

## Unemployment in London: July 2009

### Latest Results

This *Update* looks at some of the labour market indicators behind the current debate about whether the UK is still in the grip of recession or whether there are signs that it is coming to an end. It presents the latest figures for London and nationally of those claiming Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) and also shows the official unemployment measure: the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition, which is derived from the Annual Population Survey. In addition, it gives figures for employment levels.

The claimant count was over one and a half million people in Great Britain in May 2009, an increase of nearly 50 per cent on the level six months previously, while in London the increase over the same period was slightly less from 150,000 in November 2008 to over 213,000 in May. The claimant count figures for May 2009 are, in both cases, in the region of 60 per cent of the ILO unemployed<sup>1</sup> estimate (2.4 million for Great Britain and 359,000 for London) for the April – June quarter, whereas the claimant count was a little over half the ILO unemployed figures six months earlier. (See the Background section of this *Update* for an explanation of the differences.) The latest figures for July 2009 show little change in the claimant count for Great Britain (in fact it dipped below 1.5 million in June) but continue to show a slow but steady increase in London and now stands at over 218,000.

**Table 1 ILO unemployed for the regions and the UK, April-June 2009**

| (seasonally adjusted)  | Unemployment |            | Change on year ago |            |
|------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------------|------------|
|                        | No (000s)    | Rate (%)   | No (000s)          | Rate (%)   |
| North East             | 120          | 9.8        | 27                 | 2.3        |
| North West             | 290          | 8.5        | 75                 | 2.1        |
| Yorkshire & the Humber | 233          | 8.8        | 74                 | 2.8        |
| East Midlands          | 170          | 7.3        | 40                 | 1.6        |
| West Midlands          | 285          | 10.6       | 118                | 4.2        |
| East                   | 194          | 6.5        | 59                 | 1.9        |
| <b>London</b>          | <b>359</b>   | <b>8.9</b> | <b>80</b>          | <b>2.0</b> |
| South East             | 263          | 5.9        | 78                 | 1.8        |
| South West             | 172          | 6.4        | 70                 | 2.6        |
| England                | 2,086        | 7.9        | 621                | 2.3        |
| Wales                  | 108          | 7.6        | 37                 | 2.6        |
| Scotland               | 188          | 7.0        | 75                 | 2.7        |
| Great Britain          | 2,382        | 7.8        | 732                | 2.4        |
| Northern Ireland       | 54           | 6.7        | 19                 | 2.6        |
| United Kingdom         | 2,435        | 7.8        | 750                | 2.4        |

Source: Labour Force Survey

Notes:

Unemployment rates are calculated as a percentage of the total economically active aged 16+.

Change rates are calculated as a percentage of the total economically active aged 16+.

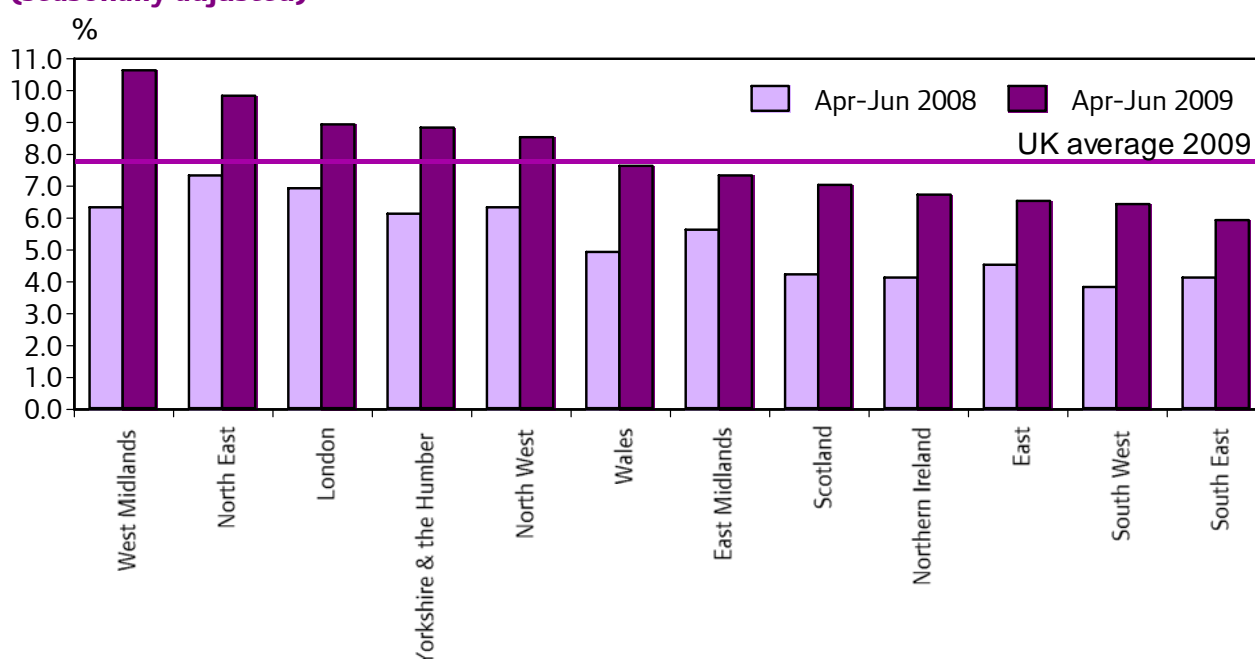
Overall, as Table 1 shows, London had an unemployment rate<sup>2</sup> for the April – June quarter of 8.9 per cent, well above the national rate, lower than only the West Midlands and North East regions. The lowest rates were in the South East, South West and East of England. Unemployment levels rose in all regions over the last year, with 750,000 more unemployed people nationally. The London figure is 80,000, with a rate of change below the national figure. Chart 1 shows the differences by region over the last year and compares the latest figures for each region, for the last quarter of 2008 with the UK average. The West Midlands is clearly the worst affected region, both in terms of levels and change, while London has fared less badly in

unemployment terms over the last year, with a percentage increase in the number of unemployed people below that for any other region.

<sup>1</sup> Seasonally adjusted.

<sup>2</sup> Expressed as a percentage of all economically active population aged 16 and over.

**Chart 1 ILO Unemployment rates for regions, April - June 2008 and 2009 (seasonally adjusted)**



Source: Labour Force Survey

While London ranked third in terms of overall unemployment levels, there were clear differences to the other regions in terms of the characteristics of the unemployed. London has the highest proportion of women among the unemployed (nearly 45 per cent of London's unemployed are women, compared with a national figure of 39 per cent). The latest figures for London, as given in Table 2, show the same proportion of the economically active population being unemployed among women and men. In all other regions, the female rate is clearly lower than the male unemployment rate. The number of unemployed women in London has grown more over the last year than the number of unemployed men, when the male unemployment rate in London was higher than that for women.

**Table 2 Change in ILO unemployed in London (seasonally adjusted)**

|        | Apr-Jun 2009  |          | Change on previous quarter |          | Change on previous year |          |
|--------|---------------|----------|----------------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|
|        | Number (000s) | Rate (%) | Number (000s)              | Change % | Number (000s)           | Change % |
| People | 359           | 8.9      | 27                         | 8.0      | 80                      | 28.5     |
| Men    | 198           | 8.9      | 6                          | 3.1      | 36                      | 21.9     |
| Women  | 161           | 8.9      | 21                         | 14.8     | 44                      | 37.7     |

Source: Labour Force Survey

Notes: All figures are for population aged 16 and over. Unemployment rates are calculated as a percentage of the total economically active aged 16+. Change rates are calculated as a percentage change in the level of unemployment.

Although the Labour Force Survey, from where the regional unemployment figures are drawn, is not large enough to give sufficiently robust borough level unemployment figures directly, modelled estimates combining this with other data, including the claimant count, are produced annually and are now available for 2008. Since these are modelled, rather than direct estimates, there is a degree of judgement used in producing them, and an element of potential error arising from the small sample size. These estimates are therefore given in Table 3 along with a confidence interval indicating the level of reliability of the estimates for individual boroughs.

No change figures are published, and it is only possible to do rough comparisons with the previous year's estimates. As these are annualised estimates, the recession, which became apparent in the course of 2008, had only limited impact on these figures. In that context, it is not surprising that the

unemployment estimates for some boroughs were lower than for the previous year, with the largest year-on-year difference in the rate being a drop of more than a two percentage points in the rate for Hackney.

**Table 3 Modelled estimates of unemployment for London boroughs, Jan-Dec 2008**

|                        | Level | CI (+/-) | Rate | CI (+/-) |
|------------------------|-------|----------|------|----------|
| Barking and Dagenham   | 6300  | 1300     | 8.4  | 1.7      |
| Barnet                 | 10300 | 2000     | 6.3  | 1.3      |
| Bexley                 | 6300  | 1400     | 5.6  | 1.3      |
| Brent                  | 10900 | 2200     | 7.4  | 1.5      |
| Bromley                | 7300  | 1600     | 4.5  | 1.0      |
| Camden                 | 8700  | 1700     | 6.6  | 1.3      |
| Croydon                | 11300 | 2300     | 6.1  | 1.3      |
| Ealing                 | 11100 | 2200     | 6.8  | 1.4      |
| Enfield                | 11300 | 2100     | 8.1  | 1.6      |
| Greenwich              | 8700  | 1700     | 7.9  | 1.6      |
| Hackney                | 9700  | 1800     | 9.1  | 1.7      |
| Hammersmith and Fulham | 7700  | 1600     | 7.9  | 1.7      |
| Haringey               | 10100 | 2000     | 9.0  | 1.8      |
| Harrow                 | 6300  | 1300     | 5.9  | 1.2      |
| Havering               | 6000  | 1300     | 4.9  | 1.1      |
| Hillingdon             | 7200  | 1500     | 5.6  | 1.2      |
| Hounslow               | 7000  | 1400     | 6.0  | 1.3      |
| Islington              | 8500  | 1700     | 7.9  | 1.6      |
| Kensington and Chelsea | 5900  | 1300     | 6.2  | 1.4      |
| Kingston upon Thames   | 4000  | 900      | 4.6  | 1.1      |
| Lambeth                | 13200 | 2500     | 8.7  | 1.7      |
| Lewisham               | 10800 | 2100     | 7.5  | 1.5      |
| Merton                 | 6000  | 1300     | 5.1  | 1.2      |
| Newham                 | 11500 | 2200     | 10.3 | 2.0      |
| Redbridge              | 8900  | 1700     | 7.2  | 1.5      |
| Richmond upon Thames   | 3600  | 800      | 3.6  | 0.9      |
| Southwark              | 12100 | 2300     | 8.0  | 1.6      |
| Sutton                 | 4500  | 1000     | 4.4  | 1.0      |
| Tower Hamlets          | 12600 | 2300     | 11.7 | 2.2      |
| Waltham Forest         | 9500  | 1800     | 8.8  | 1.8      |
| Wandsworth             | 9600  | 2100     | 5.5  | 1.3      |
| Westminster            | 9400  | 1900     | 7.5  | 1.5      |

Source: ONS Model based unemployment data for local areas, derived using Annual Population Survey and Claimant count data. Figures are for people aged 16 and over. Rates are expressed as a percentage of the economically active population aged 16 and over. The Confidence Interval (CI figure) gives the range that it is believed encompasses the true figure for 95 per cent of estimates.

While unemployment is a key labour market indicator, a fuller picture can be gained by looking at other indicators also. Table 4 gives employment figures for the April – June quarter and shows that there are still nearly 3.7 million London residents in employment, of which around 55 per cent are men, a higher proportion than in other regions. The overall employment rate in London, that is the percentage of the working age population in paid employment, is below average for the UK, at less than 70 per cent, compared with over 74 per cent nationally. This is entirely due to the relatively low rate among women, as the employment rate for London's men is very close to the average.

Whereas six months ago, the figures for London (October to December 2008) showed an increase of 88,000 in the numbers of employed Londoners over the previous year, the latest figures show a decrease of 88,000 on a year ago in London.

**Table 4 Employment for the regions and the UK, April to June 2009  
(seasonally adjusted)**

|                        | Employment   |             |              |             |              |             | Change on year ago |             |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
|                        | Total        |             | Men          |             | Women        |             | Total              |             |
|                        | No<br>(000s) | Rate<br>(%) | No<br>(000s) | Rate<br>(%) | No<br>(000s) | Rate<br>(%) | No<br>(000s)       | Rate<br>(%) |
| North East             | 1,106        | 67.3        | 584          | 68.9        | 523          | 65.6        | -51                | -2.8        |
| North West             | 3,129        | 71.1        | 1,669        | 73.9        | 1,461        | 67.9        | -33                | -1.2        |
| Yorkshire & the Humber | 2,405        | 71.2        | 1,292        | 73.7        | 1,112        | 68.4        | -55                | -2.2        |
| East Midlands          | 2,163        | 75.2        | 1,162        | 78.3        | 1,002        | 71.8        | 12                 | -0.5        |
| West Midlands          | 2,414        | 70.3        | 1,292        | 73.1        | 1,122        | 67.1        | -66                | -2.2        |
| East                   | 2,805        | 76.9        | 1,509        | 80.8        | 1,296        | 72.7        | -14                | -0.8        |
| <b>London</b>          | <b>3,673</b> | <b>68.9</b> | <b>2,035</b> | <b>75.2</b> | <b>1,638</b> | <b>62.1</b> | <b>-88</b>         | <b>-2.6</b> |
| South East             | 4,154        | 77.3        | 2,225        | 81.0        | 1,930        | 73.3        | -86                | -2.1        |
| South West             | 2,529        | 76.7        | 1,327        | 78.3        | 1,202        | 74.8        | -41                | -2.1        |
| England                | 24,379       | 73.0        | 13,094       | 76.4        | 11,285       | 69.2        | -424               | -1.8        |
| Wales                  | 1,322        | 69.7        | 695          | 71.8        | 627          | 67.3        | -44                | -2.9        |
| Scotland               | 2,495        | 74.0        | 1,305        | 76.8        | 1,190        | 71.0        | -54                | -2.5        |
| Great Britain          | 28,196       | 72.9        | 15,094       | 76.3        | 13,102       | 69.3        | -521               | -1.9        |
| Northern Ireland       | 744          | 65.6        | 398          | 68.6        | 346          | 62.5        | -44                | -4.5        |
| United Kingdom         | 28,933       | 72.7        | 15,489       | 76.0        | 13,444       | 69.0        | -573               | -2.0        |

Source: Labour Force Survey, Regional Monthly Labour Market Statistics

Notes: Employment levels are quoted for all people aged 16 and over.

Employment rates are calculated as a percentage of the working age population.

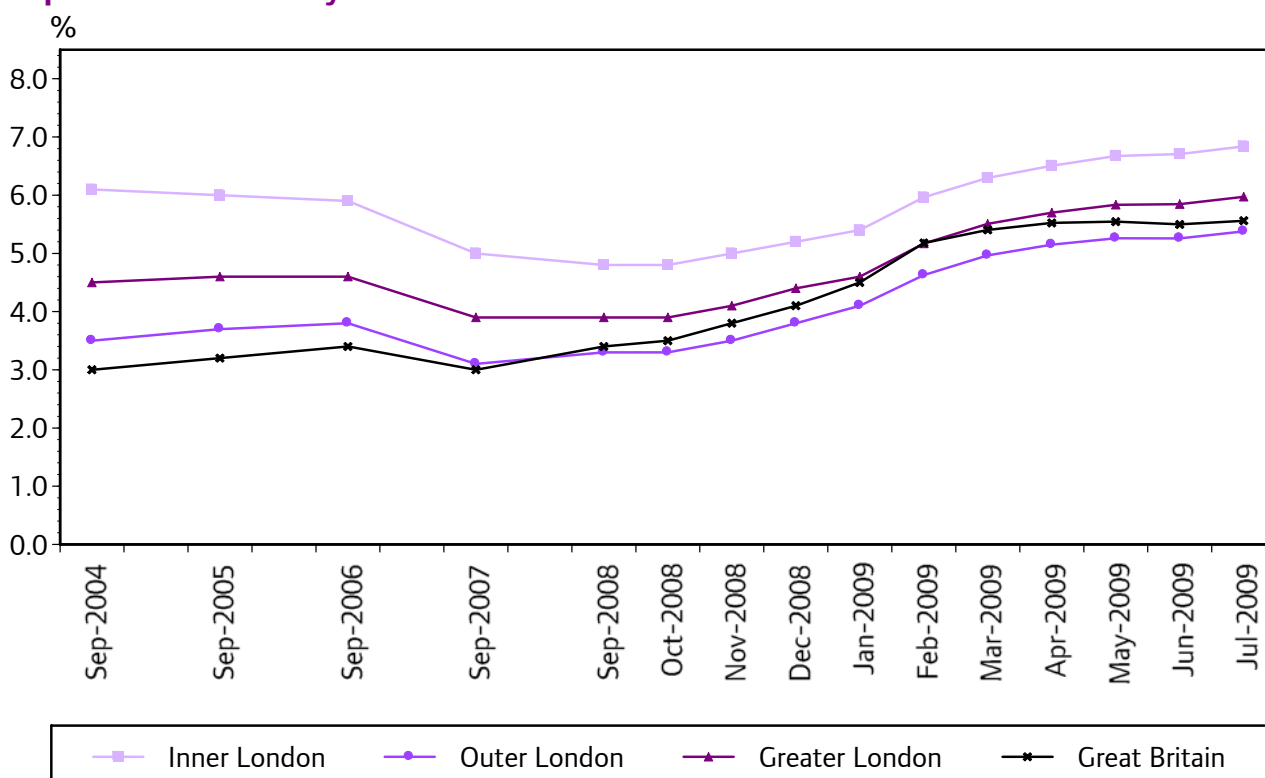
Change rates are calculated as a percentage of the working age population.

While the ILO unemployment measure is seen as a better indicator of overall levels of unemployment in the population, this *Update* has shown some of the volatility in the figures based on sample survey data. The claimant count is a useful indicator of trends, as it is more timely and, as it is a full count from administrative systems, is also able to give more detail for smaller areas, but clearly does not give as full a picture of unemployment as the eligibility criteria mean that not all unemployed people can claim this benefit. Particularly worth noting in the context of recession and using the claimant count as an indicator is the criterion that some people, are not able to claim for more than six months, so after this time will cease to be included in the claimant count. (See the Background section of this report for more detail.)

The JSA claimant count stood at 218,680 for London in July 2009, of which 47 per cent was in Inner London, compared with around 41 per cent of the economically active population. The GLA claimant rates (the claimant count as a percentage of the resident economically active population using GLA population estimates) show a rate of 6.0 per cent for London, compared with a national figure of 5.6 per cent. Inner London claimant count rate is clearly higher at 6.8 per cent, while the Outer London rate is below the national average at 5.4 per cent.

The claimant count trends for London over four years and for the last ten months are presented in Charts 2 to 4. The figures are given in Table 5. While the annual figures for four years show a decline in London, this masks some fluctuations, followed by an increase, which started in 2008. Note that the charts need to be interpreted with a little care because of the time line used. Chart 2 shows very clearly that the London rates for all people generally follow the same trends as the national figures and the gap between London and the national rate is now close to that in September 2008, as the rate for Great Britain has been relatively stable over the last six months, whereas London has continued a slow increase. The Outer London rate has, since September 2008, remained below the national rate.

**Chart 2 Claimant count rates for all people, annually September 2004-2008, monthly September 2008 to July 2009**



Source: Office for National Statistics (Jobcentre Plus administrative system) & GLA estimates

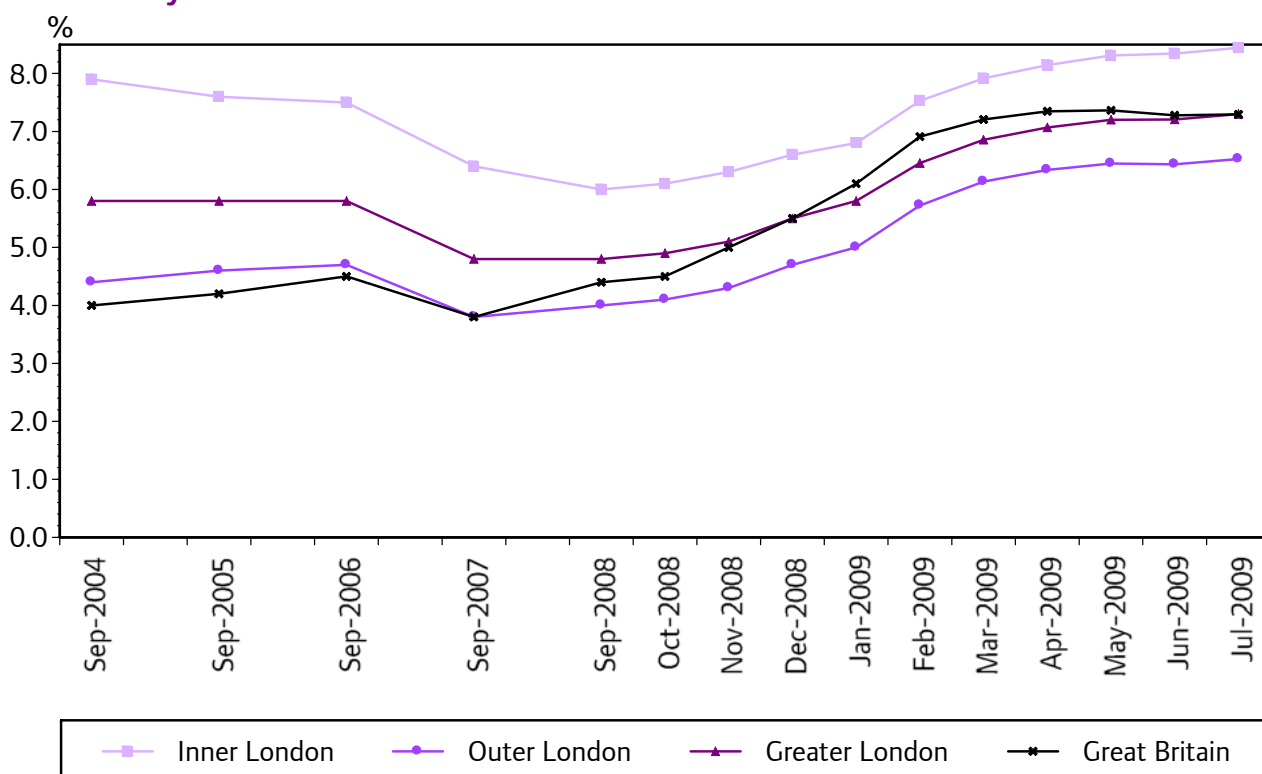
Charts 3 and 4 illustrate the same rates for men and women separately, showing the much higher claimant count rates and the sharper rise seen particularly between November 2008 and March 2009 among men, and the relative stability of rates for women. The national rate for men climbed more steeply to rise above that for men in London as a whole up to February but has been relatively stable since and even shown a slight decrease. It is also clear that the claimant count rates for both men and women in both Inner and Outer London have risen above levels seen in the last four years.

Chart 5 illustrates the trends since the middle of 2008 in both the ILO measure and GLA claimant count rates. The ILO measure is on a rolling three-month basis and as it is a survey-based estimate shows a degree of volatility, whereas the claimant count rate is taken at a single date in each month. It clearly shows that they follow similar trends, although the claimant count has risen to a greater proportion of the ILO measure and shows greater stability over the last two months.

Table 6 shows the claimant count levels and rates for Inner, Outer and Greater London as illustrated in Chart 5 and for Great Britain using the same method of calculation. The table also gives the claimant count rates by age and shows the increasing gap between the rates for young adults and older age groups across all areas.

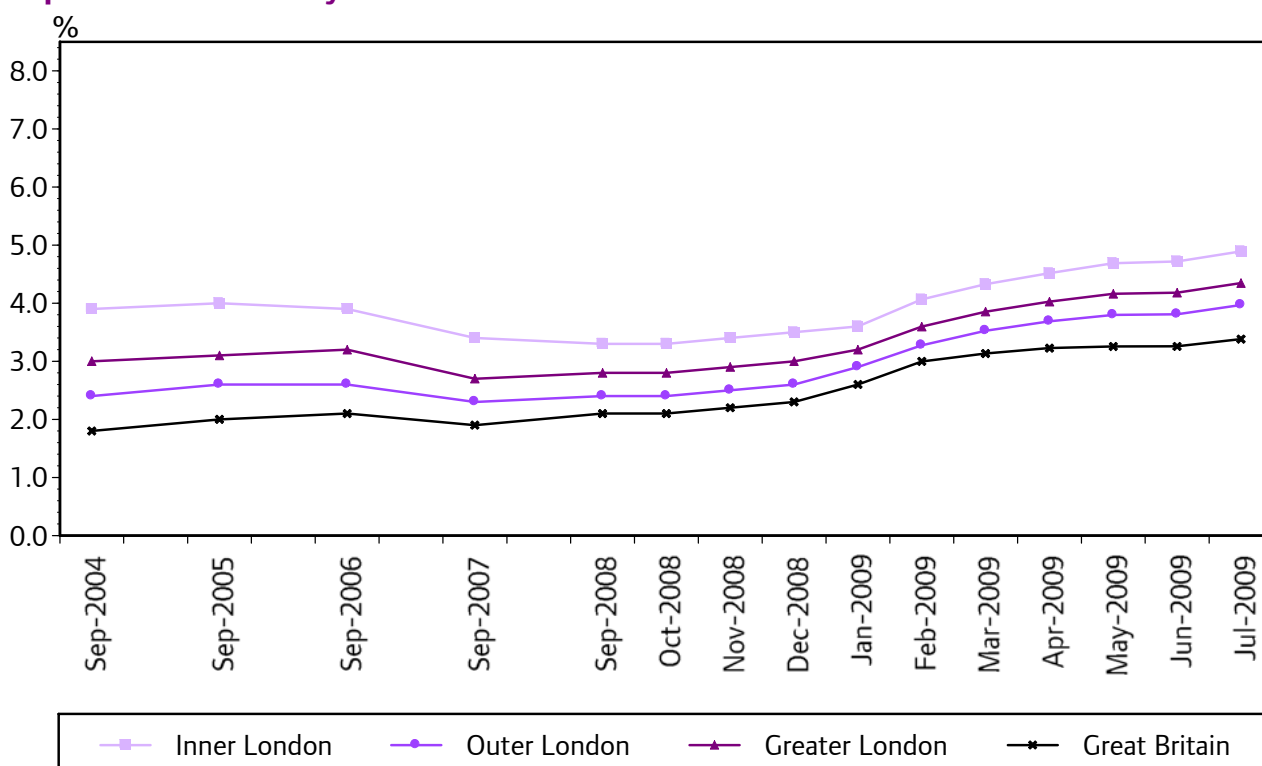
Table 7 gives the comparable figures for each London Borough showing the overall rates for each month in the last year. It is clear that while Tower Hamlets, Newham and Hackney remain the boroughs with the highest rates, the sharpest increases have been in Richmond and Kingston. Although the rates in these boroughs have more than doubled over the year, they remain well below the levels for most other boroughs even a year ago. All the other boroughs whose rates more than doubled are also in Outer London and started from a relatively low base. They are Bexley, Havering, Hillingdon and Sutton. In contrast, boroughs that have seen an increase lower than 50 per cent are all in Inner London, but not necessarily all with high levels a year ago. Tower Hamlets, Hackney and Newham, along with Haringey, Southwark, Lambeth and Camden fall into this group.

**Chart 3 Claimant count rates for men, annually September 2004-2008, monthly September 2008 to July 2009**



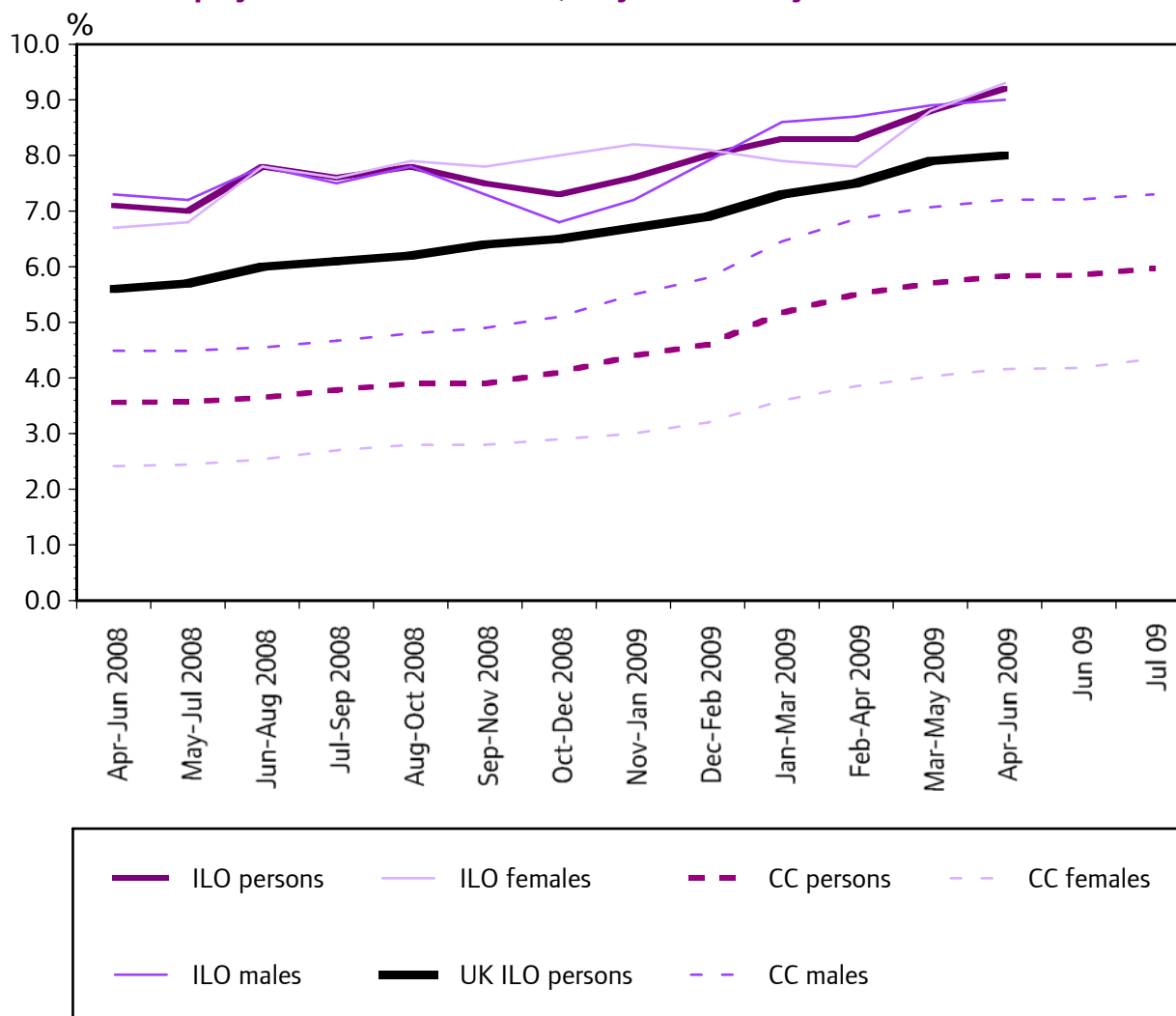
Source: Office for National Statistics (Jobcentre Plus administrative system) & GLA estimates

**Chart 4 Claimant count rates for women, annually September 2004-2008, monthly September 2008 to July 2009**



Source: Office for National Statistics (Jobcentre Plus administrative system) & GLA estimates

**Chart 5 Unemployment trends in London, May 2008 to July 2009**



Sources: Claimant Count - Office for National Statistics (Jobcentre Plus administrative system) & GLA estimates  
ILO Unemployment - Labour Force Survey, Office for National Statistics

## Background

As the claimant count is a by-product of the benefits administration system, it only counts those unemployed people who are claiming JSA. GLA analysis has highlighted that some unemployed people are more likely to be missed by the claimant count than others; these include women, young people and those living in higher income households. This largely reflects the eligibility criteria for JSA. For this reason, the claimant count is best viewed as an unemployment indicator not a comprehensive unemployment measure.

The Government's official and preferred measure of unemployment is currently ILO unemployment. ILO unemployment measures those people out of work, who are actively looking for work and are available to start work. At a regional level, ILO unemployment is measured by the Annual Population Survey or the Labour Force Survey. The ILO measure is more comprehensive than the claimant count as it includes the many unemployed people who are not eligible for, or not claiming, JSA. It is the ILO measure that is generally quoted in the media.

Despite its limitations, the claimant count is widely used because it is timely (data are available monthly around 4/5 weeks after the date of the count) and importantly, because it is available for small areas. ILO unemployment estimates are not available for wards and even the borough level ILO estimates (modelled and survey based) have high confidence intervals and cannot be generated by

age or gender with any degree of reliability. Even at regional level, there is a degree of uncertainty in the figures, so small changes may reflect variations in the sample rather than in the underlying population.

The modelled unemployment estimates produced by the Office for National Statistics for local authorities (and now also available on a consistent basis for Parliamentary Constituencies) are based on determining a strong relationship between ILO unemployment (as measured by the Labour Force Survey) and auxiliary information (mainly the Claimant Count). This relationship is then used to provide more reliable estimates of ILO unemployment for local authorities. These model-based estimates are always more precise than any direct estimates produced at this level of geography from the Labour Force Survey/Annual Population Survey.

Further information about the claimant count measure and how it compares to the official ILO measure can be found in: *DMAG Briefing 2009-01 Claimant Count Model 2009: Technical Note*

**Table 5 Claimant count rates by gender, annually September 2004-2008, monthly September 2008 to July 2009**

| September 2008 to July 2009   |        |        |        |        |        |     |     |     |     |     |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|   | Sep-04 | Sep-05 | Sep-06 | Sep-07 | Sep-08 |     |     |     |     |     |
| Persons   |        |        |        |        |        |     |     |     |     |     |
| Inner London  | 6.1    | 6.0    | 5.9    | 5.0    | 4.8    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Outer London  | 3.5    | 3.7    | 3.8    | 3.1    | 3.3    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Greater London  | 4.5    | 4.6    | 4.6    | 3.9    | 3.9    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Great Britain   | 3.0    | 3.2    | 3.4    | 3.0    | 3.4    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Males   |        |        |        |        |        |     |     |     |     |     |
| Inner London  | 7.9    | 7.6    | 7.5    | 6.4    | 6.0    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Outer London  | 4.4    | 4.6    | 4.7    | 3.8    | 4.0    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Greater London  | 5.8    | 5.8    | 5.8    | 4.8    | 4.8    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Great Britain   | 4.0    | 4.2    | 4.5    | 3.8    | 4.4    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Females   |        |        |        |        |        |     |     |     |     |     |
| Inner London  | 3.9    | 4.0    | 3.9    | 3.4    | 3.3    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Outer London  | 2.4    | 2.6    | 2.6    | 2.3    | 2.4    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Greater London  | 3.0    | 3.1    | 3.2    | 2.7    | 2.8    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Great Britain   | 1.8    | 2.0    | 2.1    | 1.9    | 2.1    |     |     |     |     |     |
| Oct-08 Nov-08 Dec-08 Jan-09 Feb-09 Mar-09 Apr-09 May-09 Jun-09 Jul-09 |        |        |        |        |        |     |     |     |     |     |
| Persons   |        |        |        |        |        |     |     |     |     |     |
| Inner London  | 4.8    | 5.0    | 5.2    | 5.4    | 6.0    | 6.3 | 6.5 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 6.8 |
| Outer London  | 3.3    | 3.5    | 3.8    | 4.1    | 4.6    | 5.0 | 5.1 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.4 |
| Greater London  | 3.9    | 4.1    | 4.4    | 4.6    | 5.2    | 5.5 | 5.7 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 6.0 |
| Great Britain   | 3.5    | 3.8    | 4.1    | 4.5    | 5.2    | 5.4 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.6 |
| Males   |        |        |        |        |        |     |     |     |     |     |
| Inner London  | 6.1    | 6.3    | 6.6    | 6.8    | 7.5    | 7.9 | 8.1 | 8.3 | 8.3 | 8.4 |
| Outer London  | 4.1    | 4.3    | 4.7    | 5      | 5.7    | 6.1 | 6.3 | 6.4 | 6.4 | 6.5 |
| Greater London  | 4.9    | 5.1    | 5.5    | 5.8    | 6.5    | 6.9 | 7.1 | 7.2 | 7.2 | 7.3 |
| Great Britain   | 4.5    | 5.0    | 5.5    | 6.1    | 6.9    | 7.2 | 7.3 | 7.4 | 7.3 | 7.3 |
| Females   |        |        |        |        |        |     |     |     |     |     |
| Inner London  | 3.3    | 3.4    | 3.5    | 3.6    | 4.1    | 4.3 | 4.5 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 4.9 |
| Outer London  | 2.4    | 2.5    | 2.6    | 2.9    | 3.3    | 3.5 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 4.0 |
| Greater London  | 2.8    | 2.9    | 3      | 3.2    | 3.6    | 3.9 | 4.0 | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.3 |
| Great Britain   | 2.1    | 2.2    | 2.3    | 2.6    | 3.0    | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 3.3 | 3.4 |

Source: Office for National Statistics (Jobcentre Plus administrative system) & GLA estimates



**Table 6 Claimant count and rates by age and gender, July 2008 to July 2009**

|                       | Claimant count numbers |           |         | Claimant count rate (%) |       |         |              |       |          |                |       |          |                  |       |          |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------|---------|-------------------------|-------|---------|--------------|-------|----------|----------------|-------|----------|------------------|-------|----------|
|                       |                        |           |         | by sex                  |       |         | by age (all) |       |          | by age (males) |       |          | by age (females) |       |          |
|                       | Persons                | Males     | Females | Persons                 | Males | Females | 16-24        | 25-44 | 45-59/64 | 16-24          | 25-44 | 45-59/64 | 16-24            | 25-44 | 45-59/64 |
| <b>Inner London</b>   |                        |           |         |                         |       |         |              |       |          |                |       |          |                  |       |          |
| Jul-08                | 67,710                 | 47,170    | 20,545  | 4.6                     | 5.8   | 3.1     | 12.3         | 3.4   | 5.1      | 15.3           | 4.5   | 6.1      | 9.2              | 1.9   | 3.8      |
| Aug-08                | 69,715                 | 47,995    | 21,730  | 4.7                     | 5.9   | 3.3     | 13.1         | 3.4   | 5.2      | 16.0           | 4.6   | 6.2      | 10.2             | 2.0   | 3.9      |
| Sep-08                | 71,060                 | 48,985    | 22,075  | 4.8                     | 6.0   | 3.3     | 13.5         | 3.5   | 5.3      | 16.6           | 4.6   | 6.3      | 10.5             | 2.0   | 3.9      |
| Oct-08                | 71,735                 | 49,430    | 22,305  | 4.8                     | 6.1   | 3.3     | 13.4         | 3.5   | 5.3      | 16.7           | 4.7   | 6.4      | 10.2             | 2.1   | 4.0      |
| Nov-08                | 74,360                 | 51,580    | 22,780  | 5.0                     | 6.3   | 3.4     | 13.6         | 3.7   | 5.5      | 17.2           | 4.9   | 6.7      | 10.1             | 2.2   | 4.0      |
| Dec-08                | 77,615                 | 54,035    | 23,580  | 5.2                     | 6.6   | 3.5     | 14.0         | 3.9   | 5.7      | 17.9           | 5.2   | 6.9      | 10.2             | 2.3   | 4.1      |
| Jan-09 (2008 base)    | 80,245                 | 55,810    | 24,435  | 5.4                     | 6.9   | 3.7     | 13.9         | 4.1   | 6.0      | 17.8           | 5.4   | 7.2      | 10.1             | 2.5   | 4.3      |
| Jan-09 (2009 base)    | 80,245                 | 55,810    | 24,435  | 5.4                     | 6.8   | 3.6     | 14.1         | 4.1   | 5.8      | 18.1           | 5.4   | 7.0      | 10.2             | 2.5   | 4.2      |
| Feb-09                | 88,710                 | 61,405    | 27,320  | 6.0                     | 7.5   | 4.1     | 16.0         | 4.6   | 6.2      | 20.4           | 6.0   | 7.4      | 11.6             | 2.8   | 4.5      |
| Mar-09                | 93,665                 | 64,570    | 29,095  | 6.3                     | 7.9   | 4.3     | 17.0         | 4.8   | 6.4      | 21.8           | 6.3   | 7.7      | 12.2             | 3.0   | 4.7      |
| Apr-09                | 96,780                 | 66,425    | 30,360  | 6.5                     | 8.1   | 4.5     | 17.2         | 5.0   | 6.7      | 22.2           | 6.5   | 7.9      | 12.2             | 3.2   | 5.0      |
| May-09                | 99,280                 | 67,775    | 31,510  | 6.7                     | 8.3   | 4.7     | 17.3         | 5.2   | 6.9      | 22.4           | 6.7   | 8.1      | 12.2             | 3.4   | 5.2      |
| Jun-09                | 99,760                 | 68,050    | 31,710  | 6.7                     | 8.3   | 4.7     | 17.3         | 5.2   | 6.9      | 22.4           | 6.7   | 8.2      | 12.3             | 3.4   | 5.3      |
| Jul-09                | 101,740                | 68,865    | 32,885  | 6.8                     | 8.4   | 4.9     | 18.4         | 5.2   | 7.0      | 23.2           | 6.7   | 8.2      | 13.6             | 3.4   | 5.4      |
| <b>Outer London</b>   |                        |           |         |                         |       |         |              |       |          |                |       |          |                  |       |          |
| Jul-08                | 65,430                 | 44,360    | 21,065  | 3.0                     | 3.7   | 2.2     | 8.0          | 2.5   | 2.3      | 9.1            | 3.3   | 2.7      | 6.8              | 1.5   | 1.9      |
| Aug-08                | 68,490                 | 45,960    | 22,530  | 3.2                     | 3.8   | 2.3     | 8.8          | 2.6   | 2.4      | 9.9            | 3.4   | 2.8      | 7.5              | 1.6   | 2.0      |
| Sep-08                | 71,195                 | 47,710    | 23,490  | 3.3                     | 4.0   | 2.4     | 9.3          | 2.7   | 2.5      | 10.4           | 3.5   | 2.8      | 8.1              | 1.6   | 2.0      |
| Oct-08                | 72,380                 | 48,755    | 23,625  | 3.3                     | 4.1   | 2.4     | 9.3          | 2.7   | 2.6      | 10.5           | 3.6   | 2.9      | 7.8              | 1.7   | 2.0      |
| Nov-08                | 76,140                 | 51,840    | 24,320  | 3.5                     | 4.3   | 2.5     | 9.4          | 2.9   | 2.7      | 10.8           | 3.9   | 3.1      | 7.7              | 1.8   | 2.1      |
| Dec-08                | 81,740                 | 56,130    | 25,610  | 3.8                     | 4.7   | 2.6     | 9.9          | 3.2   | 2.9      | 11.7           | 4.2   | 3.4      | 7.9              | 1.9   | 2.2      |
| Jan-09 (2008 base)    | 88,525                 | 60,520    | 28,000  | 4.1                     | 5.0   | 2.9     | 10.4         | 3.5   | 3.2      | 12.3           | 4.6   | 3.7      | 8.3              | 2.1   | 2.5      |
| Jan-09 (2009 base)    | 88,525                 | 60,520    | 28,000  | 4.1                     | 5.0   | 2.9     | 10.5         | 3.5   | 3.1      | 12.4           | 4.6   | 3.6      | 8.3              | 2.1   | 2.4      |
| Feb-09                | 100,600                | 68,695    | 31,900  | 4.6                     | 5.7   | 3.3     | 12.2         | 4.0   | 3.4      | 14.5           | 5.2   | 4.0      | 9.5              | 2.4   | 2.7      |
| Mar-09                | 107,975                | 73,610    | 34,350  | 5.0                     | 6.1   | 3.5     | 13.1         | 4.2   | 3.7      | 15.6           | 5.6   | 4.3      | 10.2             | 2.7   | 2.9      |
| Apr-09                | 111,955                | 76,040    | 35,920  | 5.1                     | 6.3   | 3.7     | 13.3         | 4.4   | 3.9      | 15.8           | 5.7   | 4.5      | 10.4             | 2.8   | 3.1      |
| May-09                | 114,370                | 77,355    | 37,005  | 5.3                     | 6.4   | 3.8     | 13.2         | 4.5   | 4.1      | 15.7           | 5.9   | 4.7      | 10.2             | 2.9   | 3.2      |
| Jun-09                | 114,295                | 77,195    | 37,110  | 5.3                     | 6.4   | 3.8     | 13.1         | 4.5   | 4.1      | 15.5           | 5.9   | 4.7      | 10.2             | 2.9   | 3.3      |
| Jul-09                | 116,940                | 78,260    | 38,665  | 5.4                     | 6.5   | 4.0     | 14.0         | 4.6   | 4.1      | 16.3           | 5.9   | 4.7      | 11.2             | 3.0   | 3.3      |
| <b>Greater London</b> |                        |           |         |                         |       |         |              |       |          |                |       |          |                  |       |          |
| Jul-08                | 133,140                | 91,530    | 41,610  | 3.6                     | 4.5   | 2.5     | 9.6          | 2.9   | 3.2      | 11.4           | 3.9   | 3.8      | 7.7              | 1.7   | 2.5      |
| Aug-08                | 138,205                | 93,955    | 44,260  | 3.8                     | 4.7   | 2.7     | 10.4         | 2.9   | 3.3      | 12.1           | 3.9   | 3.9      | 8.6              | 1.8   | 2.6      |
| Sep-08                | 142,255                | 96,695    | 45,565  | 3.9                     | 4.8   | 2.8     | 10.9         | 3.0   | 3.4      | 12.6           | 4.0   | 4.0      | 9.0              | 1.8   | 2.6      |
| Oct-08                | 144,115                | 98,185    | 45,930  | 3.9                     | 4.9   | 2.8     | 10.8         | 3.1   | 3.4      | 12.7           | 4.1   | 4.0      | 8.8              | 1.9   | 2.6      |
| Nov-08                | 150,500                | 103,420   | 47,100  | 4.1                     | 5.1   | 2.9     | 11.0         | 3.3   | 3.6      | 13.1           | 4.3   | 4.3      | 8.7              | 2.0   | 2.7      |
| Dec-08                | 159,355                | 110,165   | 49,190  | 4.4                     | 5.5   | 3.0     | 11.5         | 3.5   | 3.8      | 13.9           | 4.6   | 4.5      | 8.8              | 2.1   | 2.8      |
| Jan-09 (2008 base)    | 168,770                | 116,330   | 52,435  | 4.6                     | 5.8   | 3.2     | 11.8         | 3.7   | 4.1      | 14.3           | 4.9   | 4.8      | 9.0              | 2.3   | 3.1      |
| Jan-09 (2009 base)    | 168,770                | 116,330   | 52,435  | 4.6                     | 5.8   | 3.2     | 11.9         | 3.8   | 4.0      | 14.4           | 5.0   | 4.7      | 9.1              | 2.3   | 3.0      |
| Feb-09                | 189,310                | 130,100   | 59,220  | 5.2                     | 6.5   | 3.6     | 13.6         | 4.2   | 4.3      | 16.6           | 5.6   | 5.1      | 10.3             | 2.6   | 3.3      |
| Mar-09                | 201,640                | 138,180   | 63,445  | 5.5                     | 6.9   | 3.9     | 14.6         | 4.5   | 4.6      | 17.8           | 5.9   | 5.4      | 11.0             | 2.8   | 3.5      |
| Apr-09                | 208,735                | 142,465   | 66,280  | 5.7                     | 7.1   | 4.0     | 14.8         | 4.7   | 4.8      | 18.1           | 6.1   | 5.6      | 11.1             | 3.0   | 3.7      |
| May-09                | 213,650                | 145,130   | 68,515  | 5.8                     | 7.2   | 4.2     | 14.7         | 4.8   | 5.0      | 18.1           | 6.2   | 5.8      | 11.0             | 3.1   | 3.9      |
| Jun-09                | 214,055                | 145,245   | 68,820  | 5.8                     | 7.2   | 4.2     | 14.7         | 4.8   | 5.0      | 18.0           | 6.2   | 5.8      | 11.0             | 3.2   | 3.9      |
| Jul-09                | 218,680                | 147,125   | 71,550  | 6.0                     | 7.3   | 4.3     | 15.6         | 4.9   | 5.0      | 18.8           | 6.3   | 5.9      | 12.2             | 3.2   | 4.0      |
| <b>Great Britain</b>  |                        |           |         |                         |       |         |              |       |          |                |       |          |                  |       |          |
| Jul-08                | 840,595                | 609,455   | 231,140 | 3.1                     | 4.0   | 1.9     | 7.3          | 2.7   | 2.0      | 8.7            | 4.0   | 2.5      | 5.6              | 1.3   | 1.5      |
| Aug-08                | 891,830                | 642,860   | 248,970 | 3.3                     | 4.3   | 2.1     | 7.9          | 2.9   | 2.1      | 9.3            | 4.1   | 2.6      | 6.1              | 1.4   | 1.5      |
| Sep-08                | 911,965                | 659,530   | 252,435 | 3.4                     | 4.4   | 2.1     | 8.1          | 2.9   | 2.2      | 9.6            | 4.2   | 2.7      | 6.2              | 1.4   | 1.6      |
| Oct-08                | 936,940                | 682,865   | 254,080 | 3.5                     | 4.5   | 2.1     | 8.2          | 3.0   | 2.3      | 9.8            | 4.4   | 2.8      | 6.1              | 1.4   | 1.6      |
| Nov-08                | 1,019,545              | 754,485   | 265,060 | 3.8                     | 5.0   | 2.2     | 8.7          | 3.3   | 2.5      | 10.7           | 4.9   | 3.1      | 6.2              | 1.5   | 1.7      |
| Dec-08                | 1,114,135              | 834,240   | 279,900 | 4.1                     | 5.5   | 2.3     | 9.4          | 3.7   | 2.8      | 11.8           | 5.4   | 3.5      | 6.4              | 1.6   | 1.8      |
| Jan-09 (2008 base)    | 1,239,610              | 924,610   | 315,000 | 4.6                     | 6.1   | 2.6     | 10.2         | 4.1   | 3.1      | 12.8           | 6.0   | 3.9      | 7.0              | 1.9   | 2.1      |
| Jan-09 (2009 base)    | 1,239,610              | 924,610   | 315,000 | 4.5                     | 6.1   | 2.6     | 10.2         | 4.1   | 3.1      | 12.7           | 6.0   | 3.9      | 6.9              | 1.9   | 2.0      |
| Feb-09                | 1,412,360              | 1,050,195 | 362,160 | 5.2                     | 6.9   | 3.0     | 11.9         | 4.6   | 3.5      | 14.8           | 6.7   | 4.3      | 8.1              | 2.2   | 2.3      |
| Mar-09                | 1,473,655              | 1,095,145 | 378,510 | 5.4                     | 7.2   | 3.1     | 12.4         | 4.8   | 3.6      | 15.4           | 7.0   | 4.5      | 8.4              | 2.3   | 2.4      |
| Apr-09                | 1,506,420              | 1,116,615 | 389,805 | 5.5                     | 7.3   | 3.2     | 12.3         | 5.0   | 3.8      | 15.5           | 7.2   | 4.7      | 8.4              | 2.4   | 2.5      |
| May-09                | 1,512,440              | 1,119,200 | 393,240 | 5.5                     | 7.4   | 3.3     | 12.1         | 5.0   | 3.8      | 15.2           | 7.2   | 4.7      | 8.2              | 2.5   | 2.6      |
| Jun-09                | 1,499,520              | 1,106,145 | 393,370 | 5.5                     | 7.3   | 3.3     | 12.0         | 5.0   | 3.8      | 14.9           | 7.2   | 4.7      | 8.2              | 2.5   | 2.5      |
| Jul-09                | 1,516,900              | 1,108,315 | 408,585 | 5.6                     | 7.3   | 3.4     | 12.5         | 5.0   | 3.8      | 15.2           | 7.1   | 4.7      | 9.0              | 2.5   | 2.5      |

Source: Office for National Statistics (Jobcentre Plus administrative system) & GLA estimates

Notes:

1. Claimant count data presented here relate to computerised claims only - around 99% of all claims. Data are based on administrative counts of people in receipt of unemployment-related benefits (ie Jobseeker's Allowance and National Insurance credits).

2. Percentage rates are GLA estimates and express the claimant count as a percentage of the resident labour force (ie the economically active population). The labour force denominators used here exclude economically active full-time students.

**Table 7 Claimant rates, London boroughs, July 2008 to July 2009**

|                      | Jul-08 | Aug-08 | Sep-08 | Oct-08 | Nov-08 | Dec-08 | Jan-09<br>(2008 base) | Jan-09<br>(2009 base) | Feb-09 | Mar-09 | Apr-09 | May-09 | Jun-09 | Jul-09 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| City of London       | 1.8    | 1.8    | 1.9    | 1.8    | 1.8    | 2.0    | 2.1                   | 2.3                   | 2.5    | 2.8    | 3.0    | 3.0    | 3.1    | 3.0    |
| Barking & Dagenham   | 5.2    | 5.5    | 5.6    | 5.7    | 5.9    | 6.4    | 6.8                   | 6.9                   | 7.7    | 8.4    | 8.5    | 8.7    | 8.7    | 8.6    |
| Barnet               | 2.5    | 2.7    | 2.8    | 2.8    | 3.0    | 3.2    | 3.4                   | 3.4                   | 3.9    | 4.2    | 4.3    | 4.5    | 4.5    | 4.7    |
| Bexley               | 2.2    | 2.4    | 2.7    | 2.7    | 2.9    | 3.2    | 3.7                   | 3.7                   | 4.2    | 4.5    | 4.7    | 4.7    | 4.6    | 4.7    |
| Brent                | 4.6    | 4.8    | 4.8    | 4.8    | 5.0    | 5.2    | 5.5                   | 5.5                   | 6.1    | 6.5    | 6.7    | 6.9    | 7.0    | 7.2    |
| Bromley              | 2.2    | 2.3    | 2.4    | 2.5    | 2.7    | 2.9    | 3.3                   | 3.3                   | 3.8    | 4.0    | 4.2    | 4.2    | 4.1    | 4.2    |
| Camden               | 3.8    | 3.9    | 4.0    | 4.1    | 4.2    | 4.4    | 4.6                   | 4.7                   | 5.1    | 5.2    | 5.3    | 5.4    | 5.4    | 5.6    |
| Croydon              | 3.3    | 3.4    | 3.5    | 3.5    | 3.7    | 4.0    | 4.3                   | 4.2                   | 4.9    | 5.3    | 5.5    | 5.5    | 5.6    | 5.7    |
| Ealing               | 3.4    | 3.5    | 3.6    | 3.7    | 3.8    | 4.0    | 4.4                   | 4.4                   | 5.1    | 5.4    | 5.6    | 5.8    | 5.8    | 6.0    |
| Enfield              | 4.3    | 4.4    | 4.5    | 4.5    | 4.7    | 5.0    | 5.3                   | 5.3                   | 6.0    | 6.4    | 6.7    | 6.7    | 6.8    | 7.0    |
| Greenwich            | 4.1    | 4.4    | 4.9    | 4.9    | 4.9    | 5.3    | 5.7                   | 5.7                   | 6.3    | 6.6    | 6.9    | 7.0    | 6.7    | 6.9    |
| Hackney              | 6.7    | 7.1    | 7.2    | 7.2    | 7.3    | 7.5    | 7.6                   | 7.5                   | 8.3    | 8.8    | 9.2    | 9.6    | 9.5    | 9.7    |
| Hammersmith & Fulham | 3.5    | 3.6    | 3.7    | 3.7    | 3.9    | 4.1    | 4.3                   | 4.3                   | 4.8    | 5.1    | 5.4    | 5.5    | 5.5    | 5.7    |
| Haringey             | 5.9    | 6.0    | 6.1    | 6.1    | 6.4    | 6.6    | 6.9                   | 6.9                   | 7.6    | 8.1    | 8.2    | 8.2    | 8.4    | 8.5    |
| Harrow               | 2.2    | 2.3    | 2.4    | 2.5    | 2.7    | 2.9    | 3.1                   | 3.1                   | 3.6    | 3.9    | 4.0    | 4.1    | 4.1    | 4.3    |
| Havering             | 2.3    | 2.5    | 2.6    | 2.6    | 2.9    | 3.1    | 3.6                   | 3.6                   | 4.2    | 4.6    | 4.7    | 4.9    | 4.9    | 4.7    |
| Hillingdon           | 2.4    | 2.6    | 2.6    | 2.7    | 2.8    | 3.2    | 3.6                   | 3.5                   | 4.1    | 4.4    | 4.7    | 4.8    | 4.8    | 5.0    |
| Hounslow             | 2.5    | 2.6    | 2.7    | 2.8    | 2.9    | 3.2    | 3.5                   | 3.5                   | 4.0    | 4.3    | 4.5    | 4.6    | 4.6    | 4.8    |
| Islington            | 5.0    | 5.1    | 5.2    | 5.3    | 5.5    | 5.8    | 6.1                   | 5.9                   | 6.5    | 6.8    | 7.1    | 7.3    | 7.3    | 7.5    |
| Kensington & Chelsea | 2.6    | 2.6    | 2.7    | 2.7    | 2.9    | 3.0    | 3.2                   | 3.1                   | 3.5    | 3.7    | 3.9    | 4.0    | 3.9    | 4.0    |
| Kingston upon Thames | 1.4    | 1.6    | 1.6    | 1.7    | 1.8    | 2.0    | 2.1                   | 2.2                   | 2.6    | 2.9    | 3.0    | 3.2    | 3.1    | 3.3    |
| Lambeth              | 4.7    | 4.8    | 4.9    | 4.9    | 5.2    | 5.5    | 5.6                   | 5.6                   | 6.1    | 6.5    | 6.7    | 6.9    | 7.0    | 7.0    |
| Lewisham             | 4.3    | 4.4    | 4.6    | 4.6    | 4.8    | 5.1    | 5.3                   | 5.3                   | 6.0    | 6.3    | 6.6    | 6.7    | 6.8    | 6.9    |
| Merton               | 2.2    | 2.3    | 2.4    | 2.4    | 2.6    | 2.8    | 3.0                   | 2.9                   | 3.3    | 3.6    | 3.6    | 3.8    | 3.8    | 3.9    |
| Newham               | 6.5    | 6.8    | 6.9    | 6.8    | 7.0    | 7.1    | 7.3                   | 7.3                   | 8.0    | 8.5    | 8.7    | 9.0    | 9.1    | 9.3    |
| Redbridge            | 3.4    | 3.5    | 3.8    | 3.8    | 4.1    | 4.3    | 4.6                   | 4.6                   | 5.0    | 5.4    | 5.6    | 5.8    | 6.0    | 5.9    |
| Richmond upon Thames | 1.2    | 1.3    | 1.4    | 1.4    | 1.5    | 1.7    | 1.9                   | 1.9                   | 2.3    | 2.5    | 2.6    | 2.8    | 2.7    | 2.8    |
| Southwark            | 4.9    | 5.0    | 5.1    | 5.1    | 5.3    | 5.6    | 5.6                   | 5.7                   | 6.2    | 6.6    | 6.9    | 7.1    | 7.1    | 7.1    |
| Sutton               | 1.9    | 2.0    | 2.1    | 2.2    | 2.4    | 2.6    | 2.8                   | 2.8                   | 3.3    | 3.6    | 3.7    | 3.8    | 3.8    | 3.9    |
| Tower Hamlets        | 7.3    | 7.6    | 7.7    | 7.8    | 8.0    | 8.1    | 8.4                   | 8.3                   | 8.9    | 9.4    | 9.5    | 9.7    | 9.8    | 10.1   |
| Waltham Forest       | 5.3    | 5.5    | 5.7    | 5.9    | 6.0    | 6.3    | 6.5                   | 6.6                   | 7.3    | 7.7    | 7.9    | 8.2    | 8.2    | 8.2    |
| Wandsworth           | 2.4    | 2.5    | 2.5    | 2.5    | 2.7    | 2.9    | 3.0                   | 3.0                   | 3.4    | 3.7    | 3.8    | 4.0    | 3.9    | 4.0    |
| Westminster          | 2.8    | 2.9    | 3.0    | 3.0    | 3.1    | 3.3    | 3.5                   | 3.5                   | 3.9    | 4.1    | 4.2    | 4.3    | 4.4    | 4.4    |
| Inner London         | 4.6    | 4.7    | 4.8    | 4.8    | 5.0    | 5.2    | 5.4                   | 5.4                   | 6.0    | 6.3    | 6.5    | 6.7    | 6.7    | 6.8    |
| Outer London         | 3.0    | 3.2    | 3.3    | 3.3    | 3.5    | 3.8    | 4.1                   | 4.1                   | 4.6    | 5.0    | 5.1    | 5.3    | 5.3    | 5.4    |
| Greater London       | 3.6    | 3.8    | 3.9    | 3.9    | 4.1    | 4.4    | 4.6                   | 4.6                   | 5.2    | 5.5    | 5.7    | 5.8    | 5.8    | 6.0    |
| Great Britain        | 3.1    | 3.3    | 3.4    | 3.5    | 3.8    | 4.1    | 4.6                   | 4.5                   | 5.2    | 5.4    | 5.5    | 5.5    | 5.5    | 5.6    |

Source: Office for National Statistics (Jobcentre Plus administrative system) & GLA estimates

The GLA Data Management and Analysis Group (DMAG) produces its own labour-force based rates for London. These rates are designed to complement the official population-based rates already produced by ONS.

To produce these rates, DMAG maintains a spreadsheet-based model that generates monthly claimant count rates by age and gender for London boroughs and wards. In addition, the model summarises data on duration of claims. These data are made available via the GLA's dedicated data sharing web site (<https://extranet.london.gov.uk/>).

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