

Labour Market Bulletin

3rd Quarter 2016

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 employment 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 <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

QUARTER 3 SUMMARY

During the third quarter of 2016 from June to September, Aberdeenshire's unemployment rate (Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)) claimant count decreased slightly by 0.1% and the number of claimants fell by 173 during this period.

In September 2016, Aberdeenshire had the fourteenth lowest unemployment rate out of the 32 Scottish local authorities having previously been the thirteenth lowest in Scotland in Quarter 2 2016, Aberdeenshire has been overtaken by neighbouring Moray in the intervening period.

The lowest rates held by a mainland local authority were East Lothian, with the area now sharing a rate of 0.5% with Orkney and the Shetland Islands. Again, North Ayrshire (2.7%), Dundee City (2.6%) and East Ayrshire (2.5%) held the top three highest claimant rates out of the whole of Scotland.

The table below shows the average claimant count for Aberdeenshire during Quarter 3 (mean over July, August and September 2016). This has been compared to the average claimant count from Quarter 2 (April, May and June 2016).

	AVERAGE CLAIMANTS Q3		QUARTERLY CHANGE Q2-Q3 2016		ANNUAL CHANGE Q3 2015-Q3 2016	
	NO.	RATE %	NO.	POINTS %	NO.	POINTS %
ABERDEENSHIRE	1,933	1.2	-173	-0.1	577	0.3
SCOTLAND	54,542	1.6	-5,431	-0.1	-14,273	-0.4
UNITED KINGDOM	550,230	1.3	-40,404	-0.1	-149,239	-0.4

Table 1 - Claimant Count Unemployment, Q3 2016
Source: Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)

SEPTEMBER 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2016 SUMMARY

Over the past 12 months unemployment in Aberdeenshire increased by 577 from 1,276 to 1,853 claimants. In addition, the rate of job seekers has increased by 0.3% over the 12 month period, this again accounts for the highest increase in the whole of Scotland and is the same rate of increase as neighbouring Aberdeen City.

This is in contrast to the national trend where the number of job seekers has fallen by 0.4% in Scotland, the same as the UK as a whole. Alongside Orkney and Shetland (both 0.1%), Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City (both 0.3%) were the only mainland Scottish local authorities to experience an increase in claimants between September 2015 and September 2016. In turn, the largest decreases in rates over this period occurred in Inverclyde (-1.1%) and South Lanarkshire (-0.9%) which both border Glasgow City (-0.8%) which posted a similarly decreased rate.

UNEMPLOYMENT TRENDS 2015-16 (UNADJUSTED RATES)

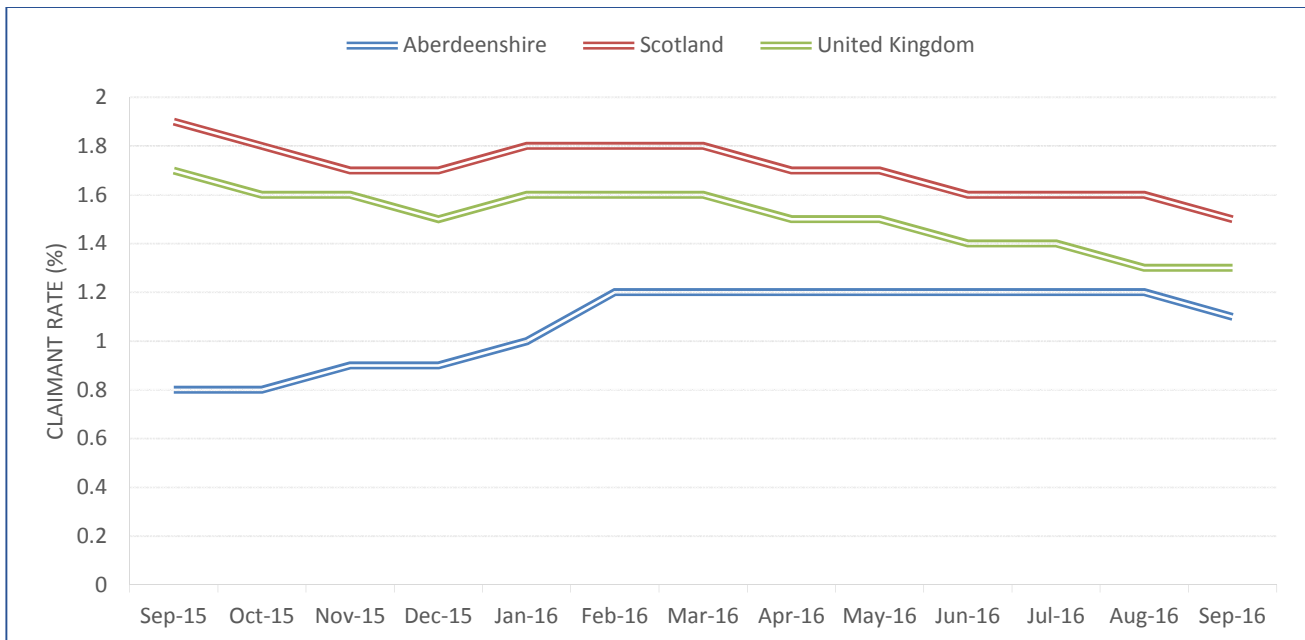


Figure 1 - Unemployment Trend (Unadjusted Rates) September 2015 - September 2016, Aberdeenshire, Scotland and the UK

Source: Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)

LOCAL TRENDS

QUARTER 3 2016

Between June and September only Garioch (0.1%) experienced increased claimant counts out of Aberdeenshire's six administrative areas. This links in with the ward of Inverurie and District posting the highest increase in the area (0.2%). Overall, in Marr (+4 claimants) and Formartine (-21 claimants) there was no change in the rate and in Kincardine and Mearns (-0.1%) and in Buchan and Banff and Buchan (both -0.3%) the amount of residents claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) decreased during this three month period. Furthermore, in the Fraserburgh and District ward the rate dropped by 0.6% between June and September, the highest decrease in claimants out of all 19 wards in Aberdeenshire, closely followed by a 0.5% drop in Peterhead North and Rattray.

SEPTEMBER 2016

Therefore, as of September 2016 the highest rate of Job Seekers could be found in Buchan, where 1.4% of the area's population were recorded as claimants. This is reflected by a 1.9% rate in Peterhead North and Rattray, the ward which still has the highest proportion of claimants in Aberdeenshire despite a vast improvement during this quarter. However, there have been some more positive changes during the last quarter with an improved situation in Banff and Buchan seeing the area now sharing the same claimant rate of 1.2% with Garioch; and Kincardine and Mearns. While, Formartine's rate decreased slightly during this period by 0.1%. In turn, Marr continues to record the lowest claimant rate out of the whole of Aberdeenshire (0.9%) an increase of 0.1% during the three month period. Aboyne, Upper Deeside and Donside is the joint-best performing ward in terms of JSA claimants, tied with Westhill and District with 0.8% of each of their populations recorded as claimants in September 2016.

SEPTEMBER 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2016

However, for the 12 month period between September 2015 and September 2016, results have been less positive with all six administrative areas experiencing increased rates ranging from a 0.2% increase in Marr and Banff and Buchan to 0.5% in both Kincardine and Mearns and Garioch. In addition, Formartine's rate increased by 0.3% and Buchan's rose by 0.4% in the last year. Banff and District has been the only ward in Aberdeenshire not to see an increase in its claimant rate during the 12 month period with this remaining static at 0.0% between September 2015 and September 2016. Whereas the highest increase was experienced in Inverurie and District; and North Kincardine where the number of claimants both grew by 0.6% in the last year.

ADMINISTRATIVE AREA	SEPTEMBER 2015		JUNE 2016		SEPTEMBER 2016		QUARTERLY CHANGE		ANNUAL CHANGE	
	NO	RATE %	NO	RATE %	NO.	RATE %	NO.	% POINTS	NO.	% POINTS
BANFF AND BUCHAN	215	1.0	339	1.4	267	1.2	-72	-0.3	52	0.2
BUCHAN	255	0.9	450	1.7	367	1.4	-83	-0.3	112	0.4
FORMARTINE	205	0.7	305	1.1	284	1.0	-21	0.0	79	0.3
GARIOCH	241	0.7	369	1.1	388	1.2	19	0.1	147	0.5
KINCARDINE AND MEARNS	206	0.7	361	1.3	341	1.2	-20	-0.1	135	0.5
MARR	154	0.6	202	0.8	206	0.9	4	0.0	52	0.2

Table 2 - Area claimant counts and rates September 2015, June 2016 and September 2016, Aberdeenshire

Source: Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)

UNEMPLOYMENT TRENDS - ABERDEENSHIRE ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS

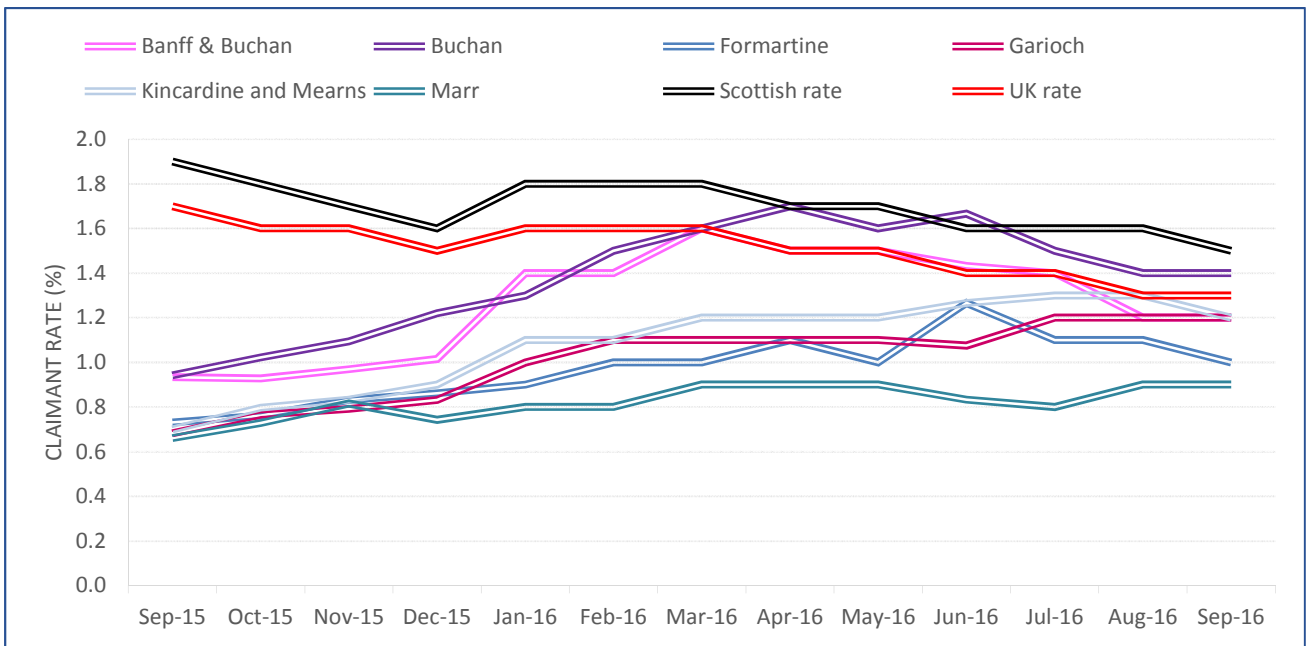


Figure 2 – Claimant Rate by Area September 2015 – September 2016, Aberdeenshire
 Source: Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)

TRAVEL TO WORK AREAS (TTWAs)

Travel to Work Area (TTWA) counts are also available from NOMIS. TTWAs are approximations of self-contained labour markets based on commuting to work patterns. Aberdeenshire contains four TTWAs including Aberdeen TTWA which encompasses Aberdeen City.

QUARTER 3 2016

Over the third quarter of 2016, the Fraserburgh TTWA saw the largest decrease in claimant rate out of the four TTWAs, a 0.5% decrease from 1.5% to 1.0% sees the area now hold the lowest TTWA claimant rate in Aberdeenshire. In turn, Peterhead TTWA decreased by 0.3% from 1.7% to 1.4% and both Aberdeen; and Turriff and Banff TTWAs experienced minor changes of -0.1% from 1.5% to 1.4% and from 1.3% to 1.2% respectively.

SEPTEMBER 2015- SEPTEMBER 2016

Between September 2015 and September 2016, the Fraserburgh TTWA experienced the joint-highest increase in Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants, a growth of 0.4% over the 12 month period, the same as the Peterhead TTWA. However, the Peterhead TTWA possessed the higher rate in September 2016 of 1.4% compared to 1.0% in Fraserburgh. Furthermore, across the year, Aberdeen's TTWA saw its claimant rate grow by 0.3% whereas Turriff and Banff TTWA underwent a more marginal increase of 0.1%.

TRAVEL-TO-WORK-AREA	SEPTEMBER 2015		JUNE 2016		SEPTEMBER 2016		QUARTERLY CHANGE		ANNUAL CHANGE	
	NO.	RATE %	NO.	RATE %	NO.	RATE %	NO.	% POINTS	NO.	% POINTS
ABERDEEN	2,971	1.1	3,970	1.5	3,839	1.4	-131	-0.1	868	0.3
TURRIFF AND BANFF	176	1.1	210	1.3	194	1.2	-16	-0.1	18	0.1
FRASERBURGH	83	0.6	210	1.5	151	1.0	-59	-0.5	68	0.4
PETERHEAD	245	1.0	416	1.7	339	1.4	-77	-0.3	94	0.4

Table 3 – Travel to Work Area's (TTWA) claimant counts and rates September 2015, June 2016 and September 2016, Aberdeenshire
Source: Office for National Statistics (NOMIS)

ABERDEENSHIRE'S ADMINISTRATIVE AND TRAVEL TO WORK AREAS

