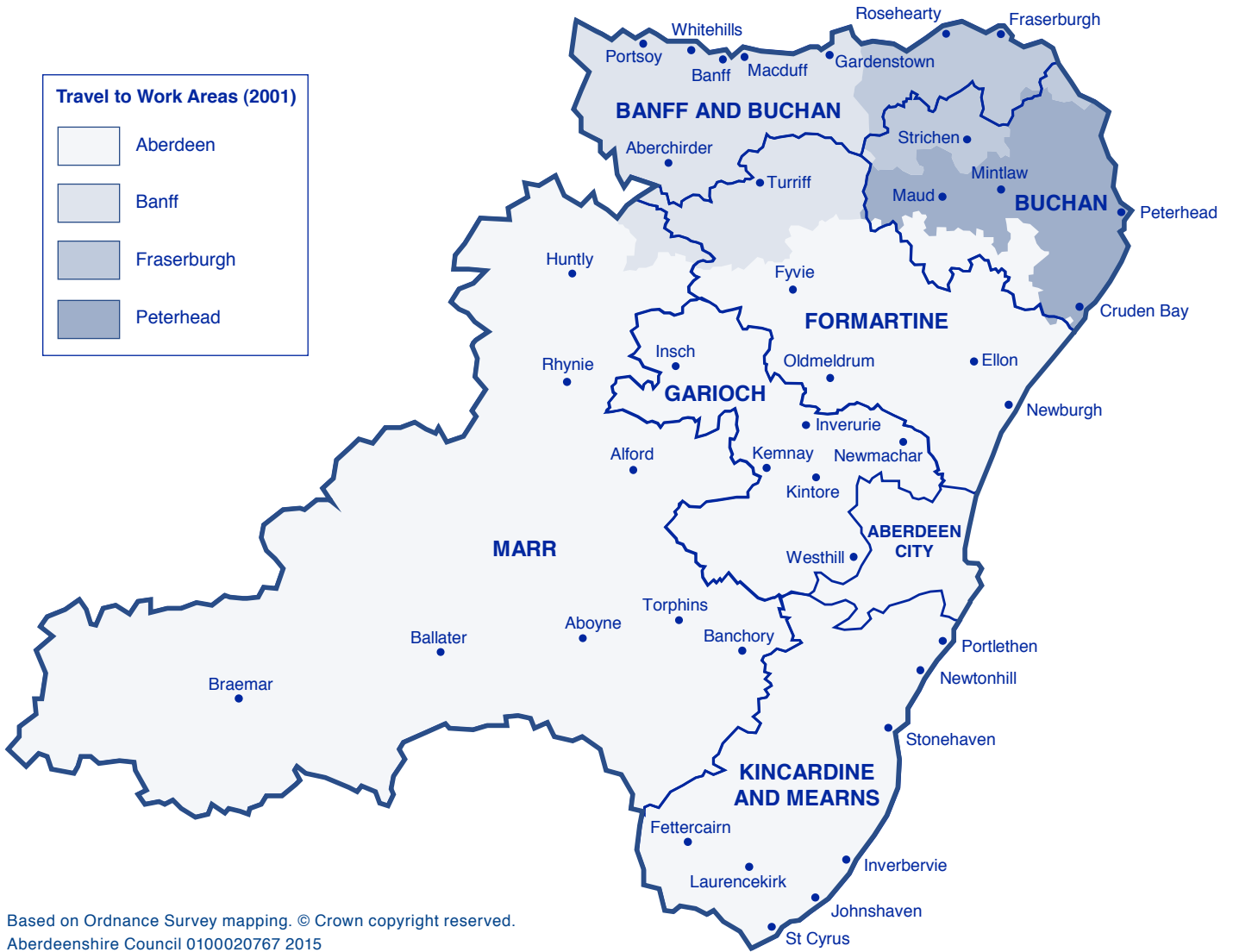


Figure 4 –On/ Off Flows Rates, Q1 2015, Aberdeenshire
Source: *Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)*

Aberdeenshire's Administrative and Travel to Work Areas



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