

Table 1a Total persons on the Live Register¹

Category	February 2009	January 2010	February 2010	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
JB Claims	115,595	101,677	97,189	- 4,488	- 18,406
JA Applications	118,769	183,178	186,452	+ 3,274	+ 67,683
Other Registrants	3,836	6,793	7,226	+ 433	+ 3,390
Total	238,200	291,648	290,867	- 781	+ 52,667
Females					
JB Claims	63,537	66,171	65,364	- 807	+ 1,827
JA Applications	42,530	65,958	66,947	+ 989	+ 24,417
Other Registrants	8,186	13,159	13,778	+ 619	+ 5,592
Total	114,253	145,288	146,089	+ 801	+ 31,836
All Persons					
JB Claims	179,132	167,848	162,553	- 5,295	- 16,579
JA Applications	161,299	249,136	253,399	+ 4,263	+ 92,100
Other Registrants	12,022	19,952	21,004	+ 1,052	+ 8,982
Total	352,453	436,936	436,956	+ 20	+ 84,503

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

Category	February 2009	January 2010	February 2010	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
JB Claims	18,721	11,322	10,713	- 609	- 8,008
JA Applications	30,880	43,758	43,748	- 10	+ 12,868
Other Registrants	107	138	150	+ 12	+ 43
Total	49,708	55,218	54,611	- 607	+ 4,903
Females					
JB Claims	8,935	6,903	6,743	- 160	- 2,192
JA Applications	16,825	23,566	23,528	- 38	+ 6,703
Other Registrants	133	223	238	+ 15	+ 105
Total	25,893	30,692	30,509	- 183	+ 4,616
All Persons					
JB Claims	27,656	18,225	17,456	- 769	- 10,200
JA Applications	47,705	67,324	67,276	- 48	+ 19,571
Other Registrants	240	361	388	+ 27	+ 148
Total	75,601	85,910	85,120	- 790	+ 9,519

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

Category	February 2009	January 2010	February 2010	Monthly change	Annual change
Males					
JB Claims	96,874	90,355	86,476	- 3,879	- 10,398
JA Applications	87,889	139,420	142,704	+ 3,284	+ 54,815
Other Registrants	3,729	6,655	7,076	+ 421	+ 3,347
Total	188,492	236,430	236,256	- 174	+ 47,764
Females					
JB Claims	54,602	59,268	58,621	- 647	+ 4,019
JA Applications	25,705	42,392	43,419	+ 1,027	+ 17,714
Other Registrants	8,053	12,936	13,540	+ 604	+ 5,487
Total	88,360	114,596	115,580	+ 984	+ 27,220
All Persons					
JB Claims	151,476	149,623	145,097	- 4,526	- 6,379
JA Applications	113,594	181,812	186,123	+ 4,311	+ 72,529
Other Registrants	11,782	19,591	20,616	+ 1,025	+ 8,834
Total	276,852	351,026	351,836	+ 810	+ 74,984

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
2008	February	122,500	67,000	189,500	118,100	67,500	185,600
	March	127,000	71,000	198,000	123,700	72,900	196,700
	April	127,600	68,000	195,600	125,300	70,900	196,100
	May	130,700	71,100	201,800	130,000	73,700	203,700
	June	139,900	80,900	220,800	137,300	76,100	213,400
	July	148,000	90,300	238,200	145,200	79,800	225,000
	August	155,300	92,100	247,400	153,800	82,800	236,600
	September	156,100	84,200	240,200	161,000	86,300	247,400
	October	164,700	85,900	250,700	172,600	90,700	263,300
	November	178,500	88,700	267,200	185,500	94,500	280,000
	December	194,600	95,400	290,000	197,000	98,000	295,100
	2009	January	220,400	105,900	326,300	216,700	107,400
February		238,200	114,300	352,500	233,400	114,700	348,100
March		250,500	118,700	369,200	246,800	120,500	367,400
April		257,800	124,000	381,900	255,100	126,800	381,900
May		265,500	128,700	394,100	264,500	131,100	395,600
June		275,400	140,000	415,500	272,600	135,100	407,700
July		281,300	151,100	432,400	278,600	140,500	419,100
August		284,200	152,600	436,700	282,800	143,400	426,200
September		278,000	141,900	419,900	283,300	144,100	427,400
October		273,600	138,800	412,400	281,800	143,600	425,400
November		276,100	137,400	413,500	283,300	143,400	426,800
December		282,900	140,700	423,600	285,500	143,400	428,900
2010	January	291,600	145,300	436,900	287,900	146,800	434,700
	February	290,900	146,100	437,000	285,900	146,500	432,400

¹ Series has been revised from October 2008.² Based on revised seasonal patterns up to December 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
2008	February	25,500	13,900	39,500	24,600	14,200	38,800
	March	26,600	14,200	40,800	25,900	14,700	40,600
	April	26,700	14,300	41,000	26,500	15,000	41,500
	May	27,400	15,300	42,700	27,600	15,800	43,400
	June	30,300	17,900	48,200	29,400	16,500	45,900
	July	32,400	19,900	52,300	31,200	17,700	48,900
	August	34,300	20,800	55,000	33,300	18,600	51,900
	September	34,000	19,700	53,700	34,900	19,400	54,200
	October	35,100	19,200	54,200	36,900	20,100	57,000
	November	37,700	19,900	57,600	39,500	21,400	60,900
	December	41,300	20,700	62,000	42,400	22,200	64,600
	2009	January	46,400	23,900	70,300	45,800	24,400
February		49,700	25,900	75,600	48,700	26,200	74,800
March		52,500	26,800	79,300	51,800	27,200	79,000
April		52,900	27,400	80,300	52,600	28,100	80,700
May		54,400	29,500	83,900	54,500	29,900	84,500
June		57,900	33,200	91,100	56,900	31,700	88,700
July		59,300	35,400	94,600	58,000	33,100	91,200
August		59,400	35,600	95,000	58,400	33,400	91,800
September		56,700	33,100	89,800	57,600	32,800	90,500
October		54,100	30,800	84,900	56,000	31,800	87,800
November		53,500	29,900	83,400	55,300	31,400	86,700
December		54,800	29,600	84,400	55,900	31,100	87,000
2010	January	55,200	30,700	85,900	54,600	31,200	85,800
	February	54,600	30,500	85,100	53,500	30,800	84,300

¹ Series has been revised from October 2008.² Based on revised seasonal patterns up to December 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
2008	February	97,000	53,000	150,000	93,500	53,300	146,800
	March	100,400	56,700	157,200	97,800	58,200	156,000
	April	100,800	53,800	154,600	98,800	55,900	154,700
	May	103,200	55,800	159,000	102,400	57,900	160,300
	June	109,700	63,000	172,600	107,900	59,700	167,600
	July	115,500	70,400	185,900	114,000	62,200	176,100
	August	121,100	71,300	192,300	120,500	64,200	184,800
	September	122,100	64,500	186,600	126,200	67,000	193,200
	October	129,700	66,800	196,400	135,700	70,600	206,300
	November	140,800	68,800	209,600	146,000	73,200	219,200
	December	153,300	74,700	228,000	154,700	75,800	230,500
	2009	January	174,000	82,000	256,000	171,000	83,000
February		188,500	88,400	276,900	184,700	88,500	273,300
March		198,000	91,900	289,900	195,000	93,300	288,300
April		205,000	96,600	301,600	202,600	98,700	301,200
May		211,100	99,200	310,300	210,000	101,100	311,100
June		217,500	106,800	324,400	215,700	103,400	319,100
July		222,000	115,700	337,800	220,500	107,400	327,900
August		224,800	116,900	341,800	224,400	110,000	334,500
September		221,300	108,700	330,000	225,600	111,300	336,900
October		219,500	108,000	327,500	225,800	111,900	337,600
November		222,600	107,500	330,100	228,000	112,100	340,100
December		228,000	111,100	339,200	229,500	112,400	341,900
2010	January	236,400	114,600	351,000	233,300	115,600	348,900
	February	236,300	115,600	351,800	232,400	115,700	348,100

¹ Series has been revised from October 2008.

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

Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rates (SUR)

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
	%	%	%	%	%	%
January	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.8	9.4	12.7
February ¹	4.1	4.4	4.5	4.9	10.1	12.6
March	4.3	4.4	4.4	5.2	10.7	
April	4.4	4.4	4.5	5.2	11.2	
May ¹	4.5	4.4	4.5	5.5	11.6	
June	4.5	4.5	4.5	5.9	12.0	
July	4.5	4.5	4.5	6.4	12.3	
August ¹	4.5	4.6	4.5	6.8	12.4 ²	
September	4.4	4.5	4.6	7.2	12.4	
October	4.4	4.4	4.7	7.6	12.4	
November ¹	4.3	4.3	4.8	8.1	12.4	
December	4.3	4.4	4.8	8.6	12.5	
Annual average	4.4	4.4	4.6	6.4	11.6	

¹ Benchmark Quarterly National Household Survey (QNHS) revised calendar quarter estimates from February 2004.

² 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

		Males		Females		Total		
Number of weeks		Live Register	Average ² net weekly change	Live Register	Average ² net weekly change	Live Register	Average ² net weekly change	
2008	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
2010	January	5	291,648	+ 1,759	145,288	+ 909	436,936	+ 2,668
	February	4	290,867	- 195	146,089	+ 200	436,956	+ 5

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:
February 2010 – 30th January 2010 to 26th February 2010
February 2009 – 31st January 2009 to 27th February 2009

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