

National:

The number of new asylum seekers coming to Britain has plummeted by 30% in the past year and the flow of central and east European migrants, including from Poland, has also continued to decline, according to the 2009 immigration figures published by Office of National Statistics (ONS).

Alan Travis, guardian.co.uk (25.2.10), *Fewer asylum seekers and immigrants arrive in UK*, www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/feb/25/asylum-seeker-numbers-fall, Guardian News and Media Limited 2010.

Every month, ONS publishes figures showing how many people are claiming unemployment benefit, by constituency. Plotted on a map, this data shows how unemployment is spreading across Britain.

Paddy Allen, Simon Rogers and Simon Willison, guardian.co.uk (25.2.10), *UK unemployment - the jobless map of Britain: watch unemployment spread across Britain since September 2008*, www.guardian.co.uk/business/interactive/2009/jan/21/unemployment-map, Guardian News and Media Limited 2010.

Quarterly statistics from October to December 2010 show that almost 15% of 16- to 24-year-olds in England were "neets" (not in education, employment or training).

Rachel Williams, guardian.co.uk (25.2.10), *Record numbers not in education, work or training*, www.guardian.co.uk/education/2010/feb/25/further-education-colleges, Guardian News and Media Limited 2010.

The latest figures from the Office of National Statistics show that unemployment in the period October to December 2009 fell by 3,000 to 2.46 million, giving a jobless rate of 7.8%, unchanged from the previous three months. Unemployment among 18- to 24-year-olds fell by 13,000 in the last three months of 2009 to 725,000, while for 16- to 24-year olds the total dropped by 13,000 to 923,000.

The number of people claiming jobseeker's allowance increased to 1.64 million in January, the worst figure since April 1997. The long-term unemployed (out of work for more than a year) increased by 37,000 in the quarter to December to 663,000, also the highest figure in 13 years. The number of people classed as economically inactive reached a record high of 8.08 million.

EXPRESS.co.uk – Home of the Daily and Sunday Express (17.2.10), *Warning of further rise in jobless*, www.express.co.uk/posts/view/158716/long-term-jobless-hits-13-year-high, Copyright © 2006 Northern and Shell Media Publications.

The Department for Communities and Local Government has published a report which draws on two pieces of work Oxford Economics has carried out on Scenario Building for Local and Sectoral Economic Performance under Changing Net Migration, and The Economic Contribution of Migrant Labour to Regional GVA in England. It also summarises the implications of a number of other studies carried out for the Department on the determinants and impacts of migration and how these are likely to change over time.

Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) (10.2.10), *Regional Economic Performance - A Migration Perspective: Economics Paper 4* (ISBN: 978-1-4098-1870-0), www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/1337884.pdf, Crown copyright.

A survey by the Institute of Public Policy Research following the fortunes of 58 low-income families shows how those hit hardest by the recession have been those least able to pay their way.

Anushka Asthana, guardian.co.uk (7.2.10), *Cheap credit has pulled the UK's poorest families into a spiral of debt*, www.guardian.co.uk/society/2010/feb/07/cheap-credit-poorest-spiral-debt, Guardian News and Media Limited 2010.

This report evaluates the strategies and practices of Workstep providers aimed at moving adults with significant physical, mental and personal barriers into sustainable jobs and identifies barriers to progress. Case studies illustrate effective practice.

Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) (4.2.10), *Ofsted: Improving progression to sustainable unsupported employment*, www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/Publications-and-research/Browse-all-by/Documents-by-type/Thematic-reports/Improving-progression-to-sustainable-unsupported-employment, Crown copyright.

Ofsted (4.2.10), *Workstep – how the best training and support programmes are helping disabled people gain their place at work*, www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/News/Press-and-media/2010/February/Workstep-how-the-best-training-and-support-programmes-are-helping-disabled-people-gain-their-place-at-work, Crown copyright.

The Department for Work and Pensions have published a transcript of the speech by Work and Pensions Secretary Yvette Cooper at the Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion (CECI) Delivering Future Jobs conference on 3 December 2009. She talks about tackling worklessness.

Department for Work and Pensions (4.2.10), *Delivering Future Jobs Conference*, www.dwp.gov.uk/newsroom/ministers-speeches/2009/03-12-09.shtml, Crown Copyright 2010.

A report published by the Department for Communities and Local Government provides an overview of the nature and scale of worklessness in Working Neighbourhood Fund areas and the strategies in place to tackle it. It also provides

feedback on the early deployment of the fund and identifies some learning and improvement needs.

The Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge in association with Cambridge Econometrics and Educe Ltd, Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) (4.2.10), *The Working Neighbourhoods Fund Scoping Study*, www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/1457116.pdf, Crown Copyright.

This report presents findings of a survey of new and repeat Incapacity Benefit (IB) claimants included in the first two phases of the expansion of Pathways to Work. Pathways to Work is central to the Government's aim of reducing the rates of customers moving onto, and remaining on, incapacity benefits.

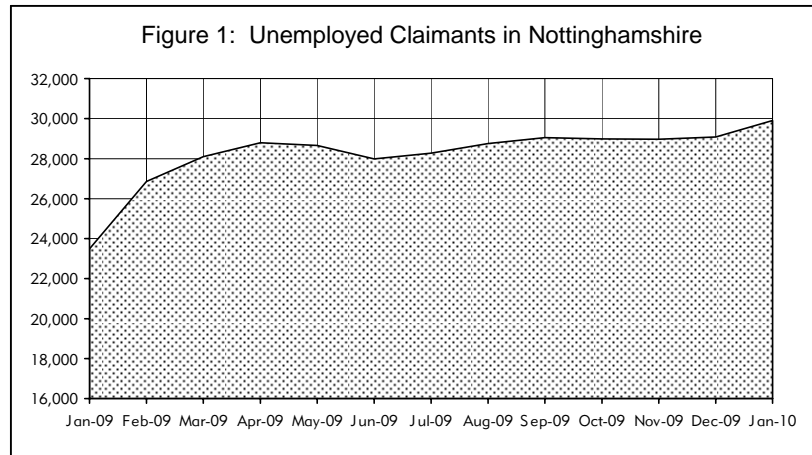
Oliver Hayllar, Tanja Sejersen and Martin Wood, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) (February 2010), *Pathways to Work: The experiences of new and repeat customers in Jobcentre Plus expansion areas*, Research Report No 627, ISBN 978 1 84712 7013, http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/report_abstracts/rr_abstracts/rra_627.asp
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Extract from Nottinghamshire County Council Employment Bulletin, February 2010 (figures relate to January 2010):

- Unemployment according to the Government's preferred measure was 2.46 million in the three months to December 2009, down 3,000 on the previous three months but up 448,000 on the same period a year ago. The unemployment rate was 7.8%, unchanged from the previous three months but up 1.4% on the year.
- The seasonally adjusted claimant figure for the United Kingdom increased by 23,500 last month to 1,635,600 and was up 381,800 over the year.
- The total employment level decreased by 12,000 over the quarter and was down by 428,000 over the year to reach 28.91 million.
- There were 2.60 million manufacturing employee jobs in the three months to December 2009, down 199,000 over the year. This is the lowest figure since comparable records began in 1978.
- There were 479,000 job vacancies in the three months to January 2010, up by 49,000 from the previous three months but down 24,000 from a year earlier.
- There were 1.8 vacancies per 100 employee jobs, up 0.2 from the previous quarter but down 0.1 over the year.
- In the three months to December 2009, 168,000 people became redundant in the three months prior to their Labour Force Survey interview. This is down 36,000 from the previous three months and down 94,000 on the year. The redundancy rate was 6.8 per 1,000 employees, down 1.4 from the previous three months and down 3.6 from a year earlier.
- The unadjusted claimant figure for the United Kingdom has increased by 87,020 over the month to 1,654,025. The proportion unemployed calculated on the residence base now stands at 4.3% of the working age population.

Employment and unemployment in Nottinghamshire

- The number of claimants in Nottinghamshire increased by 829 between December 2009 and January 2010. The total of 29,913 is 6,430 more than it was a year ago (see figure 1).
- The proportion unemployed in Nottinghamshire is now 4.4%. This is higher than the East Midlands (4.2%) and the United Kingdom (4.3%).



Information relating unemployment in Travel To Work Areas, Local Authority Districts, Parliamentary Constituencies and Wards is available in the latest Employment Bulletin at: www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/business-economy/econdata/employmentbulletins.htm