

March 10 Unemployment Information

– Taken from Birmingham Economy [www.birminghameconomy.org.uk]

- The seasonally adjusted unemployment benefit count for the West Midlands Region fell by 6,200 to 176,100. The rate decreased to 7.3%.
- ***In Birmingham the seasonally adjusted claimant rate decreased to 12.7%.***

The unadjusted (actual) number of unemployed in Birmingham decreased by 37 in February to 51,226. The unadjusted claimant rate remained at 12.8%.

Birmingham's unemployment rate remains significantly above the national and core cities average. Of the eight core cities, Birmingham's rate is the highest.

• Within Birmingham, 20 of the 40 wards experienced a fall in unemployment during February 2010.

• Of the ***Birmingham wards, the highest unemployment rates were recorded in Aston (29.5%) and Washwood Heath (29.3%)***, with Sutton Four Oaks (3.6%) and Sutton Vesey (3.8%) having the lowest rates.

A Survey taken in August 2009 (figures published in February 2010) show that:

- The number of residents claiming workless benefit in Birmingham was 129,240.
- This equates to a worklessness rate of 20.4% of the working age population.
- The worklessness rate for the West Midlands and England was recorded at 15.4% and 13.2% respectively.

Youth unemployment

West Midlands

The number of young people claiming seasonally adjusted JSA in the West Midlands fell by 647 to 54,480 in February 2010. The seasonally adjusted youth unemployment rate in the region now stands at 17.6%.

Birmingham

The number of young people claiming seasonally adjusted JSA in Birmingham fell by 407 to 15,129 in February 2010.

The seasonally adjusted youth unemployment rate in the city now stands at 24.4%.

Birmingham has the highest unadjusted youth unemployment rate amongst the core cities, significantly above the core city average of 19.0%.