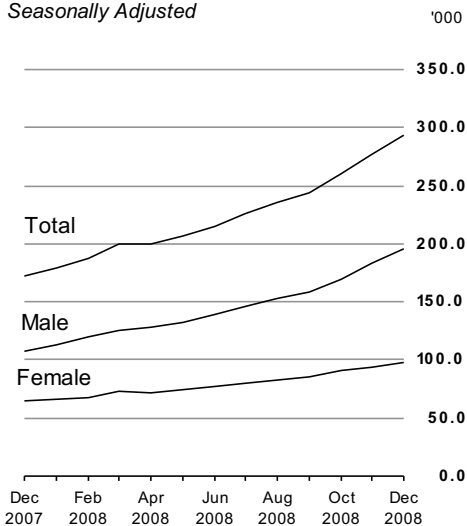




Live Register December 2008

Live Register

Seasonally Adjusted



	Live Register Total	Seasonally Adjusted
December 2007	170,376	172,400
November 2008	268,586	277,200
December 2008	291,363	293,500
Change in month	+22,777	+16,300
Change in year	+120,987	+121,100

Standardised unemployment rate rises to 8.3% in December

The seasonally adjusted Live Register total increased from 277,200 in November to 293,500 in December, an increase of 16,300. *See table 2a and graph opposite.*

In the year to December 2008, there was an unadjusted increase of 120,987 (+71.0%). This compares with an unadjusted increase of 106,864 (+66.1%) in the year to November 2008.

Other features include:

- ◆ The monthly increase in the seasonally adjusted series consisted of an increase of 12,500 males and an increase of 3,700 females. *See table 2a.*
- ◆ The standardised unemployment rate in December was 8.3%. This compares with 6.3% in the third 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 18,600 males and 19,634 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 June to August 2008, is 143,500 persons unemployed.

Additional Live Register tables for December 2008 will be available on Tuesday 13th January 2009.

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Table 1a Total persons on the Live Register

Category	December 2007	November 2008	December 2008		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	38,009	79,127	90,170	+	11,043	+	52,161
JA Applications	65,796	96,511	101,415	+	4,904	+	35,619
Other Registrants	2,893	3,551	3,746	+	195	+	853
Total	106,698	179,189	195,331	+	16,142	+	88,633
Females							
JB Claims	32,638	46,931	52,007	+	5,076	+	19,369
JA Applications	24,267	34,862	36,104	+	1,242	+	11,837
Other Registrants	6,773	7,604	7,921	+	317	+	1,148
Total	63,678	89,397	96,032	+	6,635	+	32,354
All Persons							
JB Claims	70,647	126,058	142,177	+	16,119	+	71,530
JA Applications	90,063	131,373	137,519	+	6,146	+	47,456
Other Registrants	9,666	11,155	11,667	+	512	+	2,001
Total	170,376	268,586	291,363	+	22,777	+	120,987

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

Category	December 2007	November 2008	December 2008		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	6,105	13,805	15,885	+	2,080	+	9,780
JA Applications	15,006	23,990	25,459	+	1,469	+	10,453
Other Registrants	57	70	94	+	24	+	37
Total	21,168	37,865	41,438	+	3,573	+	20,270
Females							
JB Claims	3,213	6,469	6,833	+	364	+	3,620
JA Applications	8,822	13,507	13,938	+	431	+	5,116
Other Registrants	86	94	102	+	8	+	16
Total	12,121	20,070	20,873	+	803	+	8,752
All Persons							
JB Claims	9,318	20,274	22,718	+	2,444	+	13,400
JA Applications	23,828	37,497	39,397	+	1,900	+	15,569
Other Registrants	143	164	196	+	32	+	53
Total	33,289	57,935	62,311	+	4,376	+	29,022

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

Category	December 2007	November 2008	December 2008		Monthly change		Annual change
Males							
JB Claims	31,904	65,322	74,285	+	8,963	+	42,381
JA Applications	50,790	72,521	75,956	+	3,435	+	25,166
Other Registrants	2,836	3,481	3,652	+	171	+	816
Total	85,530	141,324	153,893	+	12,569	+	68,363
Females							
JB Claims	29,425	40,462	45,174	+	4,712	+	15,749
JA Applications	15,445	21,355	22,166	+	811	+	6,721
Other Registrants	6,687	7,510	7,819	+	309	+	1,132
Total	51,557	69,327	75,159	+	5,832	+	23,602
All Persons							
JB Claims	61,329	105,784	119,459	+	13,675	+	58,130
JA Applications	66,235	93,876	98,122	+	4,246	+	31,887
Other Registrants	9,523	10,991	11,471	+	480	+	1,948
Total	137,087	210,651	229,052	+	18,401	+	91,965

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
2006	December	92,500	62,900	155,400	92,900	64,400	157,300
2007	January	95,800	62,900	158,800	92,900	64,000	156,900
	February	95,600	63,800	159,400	93,000	64,800	157,800
	March	94,800	61,100	155,900	93,500	63,600	157,100
	April	94,100	60,200	154,300	94,400	63,600	158,000
	May	93,800	60,200	154,000	95,200	63,900	159,100
	June	98,000	68,400	166,400	96,800	64,400	161,100
	July	100,600	74,000	174,600	98,100	64,300	162,400
	August	101,600	72,600	174,200	99,100	62,900	161,900
	September	98,000	62,600	160,700	100,500	64,300	164,800
	October	97,100	60,300	157,400	101,500	64,300	165,700
	November	101,400	60,300	161,700	105,500	64,900	170,400
	December	106,700	63,700	170,400	107,200	65,200	172,400
2008	January	116,200	65,300	181,400	113,300	66,400	179,700
	February	122,500	67,000	189,500	119,800	68,000	187,800
	March	127,000	71,000	198,000	125,700	73,500	199,200
	April	127,600	68,000	195,600	127,800	71,400	199,200
	May	130,700	71,100	201,800	132,000	74,800	206,800
	June	139,900	80,900	220,800	138,700	76,800	215,400
	July	148,000	90,300	238,200	145,400	80,600	226,000
	August	155,300	92,100	247,400	152,800	82,300	235,100
	September	156,100	84,200	240,200	158,600	85,800	244,500
	October	165,300	86,600	252,000	169,700	90,600	260,300
	November	179,200	89,400	268,600	183,300	93,900	277,200
	December	195,300	96,000	291,400	195,800	97,600	293,500

¹ Based on seasonal patterns up to June 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
2006	December	17,500	11,600	29,100	18,200	12,900	31,000
2007	January	18,600	12,500	31,100	18,100	12,700	30,800
	February	18,600	12,500	31,100	18,000	12,600	30,700
	March	18,600	12,200	30,800	18,300	12,600	30,900
	April	18,500	12,000	30,500	18,600	12,800	31,500
	May	18,400	12,200	30,600	18,800	12,800	31,600
	June	19,800	14,100	33,900	19,200	13,100	32,300
	July	20,600	14,800	35,300	19,600	12,900	32,500
	August	20,900	14,900	35,800	19,900	12,900	32,800
	September	19,900	13,400	33,200	20,200	13,100	33,200
	October	19,400	12,500	31,800	20,400	13,200	33,600
	November	20,200	12,100	32,200	21,300	13,200	34,600
	December	21,200	12,100	33,300	21,900	13,400	35,200
2008	January	23,800	13,200	36,900	23,200	13,500	36,700
	February	25,500	13,900	39,500	24,900	14,100	39,000
	March	26,600	14,200	40,800	26,300	14,700	40,900
	April	26,700	14,300	41,000	26,900	15,000	41,900
	May	27,400	15,300	42,700	27,900	15,900	43,800
	June	30,300	17,900	48,200	29,700	16,800	46,600
	July	32,400	19,900	52,300	31,500	18,000	49,500
	August	34,300	20,800	55,000	33,300	18,700	52,000
	September	34,000	19,700	53,700	34,300	19,400	53,700
	October	35,200	19,300	54,500	36,300	20,000	56,300
	November	37,900	20,100	57,900	39,000	21,200	60,300
	December	41,400	20,900	62,300	42,100	22,100	64,300

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

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

Year	Month	Unadjusted Series			Seasonally Adjusted Series ¹		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
2006	December	75,000	51,300	126,300	74,800	51,500	126,300
2007	January	77,200	50,500	127,600	74,800	51,300	126,100
	February	77,000	51,300	128,300	74,900	52,200	127,100
	March	76,200	48,900	125,100	75,200	51,000	126,200
	April	75,600	48,200	123,800	75,800	50,800	126,600
	May	75,500	48,000	123,400	76,400	51,100	127,500
	June	78,200	54,300	132,500	77,500	51,300	128,900
	July	80,100	59,200	139,300	78,400	51,500	129,900
	August	80,700	57,700	138,400	79,100	50,000	129,100
	September	78,200	49,200	127,400	80,400	51,200	131,600
	October	77,800	47,800	125,600	81,000	51,100	132,100
	November	81,300	48,200	129,500	84,200	51,600	135,800
	December	85,500	51,600	137,100	85,300	51,800	137,200
2008	January	92,400	52,100	144,500	90,100	52,900	143,000
	February	97,000	53,000	150,000	94,900	53,900	148,800
	March	100,400	56,700	157,200	99,500	58,800	158,300
	April	100,800	53,800	154,600	101,000	56,400	157,300
	May	103,200	55,800	159,000	104,100	58,900	163,000
	June	109,700	63,000	172,600	108,900	59,900	168,900
	July	115,500	70,400	185,900	113,900	62,700	176,500
	August	121,100	71,300	192,300	119,500	63,600	183,000
	September	122,100	64,500	186,600	124,300	66,500	190,800
	October	130,100	67,300	197,400	133,400	70,600	204,000
	November	141,300	69,300	210,700	144,300	72,700	217,000
	December	153,900	75,200	229,100	153,700	75,500	229,200

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

Table 3 Seasonally Adjusted Standardised Unemployment Rates (SUR)

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
January ¹	4.4	4.8	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.9
February	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.6	5.0
March	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.6	5.4
April ¹	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.7	5.4
May	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.6	5.7
June	4.3	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.5	6.0
July ¹	4.3	4.8	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.4	6.3 ²
August	4.4	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	6.6
September	4.5	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.5	6.9
October ¹	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.3	4.6	7.4
November	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.5	4.3	4.7	7.8
December	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.4	4.7	8.3
Annual average	4.4	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.6	6.3

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

² The latest QNHS estimate of the unemployment rate (adjusted for seasonality) is: June-August 2008, 6.3%.

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

	Number of weeks	Males		Females		Total	
		Live Register	Average ¹ net weekly change	Live Register	Average ¹ net weekly change	Live Register	Average ¹ net weekly change
2006 December	5	92,499	+ 783	62,890	+ 589	155,389	+ 1,372
2007 January	4	95,824	+ 831	62,928	+ 10	158,752	+ 841
February	4	95,639	- 46	63,760	+ 208	159,399	+ 162
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

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 directly to the Central Statistics Office by each local office of 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:
December 2008 – 29th November 2008 to the 26th December 2008
December 2007 – 1st December 2007 to the 28th December 2007.

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	4.3	4.5
2006	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.3
2007	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.6
2008	4.9	5.4	6.3	

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.