

OCTOBER 2002

QUARTERLY

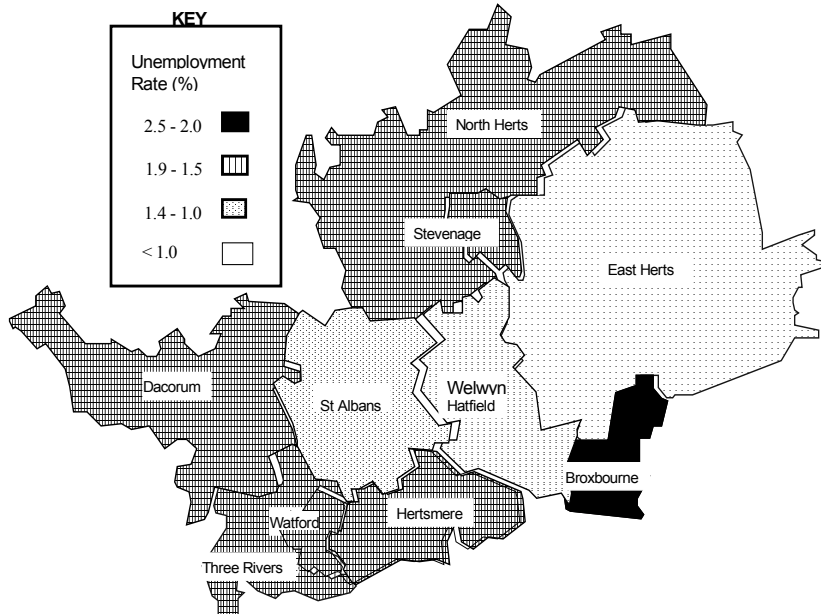
- Hertfordshire's unemployment for October 2002 now stands at 8,436 a rate of 1.5%.
- During the last quarter unemployment has fallen by 229 (2.6%). While over the last year unemployment increased by 1,718 (25.6%).

DISTRICT	OCT 2002				SEP 2002				AUG 2002			
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	%* RATE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	%* RATE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	%* RATE
BROXBOURNE	517	242	759	2.0	541	253	794	2.1	552	254	806	2.1
DACORUM	914	351	1,265	1.7	935	362	1,297	1.7	928	361	1,289	1.7
EAST HERTS	462	196	658	1.0	465	194	659	1.0	484	200	684	1.0
HERTSMERE	575	250	825	1.6	583	250	833	1.6	585	264	849	1.6
NORTH HERTS	618	238	856	1.6	660	263	923	1.7	671	280	951	1.8
ST ALBANS	571	204	775	1.1	562	200	762	1.1	567	222	789	1.2
STEVENAGE	614	234	848	1.8	633	239	872	1.9	649	254	903	2.0
THREE RIVERS	470	211	681	1.8	478	214	692	1.9	508	225	733	2.0
WATFORD	700	250	950	1.6	748	269	1,017	1.7	724	280	1,004	1.7
WELWYN/HATFIELD	581	238	819	1.2	638	256	894	1.4	620	249	869	1.3
COUNTY	6,022	2,414	8,436	1.5	6,243	2,500	8,743	1.6	6,288	2,589	8,877	1.6

* Rates calculated by NS (National Statistics).

All claimant unemployment data in this factsheet are not seasonally adjusted. Seasonally adjusted data are only available at a regional level and above.

TOTAL UNEMPLOYED IN
COUNTY = 8,436 (1.5%)



- Broxbourne remains the district with the highest unemployment rate of 2.0%.
- Although, overall the number of unemployed has fallen since July 2002 there have been increases in Dacorum (71), East Herts (10) and Hertsmere (5).
- During this period Broxbourne has seen the largest fall in the number of unemployed (66) and the largest percentage decrease of 8.0%.
- Male unemployment has fallen at a faster rate (2.9%) than female unemployment (1.9%) over the same period.
- Dacorum was the only district to see an increase in the number of Males unemployed, 47, since July 2002.

Total Unemployed DISTRICT	OCT 2002	OCT 2001	OCT 2000	Change 2000-2002 Nos	%
BROXBOURNE	759	713	825	-66	-8.0%
DACORUM	1,265	945	927	338	36.5%
EAST HERTS	658	517	574	84	14.6%
HERTSMERE	825	672	660	165	25.0%
NORTH HERTS	856	636	790	66	8.4%
ST ALBANS	775	591	535	240	44.9%
STEVENAGE	848	743	819	29	3.5%
THREE RIVERS	681	535	562	119	21.2%
WATFORD	950	763	811	139	17.1%
WELWYN/HATFIELD	819	603	635	184	29.0%
COUNTY	8,436	6,718	7,138	1298	18.2%

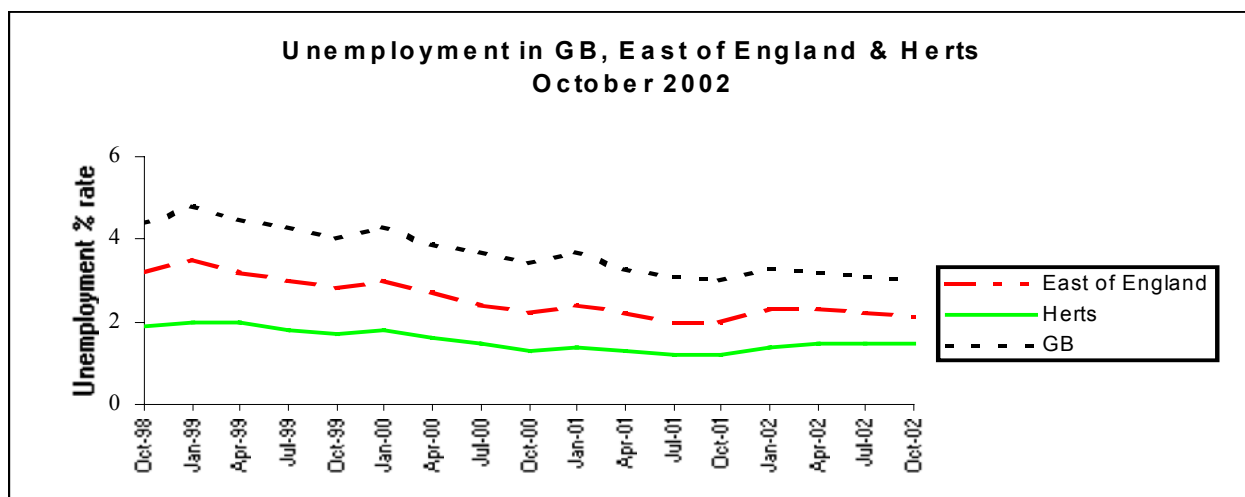
- Unemployment in Hertfordshire has risen by 18.2% (1,298 claimants) since October 2000.
- The largest increase has been in Dacorum with 338 claimants (36.5%) during this period.
- However, the highest percentage increase since October 2000 was in St Albans with 44.9%.
- Broxbourne is the only district to have a fall in the number of claimants, 66 (8.0%) since October 2000.

REGIONAL COMPARISONS

- While the unemployment rate in Hertfordshire remains at 1.5% since July 2002, in the East of England and Great Britain the unemployment rates have fallen slightly.
- In the London Boroughs of Barnet and Enfield unemployment has risen since July 2002, while Buckinghamshire is the only local authority in the area to also have risen over the same period.

October 2002	Nos Unemployed	Official Rate		Nos Unemployed	Official Rate
REGIONS			COUNTIES / UNITARY AUTHORITIES		
EAST OF ENGLAND	54,728	2.1	LUTON	3,451	4.0
SOUTH EAST	69,633	1.6	BEDFORDSHIRE (remainder)	4,284	2.4
GREATER LONDON	167,215	3.6	MILTON KEYNES	2,310	1.8
GREAT BRITAIN	872,855	3.0	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE (remainder)	3,474	1.4
			CAMBRIDGESHIRE	4,235	1.5
LONDON BOROUGHS			SOUTHEND	2,730	3.7
BARNET	5,545	3.6	THURROCK	1,675	2.7
ENFIELD	5,601	4.7	ESSEX (remainder)	11,743	2.1
HARROW	3,039	3.5	HERTFORDSHIRE	8,436	1.5
HILLINGDON	3,111	1.8	NORFOLK	8,738	2.3
			OXFORDSHIRE	3,559	1.0
			SUFFOLK	7,464	2.3

Official Unemployment Rate calculated by expressing the NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE ESTIMATED WORKFORCE, (ie the sum of claimants + employees in employment + self employed + HM Forces + participants on the work related Government training programmes) at mid 1999.



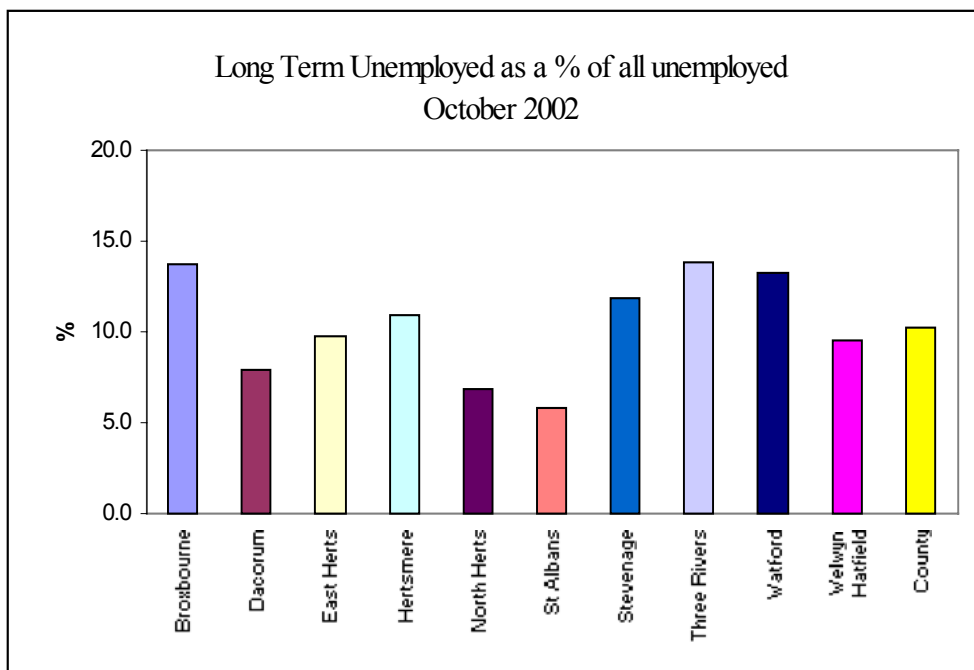
LONG TERM UNEMPLOYED IN HERTFORDSHIRE (more than 1 year)

- There are 861 long-term unemployed (LTU) claimants in Hertfordshire, representing 10.2% of all unemployed in the county, compared to 13.0% in October 2001.
- However, since July 2002 there has been a slight overall increase in the actual number of LTU of 5, but the actual percentage of LTU has increased from 9.9% to 10.2% over the same period.
- There have been increases in the 45-54 and 55+ age groups, 13 and 9 respectively, during the last quarter. This is mainly due to the increase in the total number of female LTU.

October 2002 Age	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	% of All Unemployed	October 2001	
					% of All Unemployed	Total
18 - 24	14	5	19	1.2	0.6	7
25 - 34	152	38	190	9.0	10.2	174
35 - 44	182	32	214	10.9	17.2	268
45 - 54	215	58	273	16.3	21.4	293
55+	121	44	165	18.9	20.6	134
TOTAL	684	177	861	10.2	13.0	876

LONG TERM UNEMPLOYED (LTU) IN THE DISTRICTS

District	Males 18-24	Males 25+	Males Total	Females 18-24	Females 25+	Females Total	Total LTU	% of all Unemployed
Broxbourne	1	83	84	0	20	20	104	13.7
Dacorum	3	76	79	2	19	21	100	7.9
East Herts	3	46	49	1	14	15	64	9.7
Hertsmere	0	68	68	0	22	22	90	10.9
North Herts	0	45	45	0	14	14	59	6.9
St Albans	1	35	36	1	8	9	45	5.8
Stevenage	2	84	86	0	15	15	101	11.9
Three Rivers	2	69	71	0	23	23	94	13.8
Watford	1	99	100	0	26	26	126	13.3
Welwyn Hatfield	1	65	66	1	11	12	78	9.5
COUNTY	14	670	684	5	172	177	861	10.2



- The percentage of LTU has increased in the majority of districts during the last quarter with Welwyn Hatfield and Three Rivers having percentage increases of 1.5% and 1.4% respectively.
- However, the percentage of LTU remained the same in East Herts but fell by 0.6% in North Herts and Stevenage over the same period.
- Three Rivers now has the highest percentage of LTU, 13.8%, followed closely by Broxbourne, 13.7% and Watford, 13.3%.
- St Albans remains the district with the lowest percentage of LTU (5.8%).

NB: ALL VACANCY DATA HAS BEEN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED BY ONS. AS SOON AS THIS DATASET IS RELEASED THE PAGE CONTAINING VACANCY DATA WILL BE RESUMED.

EUROPEAN UNION

- The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the European Union was 7.7% in August 2002, compared to 7.6% in May 2002.
- The unemployment rate has risen slightly in the majority of countries. The largest increase has been in Portugal from 4.3% to 4.6%.
- However, France and Sweden have both had falls in their unemployment rates of 0.3% over the same period.

Unemployment rates for the European Union

	August 2002 % rate
Spain	11.3
Greece	9.9**
Finland	9.4
Italy	9.0*
France	8.9
Germany	8.3
Belgium	6.9
UK	5.2*
Sweden	4.8
Portugal	4.6
Ireland	4.5
Denmark	4.3
Austria	4.2
Netherlands	2.8*
Luxembourg	2.5
Union Average	7.7

Source: Labour Market Trends

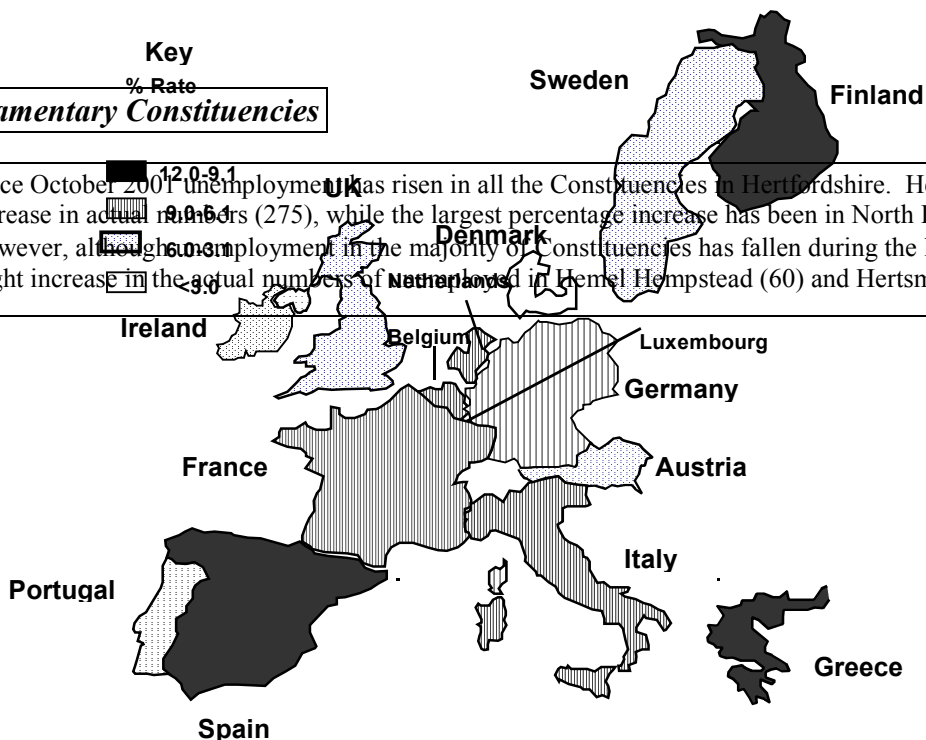
* JUL 2002

** JUN 2002

The unemployment rates used are seasonally adjusted using a standardised ILO rate.

Key % Rate Parliamentary Constituencies

- Since October 2001 unemployment has risen in all the Constituencies in Hertfordshire. Hemel Hempstead has had the highest increase in actual numbers (275), while the largest percentage increase has been in North East Hertfordshire (40.9%).
- However, although unemployment in the majority of Constituencies has fallen during the last quarter, there has still been a slight increase in the actual numbers of unemployed in Hemel Hempstead (60) and Hertsmere (5).



Parliamentary Constituencies	Numbers of Unemployed October 2002	Unemployment % Rate* October 2002
Broxbourne	790	2.0

Hemel Hempstead	1,012	1.7
Hertford & Stortford	520	0.9
Hertsmere	825	1.6
Hitchin & Harpenden	616	1.5
North East Hertfordshire	544	1.5
South West Hertfordshire	712	1.6
St Albans	576	1.1
Stevenage	905	1.8
Watford	1,148	1.8
Welwyn Hatfield	788	1.2

*Unemployment rates for Parliamentary Constituencies are now calculated by NS, previously they had been local estimations. NS rates have been calculated in such a way that they are consistent with rates for other geographical areas. However, they should be considered provisional, pending a full review of the methodology by how denominators for claimant count rates are produced.

TOWN UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment ranked in descending order by unemployment % rate

RANK	TOWN	DISTRICT	Nos UNEMPLOYED October 2002	% RATE*
1	Borehamwood	Hertsmere	456	3.0
2	Waltham Cross	Broxbourne	139	2.8
3	South Oxhey	Three Rivers	144	2.6
4	Rickmansworth	Three Rivers	131	2.3
5	Watford	Watford	950	2.3
6	Hemel Hempstead	Dacorum	927	2.2
7	Stevenage	Stevenage	848	2.1
8	Welwyn Garden City	Welwyn Hatfield	448	2.1
9	Hitchin	North Herts	316	1.9
10	Abbots Langley	Three Rivers	124	1.8
11	Cheshunt	Broxbourne	372	1.8
12	Hatfield	Welwyn Hatfield	282	1.7
13	Letchworth	North Herts	283	1.7
14	Berkhamsted	Dacorum	136	1.7
15	Broxbourne Town	Broxbourne	102	1.4
16	Hoddesdon	Broxbourne	146	1.4
17	Hertford	East Herts	169	1.4
18	Potters Bar	Hertsmere	144	1.3
19	St. Albans	St Albans	501	1.3

20	Bushey	Hertsmere	126	1.3
21	Baldock	North Herts	61	1.2
22	Chorleywood	Three Rivers	59	1.2
23	Croxley Green	Three Rivers	72	1.1
24	Radlett	Hertsmere	45	1.0
25	Tring	Dacorum	66	1.0
26	Harpenden	St Albans	129	1.0
27	Bishop's Stortford	East Herts	143	0.9
28	Ware	East Herts	84	0.9
29	Royston	North Herts	58	0.8

- These rates have been calculated using local estimates of the workforce.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borehamwood now has the highest unemployment rate in the County of 3.0%. • Overall, unemployment has fallen in the main towns of Hertfordshire during the last quarter. The largest fall has been in St Albans with a decrease of 58. However, unemployment has risen in some of the larger towns, for example in Hemel Hempstead there was an increase of 50 and in Borehamwood 27 during the same period.
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NOTE:

Claimant unemployment figures are based on records of those claiming benefits at Employment Service Offices. Until 6th October 1996, these figures included those who claimed Unemployment Benefit, Income Support or National Insurance Credits. On the 7th October both Unemployment Benefit and unemployment-related Income Support were replaced by the Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA).

Source: National Statistics (NOMIS)

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REGIONAL CHANGES

National Statistics replaced the Standard Statistical Regions (SSRs) with Government Office Regions as a basis for unemployment statistics in 1997.

Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire were removed from the South East Statistics and included in the East of England.

County data for Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire have also been split to reflect the introduction of new Unitary Authorities: ie Luton and Milton Keynes.

The table and graph in the main bulletin (page 2) shows current geographies. The old table and graph by SSR are given below to allow for comparison and continuity of statistics.

Comments on these changes and suggestions for providing SSR data to those who require it are welcomed. Please contact Teresa Damen, Telephone: (01992) 555275.

REGIONAL COMPARISONS

October 2002	Nos Unemployed	Official Rate	Nos Unemployed	Official Rate

REGIONS			COUNTIES		
EAST ANGLIA	22,409	2.1	BEDFORDSHIRE	7,735	2.9
SOUTH EAST	269,167	2.6	BERKSHIRE	8,126	1.7
ROSE	101,952	1.8	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	5,802	1.5
GREATER LONDON	167,215	3.6	CAMBRIDGESHIRE	6,207	1.6
GREAT BRITAIN	872,855	3.0	ESSEX	16,148	2.3
			HERTFORDSHIRE	8,436	1.5
LONDON BOROUGHS			KENT	17,404	2.4
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