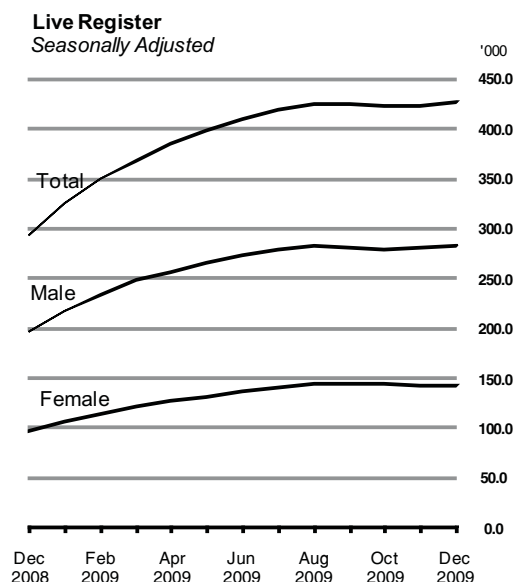




Live Register December 2009



	Live Register Total	Seasonally Adjusted
December 2008	290,018	293,000
November 2009	413,505	423,400
December 2009	423,595	426,700
Change in month	+ 10,090	+ 3,300
Change in year	+133,577	+133,700

Seasonally Adjusted Live Register rises to 426,700 in December

The seasonally adjusted Live Register total increased from 423,400 in November to 426,700 in December, an increase of 3,300. *See table 2a and graph opposite.*

In 2009 there was an unadjusted increase in the Live Register of 133,577 (+46.1%). This compares with an increase of 119,642 (+70.2%) in 2008.

There was an annual increase of 88,273 (+45.4%) in the number of males on the Live Register in 2009 and a corresponding increase of 45,304 (+47.5%) in the number of females.

Other features include:

- ◆ The monthly increase in the seasonally adjusted series consisted of an increase of 2,900 males and 500 females. *See table 2a.*
- ◆ The average net weekly increase in the seasonally adjusted series in December 2009 was 825, which compares with a weekly increase of 4,000 in December 2008. *See table 2a and background notes.*
- ◆ The standardised unemployment rate in December was 12.5%. This compares with 12.4% in the third quarter of 2009, the latest seasonally adjusted unemployment rate from the Quarterly National Household Survey. *See table 3 and background notes.*
- ◆ In the month, the estimated number of casual and part-time workers on the Live Register was 39,493 males and 34,506 females. *See background notes.*

The Live Register is not designed to measure unemployment. It includes part-time workers (those who work up to three days a week), seasonal and casual workers entitled to Jobseekers Benefit or Allowance. Unemployment is measured by the Quarterly National Household Survey and the latest seasonally adjusted figure, for July to September 2009, is 270,800 persons unemployed.

Additional Live Register tables for December 2009 will be available on Tuesday 12th January 2010.

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Table 1a Total persons on the Live Register¹

Category	December 2008	November 2009	December 2009		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	89,663	100,591	100,716	+	125	+	11,053
JA Applications	101,179	169,452	175,668	+	6,216	+	74,489
Other Registrants	3,739	6,050	6,470	+	420	+	2,731
Total	194,581	276,093	282,854	+	6,761	+	88,273
Females							
JB Claims	51,564	63,110	64,591	+	1,481	+	13,027
JA Applications	35,968	62,202	63,411	+	1,209	+	27,443
Other Registrants	7,905	12,100	12,739	+	639	+	4,834
Total	95,437	137,412	140,741	+	3,329	+	45,304
All Persons							
JB Claims	141,227	163,701	165,307	+	1,606	+	24,080
JA Applications	137,147	231,654	239,079	+	7,425	+	101,932
Other Registrants	11,644	18,150	19,209	+	1,059	+	7,565
Total	290,018	413,505	423,595	+	10,090	+	133,577

Table 1b Persons under 25 years of age on the Live Register¹

Category	December 2008	November 2009	December 2009		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	15,787	11,445	11,464	+	19	-	4,323
JA Applications	25,384	41,921	43,210	+	1,289	+	17,826
Other Registrants	94	116	131	+	15	+	37
Total	41,265	53,482	54,805	+	1,323	+	13,540
Females							
JB Claims	6,749	6,772	6,463	-	309	-	286
JA Applications	13,882	22,901	22,914	+	13	+	9,032
Other Registrants	102	207	216	+	9	+	114
Total	20,733	29,880	29,593	-	287	+	8,860
All Persons							
JB Claims	22,536	18,217	17,927	-	290	-	4,609
JA Applications	39,266	64,822	66,124	+	1,302	+	26,858
Other Registrants	196	323	347	+	24	+	151
Total	61,998	83,362	84,398	+	1,036	+	22,400

Table 1c Persons 25 years of age and over on the Live Register¹

Category	December 2008	November 2009	December 2009		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	73,876	89,146	89,252	+	106	+	15,376
JA Applications	75,795	127,531	132,458	+	4,927	+	56,663
Other Registrants	3,645	5,934	6,339	+	405	+	2,694
Total	153,316	222,611	228,049	+	5,438	+	74,733
Females							
JB Claims	44,815	56,338	58,128	+	1,790	+	13,313
JA Applications	22,086	39,301	40,497	+	1,196	+	18,411
Other Registrants	7,803	11,893	12,523	+	630	+	4,720
Total	74,704	107,532	111,148	+	3,616	+	36,444
All Persons							
JB Claims	118,691	145,484	147,380	+	1,896	+	28,689
JA Applications	97,881	166,832	172,955	+	6,123	+	75,074
Other Registrants	11,448	17,827	18,862	+	1,035	+	7,414
Total	228,020	330,143	339,197	+	9,054	+	111,177

¹ Series has been revised from October 2008 (see Background Notes).

Table 2a Total persons on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted

	Month	Unadjusted Series ¹			Seasonally Adjusted Series ²		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2007	December	106,700	63,700	170,400	107,700	65,600	173,200
2008	January	116,200	65,300	181,400	112,800	66,500	179,400
	February	122,500	67,000	189,500	118,700	67,600	186,300
	March	127,000	71,000	198,000	124,800	73,200	198,000
	April	127,600	68,000	195,600	127,000	71,500	198,500
	May	130,700	71,100	201,800	131,700	74,300	205,900
	June	139,900	80,900	220,800	138,500	76,600	215,100
	July	148,000	90,300	238,200	145,500	80,300	225,800
	August	155,300	92,100	247,400	153,400	82,600	235,900
	September	156,100	84,200	240,200	159,600	86,200	245,800
	October	164,700	85,900	250,700	170,400	90,300	260,600
	November	178,500	88,700	267,200	183,400	93,600	277,000
	December	194,600	95,400	290,000	195,600	97,400	293,000
2009	January	220,400	105,900	326,300	217,000	107,100	324,200
	February	238,200	114,300	352,500	234,300	114,800	349,000
	March	250,500	118,700	369,200	248,100	120,900	369,000
	April	257,800	124,000	381,900	257,200	127,500	384,600
	May	265,500	128,700	394,100	266,500	131,700	398,200
	June	275,400	140,000	415,500	274,000	135,700	409,700
	July	281,300	151,100	432,400	278,900	141,100	420,000
	August	284,200	152,600	436,700	282,300	143,100	425,300
	September	278,000	141,900	419,900	281,600	143,900	425,500
	October	273,600	138,800	412,400	279,300	143,200	422,500
	November	276,100	137,400	413,500	281,000	142,300	423,400
	December	282,900	140,700	423,600	283,900	142,800	426,700

¹ Series has been revised from October 2008.² Based on revised seasonal patterns up to June 2009 (see Background Notes).**Table 2b Persons under 25 years of age on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted**

	Month	Unadjusted Series ¹			Seasonally Adjusted Series ²		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2007	December	21,200	12,100	33,300	22,000	13,500	35,500
2008	January	23,800	13,200	36,900	23,200	13,500	36,700
	February	25,500	13,900	39,500	24,700	14,100	38,800
	March	26,600	14,200	40,800	26,100	14,700	40,800
	April	26,700	14,300	41,000	26,800	15,100	41,900
	May	27,400	15,300	42,700	27,900	15,900	43,800
	June	30,300	17,900	48,200	29,600	16,600	46,300
	July	32,400	19,900	52,300	31,400	17,900	49,300
	August	34,300	20,800	55,000	33,300	18,700	52,000
	September	34,000	19,700	53,700	34,500	19,300	53,800
	October	35,100	19,200	54,200	36,400	19,900	56,300
	November	37,700	19,900	57,600	39,000	21,100	60,200
	December	41,300	20,700	62,000	42,100	22,100	64,200
2009	January	46,400	23,900	70,300	45,800	24,200	70,000
	February	49,700	25,900	75,600	48,800	26,100	74,900
	March	52,500	26,800	79,300	52,000	27,300	79,200
	April	52,900	27,400	80,300	52,900	28,200	81,100
	May	54,400	29,500	83,900	54,800	30,100	84,900
	June	57,900	33,200	91,100	57,200	31,900	89,100
	July	59,300	35,400	94,600	58,300	33,400	91,700
	August	59,400	35,600	95,000	58,400	33,500	92,000
	September	56,700	33,100	89,800	57,200	32,800	90,000
	October	54,100	30,800	84,900	55,500	31,600	87,100
	November	53,500	29,900	83,400	54,800	31,100	85,900
	December	54,800	29,600	84,400	55,700	31,000	86,700

¹ Series has been revised from October 2008.² Based on revised seasonal patterns up to June 2009 (see Background Notes).

Table 2c Persons 25 years of age and over on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted

	Month	Unadjusted Series ¹			Seasonally Adjusted Series ²		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2007	December	85,500	51,600	137,100	85,600	52,100	137,700
2008	January	92,400	52,100	144,500	89,700	53,000	142,700
	February	97,000	53,000	150,000	94,100	53,400	147,500
	March	100,400	56,700	157,200	98,700	58,500	157,200
	April	100,800	53,800	154,600	100,200	56,400	156,600
	May	103,200	55,800	159,000	103,800	58,400	162,100
	June	109,700	63,000	172,600	108,900	60,000	168,900
	July	115,500	70,400	185,900	114,000	62,400	176,500
	August	121,100	71,300	192,300	120,000	63,900	183,900
	September	122,100	64,500	186,600	125,100	66,800	191,900
	October	129,700	66,800	196,400	133,900	70,400	204,300
	November	140,800	68,800	209,600	144,300	72,500	216,800
	December	153,300	74,700	228,000	153,500	75,300	228,800
2009	January	174,000	82,000	256,000	171,200	82,900	254,200
	February	188,500	88,400	276,900	185,500	88,700	274,100
	March	198,000	91,900	289,900	196,100	93,600	289,700
	April	205,000	96,600	301,600	204,300	99,200	303,500
	May	211,100	99,200	310,300	211,600	101,700	313,300
	June	217,500	106,800	324,400	216,800	103,800	320,600
	July	222,000	115,700	337,800	220,600	107,700	328,300
	August	224,800	116,900	341,800	223,800	109,600	333,400
	September	221,300	108,700	330,000	224,400	111,100	335,600
	October	219,500	108,000	327,500	223,800	111,600	335,500
	November	222,600	107,500	330,100	226,200	111,200	337,400
	December	228,000	111,100	339,200	228,200	111,800	340,100

¹ Series has been revised from October 2008.

² Based on revised seasonal patterns up to June 2009 (see Background Notes).

Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rates (SUR)¹

Month	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%
January	-	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.8	9.4
February ²	4.8	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.9	10.1
March	4.7	4.3	4.4	4.4	5.2	10.7
April	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.5	5.3	11.2
May ²	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.5	5.5	11.6
June	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.5	5.9	12.0
July	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.5	6.4	12.3
August ²	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.5	6.8	12.4 ³
September	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.6	7.2	12.4
October	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.7	7.6	12.3
November ²	4.6	4.3	4.3	4.8	8.1	12.4
December	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.8	8.5	12.5
Annual average	-	4.4	4.4	4.6	6.4	11.6

¹ Table contains revised figures.

² Benchmark Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) revised calendar quarter estimates from February 2004.

³ The latest QNHS estimate of the unemployment rate (adjusted for seasonality) is: July-September 2009, 12.4%.

Table 4 Summary of average net weekly changes on the Live Register classified by sex¹

		Number of weeks	Males		Females		Total	
			Live Register	Average ² net weekly change	Live Register	Average ² net weekly change	Live Register	Average ² net weekly change
2007	December	4	106,698	+ 1,320	63,678	+ 844	170,376	+ 2,164
2008	January	4	116,160	+ 2,366	65,289	+ 403	181,449	+ 2,768
	February	5	122,520	+ 1,272	66,965	+ 335	189,485	+ 1,607
	March	4	127,020	+ 1,125	70,972	+ 1,002	197,992	+ 2,127
	April	4	127,551	+ 133	68,047	- 731	195,598	- 599
	May	5	130,674	+ 625	71,082	+ 607	201,756	+ 1,232
	June	4	139,936	+ 2,316	80,875	+ 2,448	220,811	+ 4,764
	July	4	147,954	+ 2,005	90,286	+ 2,353	238,240	+ 4,357
	August	5	155,319	+ 1,473	92,065	+ 356	247,384	+ 1,829
	September	4	156,055	+ 184	84,162	- 1,976	240,217	- 1,792
	October	5	164,734	+ 1,736	85,946	+ 357	250,680	+ 2,093
	November	4	178,499	+ 3,441	88,690	+ 686	267,189	+ 4,127
	December	4	194,581	+ 4,021	95,437	+ 1,687	290,018	+ 5,707
2009	January	5	220,412	+ 5,166	105,860	+ 2,085	326,272	+ 7,251
	February	4	238,200	+ 4,447	114,253	+ 2,098	352,453	+ 6,545
	March	4	250,485	+ 3,071	118,718	+ 1,116	369,203	+ 4,188
	April	4	257,835	+ 1,838	124,041	+ 1,331	381,876	+ 3,168
	May	5	265,473	+ 1,528	128,661	+ 924	394,134	+ 2,452
	June	4	275,435	+ 2,491	140,027	+ 2,842	415,462	+ 5,332
	July	5	281,337	+ 1,180	151,084	+ 2,211	432,421	+ 3,392
	August	4	284,172	+ 709	152,553	+ 367	436,725	+ 1,076
	September	4	278,003	- 1,542	141,851	- 2,676	419,854	- 4,218
	October	5	273,595	- 882	138,812	- 608	412,407	- 1,489
	November	4	276,093	+ 625	137,412	- 350	413,505	+ 275
	December	4	282,854	+ 1,690	140,741	+ 832	423,595	+ 2,523

¹ Series has been revised from October 2008 (see Background Notes).² Average net weekly changes are calculated by dividing the total monthly change by the number of weeks in the reference month.

Background Notes

Source and scope of the Live Register The Live Register is compiled from returns made for each local office to the Central Statistics Office by the Department of Social and Family Affairs. It comprises persons under 65 years of age in the following classes:

- ◆ All Claimants for Jobseekers Benefit (JB) excluding systematic short-time workers
- ◆ Applicants for Jobseekers Allowance (JA) excluding smallholders/farm assists and other self-employed persons
- ◆ Other registrants including applicants for credited Social Welfare contributions but excluding those directly involved in an industrial dispute.

Reference Period The reference periods for the Live Register results are as follows:
December 2009 – 28th November to 25th December 2009
December 2008 – 29th November to 26th December 2008

Descriptive articles The compilation basis for the Live Register statistics from May 1992 onwards is described in the September 1992 issue of the *Statistical Bulletin*. The March 1980 issue contained a description of the basis used up to April 1992 while a more comprehensive treatment of Live Register statistics appeared in the “Report of the Inter-Departmental Study Group on Unemployment Statistics” (Stationery Office Dublin, Prl.7925, April 1979). The results of a special study of the differences between the Labour Force Survey (LFS) Estimates of Unemployment and the Live Register are contained in the December 1996 issue of the *Statistical Bulletin*.

Unemployment statistics The Live Register is not designed to measure unemployment. It includes part-time (those who work up to three days a week), seasonal and casual workers entitled to Jobseekers Allowance or Jobseekers Benefit. **Unemployment is measured by the Quarterly National Household Survey** (formerly the Annual Labour Force Survey).

Standardised unemployment rates The Standardised Unemployment Rate (SUR) series in Table 3 is based on the estimated number of persons unemployed expressed as a percentage of the total economically active population (i.e. the Labour Force), using internationally comparable definitions of employment and unemployment, as recommended by the International Labour Office. Benchmark estimates of the SUR for February, May, August and November of each year are calculated using seasonally adjusted data from the Quarterly National Household Survey. The monthly trend in the seasonally adjusted Live Register is then used to estimate the monthly SUR between successive surveys.

This approach was temporarily suspended following the rapid decline in the Live Register after September 1996. A linear interpolation estimation approach was used between April 1996 and April 1997, as the Live Register series could not be used as an indicator of monthly trends in unemployment during that period. The traditional estimation approach has been used from April 1997 onwards.

QNHS The Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS), which began in September 1997, replaced the Labour Force Survey and provides quarterly estimates of the unemployment rate. Up to and including the fourth quarter of 2008 the QNHS operated on a seasonal quarter basis. As of the first quarter 2009 the QNHS is now undertaken on a calendar quarter basis.

The calendar reference quarters for survey results are:

Q1 - January to March, Q2 - April to June, Q3 - July to September and Q4 - October to December.

The calendar quarter estimates for Q3 2009 (adjusted for seasonality) are:

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	%	%	%	%
2004	4.8	4.4	4.3	4.6
2005	4.1	4.5	4.5	4.3
2006	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.3
2007	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.8
2008	4.9	5.5	6.8	8.1
2009	10.1	11.6	12.4	

Seasonal adjustment The seasonal adjustment of the Live Register is completed using the X-11 Variant of the US Bureau of Census Method 2 (Additive Option). The seasonally adjusted series are updated twice yearly, in January and July; pending the next updating, seasonal adjustment for intervening months is carried out using projected seasonal factors. In Tables 2a, b and c, the seasonally adjusted totals are the sum of the relevant seasonally adjusted series for males and females, under and over 25 years.

Casual and part-time workers The casual and part-time workers' figure is based on an estimate supplied by the Department of Social and Family Affairs. People may apply for Jobseekers Benefit/Allowance if they only work for part of a week and be included on the Live Register.

Live Register revision New collection methods employed by the Department of Social & Family Affairs (DSFA) for the compilation of the Live Register have permitted more accurate reporting of the number of persons on the live register. Specifically these changes allow the identification of individuals who should not previously have been included in the Live Register count but could not be separately identified and excluded under existing arrangements. The changes relate to the following schemes:

Temporarily working - claims for Jobseeker Benefit (JB) and Jobseeker Allowance (JA) which are suspended for the reason that the customer is "temporarily working" are excluded from the live register since participants are engaged in employment.

Short Term Enterprise Allowance scheme (STEA) - this new employment support measure was introduced from the 1st May 2009. While it is part of the DSFA Back to Work Enterprise Allowance programme (participants are engaged in self-employment) it is contingent on qualifying for JB and it is currently recorded and paid on the JB system. Since participants on this scheme are engaged in self-employment they are excluded from the Live Register.

Work Placement Programme (WPP) - this new employment support measure was introduced from the 1st August 2009 (participants are placed on a new 6 month Work Placement Programme). The scheme is administered by FAS, but participants continue to receive their existing social welfare entitlements from DSFA for their duration on the programme. Since participants on this scheme are engaged in employment they are excluded from the Live Register.

In order to facilitate consistent analysis of the Live Register series all data has been revised from October 2008 to September 2009 to exclude the categories listed above. As such annual and monthly change figures presented in this release are on a consistent basis. These revisions are reflected in revised tables both in the release and on the CSO databank. A summary table indicating the size of the revisions for each of the 12 months at state level can be found below. The total level of revision is less than 1 percent of the state total on the Live Register. Seasonally adjusted figures and the standardised unemployment rate (SUR) have also been updated to take account of these revisions. However, in the case of the SUR it can be noted that no revisions to published monthly SUR figures are necessary as a result. For further queries on these changes please contact the CSO.

Table A Overall revisions to Live Register totals, October 2008 to September 2009

Month	Total Male	Total Female	Total Live Register
Oct-08	-604	-667	-1,271
Nov-08	-690	-707	-1,397
Dec-08	-750	-595	-1,345
Jan-09	-893	-696	-1,589
Feb-09	-1,109	-875	-1,984
Mar-09	-1,174	-894	-2,068
Apr-09	-1,456	-1,116	-2,572
May-09	-1,592	-1,145	-2,737
Jun-09	-1,932	-1,198	-3,130
Jul-09	-2,033	-1,281	-3,314
Aug-09	-2,103	-1,228	-3,331
Sep-09	-2,381	-1,404	-3,785