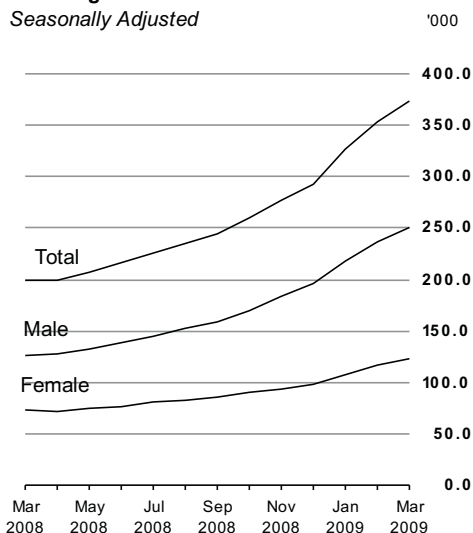




Live Register

Seasonally Adjusted



Live Register

March 2009

	Live Register Total	Seasonally Adjusted
March 2008	197,992	199,500
February 2009	354,437	352,800
March 2009	371,271	372,800
Change in month	+ 16,834	+ 20,000
Change in year	+173,279	+173,300

Standardised unemployment rate rises to 11.0% in March

The seasonally adjusted Live Register total increased from 352,800 in February to 372,800 in March, an increase of 20,000. *See table 2a and graph opposite.*

In the year to March 2009, there was an unadjusted increase of 173,279 (+87.5%). This compares with an unadjusted increase of 164,952 (+87.1%) in the year to February 2009.

Other features include:

- ◆ The monthly increase in the seasonally adjusted series consisted of an increase of 13,900 males and an increase of 6,000 females. *See table 2a.*
- ◆ The standardised unemployment rate in March was 11.0%. This compares with 7.7% in the fourth quarter of 2008, 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 31,384 males and 28,449 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 September to November 2008, is 170,700 persons unemployed.

Additional Live Register tables for March 2009 will be available on Friday 3rd April 2009.

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Table 1a Total persons on the Live Register

Category	March 2008	February 2009	March 2009		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	51,090	116,474	122,990	+	6,516	+	71,900
JA Applications	73,047	118,994	124,775	+	5,781	+	51,728
Other Registrants	2,883	3,841	3,894	+	53	+	1,011
Total	127,020	239,309	251,659	+	12,350	+	124,639
Females							
JB Claims	37,908	64,216	66,460	+	2,244	+	28,552
JA Applications	26,276	42,711	44,794	+	2,083	+	18,518
Other Registrants	6,788	8,201	8,358	+	157	+	1,570
Total	70,972	115,128	119,612	+	4,484	+	48,640
All Persons							
JB Claims	88,998	180,690	189,450	+	8,760	+	100,452
JA Applications	99,323	161,705	169,569	+	7,864	+	70,246
Other Registrants	9,671	12,042	12,252	+	210	+	2,581
Total	197,992	354,437	371,271	+	16,834	+	173,279

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

Category	March 2008	February 2009	March 2009		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	9,237	18,875	19,897	+	1,022	+	10,660
JA Applications	17,300	30,948	32,698	+	1,750	+	15,398
Other Registrants	53	107	105	-	2	+	52
Total	26,590	49,930	52,700	+	2,770	+	26,110
Females							
JB Claims	4,388	9,033	9,157	+	124	+	4,769
JA Applications	9,750	16,891	17,685	+	794	+	7,935
Other Registrants	95	133	135	+	2	+	40
Total	14,233	26,057	26,977	+	920	+	12,744
All Persons							
JB Claims	13,625	27,908	29,054	+	1,146	+	15,429
JA Applications	27,050	47,839	50,383	+	2,544	+	23,333
Other Registrants	148	240	240	+	0	+	92
Total	40,823	75,987	79,677	+	3,690	+	38,854

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

Category	March 2008	February 2009	March 2009		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	41,853	97,599	103,093	+	5,494	+	61,240
JA Applications	55,747	88,046	92,077	+	4,031	+	36,330
Other Registrants	2,830	3,734	3,789	+	55	+	959
Total	100,430	189,379	198,959	+	9,580	+	98,529
Females							
JB Claims	33,520	55,183	57,303	+	2,120	+	23,783
JA Applications	16,526	25,820	27,109	+	1,289	+	10,583
Other Registrants	6,693	8,068	8,223	+	155	+	1,530
Total	56,739	89,071	92,635	+	3,564	+	35,896
All Persons							
JB Claims	75,373	152,782	160,396	+	7,614	+	85,023
JA Applications	72,273	113,866	119,186	+	5,320	+	46,913
Other Registrants	9,523	11,802	12,012	+	210	+	2,489
Total	157,169	278,450	291,594	+	13,144	+	134,425

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

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2007	March	94,800	61,100	155,900	93,700	63,700	157,400
	April	94,100	60,200	154,300	94,700	63,900	158,600
	May	93,800	60,200	154,000	95,400	63,900	159,300
	June	98,000	68,400	166,400	97,000	64,600	161,500
	July	100,600	74,000	174,600	98,000	64,000	162,000
	August	101,600	72,600	174,200	98,900	63,100	162,100
	September	98,000	62,600	160,700	100,500	64,200	164,700
	October	97,100	60,300	157,400	101,700	63,900	165,600
	November	101,400	60,300	161,700	105,200	64,700	169,900
	December	106,700	63,700	170,400	106,800	65,200	172,100
2008	January	116,200	65,300	181,400	113,200	66,400	179,600
	February	122,500	67,000	189,500	119,800	68,000	187,800
	March	127,000	71,000	198,000	125,900	73,600	199,500
	April	127,600	68,000	195,600	128,100	71,700	199,800
	May	130,700	71,100	201,800	132,200	74,800	207,000
	June	139,900	80,900	220,800	138,900	76,900	215,800
	July	148,000	90,300	238,200	145,300	80,300	225,600
	August	155,300	92,100	247,400	152,600	82,600	235,200
	September	156,100	84,200	240,200	158,500	85,800	244,400
	October	165,300	86,600	252,000	170,000	90,200	260,300
	November	179,200	89,400	268,600	183,000	93,700	276,700
	December	195,300	96,000	291,400	195,500	97,600	293,100
2009	January	221,300	106,600	327,900	218,400	107,700	326,100
	February	239,300	115,100	354,400	236,600	116,200	352,800
	March	251,700	119,600	371,300	250,500	122,200	372,800

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2008 (See Background Notes).**Table 2b Persons under 25 years of age on the Live Register - Unadjusted and Seasonally Adjusted**

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2007	March	18,600	12,200	30,800	18,300	12,700	31,000
	April	18,500	12,000	30,500	18,700	12,900	31,600
	May	18,400	12,200	30,600	18,800	12,900	31,700
	June	19,800	14,100	33,900	19,300	13,100	32,400
	July	20,600	14,800	35,300	19,600	12,800	32,400
	August	20,900	14,900	35,800	19,900	12,800	32,700
	September	19,900	13,400	33,200	20,200	13,000	33,200
	October	19,400	12,500	31,800	20,500	13,100	33,600
	November	20,200	12,100	32,200	21,300	13,200	34,500
	December	21,200	12,100	33,300	21,800	13,300	35,200
2008	January	23,800	13,200	36,900	23,300	13,500	36,800
	February	25,500	13,900	39,500	24,900	14,200	39,100
	March	26,600	14,200	40,800	26,300	14,700	41,000
	April	26,700	14,300	41,000	26,900	15,100	42,000
	May	27,400	15,300	42,700	27,900	16,000	43,900
	June	30,300	17,900	48,200	29,800	16,900	46,700
	July	32,400	19,900	52,300	31,400	17,900	49,400
	August	34,300	20,800	55,000	33,200	18,700	51,900
	September	34,000	19,700	53,700	34,300	19,300	53,600
	October	35,200	19,300	54,500	36,400	20,000	56,300
	November	37,900	20,100	57,900	39,000	21,200	60,200
	December	41,400	20,900	62,300	42,100	22,100	64,200
2009	January	46,500	24,100	70,600	46,100	24,400	70,400
	February	49,900	26,100	76,000	49,300	26,300	75,600
	March	52,700	27,000	79,700	52,400	27,500	79,900

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2008 (See Background Notes).

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

	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2007	March	76,200	48,900	125,100	75,400	51,000	126,300
	April	75,600	48,200	123,800	76,000	51,000	127,000
	May	75,500	48,000	123,400	76,600	51,000	127,600
	June	78,200	54,300	132,500	77,700	51,500	129,200
	July	80,100	59,200	139,300	78,400	51,200	129,600
	August	80,700	57,700	138,400	79,100	50,300	129,400
	September	78,200	49,200	127,400	80,300	51,200	131,500
	October	77,800	47,800	125,600	81,200	50,800	132,000
	November	81,300	48,200	129,500	83,900	51,500	135,400
	December	85,500	51,600	137,100	85,000	51,900	136,900
2008	January	92,400	52,100	144,500	90,000	52,900	142,900
	February	97,000	53,000	150,000	94,800	53,900	148,700
	March	100,400	56,700	157,200	99,600	58,900	158,500
	April	100,800	53,800	154,600	101,200	56,600	157,800
	May	103,200	55,800	159,000	104,300	58,800	163,200
	June	109,700	63,000	172,600	109,100	60,100	169,200
	July	115,500	70,400	185,900	113,900	62,400	176,200
	August	121,100	71,300	192,300	119,400	63,900	183,300
	September	122,100	64,500	186,600	124,200	66,500	190,700
	October	130,100	67,300	197,400	133,700	70,300	204,000
	November	141,300	69,300	210,700	144,000	72,600	216,600
	December	153,900	75,200	229,100	153,400	75,500	228,900
2009	January	174,800	82,500	257,300	172,300	83,300	255,700
	February	189,400	89,100	278,500	187,200	89,900	277,200
	March	199,000	92,600	291,600	198,100	94,800	292,900

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to December 2008 (See Background Notes).

Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rates (SUR)

Month	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
January ¹	4.8	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.8	9.6
February	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.6	5.0	10.4
March	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.4	4.6	5.3	11.0
April ¹	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.7	5.4	
May	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.6	5.7	
June	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.6	4.5	6.1	
July ¹	4.8	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	6.4	
August	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.4	6.9	
September	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.5	7.2	
October ¹	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.5	7.7 ²	
November	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.6	8.1	
December	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.6	8.6	
Annual average	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.6	6.4	

¹ Benchmark Labour Force Survey/Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) estimates.

² The latest QNHS estimate of the unemployment rate (adjusted for seasonality) is: September-November 2008, 7.7%.

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

		Males		Females		Total	
Number of weeks		Live Register	Average ¹ net weekly change	Live Register	Average ¹ net weekly change	Live Register	Average ¹ net weekly change
2007	March	5	94,790 - 170	61,079 - 536		155,869 - 706	
	April	4	94,122 - 167	60,197 - 221		154,319 - 388	
	May	4	93,827 - 74	60,183 - 4		154,010 - 77	
	June	5	97,962 + 827	68,401 + 1,644		166,363 + 2,471	
	July	4	100,643 + 670	73,950 + 1,387		174,593 + 2,058	
	August	5	101,592 + 190	72,614 - 267		174,206 - 77	
	September	4	98,015 - 894	62,637 - 2,494		160,652 - 3,389	
	October	4	97,124 - 223	60,325 - 578		157,449 - 801	
	November	5	101,418 + 859	60,304 - 4		161,722 + 855	
	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	165,338 + 1,857	86,613 + 490		251,951 + 2,347	
	November	4	179,189 + 3,463	89,397 + 696		268,586 + 4,159	
	December	4	195,331 + 4,036	96,032 + 1,659		291,363 + 5,694	
2009	January	5	221,305 + 5,195	106,556 + 2,105		327,861 + 7,300	
	February	4	239,309 + 4,501	115,128 + 2,143		354,437 + 6,644	
	March	4	251,659 + 3,088	119,612 + 1,121		371,271 + 4,209	

¹ 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:
 March 2009 - 28th February 2009 to 27th March 2009
 March 2008 - 1st March 2008 to 28th March 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 January, April, July and October 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, which began in September 1997, has now replaced the Labour Force Survey and provides quarterly estimates of the unemployment rate. The estimates (adjusted for seasonality) are:

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	%	%	%	%
1998	8.7	8.0	7.2	6.5
1999	5.9	5.9	5.4	5.1
2000	4.8	4.4	4.0	3.9
2001	3.7	3.8	4.0	4.0
2002	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.6
2003	4.8	4.5	4.8	4.6
2004	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.4
2005	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5
2006	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.3
2007	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.5
2008	4.8	5.4	6.4	7.7

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.