

# Statistical Analysis of Worklessness in Southampton – Final Report



The Bargate, Southampton City Centre

Submitted to Southampton City Council and SITES  
by CLREA, Portsmouth Business School, University of Portsmouth

**Updated March 2010**

For further details contact authors:

Jeff Grainger, Dave Clark, Pamela Dent or Faye Sizeland.

## Acknowledgements

This document has been produced for Southampton City Council, by Portsmouth University's Centre for Local and Regional Economic Analysis (CLREA).

The authors wish to acknowledge the support received from Fiona McMurray and Carol Ryde of Southampton City Council who jointly oversaw the project, as well as the valuable guidance provided by the Southampton Information, Training and Employment Services (SITES) group, and Southampton City Council's Worklessness Subgroup.

*Any errors or omissions are the sole responsibility of the authors at the Centre for Local and Regional Economic Analysis and not Southampton City Council.*

### **CLREA:**

The Centre for Local and Regional Economic Analysis is located within the Department of Economics at the University of Portsmouth. It was established in the mid 1970s as a specialised unit researching local economies and developing appropriate economic modelling techniques to assess the impact of change on sub-regional areas, primarily in South East England. Since then it has expanded its geographical coverage, client base and research interests. Its members have a wide range of expertise in local and regional economic analysis, ranging from econometric modelling, questionnaire design and surveying, through to labour market analysis, locational and sectoral economic impact analysis as well as economic profiling, SWOT analysis and the formation of local economic development strategies.

For further information please contact the authors:

Jeff Grainger (Director); Dave Clark (Assistant Director) or Faye Sizeland (Research Assistant)

Centre for Local and Regional Economic Analysis, Department of Economics, Portsmouth Business School, University of Portsmouth, Richmond Building, Portland Street,  
Portsmouth, United Kingdom PO1 3DE

Telephone: 44 (0)23 9284 4133 or 44 (0)23 9284 4217, or 44 (0)23 9284 4821

E-mail: [jeff.grainger@port.ac.uk](mailto:jeff.grainger@port.ac.uk) , [dave.clark@port.ac.uk](mailto:dave.clark@port.ac.uk) , or [faye.sizeland@port.ac.uk](mailto:faye.sizeland@port.ac.uk)

## Contents

	<b>Page</b>
<b>Contents</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Glossary of Acronyms</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Section One – Introduction and Overview of Worklessness in Southampton</b>	<b>4</b>
1.1 Introduction	4
1.2 Explanation of Terms	4
1.3 Methodology	7
1.4 Initial Analysis of Data	9
1.5 Worklessness in Southampton in a Regional and National Context	13
<b>Section Two – Analysis of Individual Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)</b>	
2.1 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017281 (Woolston)	18
2.2 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017280 (Woolston)	31
2.3 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017167 (Bitterne)	43
2.4 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017163 (Bitterne)	55
2.5 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017166 (Bitterne)	67
2.6 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017168 (Bitterne)	79
2.7 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017207 (Millbrook)	91
2.8 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017154 (Bevois)	103
2.9 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017245 (Redbridge)	115
2.10 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017240 (Redbridge)	127
2.11 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017237 (Redbridge)	139
2.12 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017202 (Harefield)	151
2.13 Analysis of benefit claimants within LSOA E01017250 (Shirley)	163
<b>Section Three – Comparisons and Conclusions</b>	<b>175</b>
3.1 Comparisons	175
3.2 Conclusions	182
<b>Appendix One</b>	<b>185</b>

### **Glossary of Acronyms**

APS	Annual Population Survey
CA	Carers' Allowance
CLREA	Centre for Local and Regional Economic Analysis (University of Portsmouth)
DLA	Disability Living Allowance
DWP	Department for Work and Pensions
ESA	Employment Support Allowance
GB	Great Britain
IB	Incapacity Benefit
ICD	International Classification of Diseases
IS	Income Support
JSA	Job Seekers' Allowance
LFS	Labour Force Survey
LSOA	Lower Super Output Area
NI	National Indicator (for Local Authorities)
NOMIS	National Online Manpower Information System
ONS	Office for National Statistics
SDA	Severe Disablement Allowance
SITES	Southampton Information, Training and Employment Services
WB	Widows' Benefit
WPLS	Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study
UK	United Kingdom

## **Section One – Introduction and Overview of Worklessness in Southampton**

### **1.1 Introduction**

This study is designed to investigate the extent of and trends in, worklessness in Southampton over the seven year period from 2002 to 2009. The objectives of the study are to provide:

- A detailed quantitative analysis of the workless population in Southampton over the period 2002 to 2009, with particular emphasis on the changes seen between 2008 and 2009. This information will be disaggregated both in terms of geography and demography.
- A quantitative analysis of the stock of claimants and 'claimant flows'. Analysis of claimant duration data is used to track 'claimant flows' and to analyse movement within claimant groups.
- A detailed analysis of the nature of Incapacity Benefit/ Employment Support Allowance claimants in the city, particularly the type of illness or disability resulting in a claim.
- A geographic analysis of the location of benefit claimants within the city to Lower Super Output Area level, including details of the makeup of claimants within these localities in terms of demographic characteristics and the type of benefits claimed.
- An analysis of the Annual Population Survey (APS) outcomes in terms of the wider group of economically inactive residents in the city and the relationships between this data and DWP/Claimant Count data.
- Conclusions arising from the analysis to support local policy and actions.

This report details the findings of an analysis of the workless population of thirteen selected LSOAs within Southampton with a high incidence of working age benefits claimants (according to the definition used to calculate the National Indicator for Local Authorities (NI153)). This first section of the report explains the methodology and terms used, as well as presenting comparisons of benefit claimant statistics for the LSOAs and Southampton as a whole against regional and national claimant data. The final concluding section provides a summary of the main findings of the study.

### **1.2 Explanation of Benefits and Terms:**

The following out-of-work benefits are referred to in this study of worklessness in Southampton, descriptions of which are below, followed by definitions of the major concepts which are set out in Figure 1.1 and Table 1.1.

#### Incapacity Benefit (IB) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA)

Incapacity Benefit is a benefit provided to individuals who cannot work due to a health condition or disability. Claimants will usually be required to undergo a Personal Capability Assessment which involves a medical examination and helps to determine whether the claimant is eligible for IB. From 27 October 2008, IB has been replaced with Employment and Support Allowance for all new claimants, with the intention that current claimants of IB will be transferred over to ESA between 2010 and 2013. ESA draws attention to the benefits of working and aims to focus more on assisting claimants in returning to work, where possible. For instance, an advancement from IB is that claimants are required to actively prepare for work by participating in work-focused interviews and developing work-related action plans as a condition of receiving ESA (except for those patients with a severe illness or disability).<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Source: DWP: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/healthcare-professional/benefits-and-services/>

### Disability Living Allowance (DLA)

Individuals with more severe disabilities (for instance where assistance is required with personal care and/or mobility) may be entitled to Disability Living Allowance. This benefit is generally more long-term and claimants must have needed help for at least three months and be expected to need help for at least a further six months in order to be entitled to claim DLA. Additionally, claimants do not necessarily need to be out of employment to qualify for this benefit.<sup>2</sup>

### Jobseekers' Allowance (JSA)

Jobseekers' Allowance is a benefit for people of working age who are either unemployed or work less than an average of sixteen hours a week. In order to receive JSA, claimants must be available to work at least 40 hours a week, be actively seeking work and be able to provide evidence of this at regular intervals. Other conditions also apply, for instance, claimants must not have more than £16,000 in savings and should generally be over eighteen years of age to qualify.

### Income Support (IS)

An alternative benefit for individuals on a low income is income support, which is aimed at individuals who are unemployed or work less than sixteen hours a week (often unavailable for full time work) and are not on Jobseekers' Allowance. As with JSA this benefit is also means tested. IS claimants are paid on various grounds categorised as follows: Incapacity, Lone Parents, Carers and an 'Other' category (such as for those on paternity leave, for students or for those whose statutory sick pay is too low). The introduction of ESA may also affect the level of Income Support for 2009, as ESA is replacing Income Support paid on incapacity grounds.

The entitlement ruling for income support for lone parents has also been changing, the effects of which may become evident across data from the past year. Previously, lone parents could receive IS until their youngest child reached the age of sixteen. From 24 November 2008, IS was discontinued for lone parents whose youngest child had reached the age of twelve or over. Subsequently, from 26 October 2009, the age limit for the claimant's youngest child was reduced further to ten years old, and will be reduced even further to seven years old from 25 October 2010. Claimants being moved off IS may be eligible to claim alternative benefits such as JSA. These changes only apply to those individuals claiming IS solely for being a lone parent, and may not apply to those individuals who are also eligible to claim the benefit for other reasons.

**Working age population** - males aged 16 to 64, and females aged 16 to 59 in **Figure 1.1 A-(B+C)**.

**Economically active** – Individuals either in work or seeking work (i.e. claiming Job Seekers' Allowance) in **Figure 1.1 G+H**.

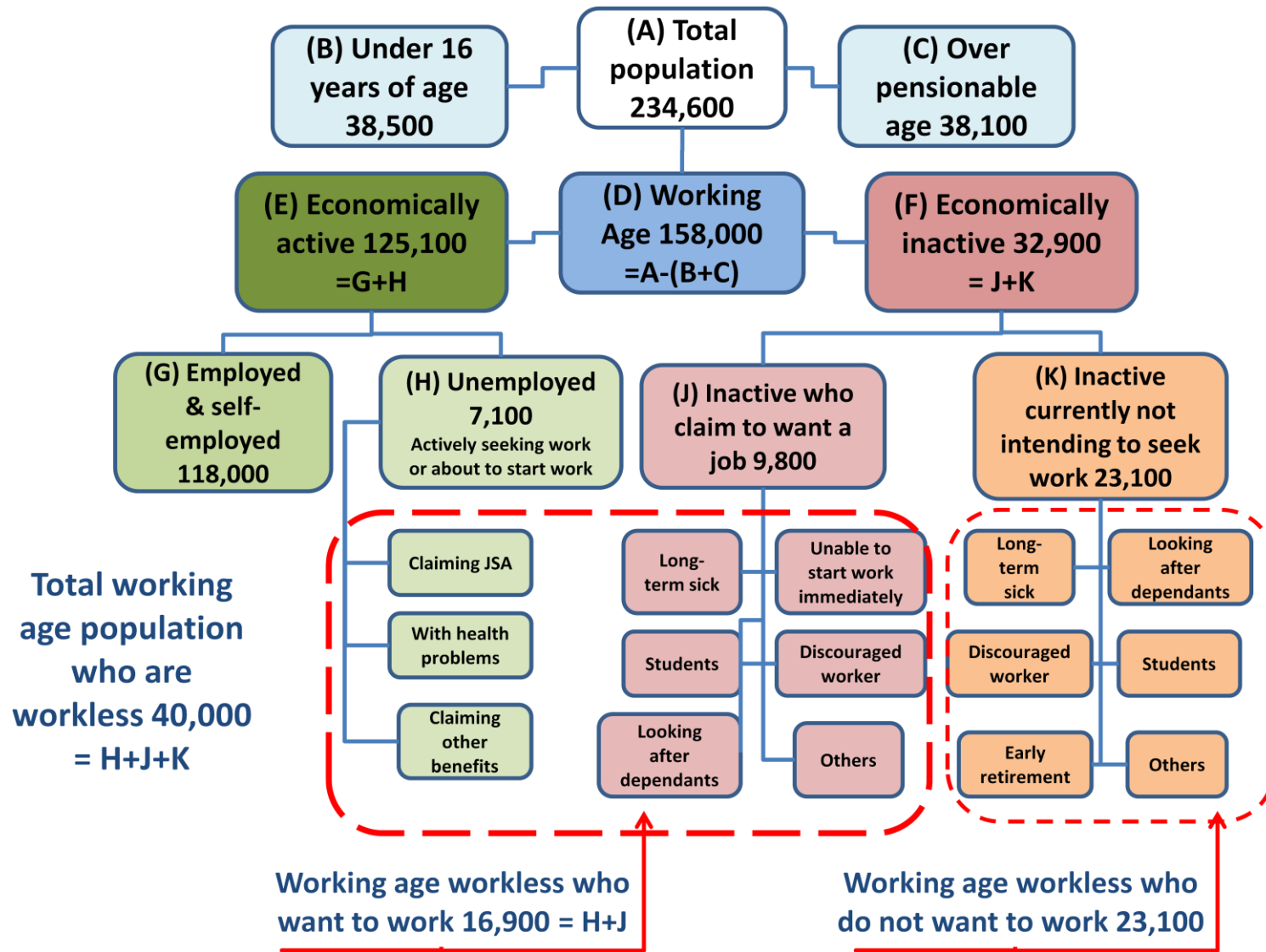
**Worklessness** – people of working age who are not in formal employment or training but who are looking for a job or training, together with people of working age who are not in formal employment or training and who are not seeking formal employment or training in **Figure 1.1 H+J+K**.

**Claimants** - individuals of working age drawn from (**H+J+K in Figure 1.1**) who are interacting with the benefits system at any one point in time over the period of the study. The majority of these are eligible for out-of-work benefit payments (**L+M+N+Q in Table 1.1**) although are not necessarily registered with Jobcentre Plus. Others, such as some people claiming Carers Allowance or Disability Living Allowance, may undertake some paid work and may not necessarily be actively seeking work (**P+R+S+T in Table 1.1**).

**Non-claimants** - People of working age who are economically inactive but do not appear to be claiming any benefits at any one point in time over the period of the study.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Directgov: <http://www.direct.gov.uk/>

Figure 1.1: Schematic representation of worklessness in Southampton 2008



For total benefits claims data, each **claimant** is assigned to one of eight statistical groups, in the priority order below, as defined by the DWP:

<b>Table 1.1 – Explanation of categorisation of benefit claimants</b>		
<b>Key</b>	<b>Benefit</b>	<b>Explanatory Notes</b>
<b>L</b>	Job Seekers	Jobseekers' Allowance claimants
<b>M</b>	Incapacity Benefits/ Employment Support Allowance	Incapacity Benefit , Severe Disablement Allowance claimants or Employment Support Allowance claimants
<b>N</b>	Lone Parent	Income Support claimants with a child under 16 and no partner
<b>P</b>	Carer	Carers' Allowance claimants
<b>Q</b>	Others on Income Related Benefits	Other Income Support (including IS Disability premium) or Pension Credit claimants under State Pension age
<b>R</b>	Disabled	Disability Living Allowance
<b>S</b>	Bereaved	Widows' Benefit, Bereavement Benefit or Industrial Death Benefit claimants
<b>T</b>	Unknown	Disability Living Allowance data is not available until May 2002. Before this, claimants who would have appeared in the disabled category or below are classed as unknown

In order to avoid double counting, individuals claiming multiple benefits are classified into the highest priority category that they belong to. For example, if an individual is claiming Incapacity Benefit as well as Income Support as a lone parent, they would appear solely in the 'Incapacity Benefits' statistical group. For a detailed breakdown of the data available for each benefit individually and an explanation of terms relating to specific benefits see Appendix One.

### **1.3. Methodology:**

The methodology used is a blend of secondary data collection and analysis and desk research, where information is missing or incomplete.

#### **a) Data Sources**

The main bulk of the research consists of secondary data collection and analysis of claimant and non claimant data. The main sources of data are:

##### Department for Work and Pensions

The data used comes from the Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS) which provides a count of benefits claimants, categorised by their statistical group (their primary reason for claiming from the benefits system according to the hierarchy as described in Table 1.1), gender, age and, depending on the benefit, other information such as the duration of the claim and benefit specific details. The data is available for each LSOA within Southampton and is published quarterly, each observation referring to a snapshot in time at the end of February, May, August or November. In order to preserve confidentiality, all counts have been adjusted by the DWP using a form of controlled rounding. Further to this, all of the adjusted figures have been rounded to base 5 with the total equalling the sum of the disaggregation shown. As a result, any counts that are recorded as zero may not actually be zero.

For the majority of this study seven years of data from August 2002 to May 2009 has been analysed.



### Claimant Count

The Claimant Count, available via NOMIS, is to supplement DWP JSA figures. The Claimant Count provides information relating to the duration of JSA claims, and also provides monthly claimant on-flows and off-flows for JSA including the last occupation of the claimants and the type of occupation that they are seeking. The Claimant Count and the DWP JSA figures are compiled using slightly differing methodologies which are explained in Appendix One.

### Annual Population Survey (APS)

The Annual Population Survey (APS), available via NOMIS, provides data for the unitary authority of Southampton relating to economic activity/inactivity rates. The data is available quarterly from December 2004 to March 2009. The APS will be used to estimate, and disaggregate, economic activity and inactivity within Southampton, including providing a city-wide estimate of the extent of the non-claimant, workless population.

### Mid Year Population Estimates

Annual Mid Year Population Estimates at LSOA level are available from August 2001 to August 2008 via Neighbourhood Statistics. This allows the identification of the particular LSOAs within Southampton which have the highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants. These will be selected for in-depth analysis of their workless population.

## **b) Data Limitations**

- Economic activity rates are unavailable at ward or LSOA level. It is therefore impossible to determine the proportion of the working age population in any LSOA that is economically inactive (not in work or seeking work) and therefore to deduce the number of economically inactive individuals who are not claiming benefits. An analysis of the economically inactive population, including non-claimants, is possible at local authority level using data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS) (see section 1.4 below).
- With the exception of JSA, specific information regarding claimant flows is unavailable. However, the fluidity of the claimant population may be examined by studying trends in claimant characteristics and the duration of claims. Such an analysis is limited, however, and will only be able to suggest likely claimant flows.
- Data regarding qualifications, children and housing status are available at Local Authority ward and Parliamentary Constituency levels. Figures regarding housing benefit and child benefit are available at LSOA level via Neighbourhood Statistics but are slightly dated. No cross-tabulation is possible between these data sets and the benefit claimant statistics.

## **c) Analysis of Data**

The data analysis is presented at LSOA level in the form of tables, graphs and thematic maps. For every LSOA within Southampton, the total out-of-work benefit claimant figures<sup>3</sup> for the last four quarters (from August 2008 until May 2009) have been averaged. This average has been divided by the estimated mid 2008 working age population. This allows the identification of the LSOAs within Southampton with the highest average density of out-of-work benefit claimants. Once selected, the characteristics of the benefit claimants in each of these LSOAs will be examined.

---

<sup>3</sup> These include Incapacity Benefits/ Employment Support Allowance, Lone Parents on Income Support, Others on income related benefits and Job Seekers' Allowance as defined by NI 153.

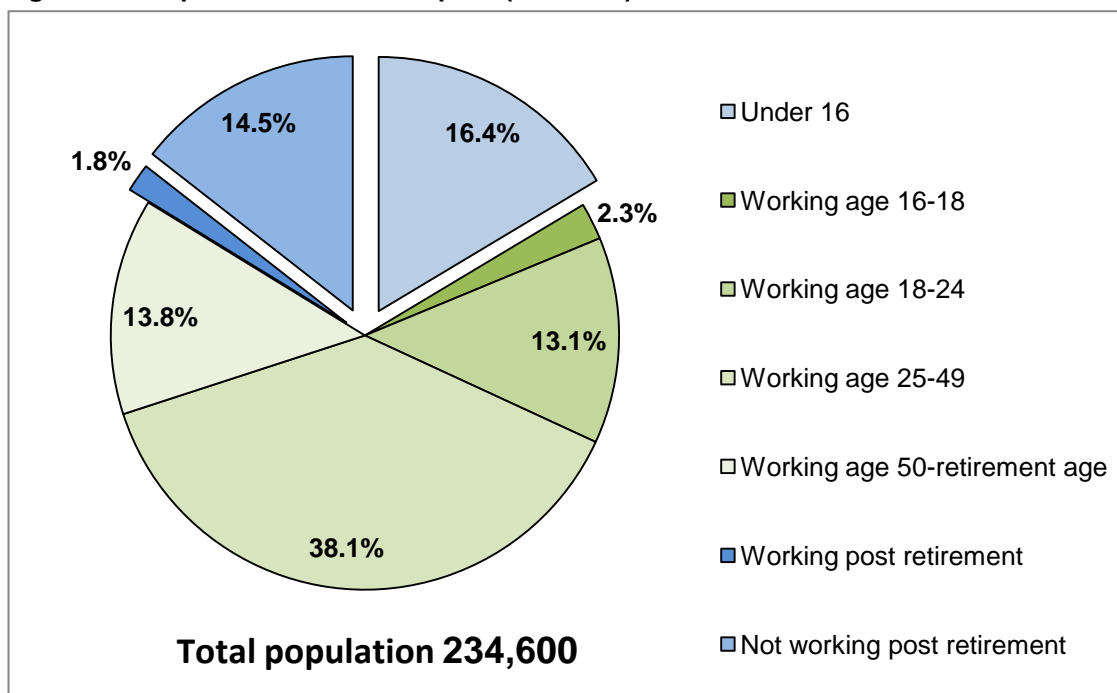
**d) Presentation of Findings**

The findings from the research consists of a ‘data pack’ in the form of an excel spreadsheet, containing all of the raw data and analysis. This is supported by a detailed written report including local, regional and national comparisons, a summary of the main findings and conclusions, and technical appendices.

**1.4 Initial analysis of the data:**

The following analysis utilises data from both the Annual Population Survey (APS) and the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) in order to produce an overall picture of the impact of worklessness on the Southampton economy. Before examining in detail specific data on the extent of worklessness within particular LSOAs within Southampton, it is appropriate to take an overview of worklessness across the city as a whole. The Annual Population Survey (APS) provides information on the structure of the working age population of Southampton. As shown in Figure 1.2 just over two thirds of the population (67%) is of working age (sections shaded green). There are almost equivalent proportions of young people below working age and those that have reached retirement age. The overall structure has altered little since the last report in 2007 with a slight increase in the 16 – 18 cohort and a corresponding decrease in the 50 – retirement age cohort.

**Figure 1.2: Population of Southampton (Mid 2008)**



Source: APS April 2008 to March 2009 and ONS Population Estimates 2008

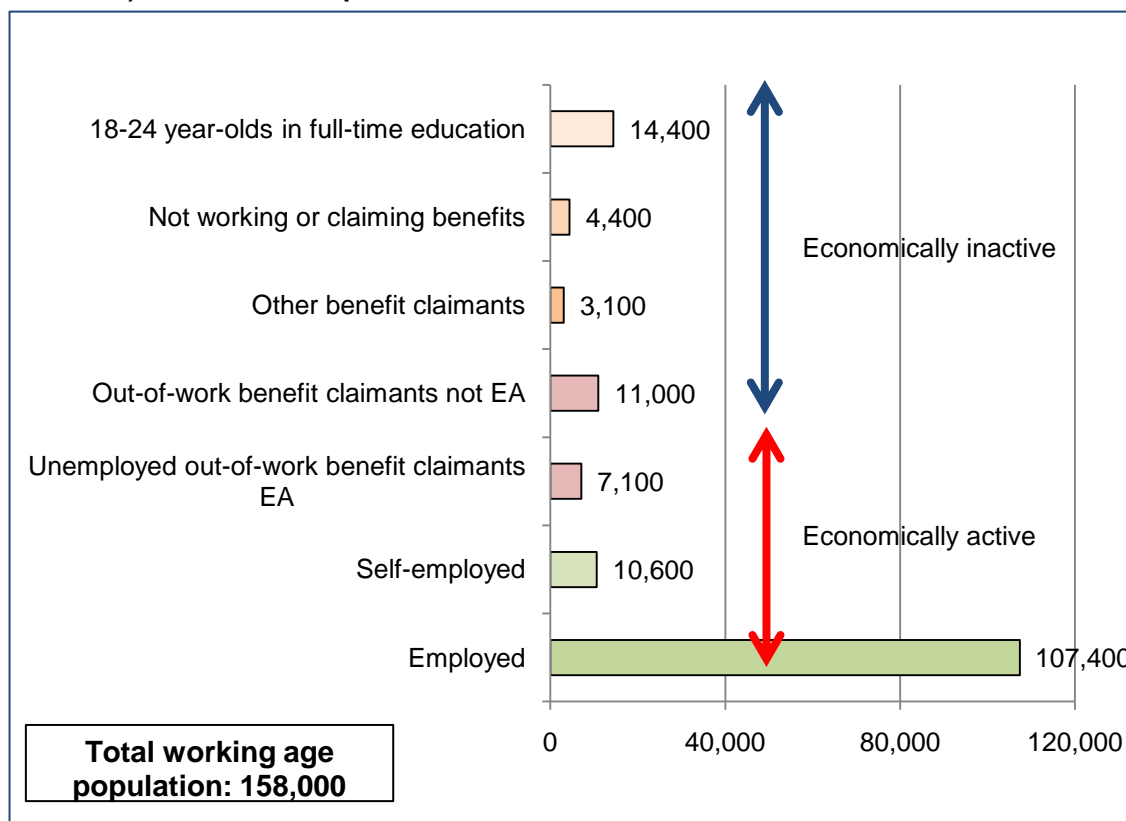
Breaking down the working age population further we find that it falls into a number of categories; those that work, those that are unemployed and those that are economically inactive (see Figure 1.3). Overall, 75% of the working age population is in work either as employees or self-employed. A further 4% are unemployed but are actively seeking work, about to start work or undertaking work-related training. In combination these are referred to as the economically active population, and constitute an economic activity rate for Southampton of 79%.

Out of the 21% who are economically inactive, the largest group are 18 – 24 year-olds in full-time education (9% of all working age population). Around 7% are economically inactive out-of-work benefit claimants (i.e. not ‘actively’ looking for work); the majority of these are claiming benefits

which include Incapacity Benefits/ Employment Support Allowance and Income Support but not Jobseekers' Allowance. A further 3% are not working or claiming benefits; this will include 16-18 year-olds. The residual (2%) are likely to be claiming other benefits such as Carers Allowance, Disability Living Allowance or a bereavement allowance (**P, R, S and T in Table 1.1**).

There has been considerable movement over the fifteen months since the last report. The working age population has increased by 1,700 but those classified as economically inactive has reduced by around 300. There are around 6,000 more people classified as employed but over 2,000 less self-employed. Unemployment has also reduced by around 1,700<sup>4</sup>. There has been a substantial increase in the number of 18-24 year-olds in full-time education of just under 6,000 and a significant reduction of those not working or claiming benefits of nearly 9,000. There has also been an increase in the number of people not economically active and claiming out-of-work benefits of around 2,700 whereas those claiming other benefits have remained at almost the same level.

**Figure 1.3: Economically active and inactive working age population (highlighting benefit claimants) within Southampton**



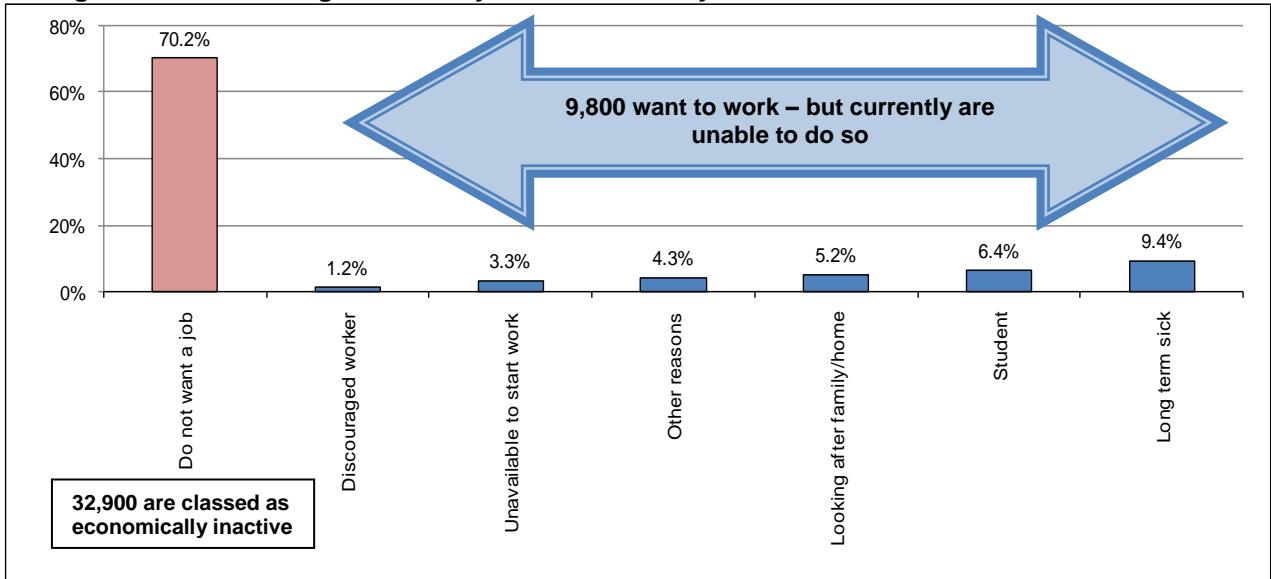
Source: APS April 2008 to March 2009; DWP Longitudinal Study (WPLS) average April 2008 to March 2009

It is also possible to gain an indication of whether or not people who are classified in the APS as economically inactive are willing to work. Figure 1.4 shows that of the 9,800 people who said that they wanted to work (30% of the total economically inactive), a significant proportion (49%) were prevented from seeking work because of sickness or caring responsibilities. A further 36% were unavailable for work either because they were students or for other reasons. Less than half of one percent of economically inactive people claimed to be a discouraged worker. Over the last fifteen months there are slightly fewer working age people who are economically inactive although the proportion not wanting a job or wanting a job but prevented from starting because they are a

<sup>4</sup> This is referring to the most recent available data taking the average between April 2008 and March 2009. Recent figures have shown a rise in unemployment over the region and the nation as a whole.

student has increased slightly. Conversely, the proportion that could not start because they were long-term sick has decreased by around two percentage points.

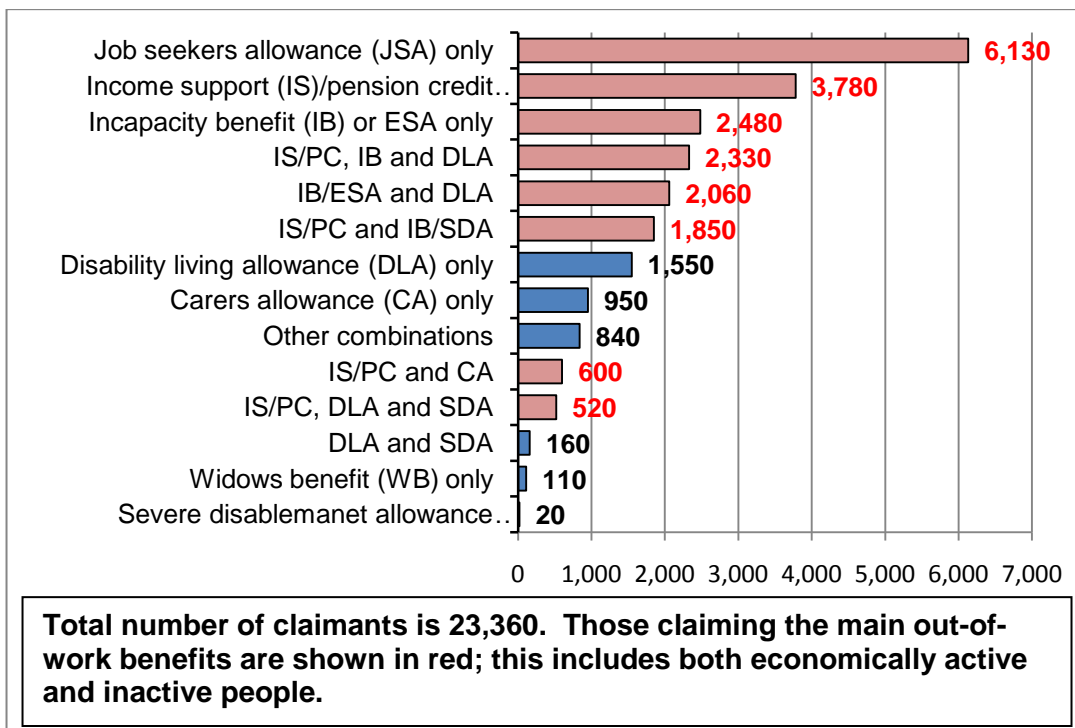
**Figure 1.4: Reasons given for why the economically inactive are unable to start work**



Source: APS April 2008 – March 2009

In order to better understand the scale and scope of benefit claims within Southampton, the full range of claimants at May 2009 is set out in Figure 1.4. This shows the various combinations of benefits that people are able to claim (to avoid double counting individuals are categorised into the highest priority category that they belong to). Those claiming the main out-of-work benefits are shown in red and account for the bulk of the claimants (85%). The number of claimants overall has increased by around 3,300 in the last fifteen months, the bulk of these are additional Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. There has also been a slight increase in the numbers claiming Incapacity Benefit/ ESA (on its own or in combination with DLA) of around 500.

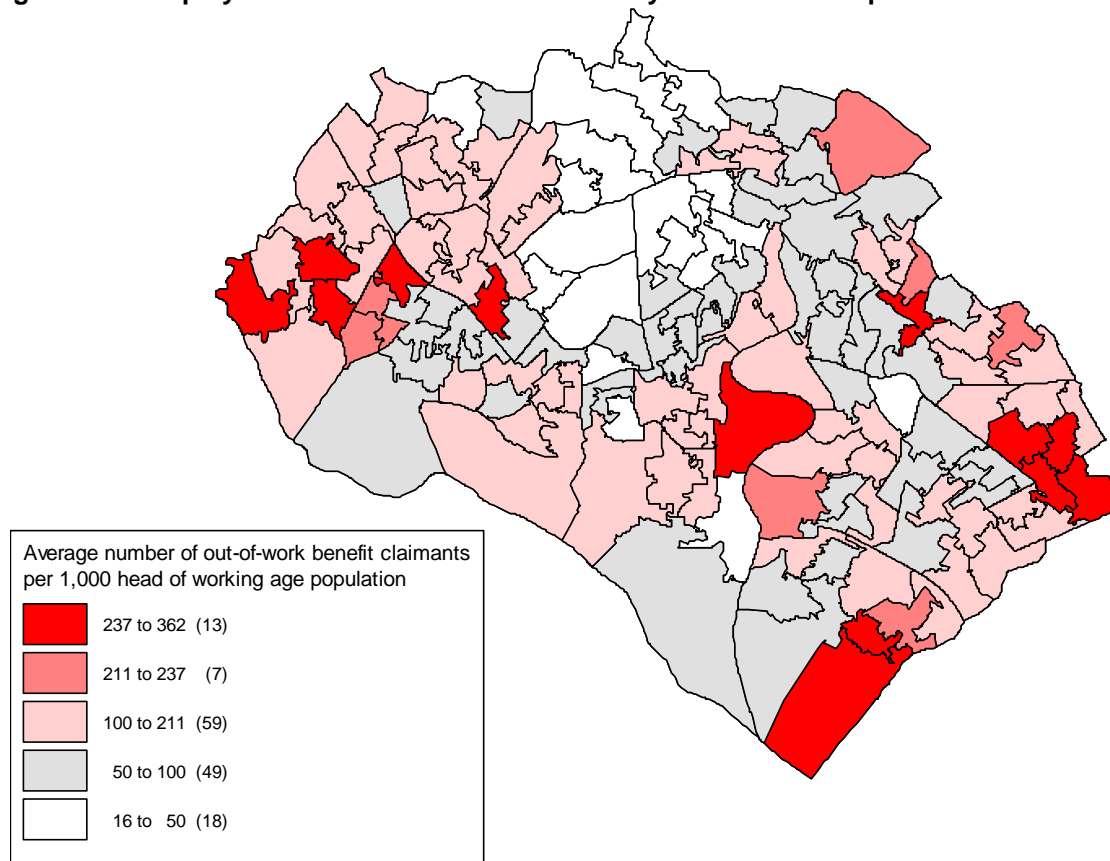
**Figure 1.4: Benefits being claimed in Southampton (May 2009)**



Source: DWP WPLS, May 2009

The unitary authority of Southampton is divided into 16 wards, and further sub-divided into 146 LSOAs. Figure 1.6 shows an LSOA map of Southampton, detailing the density of out-of-work benefit claimants<sup>5</sup> averaged over the last four quarters. To calculate this, the total benefit claimants figure for each LSOA over the last four quarters (from August 2008 until May 2009) has been averaged and divided by the estimated mid 2007 working age population.

**Figure 1.6 – Map by LSOA of benefit claimant density within Southampton**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 1.6 and Table 1.2 show a wide variation in the density of out-of-work benefit claimants across the city. The LSOA with the highest density (E01017281 located in Woolston ward) has a density of 362 benefit claimants per 1,000 head of working age population (or 36.2% of the working age population). Seventy-nine LSOAs have a density of at least 10%, of which 22 have a density in excess of 20% (equivalent to 1 in 5 of the working age population claiming a benefit). Only two LSOAs have a claimant density exceeding 30%. To illustrate the diversity of claimant density seen across Southampton, the LSOA with the lowest claimant density is E01017148 (Bassett) in which 1.6% of the working age population is claiming out-of-work benefits.

Around 10% of all the LSOAs across Southampton saw a reduction in the density of out-of-work benefit claimants between 2008 and 2009 but this was mostly by small amounts. The majority of LSOAs saw a rise in numbers, the largest being in E01017232 (Portswood) which rose by 69%, moving its ranking position from 143<sup>rd</sup> to 137<sup>th</sup> in Southampton. However, the 69% change only represents an increase of sixteen claimants. The largest increase in claimant numbers was in E01017202 (Harefield) whose ranking went up from 11<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> with 38 additional claimants,

<sup>5</sup> The definition of out-of-work benefits used in constructing Figure 6 and Table Two is consistent with the methodology used to calculate the National Indicator for Local Authorities NI153, as defined by the Department for Communities and Local Government

E01017176 (Bitterne Park) whose ranking went up from 86<sup>th</sup> to 71<sup>st</sup> with 35 additional claimants and E01017260 (Sholing) whose ranking went up from 103<sup>rd</sup> to 79<sup>th</sup> with 34 additional claimants. There was a 12% average increase in claimant numbers or approximately ten more claimants across the Southampton LSOAs. Those LSOAs at the lower end of the ranking generally saw higher percentage increases due to their smaller numbers.

**Table 1.2: Density of out-of-work benefit claimants within Southampton by LSOA**

Ward	Lower Super Output Area	Total out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of working age population (Average in year May 2008 - May 2009)	2009 RANKING <sup>1</sup>	Total out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of working age population (Average in year February 2007 - February 2008)	2008 RANKING	% Change from 2008 to 2009
Woolston	E01017281	362	1 =	355	1	2%
Bitterne	E01017167	316	2 =	315	2	0%
Millbrook	E01017207	292	3 =	294	3	-1%
Bitterne	E01017163	288	4 =	265	4	9%
Bevois	E01017154	283	5 =	259	5	9%
Redbridge	E01017245	272	6 ↑	252	8	8%
Harefield	E01017202	270	7 ↑	232	11	16%
Redbridge	E01017240	269	8 ↓	256	6	5%
Woolston	E01017280	266	9 ↓	254	7	5%
Redbridge	E01017237	257	10 =	236	10	9%
Bitterne	E01017166	256	11 ↓	240	9	7%
Bitterne	E01017168	238	12 ↑	224	14	6%
Shirley	E01017250	237	13 =	228	13	4%
Harefield	E01017201	232	14 ↑	207	15	12%
Millbrook	E01017210	231	15 ↓	230	12	0%
Woolston	E01017274	226	16 ↑	193	19	17%
Harefield	E01017205	225	17 =	195	17	15%
Swaythling	E01017265	222	18 ↓	197	16	13%
Peartree	E01017219	218	19 ↓	194	18	12%
Millbrook	E01017208	211	20 =	190	20	11%

Sources: Benefit Claimants statistics from DWP; Population statistics from ONS

<sup>1</sup> The following symbols “↑”, “↓”, “=” signify whether the LSOA has gone up, down or remained at the same ranking from 2008 to 2009.

### 1.5 Worklessness in Southampton in a regional and national context

Table 1.3 shows how the 13 LSOAs within Southampton with the highest benefit claimant density, compare to the other 34,378 LSOAs within England and Wales for this measure. A rank of 1 would mean that the LSOA has the highest density of claimants within England and Wales.

The LSOA with the highest claimant density within Southampton is E01017281 in Woolston ward, whose rank has slightly improved since 2008 but remained in the worst performing 2.5% of all LSOAs within England and Wales. Overall, the rankings of all but two of the LSOAs listed in Table 1.3 have improved over the last year. However, given the large number of LSOAs nationally, even a small alteration in claimant density can result in a significant change in overall rank.

**Table 1.3: Ranking within England and Wales of selected Southampton LSOAs for the proportion of the working age population claiming out-of-work benefits**

LSOA	Ward	Rank (out of 34,378) (May 2008)	Percentile (May 2008)	Rank (out of 34,378) (May 2009)	Percentile (May 2009)
E01017281	Woolston	606	1.8%	736	2.1%
E01017167	Bitterne	974	2.8%	1027	3.0%
E01017207	Millbrook	1394	4.1%	2031	5.9%
E01017163	Bitterne	2574	7.5%	2518	7.3%
E01017154	Bevois	1773	5.2%	2169	6.3%
E01017245	Redbridge	3240	9.4%	3362	9.8%
E01017202	Harefield	3430	10.0%	3681	10.7%
E01017240	Redbridge	2837	8.3%	2819	8.2%
E01017280	Woolston	2621	7.6%	2893	8.4%
E01017237	Redbridge	3063	8.9%	3265	9.5%
E01017166	Bitterne	2824	8.2%	2896	8.4%
E01017168	Bitterne	5287	15.4%	5544	16.1%
E01017250	Shirley	3536	10.3%	3833	11.1%

Source: DWP, ONS

In May 2008, E01017281 was the 22<sup>nd</sup> worst performing LSOA for benefit claimant density within the South East, and was the third worst performing LSOA within Hampshire, only behind E01017035 and E01017038 (both within the Charles Dickens ward, Portsmouth) which ranked 527<sup>th</sup> and 550<sup>th</sup> within England and Wales.

The regional positioning of E01017281 in Woolston had remained fairly static at 23<sup>rd</sup> place by May 2009. Once again, the LSOA was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> within Hampshire but with the LSOAs E01017038 and E01017040 (again, both within the Charles Dickens ward) ahead in 2009. There were a further three LSOAs located with Portsmouth with a higher claimant density than the next worst placed Southampton LSOA, namely E01017167 located within Bitterne ward.

Table 1.4 shows the proportion of the working age population within England and Wales, the South East and Southampton that are claiming benefits, alongside the equivalent proportions for five selected LSOAs within Southampton with the highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants. Table 1.5 shows the change in the proportion of the working age population claiming benefits between May 2008 and May 2009 for England and Wales, the South East region, Southampton and the top five LSOAs with the highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants in Southampton.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> The percentage figures given in Table 1.5 are not percentage changes; rather they represent an absolute change in the proportion of the working age population claiming each type of benefit. For example, for the total number of claimants in England and Wales a change figure of 1.8% indicates that the proportion of the working age population claiming benefits in May 2008 (13.8%) was in absolute terms 1.8% higher than the proportion (15.6%) claiming in May 2009.



	England and Wales	South East	Southampton	E01017281	E01017167	E01017207	E01017163	E01017154
Ward	n/a	n/a	n/a	Woolston	Bitterne	Millbrook	Bitterne	Bevois
Total claimants	15.6%	11.3%	14.5%	40.9%	38.4%	34.1%	32.5%	29.6%
Out-of-work benefit claimants	13.2%	9.4%	12.5%	38.5%	34.0%	31.1%	30.6%	28.0%
Job Seeker	3.9%	2.8%	3.9%	11.4%	9.3%	8.0%	9.4%	7.2%
Incapacity Benefits and Employment Support Allowance	6.9%	4.7%	6.0%	16.2%	13.2%	13.1%	12.3%	14.0%
Lone Parent	2.0%	1.5%	2.2%	10.0%	10.4%	9.0%	8.9%	5.5%
Carer	1.1%	0.8%	0.9%	1.0%	1.6%	1.5%	1.5%	1.3%
Others on Income Related Benefit	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	1.0%	1.1%	1.0%	0.0%	1.3%
Disabled	1.0%	0.9%	1.0%	1.4%	2.2%	1.0%	0.5%	0.3%
Bereaved	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Unknown	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

<sup>1</sup> Mid-2008 working age population (LSOA figures are sourced from Neighbourhood Statistics, figures for larger geographical areas are from ONS). The benefit claimant data is subject to a hierarchy as outlined in Table 1.1 and may therefore understate the actual number of claimants for certain categories. Additionally, Incapacity Benefit data includes Employment Support Allowance figures. Source: DWP and ONS

	England and Wales	South East	Southampton	E01017281	E01017167	E01017207	E01017163	E01017154
Ward	n/a	n/a	n/a	Woolston	Bitterne	Millbrook	Bitterne	Bevois
Total claimants	1.8%	1.7%	1.8%	2.7%	2.5%	2.0%	3.7%	-0.4%
Out-of-work benefit claimants	1.8%	1.7%	1.8%	4.2%	2.5%	1.7%	5.2%	0.0%
Job Seeker	1.8%	1.5%	1.9%	4.1%	3.2%	3.7%	4.0%	1.7%
Incapacity Benefits and Employment Support Allowance	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	1.5%	0.5%	0.0%	1.6%	-0.3%
Lone Parent	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%	-1.3%	-0.6%	-1.8%	0.1%	-1.6%
Carer	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-1.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.3%
Others on Income Related Benefit	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.6%	-0.1%	-0.5%	0.3%
Disabled	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.1%	-1.0%	-0.4%
Bereaved	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	-0.5%	-0.3%
Unknown	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: DWP and ONS



Whilst overall claimant statistics for Southampton appear to compare favourably to national figures, they are perhaps unsurprisingly higher than the regional average. The five highlighted LSOAs each have claimant statistics much in excess of both the city, regional and national averages. The data shows that the total number of benefit claimants rose between May 2008 and May 2009 across the region, nation and this is also reflected in the sample of LSOAs, with the exception of LSOA E01017154 which saw a marginal reduction of 0.4%. This is inevitably a knock on effect of the recession coming into force and predictably the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants has risen at a corresponding rate. The five LSOAs appear to have had increases in benefit claimant figures far above that of the city, regional and national averages. However, these results may be exaggerated due to the smaller sample range. Overall, the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants has altered most significantly compared to other out-of-work benefits. Lone parent claimant figures have marginally decreased, which may be due to the new ruling as previously discussed in Section 1.2. Otherwise, figures have remained fairly static within the other benefit categories.

Table 1.6 provides details of the five main categories under which Incapacity Benefit (IB) claims are made, alongside a comparative analysis of the percentage change in the number of claimants at the national, regional and Southampton city level over the period from 2008 to 2009.

For the quarter to May 2009, approximately 2 million were claiming IB in England and Wales. This equates to 6.1% of the working age population. 4.2% and 5.2% of the working age population were claiming IB in the South East and Southampton over the same period, respectively.

As mentioned in Section 1.2, Incapacity Benefit was replaced by ESA from 27 October 2008. IB data in Table 1.6 does not incorporate ESA. Therefore, the expectation is that numbers will have decreased between 2008 and 2009, as is reflected in Table 1.6 for England and Wales, the South East and Southampton, where IB claimants fell by 10.1%, 9.5% and 11.3%, respectively.

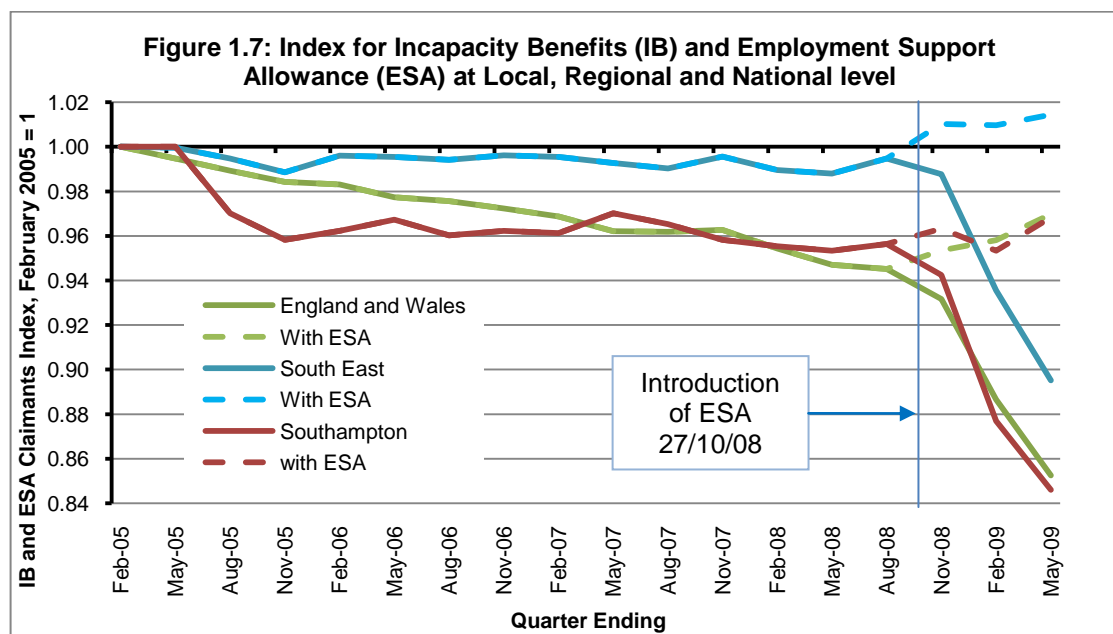
The mental and behavioural disorders category holds the largest share of IB claimants but has reduced by 10% in Southampton between May 2008 and May 2009. The reduction in IB claimant numbers over the last year appears to have most heavily impacted the award categories for the circulatory and respiratory system, injury and poisoning and 'other' unspecified claims. However numbers have decreased across each IB category regionally, nationally and across Southampton.

Published figures for ESA are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Figure 1.7 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005; the solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed line also includes ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit in late October 2008 has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton with a slight rise in the South East and England and Wales.

**Table 1.6: Analysis of Incapacity Benefit Claimants (2008-2009) in Southampton, the South East and England and Wales<sup>7</sup>**

Incapacity Benefit Claim Category	England and Wales			South East			Southampton		
	Number	Percentage of all IB Claims (2009)	Change 2008 to 2009 <sup>8</sup>	Number	Percentage of all IB Claims (2009)	Change 2008 to 2009	Number	Percentage of all IB Claims (2009)	Change 2008 to 2009
Mental and behavioural disorders	879,220	42.7%	-8.1%	94,640	44.4%	-7.2%	4,230	50.5%	-10.0%
Diseases of the nervous system	135,010	6.6%	-4.9%	16,920	7.9%	-4.5%	490	5.9%	-5.8%
Diseases of the circulatory and respiratory system	143,600	7.0%	-13.1%	12,980	6.1%	-12.9%	530	6.3%	-11.7%
Diseases of the musculoskeletal system	358,490	17.4%	-10.3%	32,230	15.1%	-9.2%	1,270	15.2%	-7.3%
Injury and poisoning	103,680	5.0%	-21.0%	11,010	5.2%	-23.5%	420	5.0%	-26.3%
Other reasons for claims	441,060	21.4%	-11.3%	45,230	21.2%	-11.3%	1,430	17.1%	-14.9%
<b>Total Number of Claimants</b>	<b>2,061,060</b>		<b>-10.1%</b>	<b>213,010</b>		<b>-9.5%</b>	<b>8,370</b>		<b>-11.3%</b>
<b>Total Number of IB Claims as % of WA Population</b>	6.1%			4.2%			5.2%		

Source: DWP (Claimant statistics); ONS (Mid 2008 working age population); Claimant figures for 2008 and 2009 are as at May 2008 and May 2009 respectively.



Source: DWP

<sup>7</sup> This table is not subject to the hierarchy as in Table 1.4 and therefore all Incapacity Benefit claimants should be included in this data analysis. Employment Support Allowance figures are not included in this dataset.

<sup>8</sup> This is the actual percentage change between claimant figures in 2008 and 2009. For example, the total number of Incapacity Claimants in England and Wales changed by -10.1% from 2,292,500 in 2008 to 2,061,060 in 2009.

## **Section Two – Analysis of Individual Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)**

As identified in Section One, the thirteen LSOAs within Southampton with the highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants have remained largely unchanged from last year's findings. The latest 2009 statistics reveal that between May 2008 and May 2009, on average more than one in five of the working age population claimed out-of-work benefits in these locations. More specifically, the claimant density for the year to May 2009 for each of the selected LSOAs was in excess of 232 claimants per 1,000 head of working age population, which is higher than the 2008 density figure of over 225. To put this into context, the out-of-work benefit claimant densities for England and Wales, the wider South East region, and the city of Southampton as a whole for the same period were 125, 88 and 118 respectively. Section Two will analyse each of these thirteen LSOAs in more depth, with a particular focus on the changes which have occurred in the year since the last study was undertaken.

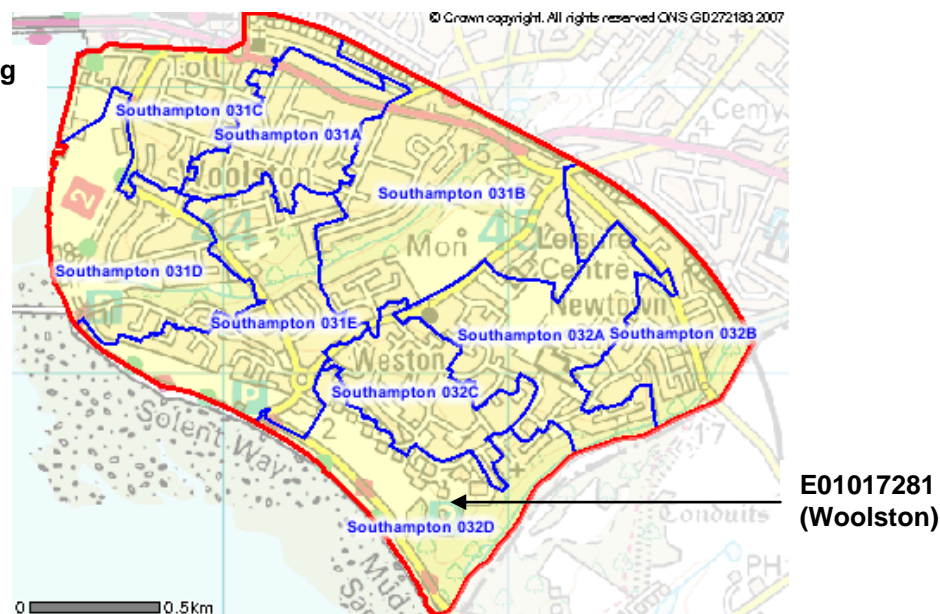
### **2.1 LSOA E01017281 (Woolston ward)**

#### **Summary of Findings for E01017281**

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017281 (Woolston) has identified the following key points:

- Last year's report highlighted LSOA E01017281 as having the highest density of benefits claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton. This continues to be the case a year later, as reflected in May 2008 to May 2009 data.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The numbers of Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants have begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The number of short-term Income Support claimants has fallen since November 2008, potentially as a result of changes to the eligibility criteria for claiming this benefit at that time. However, the typical Income Support claimant remains female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017281 between October 2008 and February 2009. The impact of this increase fell most heavily upon those aged over 50, with the increase in male claimants exceeding the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.

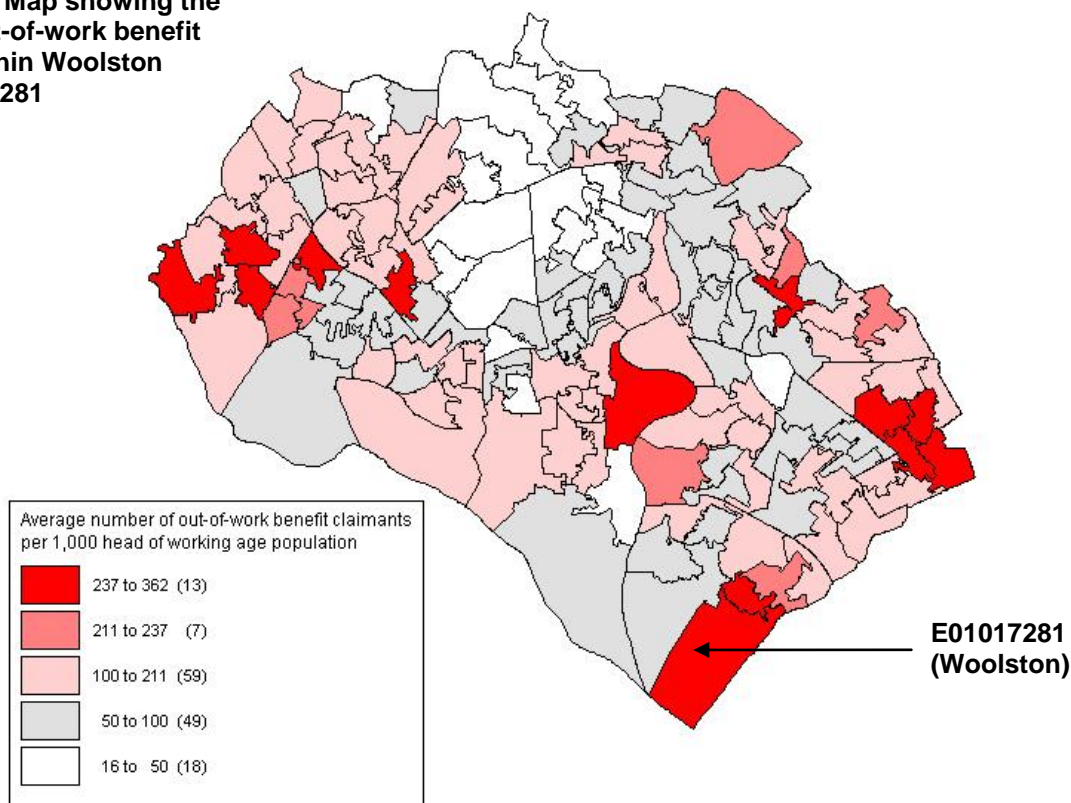
**Figure 2.1.1 – Map showing the location of Woolston LSOA E01017281**



**Profile**

LSOA E01017281 is located in the area of Southampton known as Weston, which itself lies within Woolston ward (see Figure 2.1.1 for the LSOA's location within Woolston). The LSOA, which lies adjacent to Southampton Water, is dominated by six local authority tower blocks (the Canberra, Copenhagen, Hampton, Havre, Oslo and Rotterdam towers). The LSOA is within one of eleven key priority neighbourhoods in Southampton as identified by Southampton Partnership, which included the Weston Shore Single Regeneration Budget 6 area<sup>9</sup>.

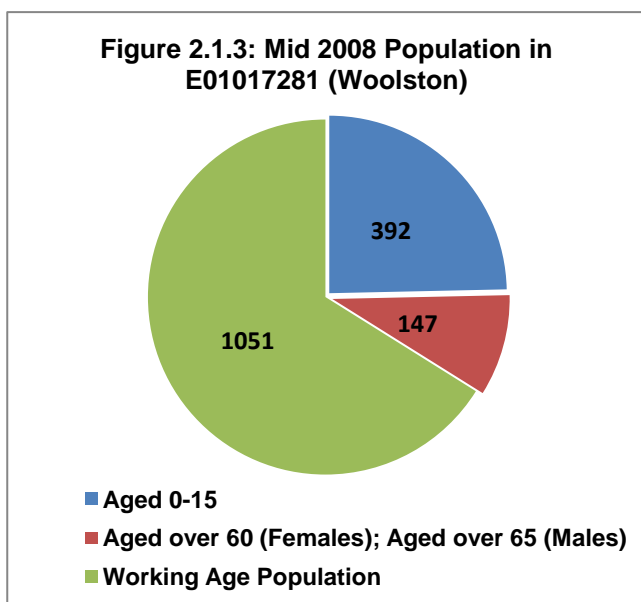
**Figure 2.1.1 – Map showing the density of out-of-work benefit claimants within Woolston LSOA E01017281**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

<sup>9</sup> The successful Weston Shore SRB6 programme included physical improvements to the area. The SRB programme was completed in May 2007, although ongoing work via other funding partners continued through 2008. E01017281 also forms part of the larger Weston area which is one of eleven areas included in Southampton Partnership's Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy which is designed to tackle social deprivation by raising aspirations and improving the quality of life.

Figure 2.1.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. The 2008 report highlighted LSOA E01017281 as having the highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants across Southampton with 355 per 1,000 head of the working age population claiming some form of out-of-work benefits. This LSOA continues to have the highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs within Southampton, with the density figure increasing to 362 per 1,000 head of working age population between May 2008 and May 2009.



According to ONS, the population of E01017281 in 2008 was nearly 1,600. Of these, approximately one quarter (nearly 400 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst nearly 150 people were over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of around 1,050 people. Approximately 36 per cent of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>10</sup>.

Within both the economically active and inactive populations, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity Benefits/ Employment Support Allowance (ESA) or full-time students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017281**

Table 2.1.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017281 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>11</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 12 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This increase may be expected as a result of the recession and is also reflected over the region as a whole, where on average, Southampton, the South East region and England have all seen increases in the number of total claimants over the same period. However, this increase in benefit claimants in E01017281 is not significantly larger than in previous years. For instance, for the year ending May 2006, there were on average 34 more benefit claimants compared to the average for the year ending May 2005.

<sup>10</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.

<sup>11</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	410	91	164	115	14	10	14	3	0
2008	398	68	163	123	16	13	13	4	0
2007	411	75	161	134	14	13	10	5	0
2006	395	74	153	129	16	15	6	3	0
2005	364	58	153	115	16	9	11	3	0
2004	354	56	150	111	15	9	10	3	0
2003	363	56	150	125	14	9	5	4	0
2002	359	59	153	120	14	8	N/A	1	3

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	140	80	60	5	80	40	15	15	10	40	75
Job Seekers	120	100	20	35	70	15	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	200	55	145	60	115	25	0	35	30	60	75
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	130	60	70	15	60	30	15	20	10	30	70
Bereaved	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 5 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 5 DLA claimants aged over 70

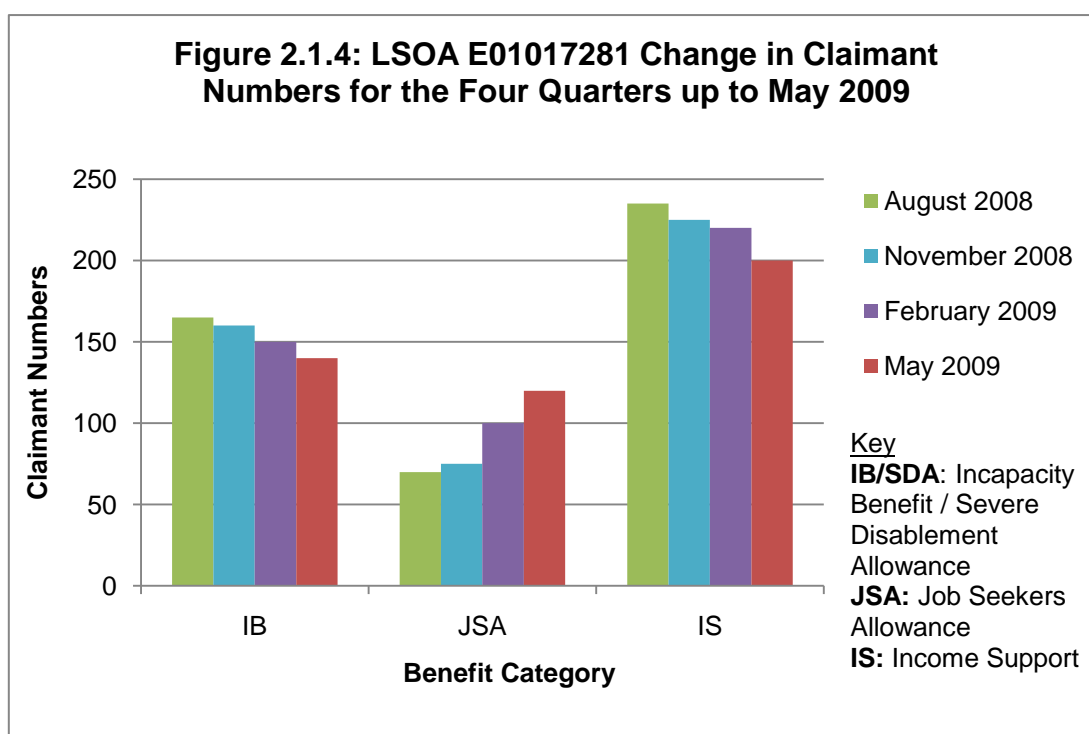
Table 2.1.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017281 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.1.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.1.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>12</sup>). As a result, individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.1.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017281 at May 2009, rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>13</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017281 has altered, with a noticeable increase in the number of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA). Over the same period, the number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) and Income Support have both declined (see Figure 2.1.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.

<sup>12</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>13</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.1.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.





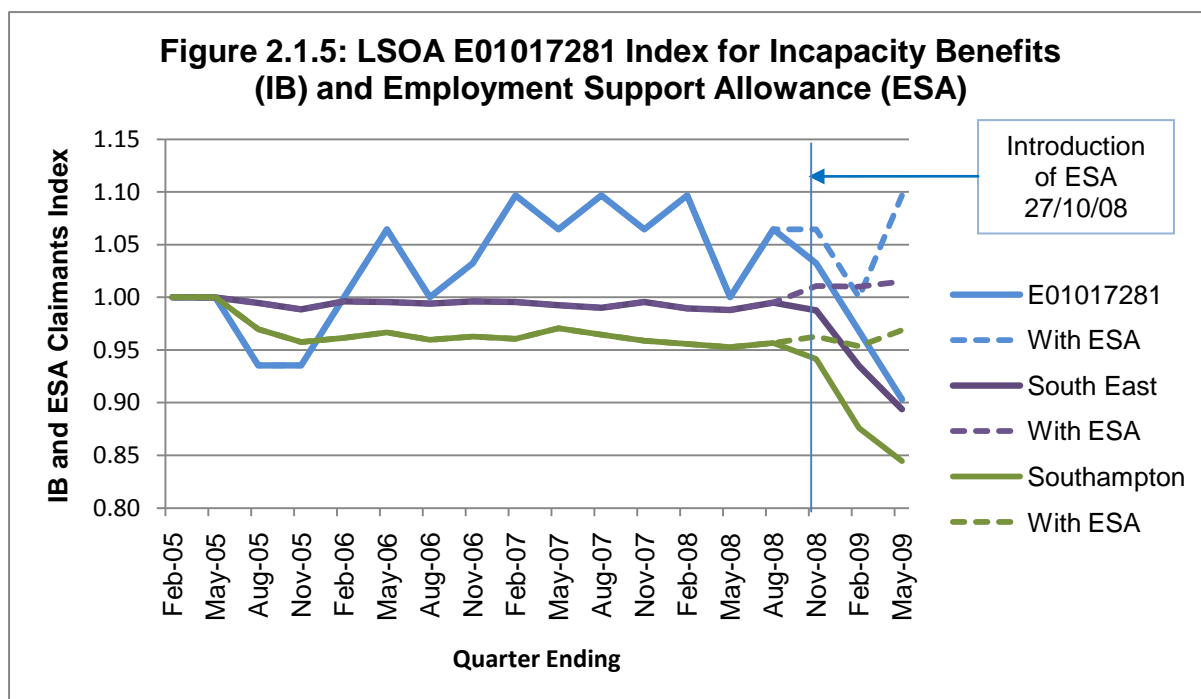
Source: DWP

**Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008, as is shown in the quarterly data for E01017281. The downturn in the economy is unlikely to have had any particular effect on the number of people claiming IB as this is awarded on the basis of the claimant suffering from particular health conditions as listed under the “Award” section in Table 2.1.3.

Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009, and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy of any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.1.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005; the solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, and the dashed lines also include ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The May 2009 data for LSOA E01017281 shows approximately 30 people to have been claiming ESA, which is the highest compared with all other LSOA’s in Southampton.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.1.3. Between May 2008 and May 2009, the proportion of long to short term claimants changed slightly. The majority of claimants have been claiming IB for 2 years or more, as was the case in 2008, but the gap between long and short-term claimants has increased since ESA came into force. Since November 2008, the number of people claiming for up to six months has decreased, as would be expected, since new claimants are being moved on to ESA, or in certain cases being directed towards alternative benefits such as JSA. The shift in the composition of claimants towards longer-term claimants is likely to become more pronounced as ESA becomes more embedded. In May 2009, nearly half of the number of people claiming IB in E01017281 had been claiming for 5 years or more.

The ratio of male to female claimants remained at a similar level of 60:40. However, there appears to have been a shift in the age of claimants. The number of people from the 50-59 age band has increased by around 17 per cent, whereas numbers in the 16-24 and 25-49 age bands have decreased by around 15 and 11 per cent, respectively.

There have been minimal changes in the reasons for the award of IB for E01017281 residents since 2008. After a steep increase between 2002 and 2008 in the number of people claiming IB based on mental and behavioural disorders, the proportion of people claiming under this heading increased only marginally in the last year. Otherwise, there was little alteration in the reasons for awarding IB.

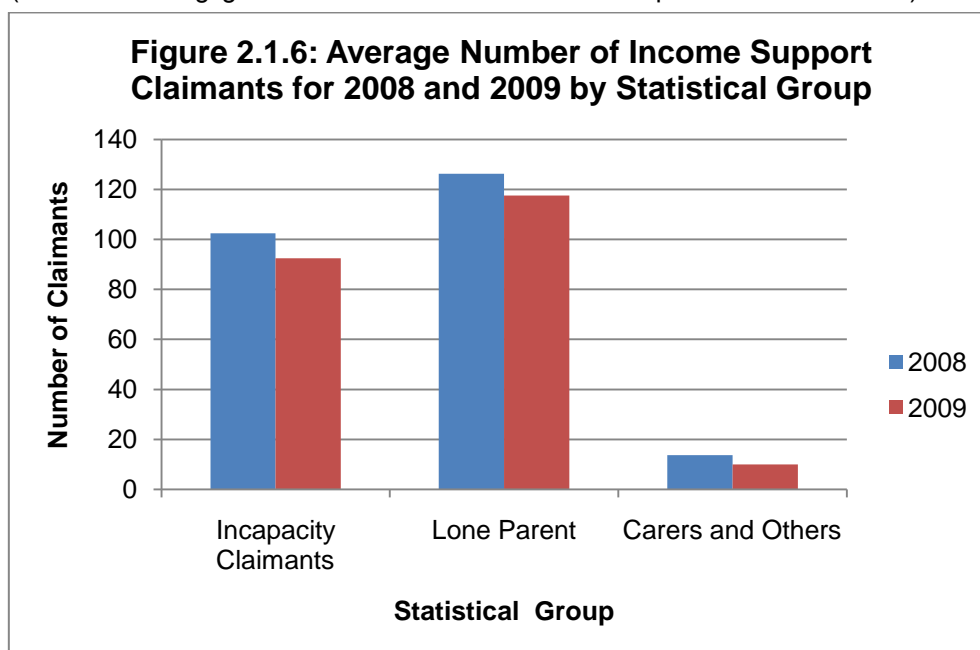
The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.

### Income Support claimants

Since the distinct reduction in Income Support claimants between 2003 and 2004 due to the introduction of the Pension Credit scheme, numbers had generally been increasing until mid 2007 when numbers began to decrease once more (see Table 2.1.4 in the Data Appendix). Between 2008 and 2009 there was almost a 10 per cent drop in the number of people claiming IS. Income support



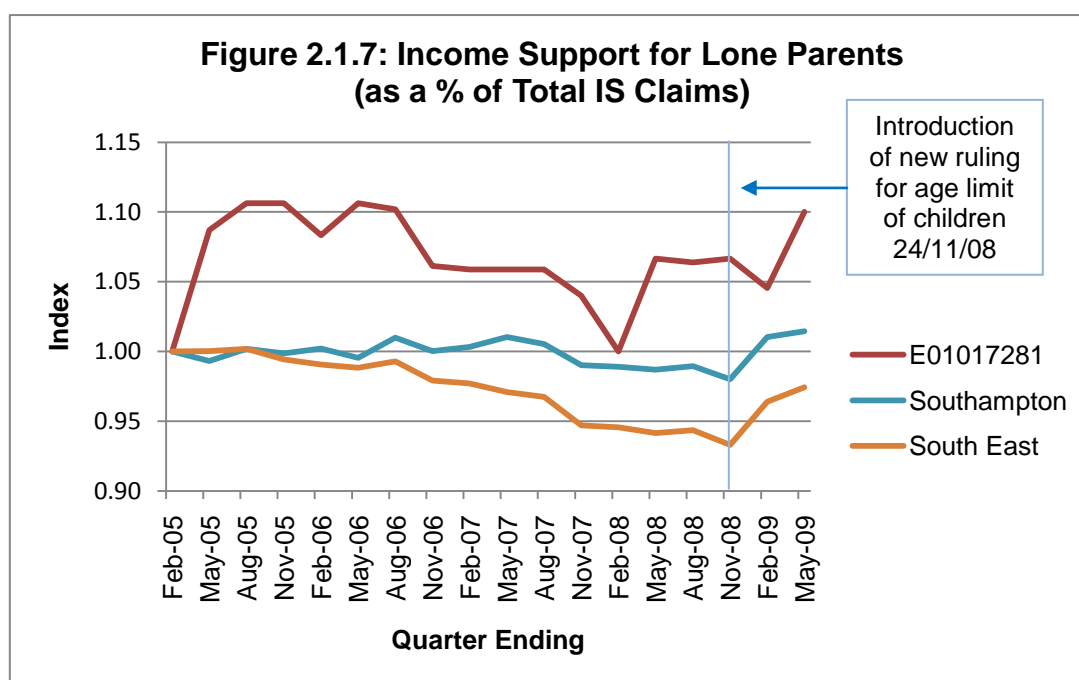
benefit claimants are classified into three sub-categories; lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income, and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.1.6, both the decrease in Incapacity Benefit and lone parent claimants have contributed to the drop in numbers (as well as a negligible decrease in the Statistical Group 'Carers and Others').



Source: DWP

Theoretically, the impact of the recession may increase the number of people claiming IS as a lone parent. As the recession has the effect of increasing unemployment, there will be greater numbers of people who either find themselves out of work or who are forced to take jobs providing a lower income. The obvious effect is that the number of JSA claimants will increase as a result, but for individuals with constraints in the number of hours they can work per week (such as lone parents) the alternative benefit of Income Support may be required. However, there have recently been changes to the benefit system that may have the opposite effect. The new ruling relating to who can claim IS as a lone parent (as described in Section 1.2) means that from 24 November 2008, IS was discontinued for lone parents with children over the age of twelve, providing that this was their sole reason for claiming. This decision is likely to have the effect of decreasing the number of lone parents claiming IS, (previously lone parents could claim IS until their youngest child reached the age of sixteen,) for long-term as well as short-term claimants from December 2008 onwards.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.1.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton and the South East has increased since November 2008. LSOA E01017281 initially saw a reduction for the quarter to the end of February 2009 after the introduction of the new ruling for the age limit of children. Although the proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent appears to have increased for the quarter up to May 2009, this is against a backdrop of the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS decreasing. The actual number of people claiming IS as a lone parent has been decreasing since November 2008 in LSOA E01017281 and decreased for the May 2009 quarter for both Southampton and the South East.



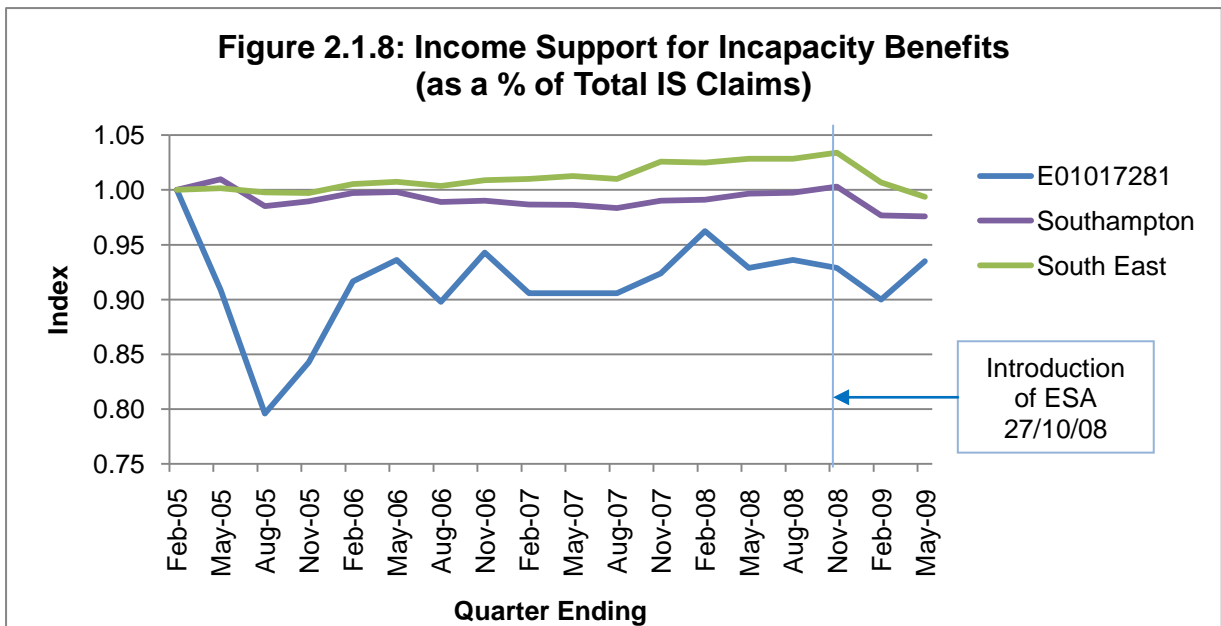
Source: DWP

All new Incapacity Benefit claimants for IS are being transferred over to ESA. As a result, claimant numbers fell from November 2008 for Southampton, South East and LSOA E01017281 (see Figure 2.1.8). Again, although the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS has increased for the May 2009 quarter for E01017281, the actual number has decreased over this timeframe.

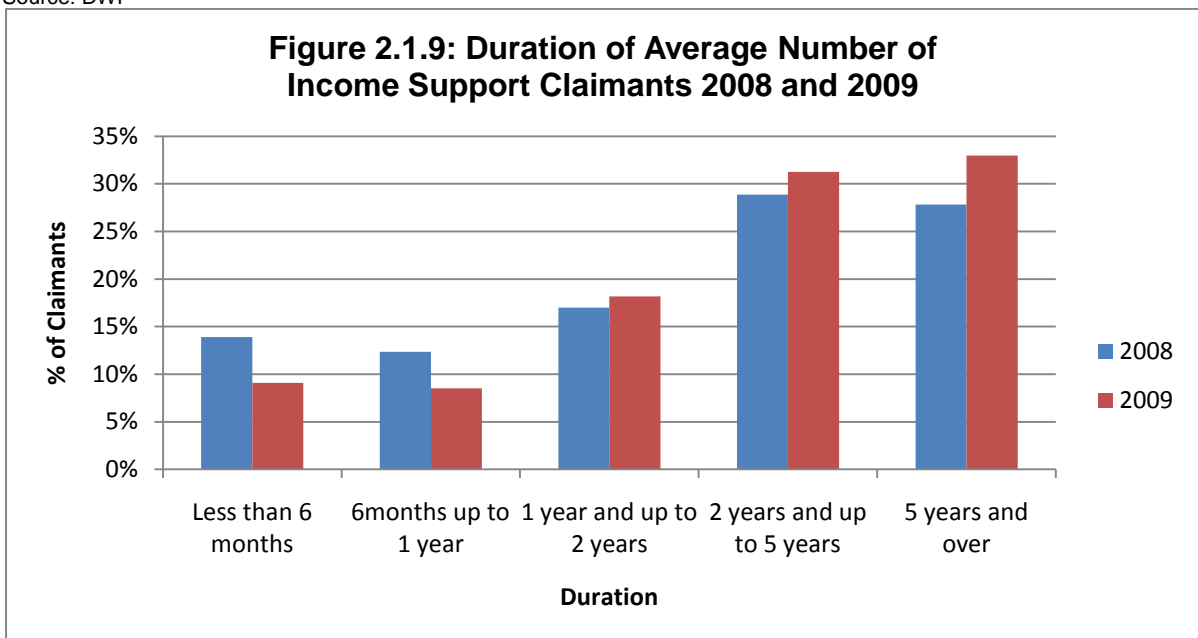
The number of short-term claimants has diminished; altering the composition of the duration of claims in this category. This outcome is reflected in IS claims as a whole, as depicted in Figure 2.1.9 where the number of people claiming IS for six months or less has decreased by 40 per cent and those claiming for six months to one year decreased by nearly the same amount. The number of those claiming for between 1 and 5 years remained fairly static whilst those claiming for over 5 years increased by around 7%. Additionally, the demographic of the claimants by age has also altered. There were 23 per cent fewer claimants within the 16-24 age band between May 2008 and May 2009, whilst the number of 25-49 year olds claiming IS has decreased by a lesser amount of 4 per cent and the number of those claiming from the 50 and over age bracket has increased by 10 per cent.

Otherwise, the characteristics of IS claimants have remained largely unchanged over the last year, despite an overall decrease in the number of claimants. The ratio of male to female claimants remained at approximately 30:70, the ratio of those with a partner compared to those who were single remained at a constant 8:92 and the statistical groups remained fairly static for those claiming as either a lone parent, carer or under Incapacity Benefits.

The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.



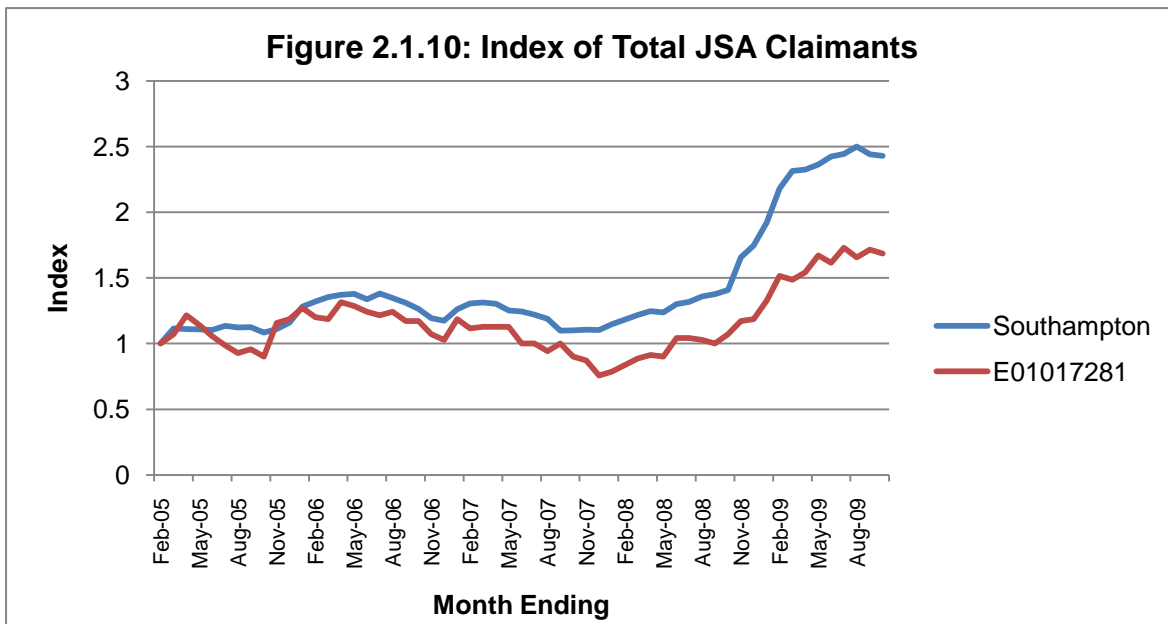
Source: DWP



Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

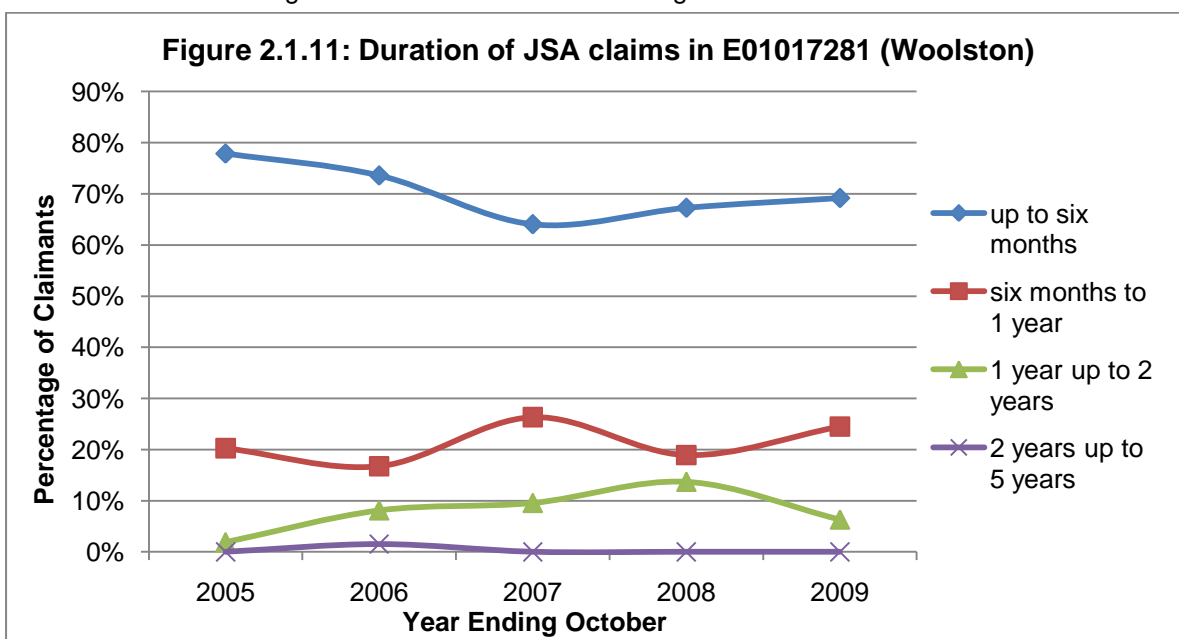
Table 2.1.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017281 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and is visible in Figure 2.1.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between October 2008 and February 2009, where figures rose by just over 40 per cent in E01017281. Overall, the growth in JSA claimants has been less pronounced in LSOA E01017281 over the last year than in Southampton as a whole.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with an average of 36 more male claimants and 6 more female claimants altering the ratio of male claimants to female from around 76:24 last year to around 79:21 this year (see Table 2.1.5). The data also suggests that the increase has affected the older age band more than the younger age bands in E01017281, as the number of JSA claimants aged 50 and over increased from an average of 2 people in 2008 to 13 in 2009. There was more than a 40 per cent increase in claimant numbers belonging to the 16-24 age band, whilst claimants aged 25-49 rose by over 60 per cent between October 2008 and 2009.

The rising number of JSA claimants in E01017281 since mid 2008 has resulted in an increased proportion of those claiming for less than a year, as demonstrated in Figure 2.1.11 below. The noticeably shorter durations for claims of JSA compared with other benefits is likely to be mainly due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.

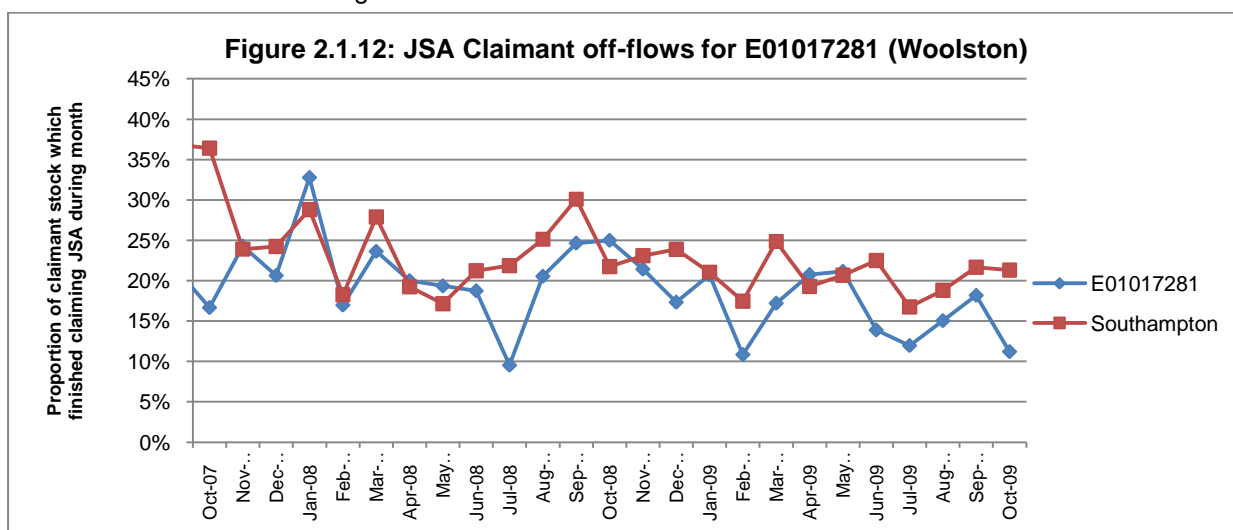


Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

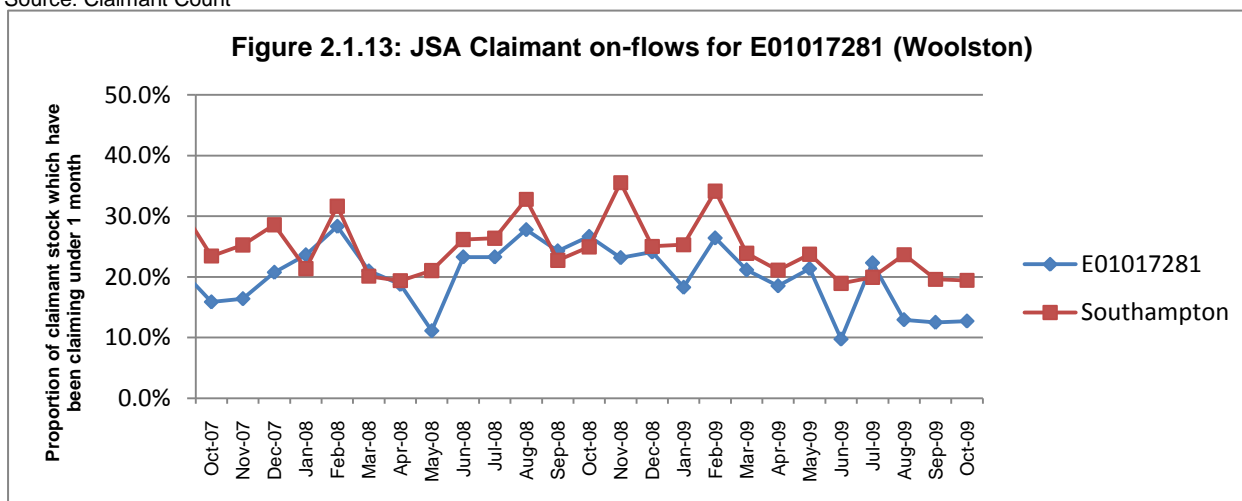
Figures 2.1.12 and 2.1.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows), and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017281 (Woolston) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Whilst claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas, in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is lower for the LSOA than for the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017281 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017281 (Woolston) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in construction, retail and goods storage, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017281 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the numbers claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count.

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		154	165	163	153	154	148	153	153
Type	IB	94%	95%	95%	93%	94%	93%	93%	92%
	SDA	6%	5%	5%	7%	6%	7%	7%	8%
Age	16-24	7%	10%	7%	11%	11%	11%	14%	11%
	25-49	58%	62%	65%	58%	56%	55%	50%	52%
	50-59	28%	23%	22%	24%	25%	25%	25%	25%
	Over 60	7%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	11%	11%
Gender	Male	59%	61%	62%	58%	54%	58%	59%	60%
	Female	41%	39%	38%	42%	46%	42%	41%	40%
Duration	Less than 6 months	7%	13%	12%	11%	10%	10%	16%	13%
	6 months up to 1 year	7%	9%	9%	7%	9%	8%	11%	9%
	1 year and up to 2 years	13%	14%	12%	11%	15%	18%	12%	16%
	2 years and up to 5 years	28%	25%	29%	29%	28%	25%	25%	29%
	5 years and over	46%	39%	38%	42%	37%	39%	35%	34%
Award	Mental	62%	61%	59%	52%	50%	49%	48%	42%
	Nervous System	2%	3%	3%	2%	3%	4%	4%	4%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	6%	5%	6%	8%	7%	8%	9%	8%
	Musculoskeletal	14%	11%	12%	13%	15%	14%	15%	17%
	Injury, poisoning	4%	5%	5%	6%	6%	6%	6%	7%
	Other	13%	15%	14%	19%	20%	19%	19%	21%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		220	243	250	236	224	230	290	278
Age	16-24	31%	37%	35%	34%	32%	32%	31%	30%
	25-49	57%	54%	57%	56%	57%	53%	41%	42%
	50-59	12%	10%	9%	10%	11%	10%	10%	8%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	19%	20%
Gender	Male	29%	28%	29%	29%	30%	31%	32%	32%
	Female	71%	72%	72%	71%	70%	69%	68%	68%
Duration	Less than 6 months	9%	14%	15%	12%	16%	14%	13%	14%
	6 months up to 1 year	9%	12%	11%	14%	13%	10%	10%	10%
	1 year and up to 2 years	18%	17%	17%	19%	18%	18%	17%	18%
	2 years and up to 5 years	31%	29%	34%	33%	31%	33%	31%	28%
	5 years and over	33%	28%	25%	23%	22%	25%	28%	30%
Partnered	With partner	8%	8%	7%	7%	9%	8%	10%	12%
	Single	92%	92%	93%	93%	91%	92%	90%	88%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	42%	42%	42%	40%	43%	40%	37%	36%
	Lone Parent	53%	52%	54%	55%	51%	49%	44%	43%
	Carers and Others	5%	6%	5%	5%	6%	11%	20%	21%

Source: DWP

<sup>14</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	107	79%	21%	32%	60%	8%	74%	20%	6%	0%
2008	65	76%	24%	33%	65%	2%	66%	20%	14%	0%
2007	74	75%	25%	29%	67%	4%	64%	26%	10%	0%
2006	85	77%	23%	26%	67%	7%	71%	19%	8%	2%
2005	70	80%	20%	26%	66%	8%	78%	19%	3%	1%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		124	111	99	96	96	93	78
Age	Under 16	7%	9%	8%	8%	10%	8%	11%
	16-24	13%	10%	6%	9%	14%	8%	10%
	25-49	44%	45%	43%	40%	32%	34%	31%
	50-59	22%	20%	23%	23%	21%	24%	23%
	60-69	9%	11%	15%	14%	17%	20%	24%
	70 and over	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%	5%	2%
Gender	Male	47%	49%	47%	42%	45%	49%	53%
	Female	53%	51%	53%	58%	55%	51%	47%
Duration	Less than 12 months	12%	13%	14%	8%	10%	16%	15%
	1 year and up to 2 years	9%	10%	11%	10%	18%	14%	10%
	2 years and up to 5 years	27%	28%	24%	29%	22%	18%	27%
	5 years and over	52%	48%	51%	53%	49%	53%	48%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	48%	43%	41%	34%	31%	31%	29%
	Higher Rate	37%	42%	39%	45%	47%	46%	53%
	Nil Rate	14%	16%	20%	21%	22%	23%	18%
Care Award	Lower Rate	34%	37%	33%	31%	30%	34%	27%
	Middle Rate	37%	33%	30%	32%	30%	27%	31%
	Higher Rate	16%	17%	22%	22%	25%	22%	23%
	Nil Rate	12%	13%	15%	14%	16%	18%	19%

Source: DWP

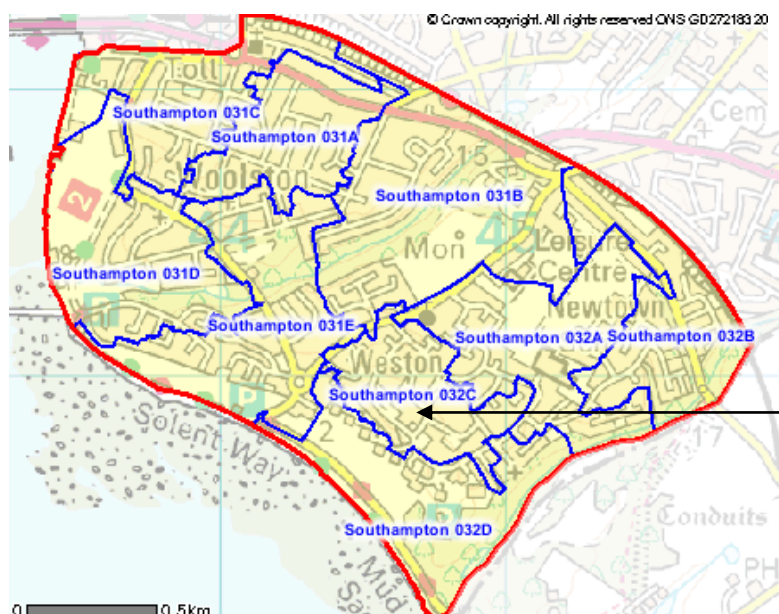


## 2.2 LSOA E01017280 (Woolston ward)

### Summary of Findings for E01017280

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017280 (Woolston) has identified the following key points:

- LSOA E01017280 has the ninth highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The numbers of Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants have begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The number of short-term Income Support claimants has fallen since November 2008, potentially as a result of changes to the eligibility criteria for claiming this benefit at that time. However, the typical claimant remains female, aged 25-49, claiming income support under the incapacity benefit grouping, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017280 between December 2008 and February 2009 with the increase in male claimants exceeding the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.



**Figure 2.2.1 – Map showing the location of Woolston LSOA E01017280**

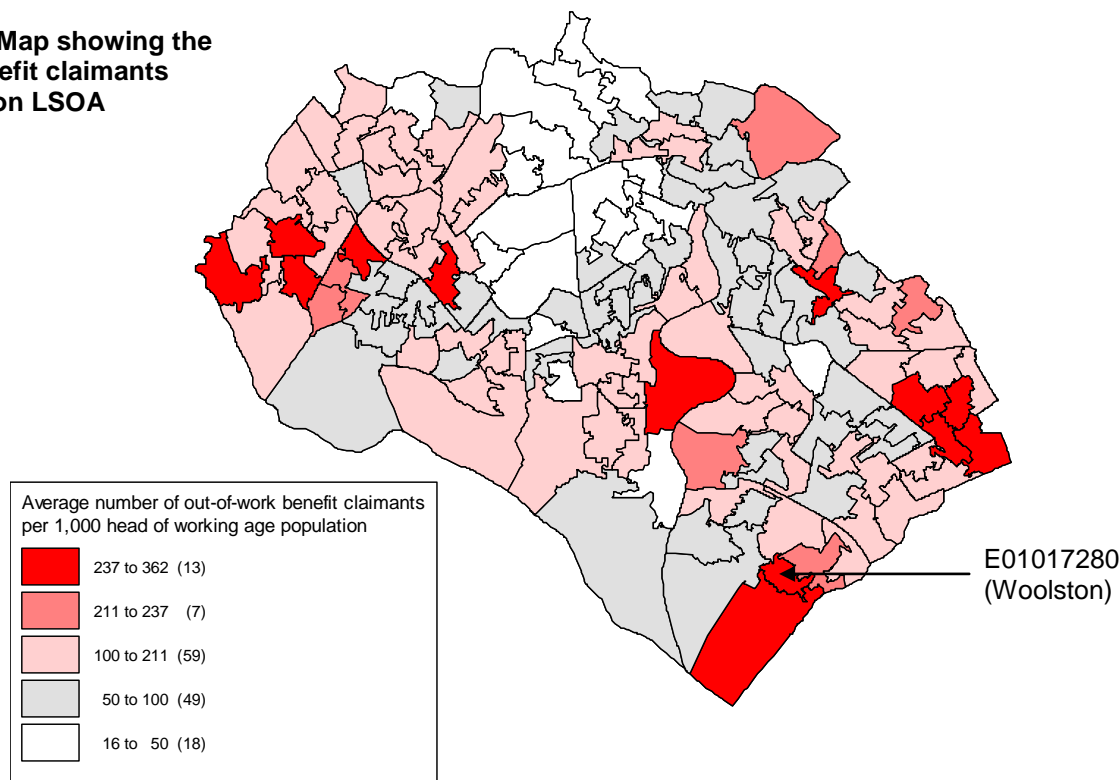
**E01017280 (Woolston)**



**Profile**

The LSOA E01017280 is located within the Woolston ward (see Figure 2.2.1 for the LSOA's location within Woolston). The LSOA, which lies adjacent to LSOA E01017280 contains a large amount of local authority housing, most of which is terraced and semi-detached in style. The LSOA is within one of eleven key priority neighbourhoods in Southampton as identified by Southampton Partnership.

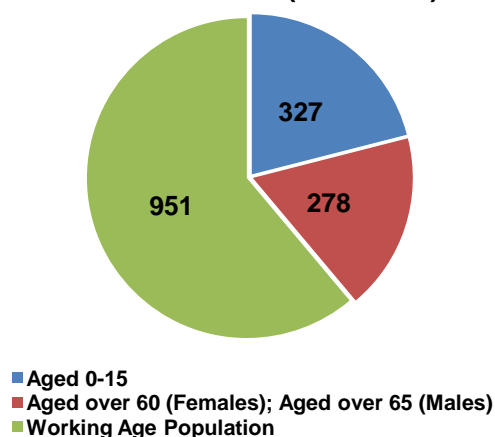
**Figure 2.2.2 – Map showing the density of benefit claimants within Woolston LSOA E01017280**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.2.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. There was an estimated 266 out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head in the LSOA E01017280 on average over the year between May 2008 and May 2009, an increase from 258 in last year's report. This figure represents the ninth highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.2.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017280 (Woolston)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017280 in 2008 was over 1,550. Of these, over one in five (327 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst nearly 280 people were over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of around 950 people. Approximately 26 per cent of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>15</sup>.

<sup>15</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.

Within both the economically active and inactive populations, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity Benefits / Employment Support Allowance (ESA) or full-time students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017280**

Table 2.2.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017280 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>16</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 20 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This increase may be expected as a result of the recession and is also reflected over the region as a whole, where on average, Southampton, the South East region and England have all seen increases in the total number of claimants over the same period. The last increase of this magnitude was between 2002 and 2003 where there was an average of 19 more claimants within the LSOA.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	291	59	129	56	20	9	16	3	0
2008	271	38	135	54	19	9	18	0	0
2007	270	33	138	59	16	8	13	5	0
2006	266	34	135	55	14	5	18	6	0
2005	254	24	133	55	18	5	15	5	0
2004	251	31	128	58	14	5	11	5	0
2003	243	31	125	54	13	6	10	4	0
2002	224	35	118	56	8	4	N/A	0	1

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	115	65	50	0	65	40	10	10	5	30	70
Job Seekers	80	65	15	30	40	10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	130	45	85	25	80	25	0	20	15	35	60
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	155	80	75	5	60	35	25	10	15	30	100
Bereaved	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

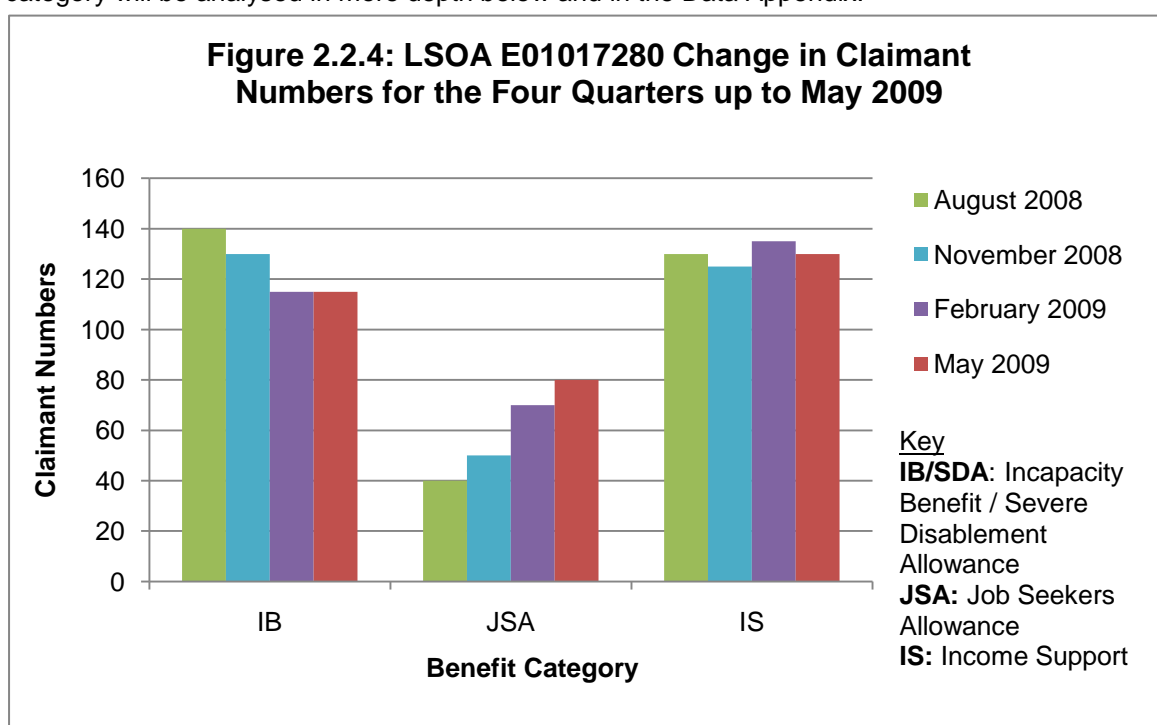
<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 15 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 15 DLA claimants aged over 70

<sup>16</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.

Table 2.2.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017280 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.2.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.2.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>17</sup>). As a result, individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.2.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017280 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>18</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017280 has altered, with a noticeable increase in the number of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA). Over the same period, the number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) and Income Support have both declined (see Figure 2.2.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

### **Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008, as is shown in the quarterly data for E01017280.

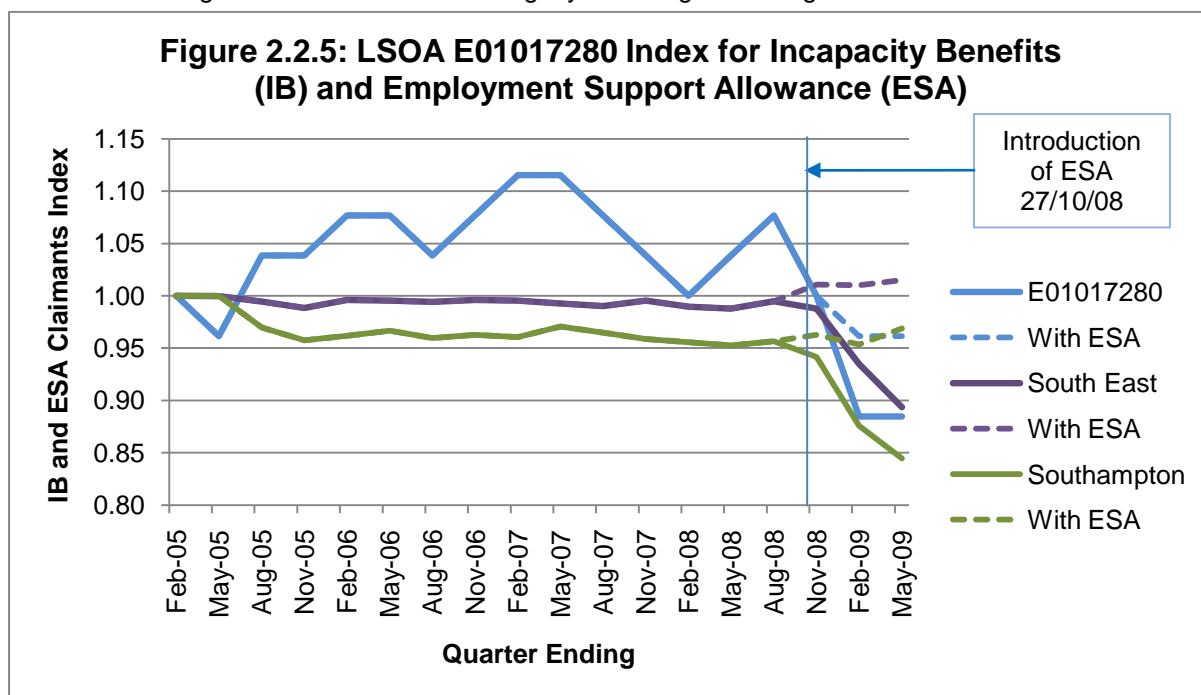
Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and

<sup>17</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.2.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.

mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy of any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.2.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005. The solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed line includes ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The February and May 2009 data for LSOA E01017280 shows approximately 10 people to have been claiming ESA and numbers claiming IB and ESA have been slightly declining since August 2008.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.2.3. Between May 2008 and May 2009, the proportion of long to short term claimants has changed slightly. The majority of claimants have been claiming IB for 5 years or more (over 50 per cent in May 2009), as was the case in 2008, but the gap between long and short-term claimants has increased since ESA came into force. Since November 2008, the number of people claiming for up to six months has decreased by 30%. The decrease is to be expected, since new claimants are being moved on to ESA, or in certain cases being directed towards alternative benefits such as JSA. The numbers claiming between 6 months and a year has remained fairly constant whilst the number of people claiming between 2 and 5 years has increased. The shift in the composition of claimants towards longer-term claimants is likely to become more pronounced as ESA becomes more embedded.

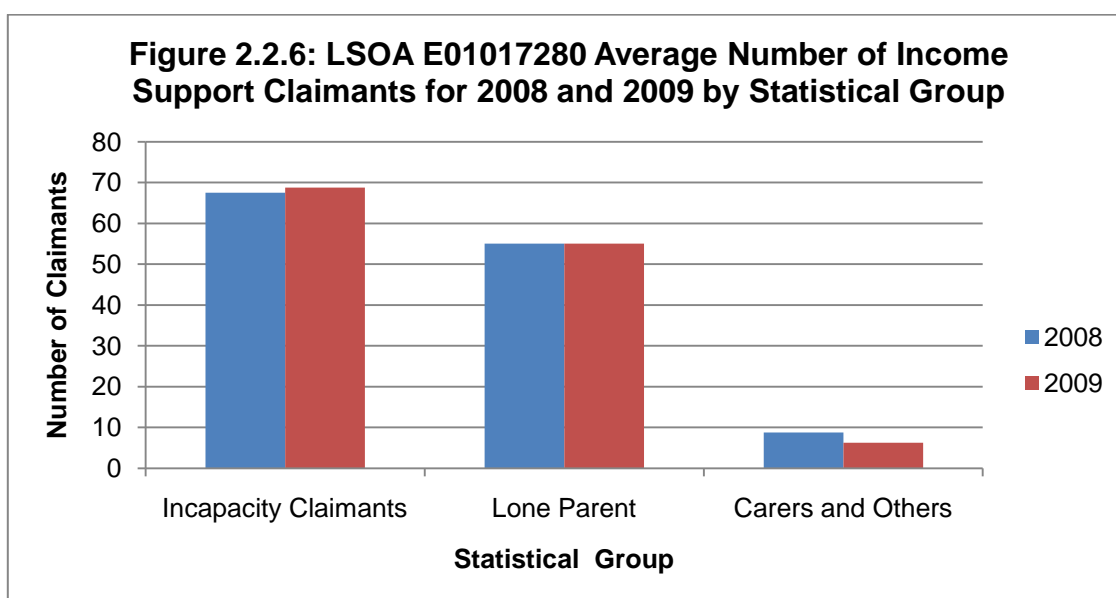
The ratio of male to female claimants remained at the same level of around 60:40. However, there appears to have been a slight shift in the age of claimants. The overall decrease in the number of people claiming IB between 2008 and 2009 appears to have affected people claiming from the younger age bands of 16-24 and 25-49 which fell by approximately 65 per cent and 7 per cent respectively, whilst the 50-59 and over 60 age bands have remained constant.

There have been minimal changes in the reasons for the award of IB for E01017280 residents since 2008. After a steep increase between 2002 and 2005 in the number of people claiming IB based on mental and behavioral disorders, numbers have, on average, been dropping slightly from May 2007 to May 2009. However, the steepest fall in numbers between 2008 and 2009 has been attributed to the “other” reason category. Otherwise, there was little alteration in the reason for awarding IB.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted for over five years.

### **Income Support claimants**

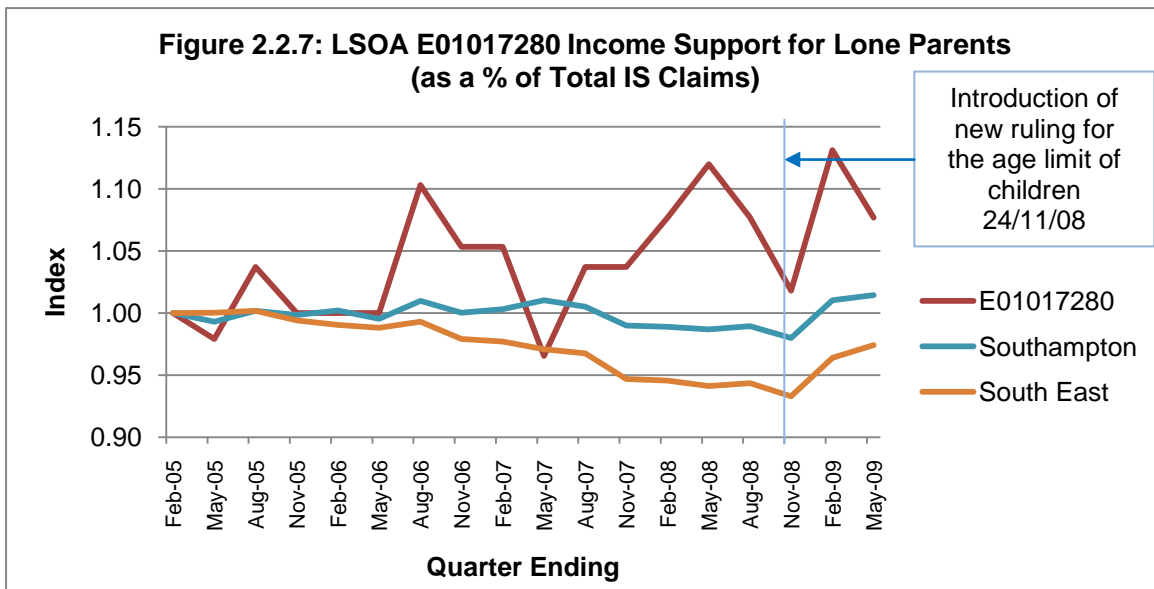
The average number of Income Support claimants in E01017280 has decreased since 2007 but by fairly small amounts in comparison to the steep fall between 2003 and 2004 due to the introduction of the Pension Credit scheme (see Table 2.2.4 in the Data Appendix). Between 2008 and 2009 the number of IS claimants has remained fairly constant at around 130. Income Support claimants are classified into three sub-categories; lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for income support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.2.6, the proportion of people claiming from each category has remained nearly the same with just a negligible decrease in the Statistical Group ‘Carers and Others’.



Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

LSOA E01017280, Southampton and the South East all initially saw a rise in the proportion of lone parents claiming IS for the quarter to the end of February 2009. Between the quarter for November 2008 and February 2009, the number of IS claimants who are lone parents increased in E01017280, Southampton and the South East before decreasing in each area for the quarter up to May 2009.

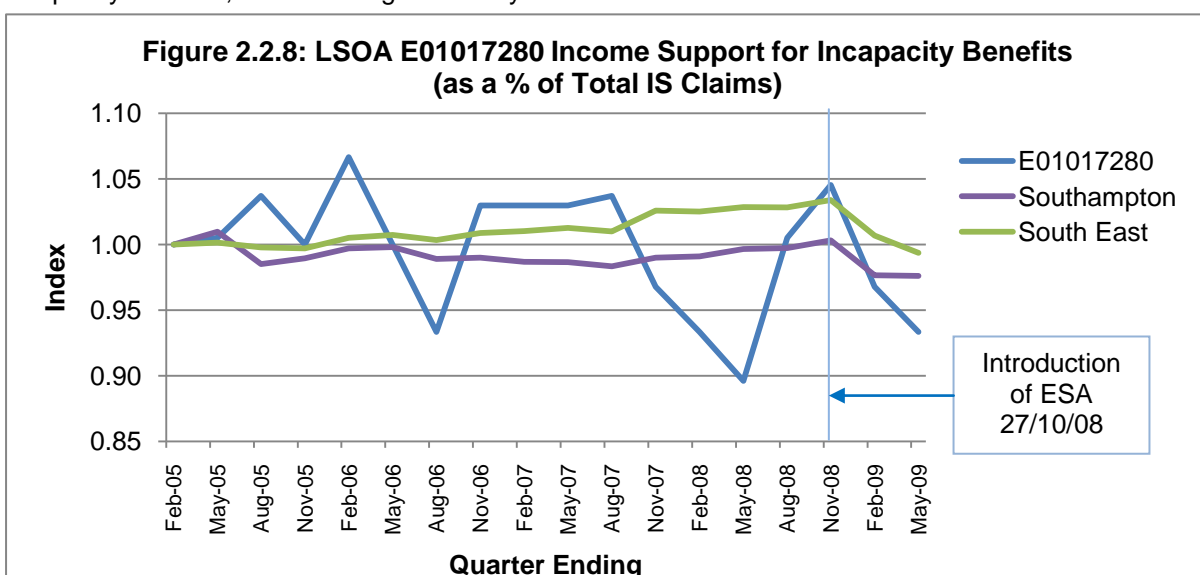


Source: DWP

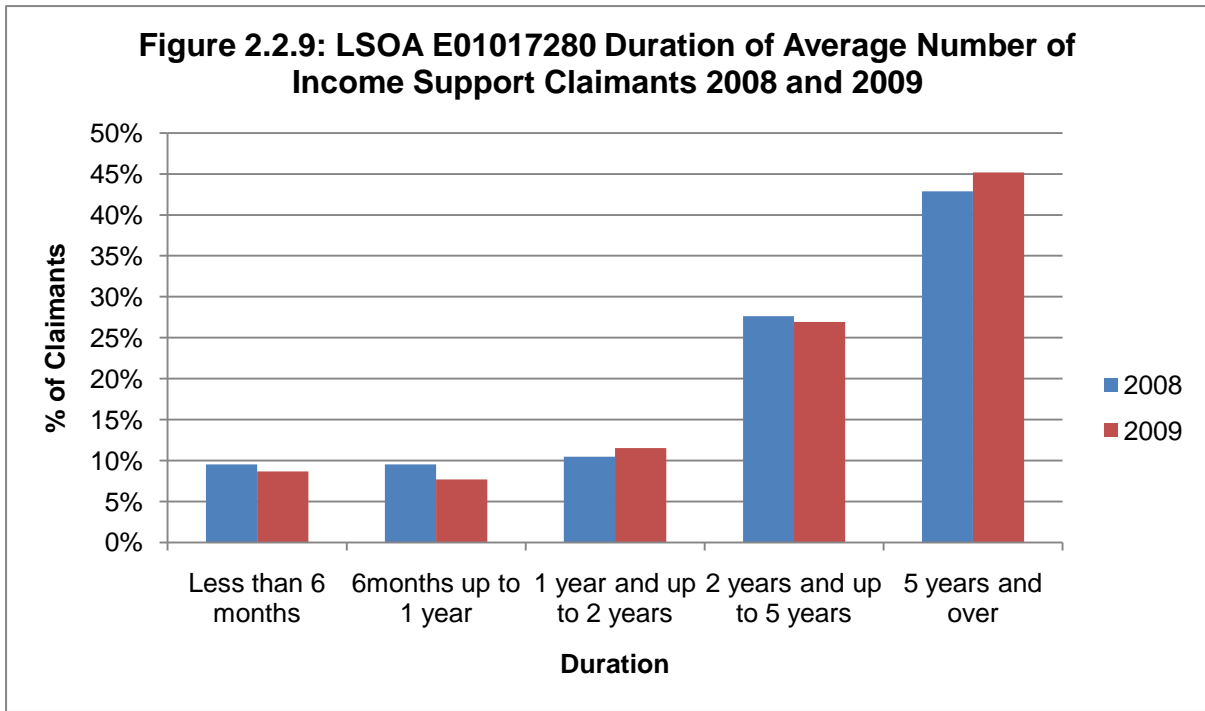
All new incapacity benefit claimants for IS are to be transferred over to ESA and thus numbers fell from November 2008 for Southampton, the South East and LSOA E01017280 (see Figure 2.2.8). The duration of IS claims in E01017280 has only slightly altered as depicted in Figure 2.2.9, as the number of people claiming for less than six months and between 1 and 2 years has most greatly decreased by 30 per cent each from 2008 to 2009. Additionally, the demographic of the claimants by age has also altered with claimant numbers decreasing from the younger age bands of 16-24 and 25-49.

Otherwise, the characteristics of IS claimants have remained largely unchanged over the last year, despite an overall decrease in the number of claimants. The ratio of male to female claimants remained at approximately 35:65, those with a partner remained at around 15 per cent compared to 85 per cent of those without and the statistical groups remained fairly static for those claiming as either a lone parent, carer or under incapacity benefits.

The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming IS as part of Incapacity Benefits, often for longer than 5 years.



Source: DWP

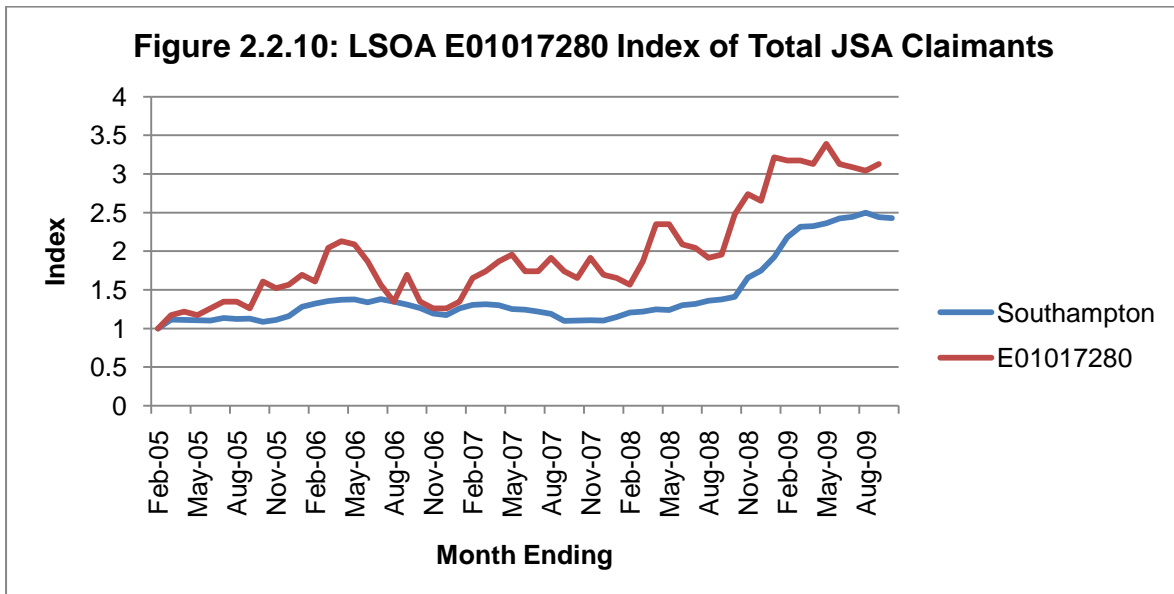


Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

Table 2.2.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017280 between 2006 and 2009.

A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and is visible in Figure 2.2.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as incapacity benefit and income support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between December 2008 and February 2009, where figures rose by nearly 30 per cent in E01017280. Overall, the growth in JSA claimants has been slightly less pronounced in LSOA E01017280 over the last year than in Southampton as a whole.

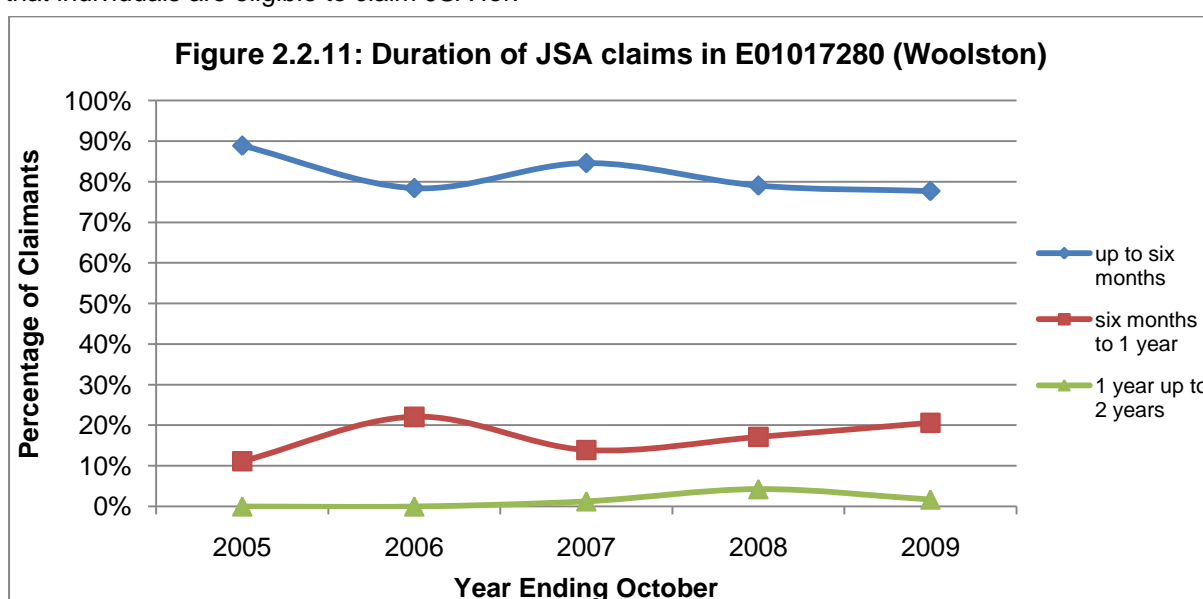


Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)



The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with an average of 19 more male claimants and 2 more female claimants, altering the ratio of male claimants to female from around 78:22 last year to around 82:18 this year (see Table 2.2.5). The data also suggests that the increase has most affected the 25-49 age band which increased by over 70 per cent between 2008 and 2009. The number of people claiming JSA from the 16-25 age band has also increased, although to a lesser extent than the 25-49 age band whilst the number claiming in the 50 and over bracket has remained fairly static.

The rising number of E01017280 JSA claimants since mid 2008 has resulted in 18 more people claiming for less than six months, representing nearly a 60 per cent increase. Additionally, 6 more people were claiming for between 6 months to 1 year which is nearly double the number in 2008, increasing the proportion as demonstrated in Figure 2.2.11 below. The duration of claims for JSA are noticeably shorter than for other benefits, which is likely to be due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

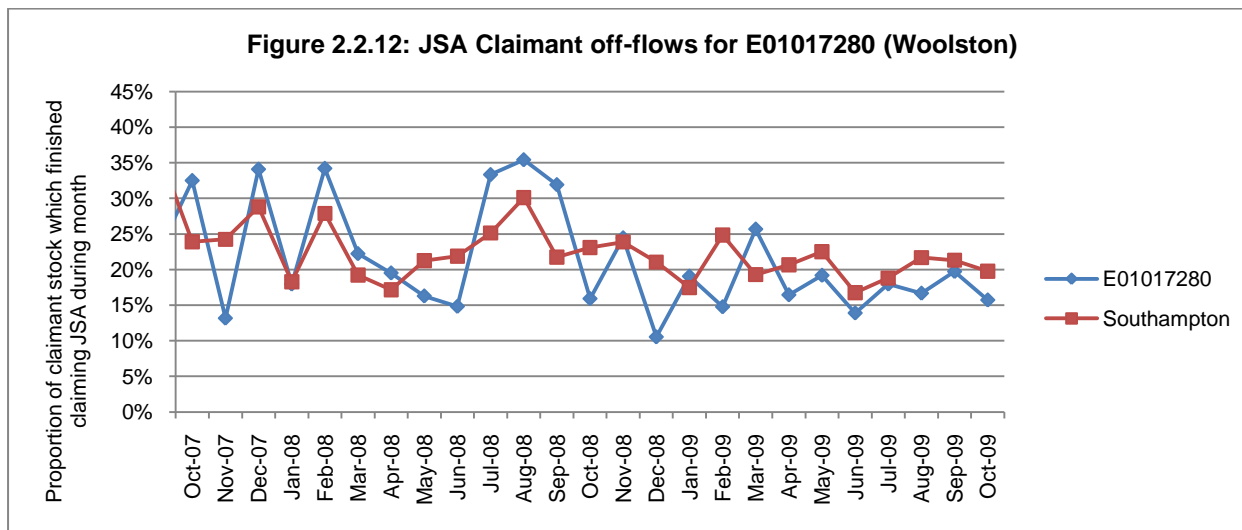
Figures 2.2.12 and 2.2.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows), and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017280 (Woolston) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Whilst claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas, in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is lower for the LSOA than for the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017280 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

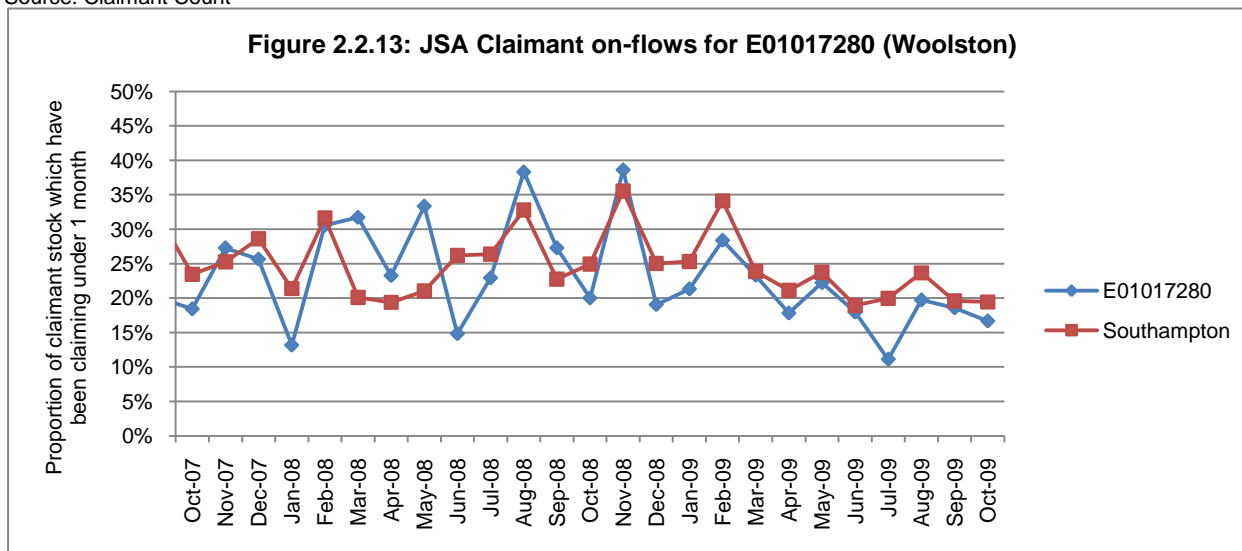
The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017280 (Woolston) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in construction, retail, goods storage and process plant, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by



JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017280 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the number claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		125	135	141	138	133	128	126	119
Type	IB	97%	97%	93%	94%	92%	92%	90%	87%
	SDA	3%	3%	7%	6%	8%	8%	10%	13%
Age	16-24	2%	6%	6%	5%	6%	7%	6%	1%
	25-49	56%	56%	53%	52%	56%	55%	50%	49%
	50-59	34%	31%	31%	31%	26%	25%	31%	37%
	Over 60	8%	7%	10%	12%	12%	14%	13%	13%
Gender	Male	58%	58%	59%	60%	59%	62%	59%	56%
	Female	42%	42%	41%	40%	41%	38%	41%	44%
Duration	Less than 6 months	7%	9%	7%	9%	10%	7%	13%	11%
	6 months up to 1 year	5%	6%	7%	7%	6%	5%	5%	6%
	1 year and up to 2 years	7%	9%	12%	11%	7%	10%	10%	7%
	2 years and up to 5 years	26%	22%	20%	21%	23%	25%	16%	20%
	5 years and over	55%	54%	53%	52%	55%	54%	56%	56%
Award	Mental	56%	54%	53%	53%	51%	52%	45%	38%
	Nervous System	5%	4%	4%	4%	4%	6%	7%	7%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	9%	9%	9%	8%	8%	5%	6%	6%
	Musculoskeletal	12%	12%	14%	14%	15%	16%	18%	18%
	Injury, poisoning	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	7%
	Other	15%	18%	17%	18%	18%	18%	21%	23%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		130	131	146	139	135	153	211	201
Age	16-24	19%	13%	17%	16%	17%	16%	10%	8%
	25-49	61%	66%	64%	64%	64%	55%	38%	40%
	50-59	20%	21%	19%	20%	19%	14%	11%	12%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	15%	41%	40%
Gender	Male	35%	34%	34%	33%	31%	30%	32%	30%
	Female	65%	66%	66%	67%	69%	70%	68%	70%
Duration	Less than 6 months	9%	10%	9%	10%	8%	10%	12%	7%
	6 months up to 1 year	8%	10%	7%	8%	6%	10%	7%	7%
	1 year and up to 2 years	12%	10%	14%	13%	15%	12%	11%	17%
	2 years and up to 5 years	27%	28%	28%	31%	30%	25%	24%	24%
	5 years and over	45%	43%	43%	39%	41%	43%	45%	45%
Partnered	With partner	15%	16%	13%	12%	12%	11%	11%	11%
	Single	85%	84%	87%	88%	88%	89%	89%	89%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	53%	51%	54%	55%	52%	44%	36%	34%
	Lone Parent	42%	42%	41%	40%	41%	38%	25%	27%
	Carers and Others	5%	7%	5%	5%	7%	18%	39%	39%

Source: DWP

<sup>19</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	66	82%	18%	37%	50%	13%	78%	21%	2%	0%
2008	44	78%	22%	39%	42%	18%	79%	17%	4%	0%
2007	38	82%	18%	41%	49%	10%	85%	14%	1%	0%
2006	39	84%	16%	39%	41%	20%	78%	22%	0%	0%
2005	27	81%	19%	28%	67%	5%	89%	11%	0%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		156	144	136	138	129	109	104
Age	Under 16	10%	10%	11%	10%	11%	10%	11%
	16-24	6%	7%	6%	7%	7%	6%	5%
	25-49	38%	37%	35%	35%	33%	32%	31%
	50-59	22%	24%	25%	26%	26%	21%	24%
	60-69	16%	14%	15%	15%	17%	22%	20%
	70 and over	8%	8%	9%	6%	6%	9%	8%
Gender	Male	52%	52%	51%	50%	52%	49%	47%
	Female	48%	48%	49%	50%	48%	51%	53%
Duration	Less than 12 months	8%	11%	5%	7%	17%	9%	10%
	1 year and up to 2 years	9%	4%	9%	16%	7%	8%	6%
	2 years and up to 5 years	22%	23%	25%	19%	20%	23%	22%
	5 years and over	62%	62%	61%	57%	56%	60%	63%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	41%	42%	38%	37%	34%	32%	29%
	Higher Rate	49%	47%	50%	49%	51%	54%	57%
	Nil Rate	10%	11%	12%	14%	15%	14%	14%
Care Award	Lower Rate	28%	28%	28%	30%	29%	30%	33%
	Middle Rate	41%	41%	38%	38%	40%	41%	43%
	Higher Rate	18%	17%	18%	16%	16%	14%	12%
	Nil Rate	13%	14%	16%	15%	16%	15%	12%

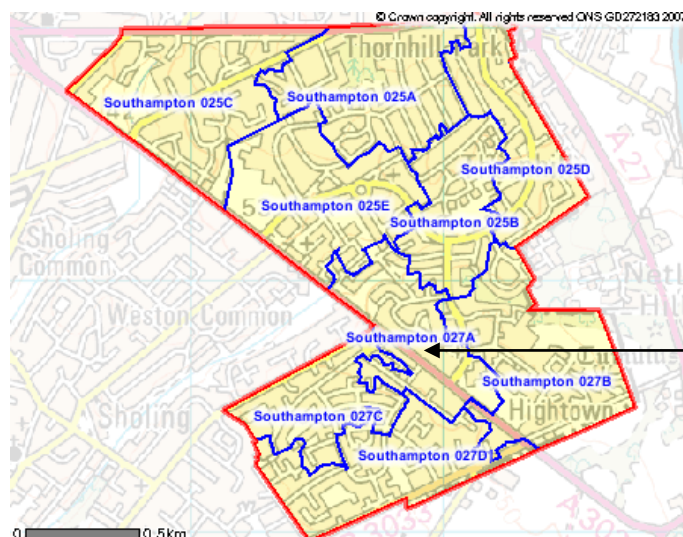
Source: DWP

## 2.3 LSOA E01017167 (Bitterne ward)

### Summary of Findings for E01017167

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017167 (Bitterne) has identified the following key points:

- LSOA E01017167 continues to have the second highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The numbers of Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants have begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The number of short-term Income Support claimants has fallen since November 2008, potentially as a result of changes to the eligibility criteria for claiming this benefit at that time. The typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a Lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017167 between October 2008 and December 2008. The impact lay most heavily on the older age bands of 25-49 and 50 and over and the increase in male claimants exceeding the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.



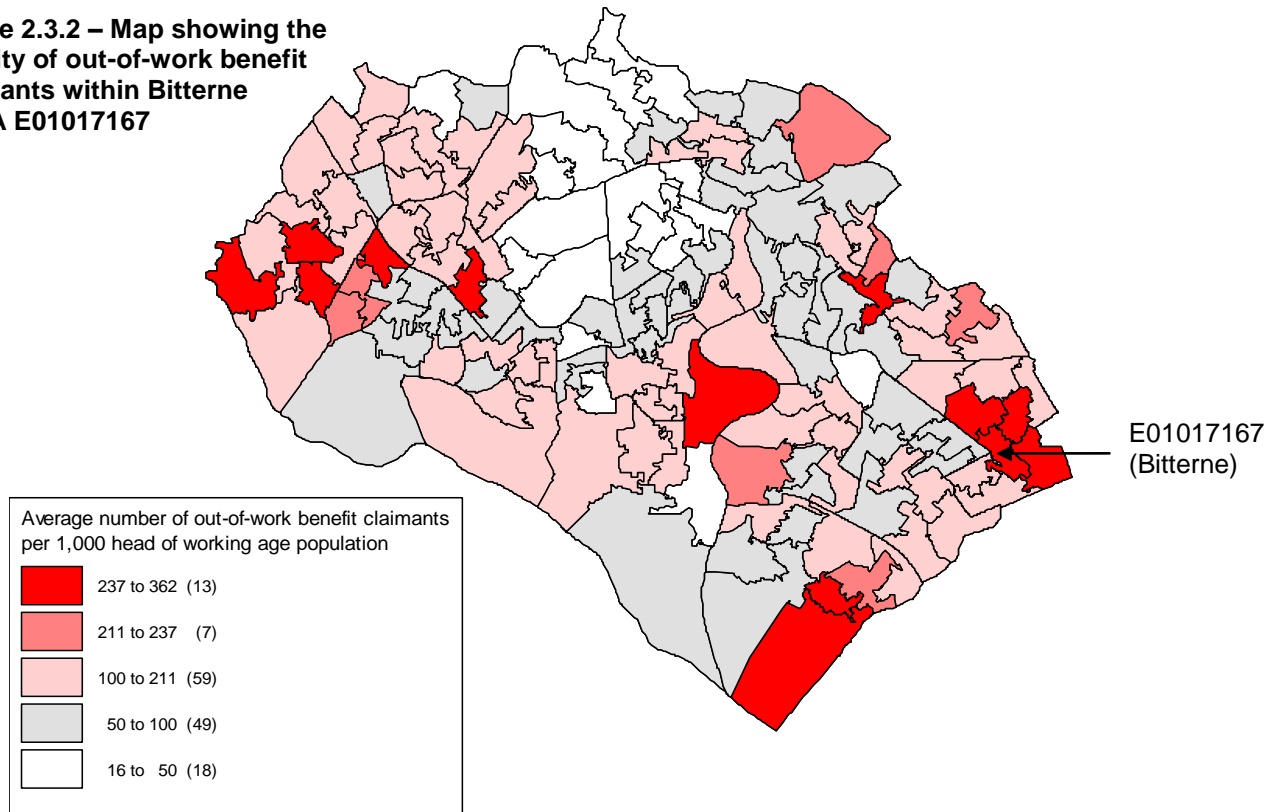
**Figure 2.3.1 – Map showing the location of Bitterne LSOA E01017167**

**E01017167  
(Bitterne)**

**Profile**

LSOA E01017167 is located within the Bitterne ward (see Figure 2.3.1 for the LSOAs location within Bitterne). The LSOA is part of the Thornhill estate on the east side of the city and consists of a large amount of local authority housing, a mixture of low-rise blocks and a few high rise towers. The LSOA is part of an area based regeneration programme – a ‘New Deal for Communities – Thornhill Plus You’

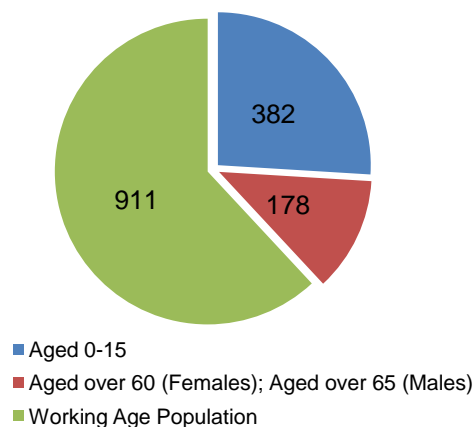
**Figure 2.3.2 – Map showing the density of out-of-work benefit claimants within Bitterne LSOA E01017167**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.3.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. There was an estimated 316 out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of population in the LSOA E01017167 on average over the year between May 2008 and May 2009, a marginal increase from 315 in last year’s report. This figure represents the second highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.3.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017167 (Bitterne)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017167 in 2008 was just over 1,470. Of these, just over one quarter (over 380 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst nearly 180 people were over retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of around 910 people. Approximately 32% of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>20</sup>.

<sup>20</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.

Within both the economically active and inactive population, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent may belong to this category), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity/ Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Benefits or students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017167**

Table 2.3.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017167 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>21</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 18 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This is a relatively large increase compared to the preceding 7 years, but is reflected in increases seen more broadly across the region and may be expected due to impact of the recession.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	338	76	116	100	15	8	18	5	0
2008	320	56	116	105	14	10	16	3	0
2007	318	63	121	98	11	8	15	3	0
2006	319	65	120	99	13	10	10	3	0
2005	326	58	131	103	15	13	8	0	0
2004	321	53	126	110	11	11	9	1	0
2003	325	53	126	113	9	13	6	6	0
2002	320	55	119	113	14	14	N/A	1	4

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	110	65	45	5	55	40	10	10	10	25	65
Job Seekers	85	70	15	25	50	10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	170	45	125	50	100	20	0	40	25	40	65
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	125	65	60	15	45	30	10	10	10	20	85
Bereaved	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

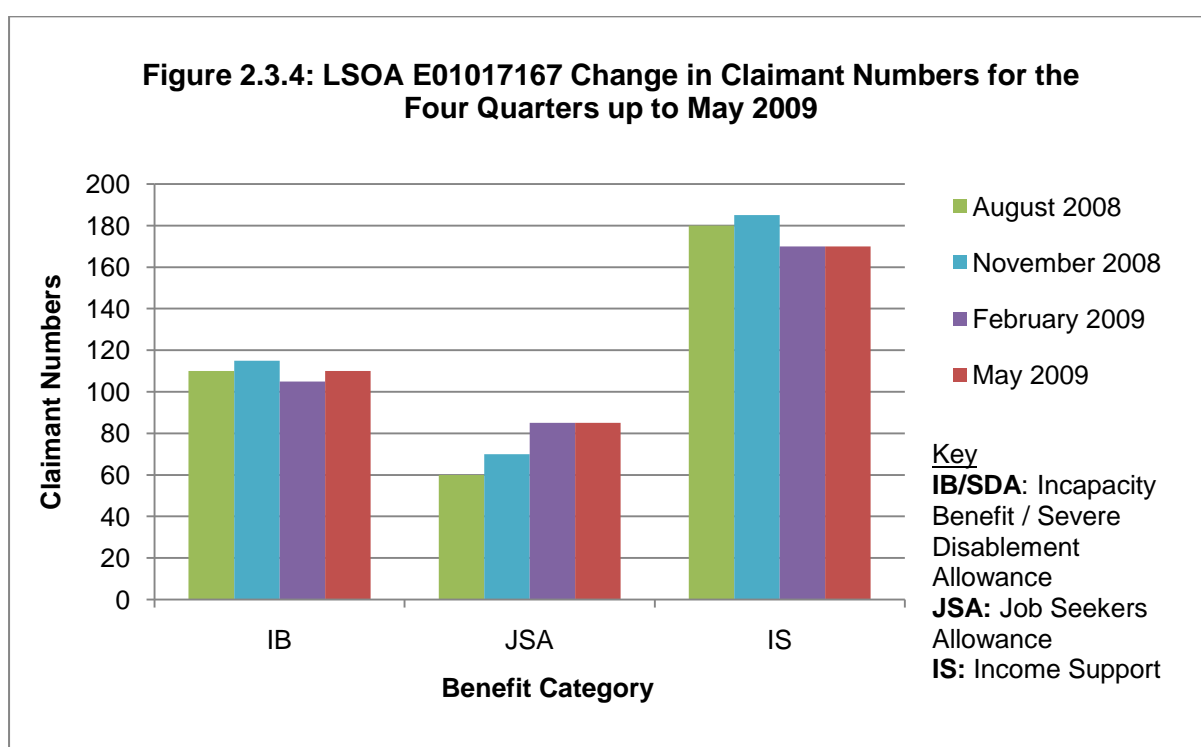
<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 15 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 10 DLA claimants aged over 70

<sup>21</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.

Table 2.3.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017167 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.3.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.3.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>22</sup>). As a result, therefore individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.3.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017167 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>23</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017167 has altered. In particular, the number of JSA claimants increased between August 2008 and February 2009, although it then remained static until May 2009. The number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) has remained relatively static and Income Support claimants have decreased slightly over the same period (see Figure 2.5.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

### **Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008. LSOA E01017167 initially saw a decrease in numbers up to February 2008 but then increased slightly for the May 2009 quarter which is against expectations and perhaps due to teething issues or a rounding error.

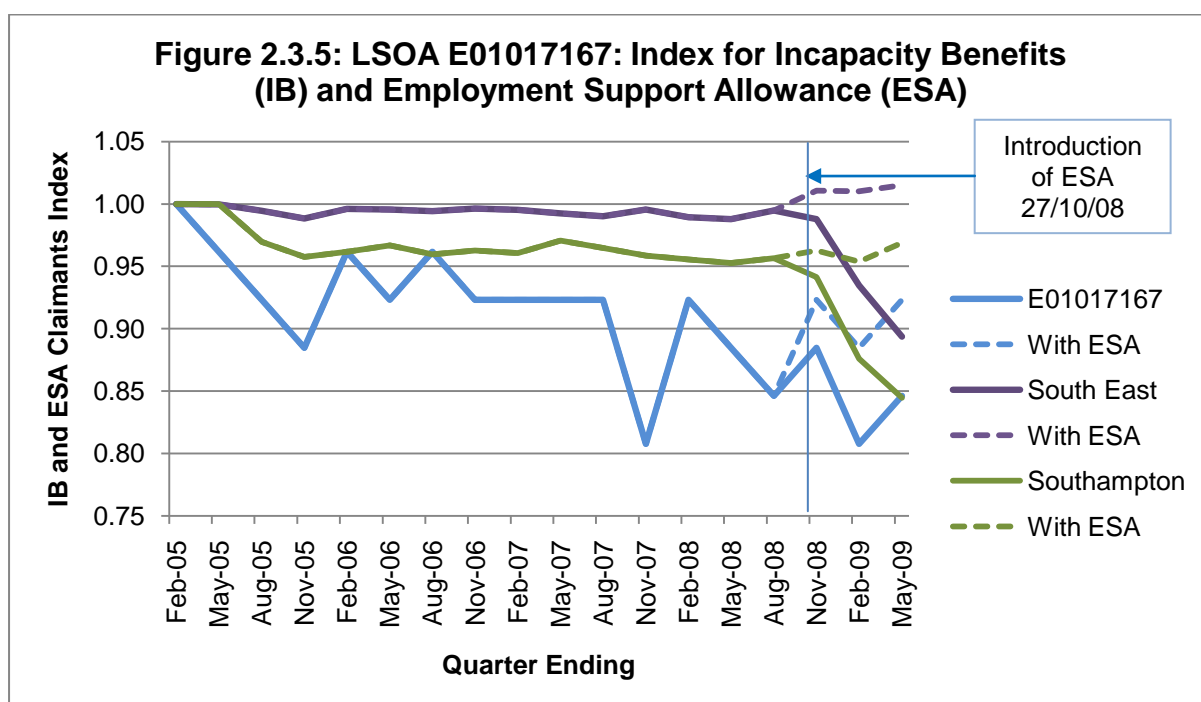
<sup>22</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>23</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.3.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.



Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy and any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.3.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005, the solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed line includes ESA claimants<sup>24</sup>. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The May 2009 data for LSOA E01017167 shows approximately 10 people to have been claiming ESA.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.3.3. Since November 2008, there appears to have been a marginal decline in the number of recipients of IB who have been claiming for less than six months. However, the majority of claimants have been receiving IB for longer than two years, and over 55 per cent of those have been claiming for in excess of 5 years.

There has been a small major shift in the ratio of male to female claimants, with approximately 10% fewer females claiming whilst the number of male claimants remained static. The composition of claimants by age has altered little over the last year, with 50 per cent and 35 per cent of claimants belonging to the 25-49 and 50-59 age categories respectively. Similarly, there has been little change in the reasons for the award of IB to residents of E01017167 since February 2008. Since 2002, approximately half of claimants of IB in E01017167 have been receiving the benefit for mental or

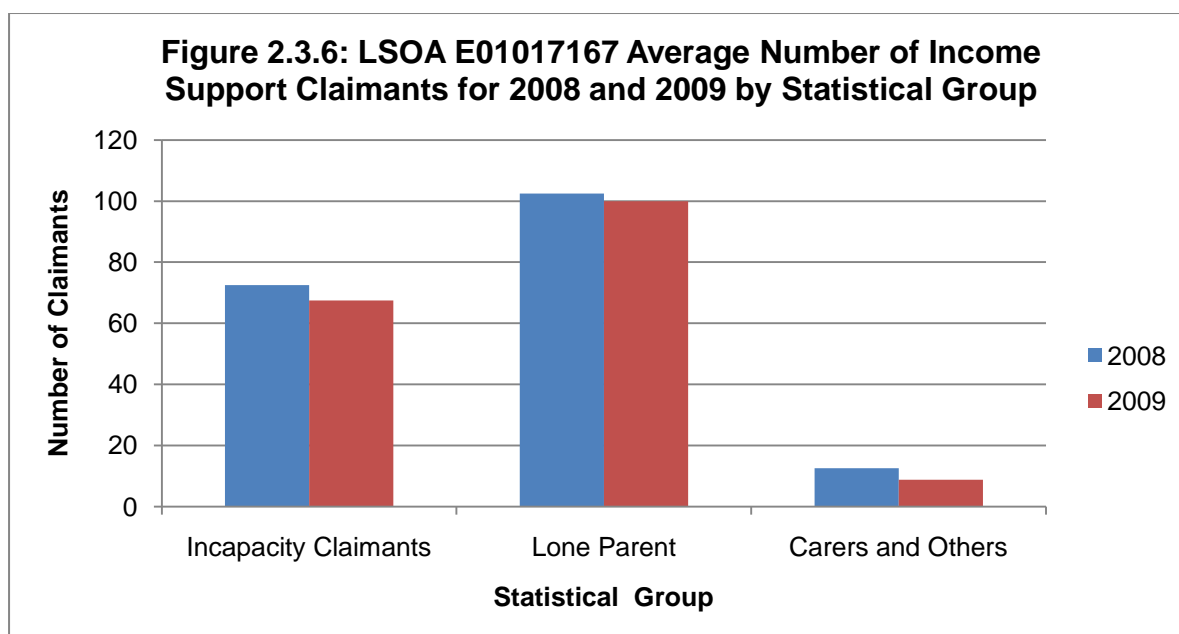
<sup>24</sup> This figure was calculated from taking the number of those stated as claiming Incapacity Benefit from an individual Incapacity Benefit series which does not include ESA, as in Table 2.3.2 (Source: DWP) and subtracting this from the number of those stated as claiming Incapacity Benefit from a Total Claimant series which includes ESA, as in Table 2.3.2 (Source: DWP). As the Total Claimant series is subject to a hierarchy and both series have rounding errors, estimated ESA figures may also incorporate errors as visible on graph 2.3.5 where the May 2009 ESA figure is negative for E01017250.

behavioural disorders. Whilst this proportion has not fallen by much, there is some evidence that it is starting to decline.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.

### **Income Support claimants**

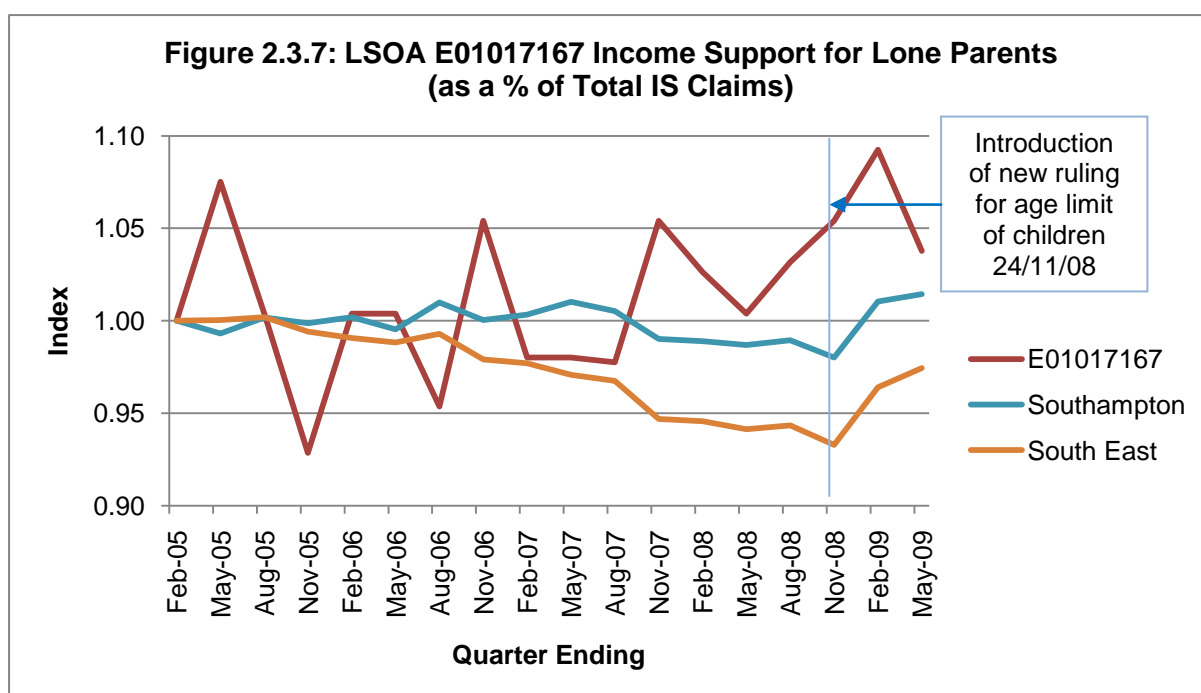
Following the reduction in Income Support claimants between 2003 and 2004 due to the introduction of the Pension Credit scheme, claimant numbers in E01017167 had been continually decreasing but to a lesser extent until 2008 when numbers rose. However, the number of IS claimants decreased again between May 2008 and May 2009 (see Table 2.3.4 in the Data Appendix). Income Support benefit claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.3.6, on average claimant numbers in the Incapacity Benefit, lone parents and Carers and others statistical groups have remained fairly constant.



Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.3.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton and the South East has increased since November 2008 and increased in LSOA E01017167 before falling for the quarter up to May 2009. However this is in relation to the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS, which has decreased. The actual number of people claiming IS as a lone parent decreased over this timeframe in E01017167. A longer data series is needed to identify whether or not this reduction is likely to be due to the changes in the benefit system, or whether this is simply claimant numbers naturally fluctuating over time.



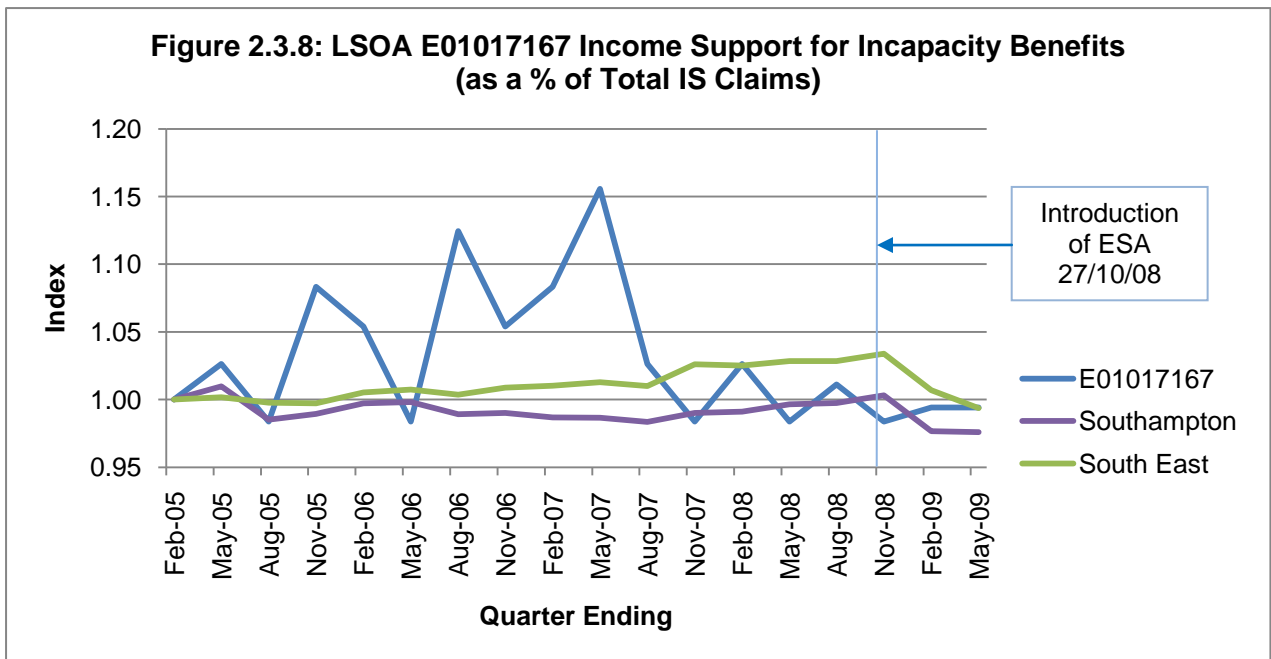
Source: DWP

The introduction of ESA is also affecting those claiming Income Support as part of their Incapacity Benefits. Claimant numbers in E01017167 have marginally decreased since November 2008 as new Incapacity Benefit claimants have been transferred onto ESA. This corresponds with city-wide and regional trends where claimant numbers have also fallen (see Figure 2.3.8).

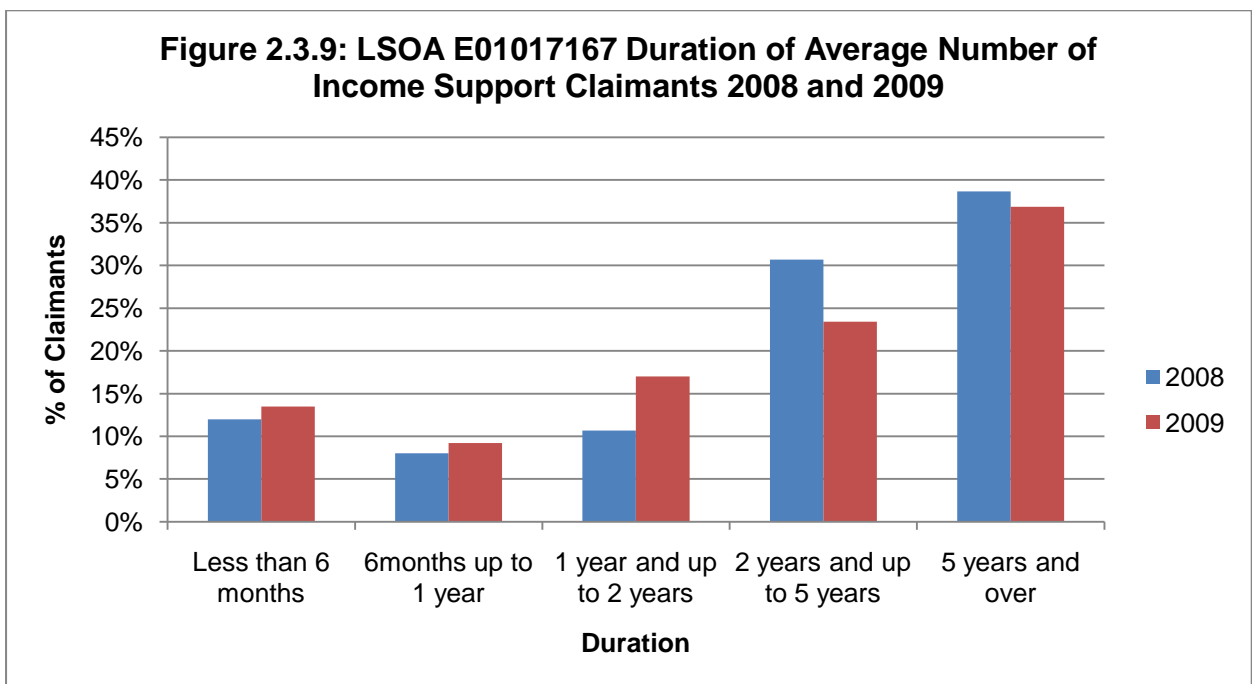
As shown in Figure 2.3.9, the percentage of claimants who have been in receipt of IS for under six months, and between one and two years have both increased, whilst generally the percentage of claimants in longer duration categories have decreased. The demographic of the claimants by age has remained fairly static.

Otherwise, the characteristics of IS claimants have remained largely unchanged over the last year, despite an overall decrease in the number of claimants. The ratio of male to female claimants remained at approximately 25:75, those without a partner continue to represent approximately 12 per cent of claimants, whilst the statistical groups remained fairly static for those claiming either for Incapacity Benefits, as a lone parent, or as a carer.

The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a Lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.



Source: DWP

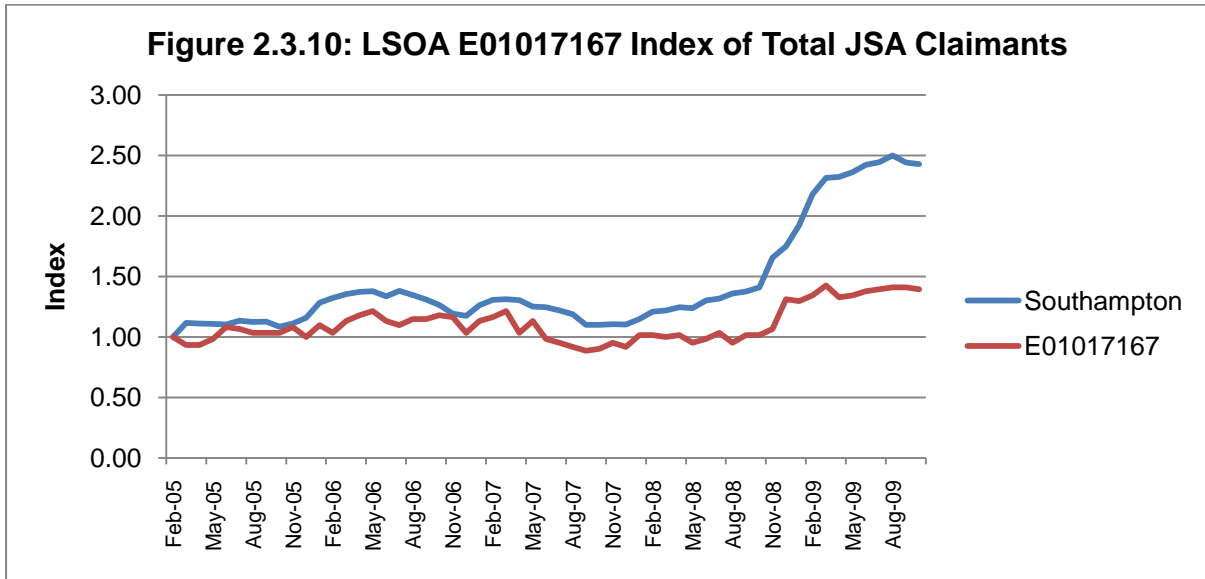


Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

Table 2.3.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017167 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.3.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between October 2008 and December 2008, where figures rose by approximately 30 per cent in E01017167. Overall,

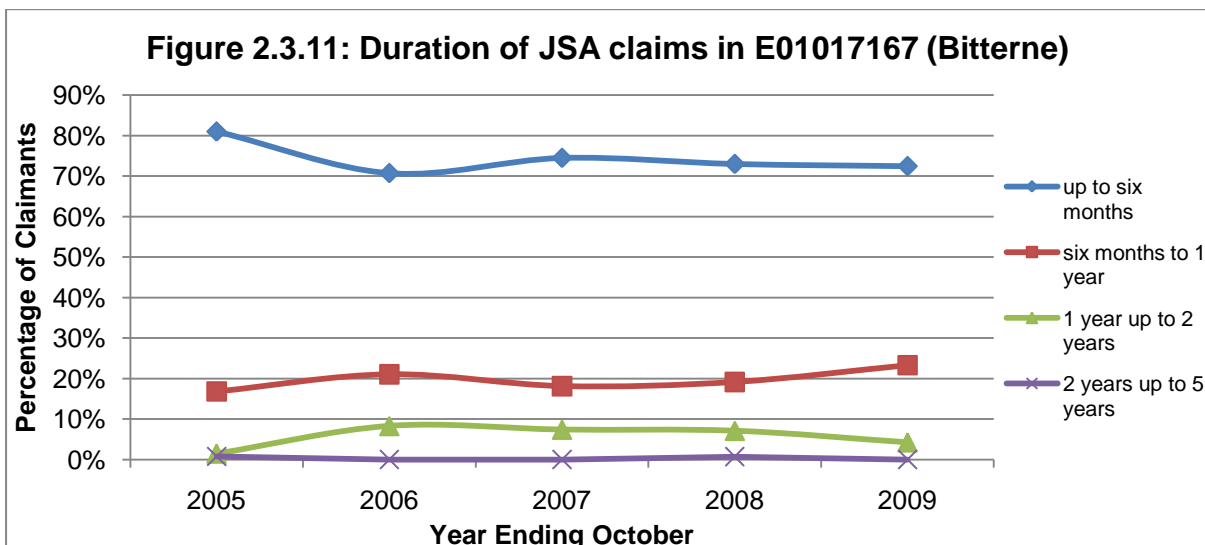
there has been a less pronounced effect on LSOA E01017167 over the last year than on Southampton as a whole.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with an average of 19 more male claimants and 3 more female claimants. However, the ratio of male to female claimants remains broadly similar to last year at approximately 82:18 (see Table 2.3.5). The data also suggests that the increase has affected the older age bands more than the younger age bands as the number of JSA claimants aged 50 and over has increased from an average of 3 in 2008 to 6 in 2009, whilst claimants aged 25-49 still dominate the proportion of those claiming JSA and increased by nearly 80 per cent between 2008 and 2009. The youngest 16-24 age band remained fairly static over the last year.

The rising number of E01017167 JSA claimants since mid 2008 has resulted in an increased proportion of those claiming for less than a year, as demonstrated in Figure 2.3.11 below. The noticeably shorter durations for claims of JSA compared with other benefits is likely to be mainly due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.

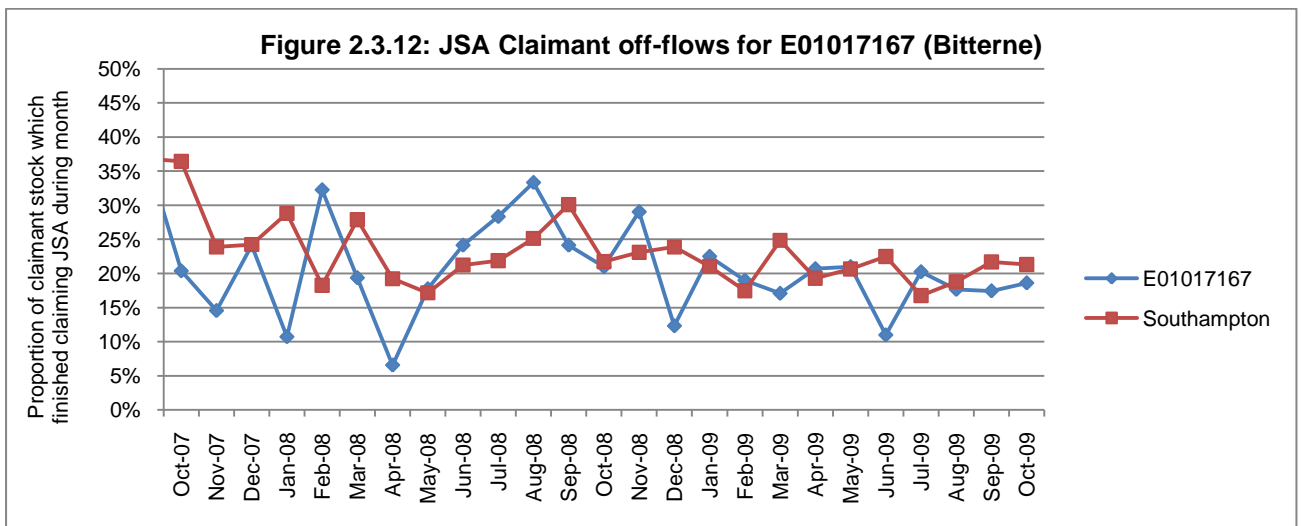


Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

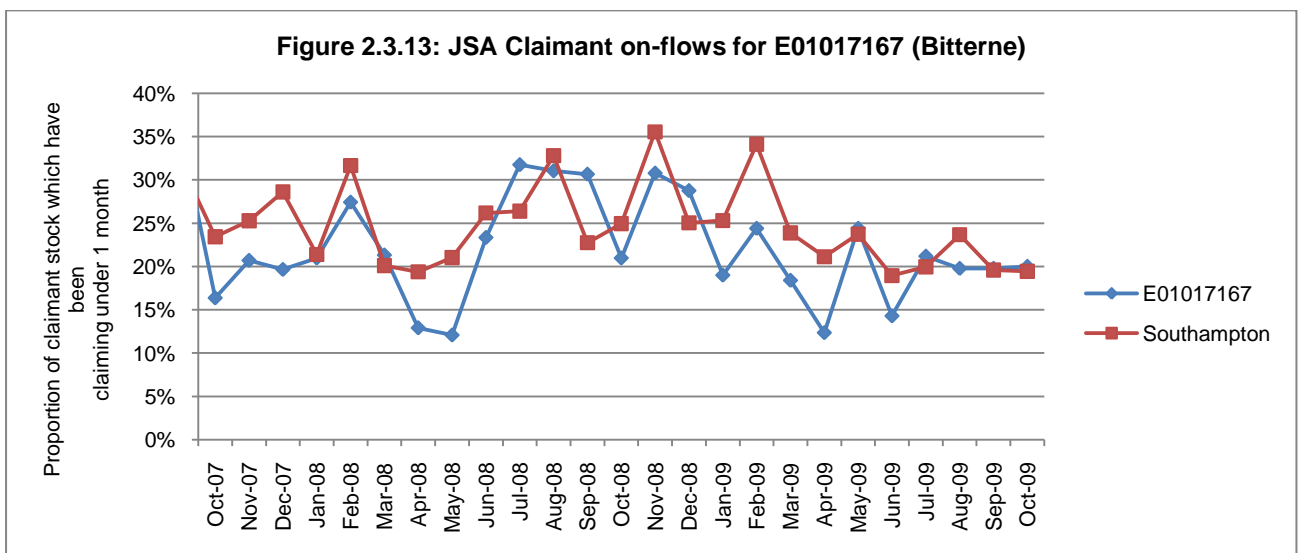
Figures 2.3.12 and 2.3.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows) and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017167 (Bitterne) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas and in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is similar for both the LSOA and the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017167 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017167 (Bitterne) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in retail, process plant and goods storage, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower order occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017167 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the number claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		110	115	121	120	130	126	128	121
Type	IB	95%	99%	97%	97%	95%	95%	93%	94%
	SDA	5%	1%	3%	3%	5%	5%	7%	6%
Age	16-24	7%	10%	8%	6%	7%	8%	11%	9%
	25-49	50%	50%	57%	59%	57%	57%	61%	59%
	50-59	35%	34%	28%	27%	29%	30%	25%	28%
	Over 60	8%	7%	7%	7%	8%	5%	4%	4%
Gender	Male	58%	55%	62%	60%	52%	53%	59%	61%
	Female	42%	45%	38%	40%	48%	47%	41%	39%
Duration	Less than 6 months	7%	12%	10%	7%	8%	9%	13%	13%
	6 months up to 1 year	7%	10%	6%	5%	5%	7%	8%	10%
	1 year and up to 2 years	11%	11%	12%	8%	10%	13%	14%	13%
	2 years and up to 5 years	19%	17%	20%	28%	30%	30%	25%	29%
	5 years and over	56%	50%	52%	51%	48%	42%	40%	34%
Award	Mental	53%	53%	51%	45%	44%	41%	44%	44%
	Nervous System	6%	9%	6%	9%	7%	7%	7%	7%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	3%	5%	7%	7%	7%	8%	4%	5%
	Musculoskeletal	11%	10%	11%	14%	13%	14%	15%	18%
	Injury, poisoning	7%	8%	5%	4%	6%	7%	12%	9%
	Other	19%	15%	20%	21%	23%	24%	19%	16%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		176	188	183	184	191	211	235	240
Age	16-24	28%	27%	25%	23%	22%	25%	22%	22%
	25-49	59%	59%	60%	65%	64%	58%	52%	51%
	50-59	13%	14%	14%	12%	14%	12%	9%	10%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	17%	16%
Gender	Male	24%	25%	28%	29%	25%	28%	30%	31%
	Female	76%	75%	72%	71%	75%	72%	70%	69%
Duration	Less than 6 months	13%	12%	11%	9%	10%	14%	11%	14%
	6 months up to 1 year	9%	8%	9%	8%	8%	10%	10%	11%
	1 year and up to 2 years	17%	11%	14%	15%	16%	15%	16%	19%
	2 years and up to 5 years	23%	31%	29%	31%	31%	32%	31%	28%
	5 years and over	37%	39%	37%	37%	34%	29%	31%	28%
Partnered	With partner	12%	10%	10%	10%	9%	9%	10%	11%
	Single	88%	90%	90%	90%	91%	91%	90%	89%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	38%	39%	42%	39%	40%	38%	32%	34%
	Lone parent	57%	55%	53%	53%	54%	53%	48%	46%
	Carers and Others	5%	7%	4%	7%	7%	9%	19%	20%

Source: DWP

<sup>25</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.



Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	82	83%	17%	31%	62%	7%	72%	23%	4%	0%
2008	60	82%	18%	45%	50%	5%	73%	19%	7%	1%
2007	64	79%	21%	39%	54%	7%	74%	18%	7%	0%
2006	68	80%	20%	38%	58%	4%	71%	21%	8%	0%
2005	60	79%	21%	45%	52%	3%	81%	17%	1%	1%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		118	113	100	99	105	93	74
Age	Under 16	12%	11%	13%	13%	11%	12%	14%
	16-24	12%	11%	10%	9%	12%	9%	7%
	25-49	36%	30%	34%	42%	38%	39%	41%
	50-59	23%	23%	19%	15%	18%	19%	19%
	60-69	11%	17%	20%	16%	19%	18%	20%
	70 and over	6%	8%	5%	5%	2%	3%	0%
Gender	Male	51%	49%	49%	51%	48%	50%	46%
	Female	49%	51%	51%	49%	52%	50%	54%
Duration	Less than 12 months	11%	10%	9%	6%	10%	15%	17%
	1 year and up to 2 years	9%	10%	5%	8%	12%	11%	3%
	2 years and up to 5 years	14%	20%	23%	23%	21%	20%	27%
	5 years and over	67%	60%	64%	63%	57%	54%	53%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	40%	39%	38%	38%	37%	30%	22%
	Higher Rate	41%	43%	44%	43%	43%	49%	54%
	Nil Rate	18%	18%	19%	19%	20%	22%	24%
Care Award	Lower Rate	28%	27%	28%	23%	24%	28%	32%
	Middle Rate	41%	40%	39%	38%	37%	30%	31%
	Higher Rate	19%	21%	23%	27%	25%	24%	25%
	Nil Rate	12%	12%	11%	13%	14%	18%	12%

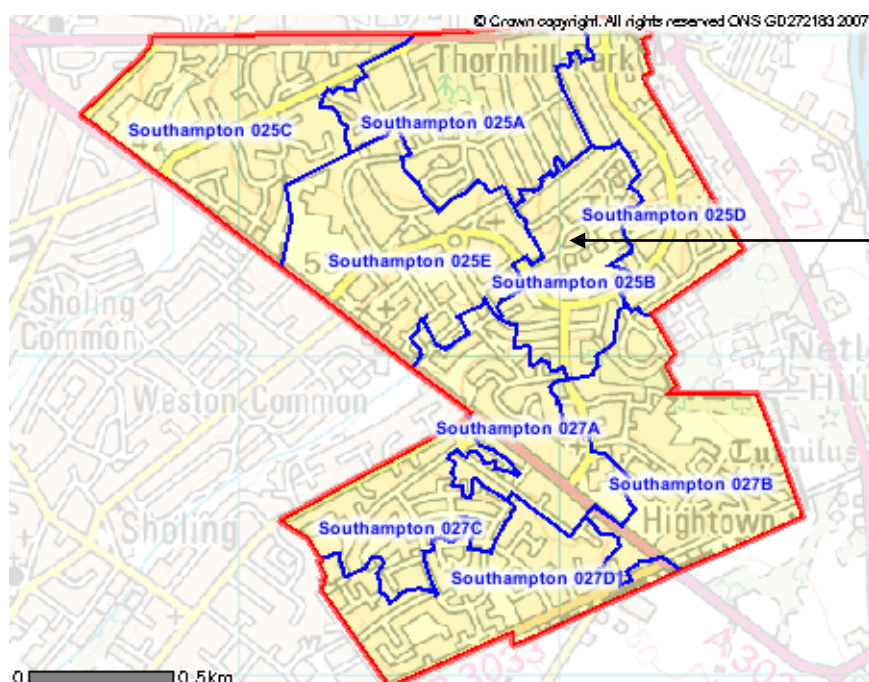
Source: DWP

## 2.4 LSOA E01017163 (Bitterne ward)

### Summary of Findings for E01017163

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017163 (Bitterne) has identified the following key points:

- LSOA E01017163 continues to have the fourth highest density of working age benefits claimants per 1,000 head of working age population out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, mainly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants.
- Despite the introduction of Employment Support Allowance (ESA) in October 2008, numbers claiming Incapacity Benefit have remained static. Furthermore, the typical Incapacity Benefit claimant continues to be male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period. However, there is some evidence that the numbers claiming for the mental or behavioural disorders, which has been the predominant reason for the award of IB in E01017163, are beginning to decline.
- In E01017163 there has been a small decline in the number of lone parent claimants of IS following on-going changes to the eligibility criteria for this benefit. However, it is too early to deduce whether this decline is a natural fluctuation, or as a result of the changes made.
- The proportion of short-term Income Support claimants has decreased in relation to long-term claimants between 2008 and 2009. The typical Income Support claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.
- Job Seekers' Allowance claimant numbers have been elevated in E01017163 during late 2008 and 2009. The impact of this increase has fallen slightly more heavily upon males than females, and those aged over 50. There has been an increase in the proportion of JSA claimants who have been receiving the benefit for over 6 months, or over one year. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.



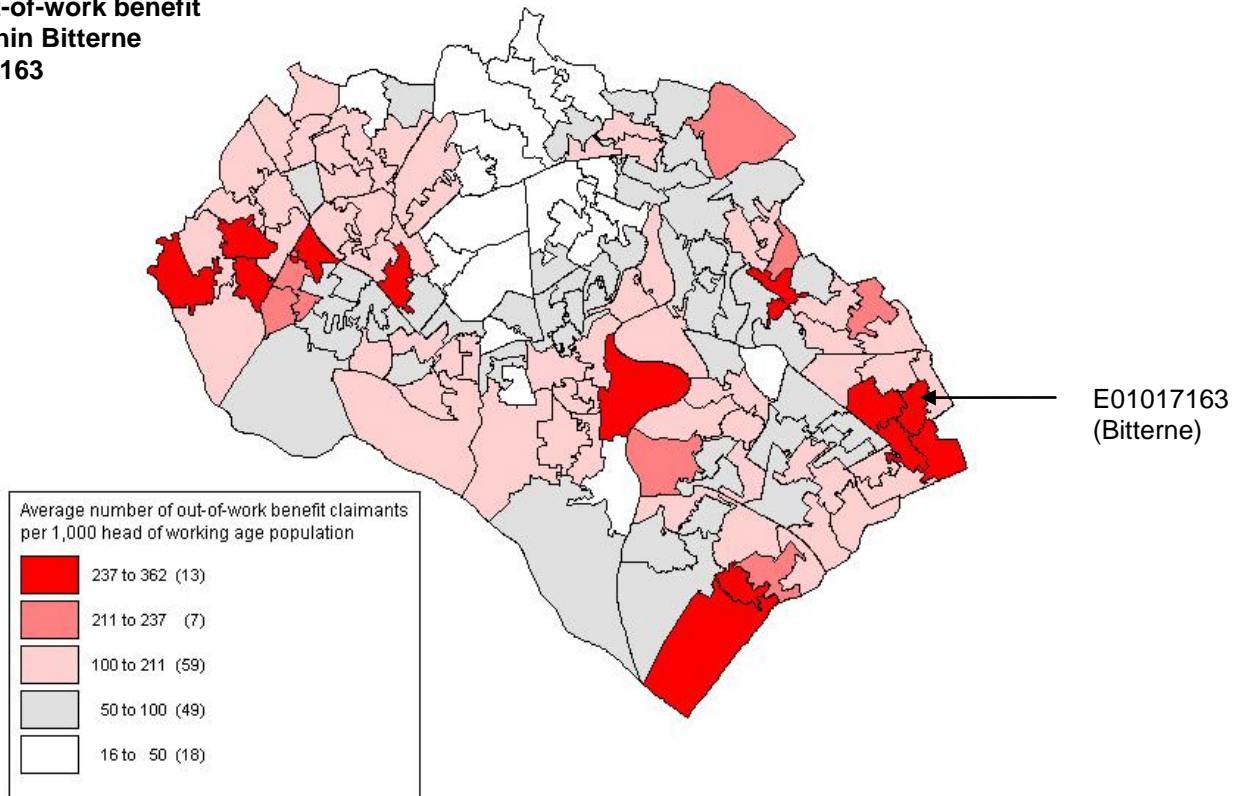
**Figure 2.4.1 – Map showing the location of Bitterne LSOA E01017163**

**E01017163  
(Bitterne)**

**Profile**

LSOA E01017163 is located within the Bitterne ward (see Figure 2.4.1 for the LSOA’s location within Bitterne). As with the neighbouring LSOA E01017167, the LSOA E01017163 is part of the Thornhill estate on the east side of the city and consists of a large amount of local authority housing, a mixture of low-rise blocks and a few high rise towers. The LSOA is part of an area based regeneration programme – a ‘New Deal for Communities – Thornhill Plus You’.

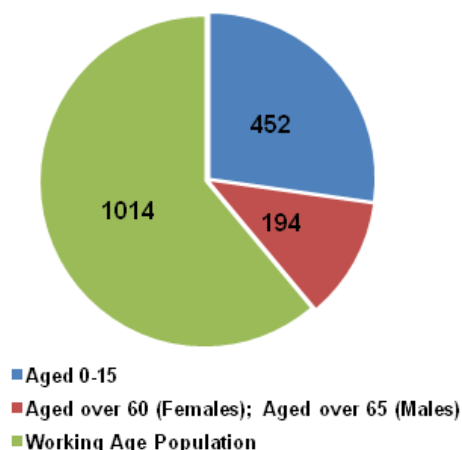
**Figure 2.4.2 – Map showing the density of out-of-work benefit claimants within Bitterne LSOA E01017163**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.4.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. In line with the 2008 report, E01017163 has the fourth highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants across the 146 LSOAs within Southampton. However, this density figure has increased from an average of 265 per 1,000 head of working age population for the year to February 2008, to an average of 288 per 1,000 head of working age population for the year to May 2009.

**Figure 2.4.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017163 (Bitterne)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017163 in 2008 was nearly 1,700. Of these, over one quarter (approximately 450 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst nearly 200 people were over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of around 1,000 people. Approximately 29 per cent of this working age population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending May 2009<sup>26</sup>.

<sup>26</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.

Within both the economically active and inactive population, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent may belong to this category), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity/ Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Benefits or students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017163**

Table 2.4.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017163 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>27</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 15 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This is a relatively large increase compared to the preceding 3 years, but is reflected in increases seen more broadly across the region and may be expected due to impact of the recession.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	323	84	115	91	15	3	13	3	0
2008	308	59	115	91	16	6	18	3	0
2007	306	58	115	96	16	8	13	1	0
2006	309	60	120	95	14	5	14	1	0
2005	293	41	129	91	13	4	14	1	0
2004	298	41	125	98	14	6	11	3	0
2003	298	46	109	106	14	10	10	3	0
2002	283	39	106	111	11	9	N/A	1	3

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration				
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over	
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	105	60	45	5	50	40	10	5	15	20	65	
Job Seekers	95	70	25	30	45	20	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	160	40	120	25	105	30	0	20	30	50	60	
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	130	60	65	10	35	30	25	10	10	25	80	
Bereaved	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

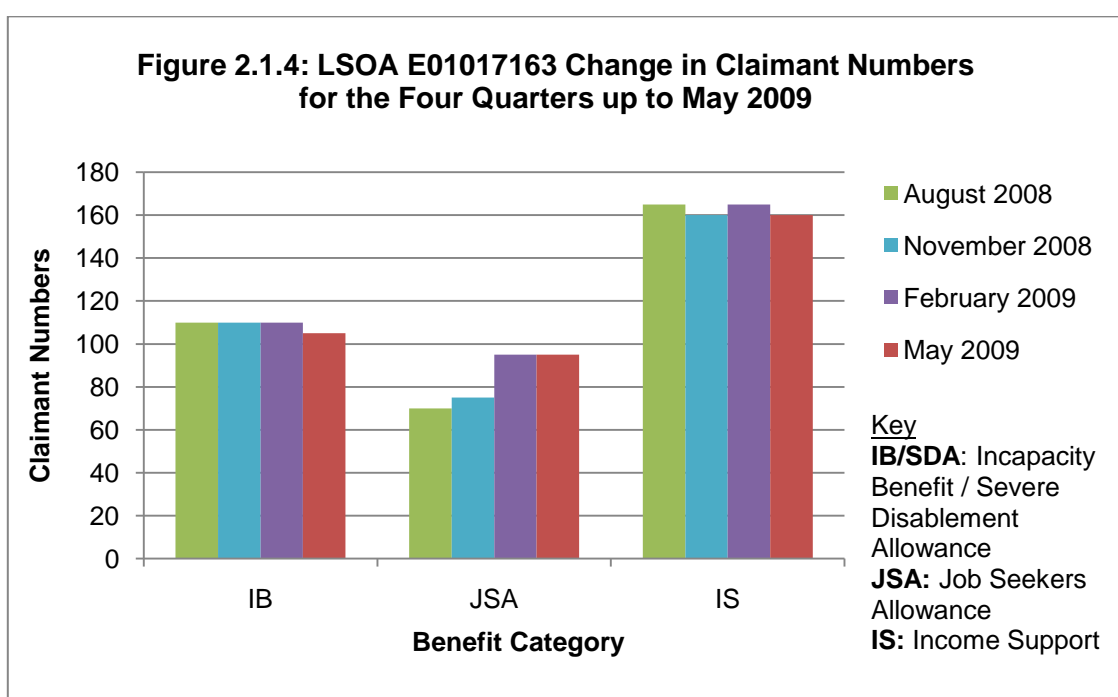
<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 15 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 10 DLA claimants aged over 70 .

<sup>27</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.

Table 2.4.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017163 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.4.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.4.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>28</sup>) and therefore individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.4.2, the data representing an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017163 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>29</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017163 has altered. In particular, the number of JSA claimants increased between August 2008 and February 2009, although it then remained static until May 2009. The number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) and Income Support has remained relatively static over the same period (see Figure 2.4.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

**Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008. In E01017163, this decrease in the number of IB claimants was slightly lagged, as it did not appear until the May 2009 data.

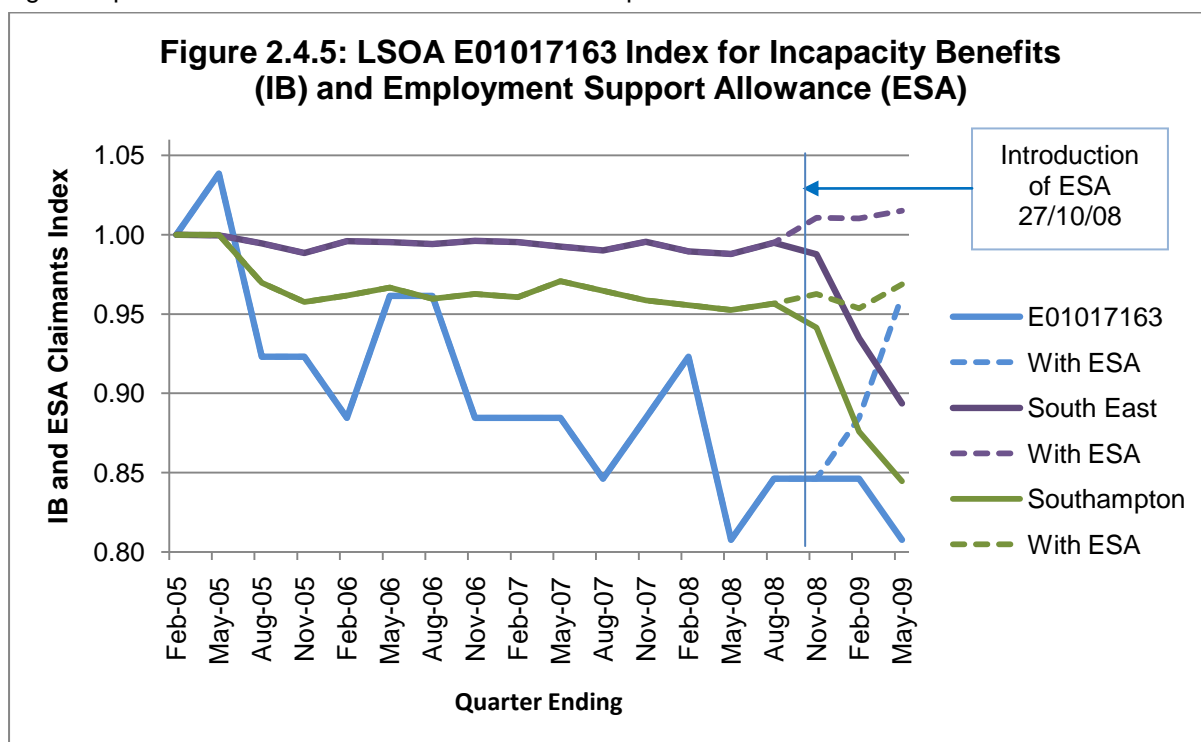
<sup>28</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>29</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.1.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.



Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy and any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.4.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005. The solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed line includes ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The May 2009 data for LSOA E01017163 shows approximately 20 people to have been claiming ESA, which is relatively high compared with all other LSOA's within Southampton.



Source: DWP

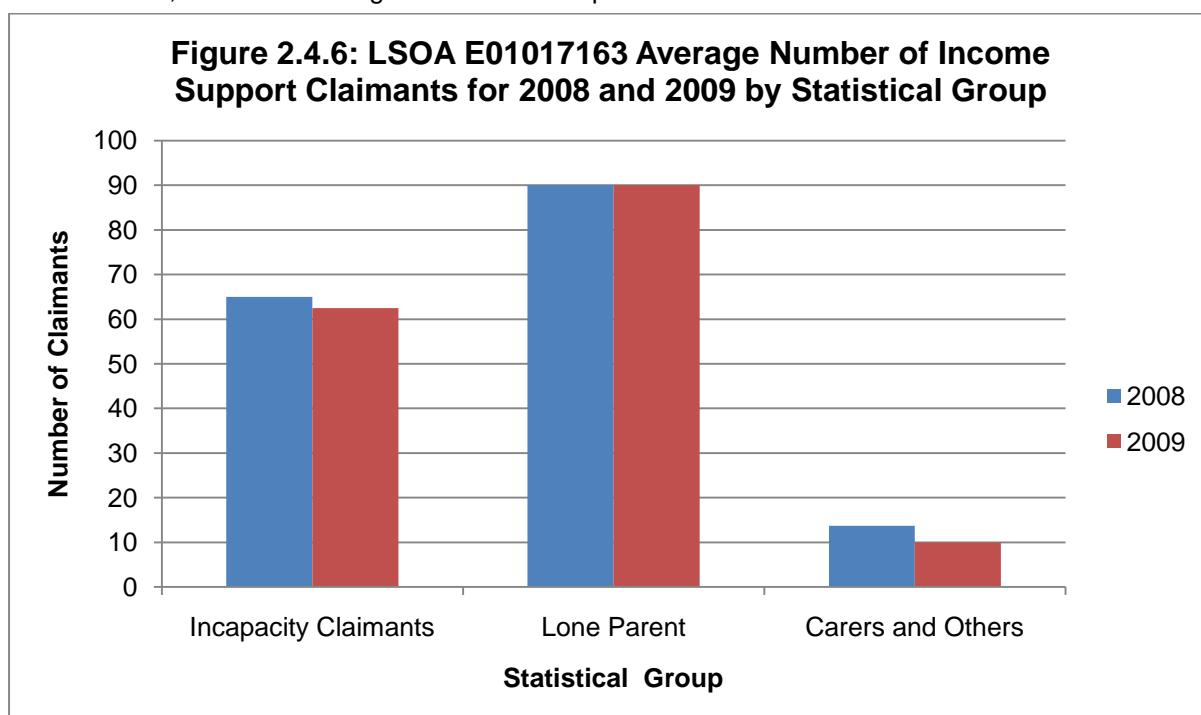
Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.4.3. Since November 2008, there appears to have been a marginal decline in the number of recipients of IB who have been claiming for less than six months. However, the majority of claimants have been receiving IB for longer than two years, and over 75 per cent of those have been claiming for in excess of 5 years.

There has been no major shift in the ratio of male to female claimants which is approximately 60:40. Similarly, the composition of claimants by age has altered little over the last year, with 46 per cent and 38 per cent of claimants belonging to the 25-49 and 50-59 age categories respectively. There has been little change in the reasons for the award of IB to residents of E01017163 since February 2008. Since 2002, approximately half of claimants of IB in E01017163 have been receiving the benefit for mental or behavioural disorders. Whilst this proportion has not fallen by much, there is some evidence that it is starting to decline, whilst claims for musculoskeletal disorders are beginning to increase.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.

### **Income Support claimants**

Following the reduction in Income Support claimants between 2003 and 2004 due to the introduction of the Pension Credit scheme, claimant numbers in E01017163 rose to a peak of 185 in late 2006, but have been static or in steady decline ever since. Between May 2008 and May 2009 numbers have remained between 160 and 165 (see Table 2.4.4 in the Data Appendix). Income Support benefit claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.4.6, on average claimant numbers in the Incapacity Benefit and Carers and others statistical groups have declined, whilst the average number of lone parents has remained constant.

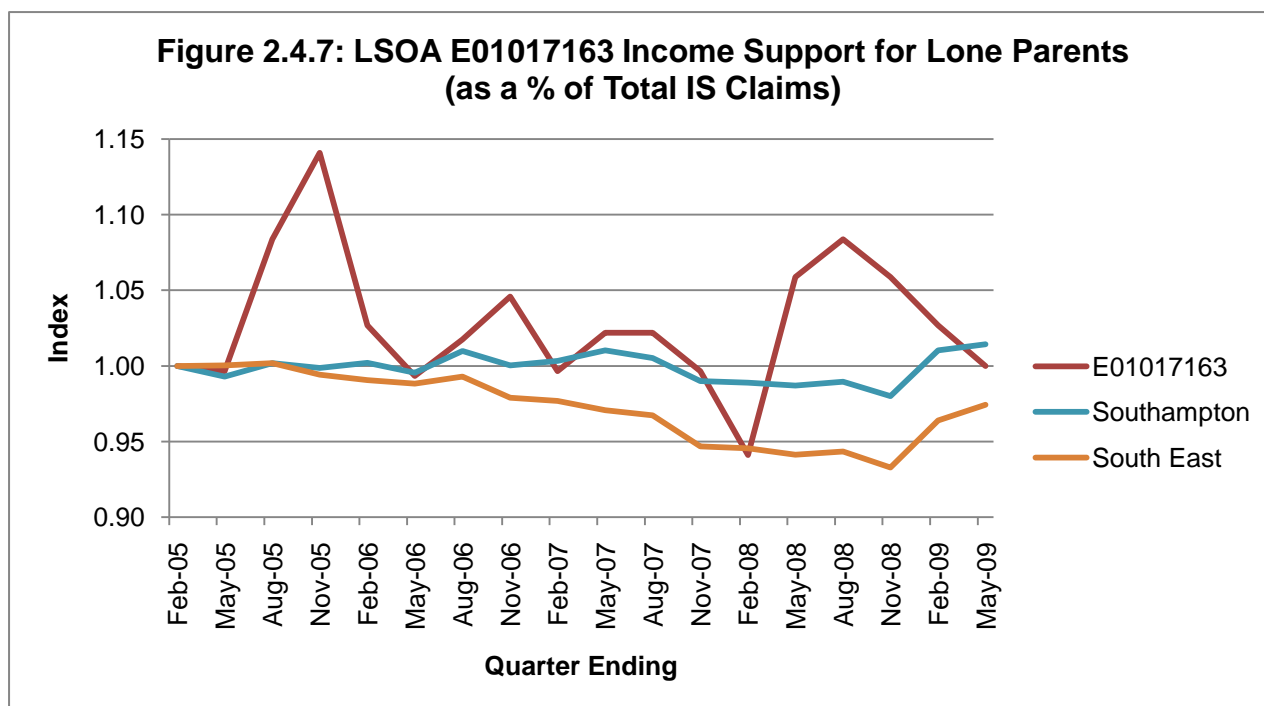


Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.1.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton and the South East has increased since November 2008. LSOA E01017163 has seen a marginal reduction in lone parents as a proportion of total IS claimants since the introduction of the new eligibility criteria in late 2008. However, a longer data series is needed to identify whether or not this reduction is likely to be due to the changes in the benefit system, or whether this is simply claimant numbers naturally fluctuating over time.





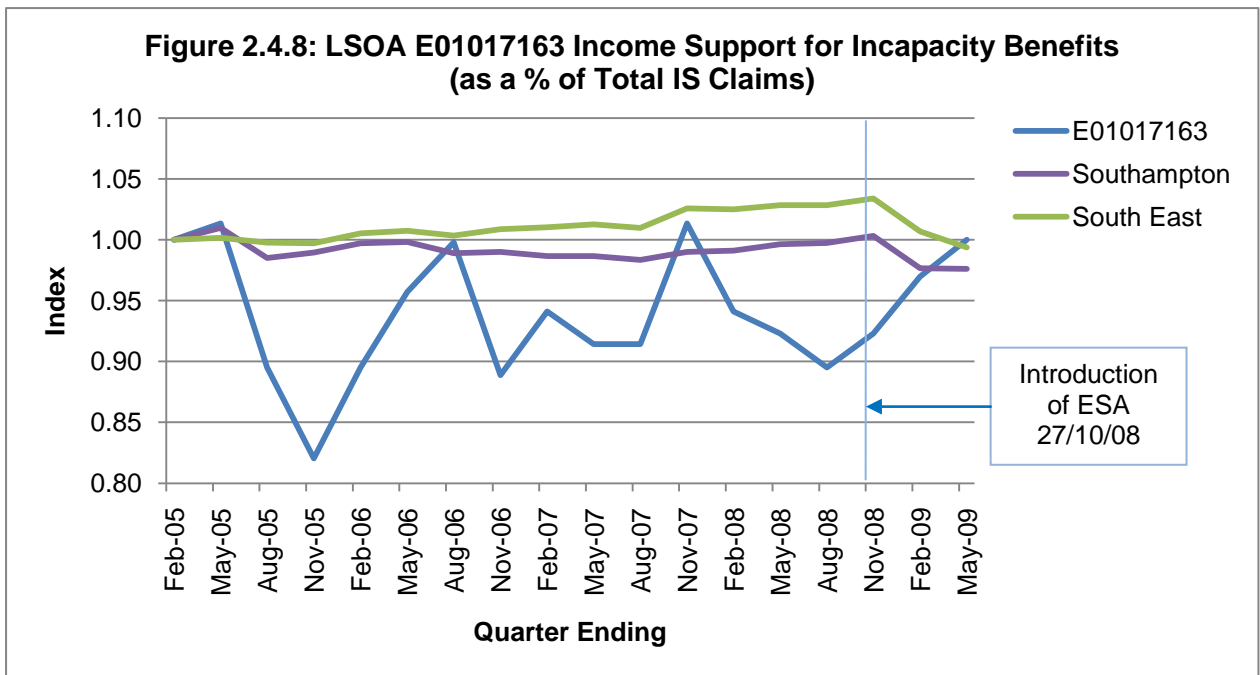
Source: DWP

The introduction of ESA is also affecting those claiming Income Support as part of their Incapacity Benefits. Despite new Incapacity Benefit claimants being transferred onto ESA, claimant numbers in E01017163 have marginally increased since November 2008. This goes against the city-wide and regional trends where claimant numbers have fallen (see Figure 2.4.8).

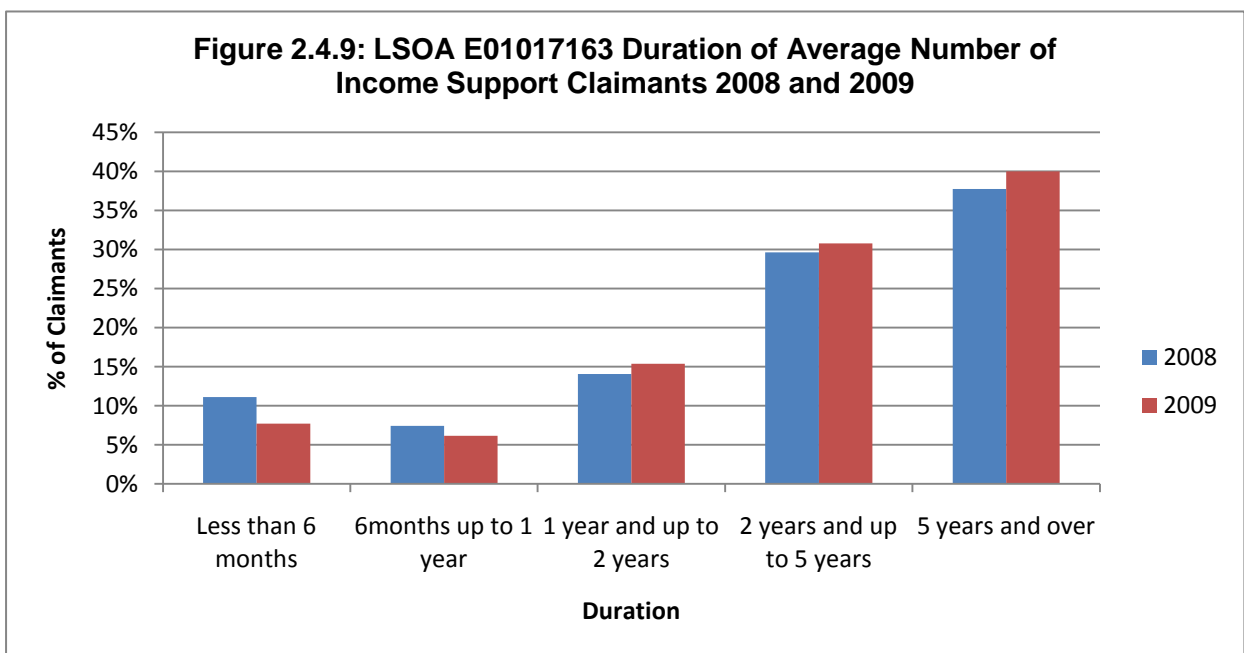
As shown in Figure 2.4.9, the percentage of claimants who have been in receipt of IS for under six months, and between six months and one year have both declined, whilst the percentage of claimants in longer duration categories have increased. Additionally, the demographic of the claimants by age has also altered, with a decline in claimant numbers in the 16-24 age band, and an increase in numbers in the 25-49 age band.

Otherwise, the characteristics of IS claimants have remained largely unchanged over the last year, despite an overall decrease in the number of claimants. The ratio of male to female claimants remained at approximately 30:70, those without a partner continue to represent approximately 90 per cent of claimants, whilst the statistical groups remained fairly static for those claiming either for Incapacity Benefits, as a lone parent, or as a carer.

The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a Lone Parent, often for longer than 2 years.



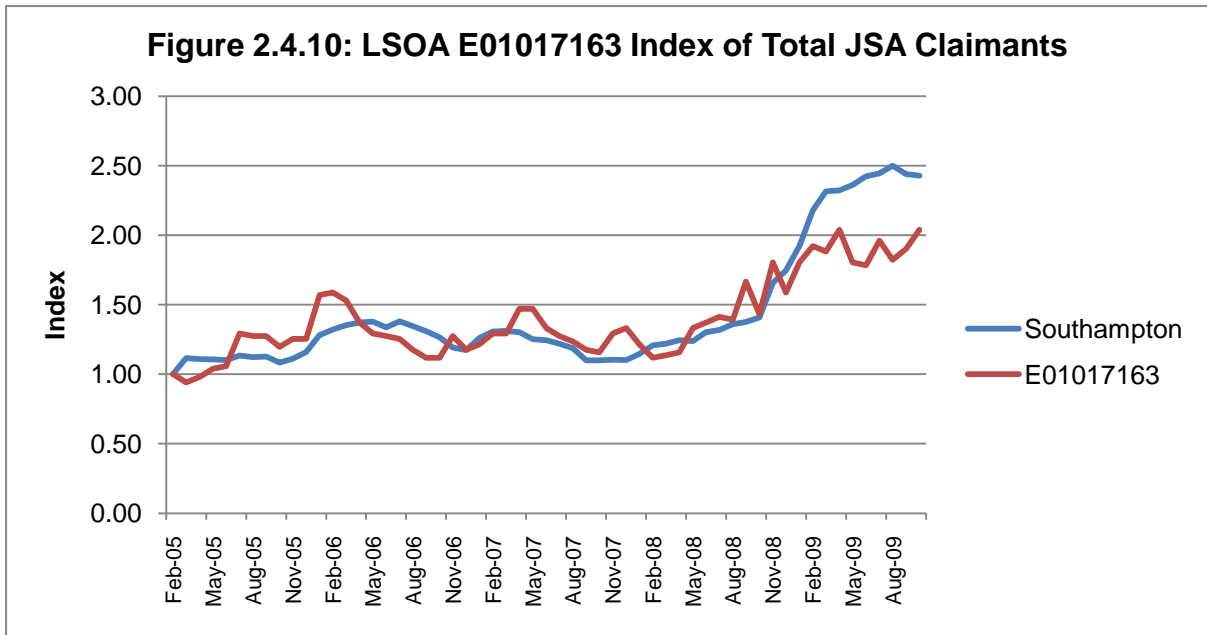
Source: DWP



Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

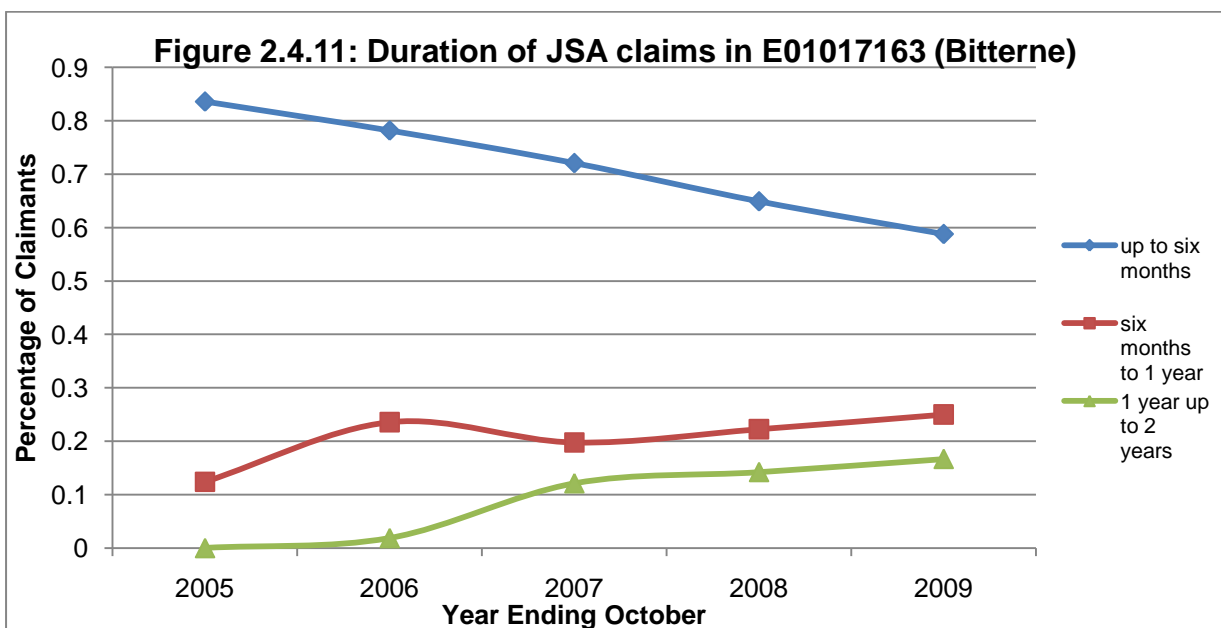
Table 2.4.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017163 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.4.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The number of JSA claimants grew by over 50 per cent between October 2008 and February 2009 across Southampton as a whole. The growth in JSA claimants within E01017163 has been less pronounced although claimant numbers throughout 2009 have been consistently above the average since February 2005.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have slightly affected males more than females, with an average of 20 more male claimants and 8 more female claimants. However the ratio of male to female claimants remains broadly similar to last year at approximately 75:25 (see Table 2.4.5). The data also suggests that the mid-age band of 25-49 has been affected most, increasing by nearly 35% during 2009. Claimants within this age band still dominate the proportion of those claiming JSA and claimant numbers in this age category have generally been quite static until 2008.

Duration data suggests that an increased proportion of claimants of JSA within E01017163 have been receiving the benefit for longer than 6 months, or longer than one year (see Figure 2.1.6 below). The noticeably shorter durations for claims of JSA compared with other benefits is likely to be mainly due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.

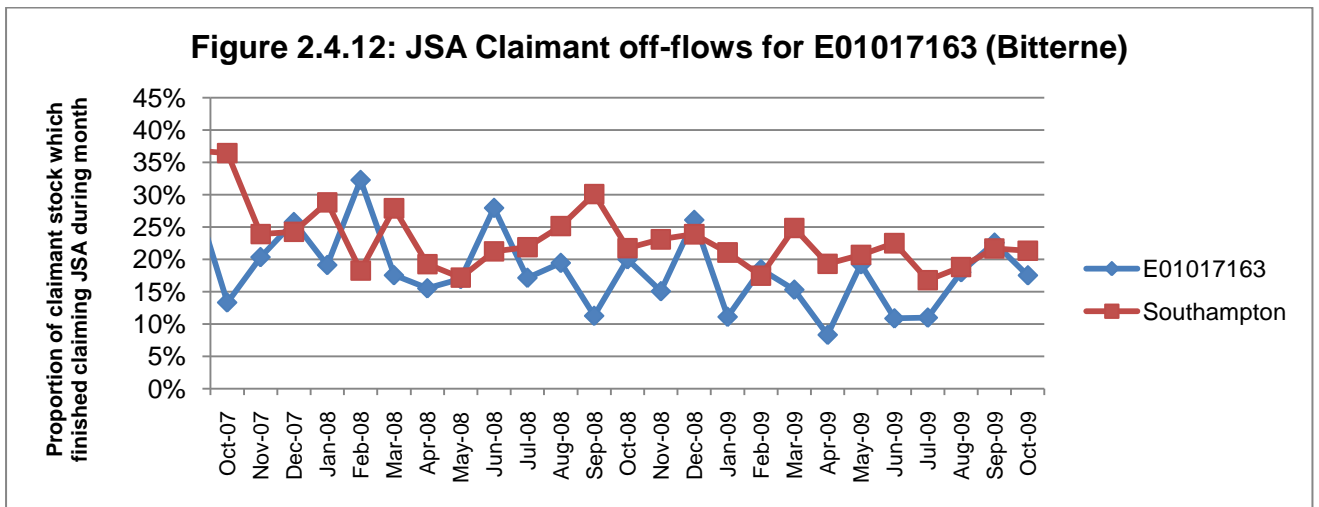


Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

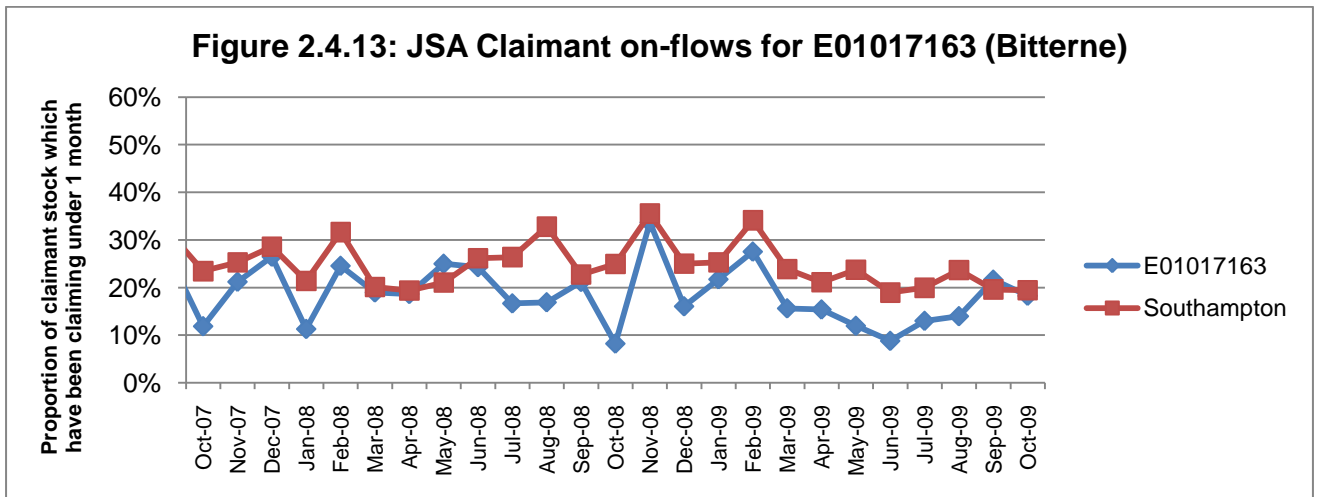
Figures 2.4.12 and 2.4.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows), and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both LSOA E01017163 (Bitterne) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Whilst claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas, in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is lower for the LSOA than for the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017163 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017163 (Bitterne) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in retail, construction, transport, goods storage and cleaning, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017163 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the number claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		109	113	118	120	129	125	111	106
Type	IB	93%	94%	91%	94%	92%	95%	93%	95%
	SDA	7%	6%	9%	6%	8%	5%	7%	5%
Age	16-24	6%	7%	9%	6%	8%	12%	9%	6%
	25-49	46%	50%	49%	49%	55%	53%	53%	55%
	50-59	38%	34%	34%	32%	27%	27%	29%	31%
	Over 60	10%	9%	9%	13%	10%	8%	9%	8%
Gender	Male	57%	53%	59%	63%	62%	63%	61%	62%
	Female	43%	47%	41%	38%	38%	37%	39%	38%
Duration	Less than 6 months	7%	11%	11%	5%	9%	14%	12%	16%
	6 months up to 1 year	6%	6%	6%	2%	7%	7%	8%	6%
	1 year and up to 2 years	9%	7%	3%	9%	15%	12%	15%	11%
	2 years and up to 5 years	22%	22%	22%	29%	25%	20%	21%	19%
	5 years and over	56%	54%	57%	54%	45%	47%	44%	48%
Award	Mental	47%	51%	51%	49%	49%	51%	49%	46%
	Nervous System	3%	2%	3%	4%	4%	2%	4%	5%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	8%	7%	5%	5%	4%	3%	6%	5%
	Musculoskeletal	17%	12%	15%	16%	17%	19%	22%	24%
	Injury, poisoning	3%	6%	7%	6%	7%	7%	2%	2%
	Other	21%	22%	18%	20%	20%	18%	16%	19%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		163	169	178	169	168	191	220	220
Age	16-24	19%	24%	27%	26%	24%	24%	20%	21%
	25-49	64%	59%	55%	57%	60%	58%	52%	53%
	50-59	17%	18%	18%	17%	16%	14%	13%	11%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	15%	14%
Gender	Male	27%	26%	27%	27%	31%	33%	32%	32%
	Female	73%	74%	73%	73%	69%	67%	68%	68%
Duration	Less than 6 months	8%	11%	10%	9%	7%	10%	11%	13%
	6 months up to 1 year	6%	7%	10%	7%	7%	8%	9%	11%
	1 year and up to 2 years	15%	14%	16%	15%	15%	16%	16%	14%
	2 years and up to 5 years	31%	30%	28%	34%	31%	27%	30%	30%
	5 years and over	40%	38%	36%	36%	40%	39%	34%	32%
Partnered	With partner	10%	9%	10%	10%	11%	12%	16%	17%
	Single	90%	91%	90%	90%	89%	88%	84%	83%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	38%	39%	38%	36%	40%	40%	32%	31%
	Lone Parent	55%	53%	54%	56%	54%	52%	49%	51%
	Carers and Others	6%	8%	8%	7%	6%	8%	19%	18%

Source: DWP

<sup>30</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2005	95	74%	26%	28%	55%	17%	59%	25%	17%	0%
2006	67	75%	25%	30%	60%	9%	64%	22%	14%	0%
2007	65	78%	22%	30%	60%	10%	69%	19%	12%	0%
2008	67	77%	23%	31%	61%	8%	75%	23%	2%	0%
2009	54	78%	22%	32%	63%	6%	87%	13%	0%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		126	115	110	104	99	95	83
Age	Under 16	12%	12%	14%	13%	13%	14%	15%
	16-24	10%	10%	11%	8%	10%	8%	6%
	25-49	31%	29%	31%	29%	34%	34%	33%
	50-59	22%	23%	23%	24%	20%	22%	20%
	60-69	18%	18%	15%	17%	16%	16%	21%
	70 and over	8%	8%	7%	8%	6%	5%	5%
Gender	Male	48%	48%	48%	48%	49%	47%	44%
	Female	52%	52%	52%	52%	51%	53%	56%
Duration	Less than 12 months	10%	7%	7%	8%	9%	14%	15%
	1 year and up to 2 years	6%	11%	8%	7%	13%	14%	8%
	2 years and up to 5 years	21%	17%	22%	28%	23%	16%	21%
	5 years and over	63%	65%	64%	57%	56%	55%	56%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	33%	30%	34%	33%	34%	29%	27%
	Higher Rate	51%	54%	56%	54%	53%	57%	59%
	Nil Rate	16%	15%	10%	13%	13%	14%	14%
Care Award	Lower Rate	29%	27%	27%	28%	30%	30%	30%
	Middle Rate	35%	34%	31%	29%	33%	29%	30%
	Higher Rate	27%	27%	27%	29%	23%	26%	29%
	Nil Rate	10%	12%	15%	14%	14%	14%	11%

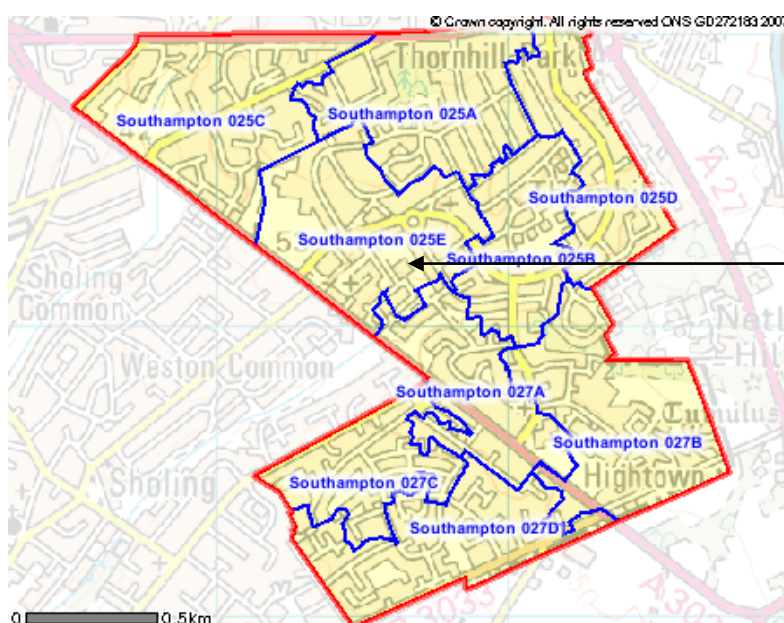
Source: DWP

## 2.5 LSOA E01017166 (Bitterne ward)

### Summary of Findings for E01017166

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017166 (Bitterne) has identified the following key points:

- LSOA E01017166 represents the eleventh highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The numbers of Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants have begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The number of short-term Income Support claimants has fallen since November 2008, potentially as a result of changes to the eligibility criteria for claiming this benefit at that time. The typical Income Support claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a Lone Parent, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017166 between October 2008 and January 2009. The impact lay most heavily on the older age bands of 25-49 and 50 and over and the increase in male claimants exceeded the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.



**Figure 2.5.1 – Map showing the location of Bitterne LSOA E01017166**

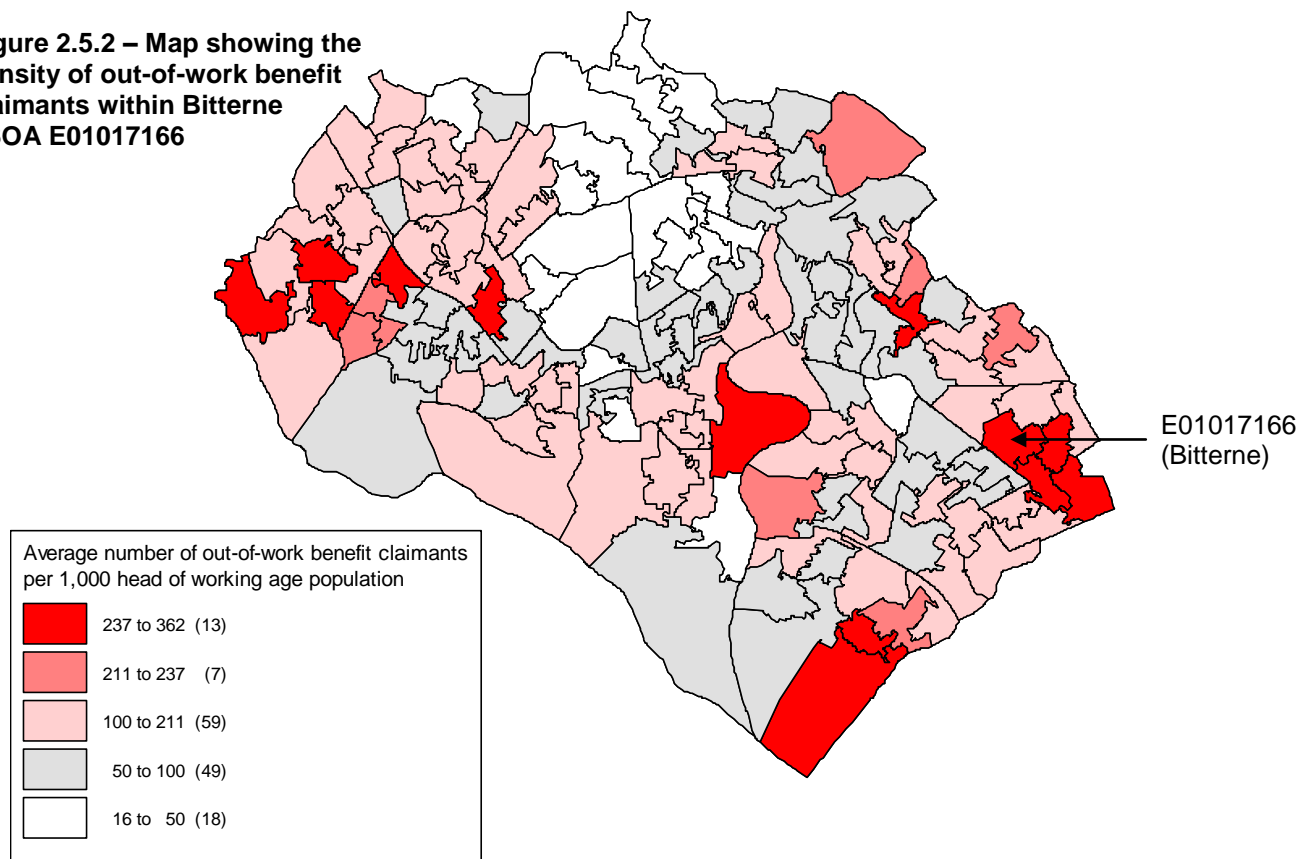
**E01017166 (Bitterne)**



**Profile**

LSOA E01017166 is located within the Bitterne ward (see Figure 2.5.1 for the LSOA's location within Bitterne). This LSOA is part of the Thornhill estate on the east side of the city and consists of a large amount of local authority housing, a mixture of low-rise blocks and a few high rise towers. The LSOA is part of an area based regeneration programme – a 'New Deal for Communities – Thornhill Plus You'.

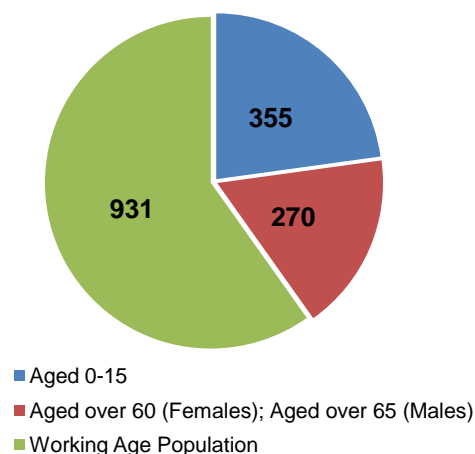
**Figure 2.5.2 – Map showing the density of out-of-work benefit claimants within Bitterne LSOA E01017166**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.5.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. There was an estimated 256 out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head in the LSOA E01017166 on average over the year between May 2008 and May 2009, an increase from 240 in last year's report. This figure represents the eleventh highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.5.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017166 (Bitterne)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017166 in 2008 was just over 1,550. Of these, approximately one quarter (around 350 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst 270 people were over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of 931 people. Approximately 26% of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>31</sup>.

<sup>31</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.

Within both the economically active and inactive population, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent may belong to this category), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity Benefits/ Employment Support Allowance (ESA) or students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017166**

Table 2.5.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017166 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>32</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 11 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This increase may be expected as a result of the recession and is also reflected over the region as a whole, where on average, Southampton, the South East region and England have all seen increases in the number of total claimants over the same period. This is a relatively large increase compared to the preceding 3 years, but is reflected in increases seen more broadly across the region and may be expected due to impact of the recession.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	273	59	108	69	18	4	15	1	0
2008	261	40	101	78	18	6	15	4	0
2007	253	46	93	74	15	5	16	4	0
2006	243	46	91	71	15	5	11	3	0
2005	228	30	96	68	11	6	14	3	0
2004	236	34	94	75	11	6	14	3	0
2003	251	31	104	81	13	6	10	6	0
2002	233	30	100	78	13	5	N/A	1	4

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	95	60	35	10	50	30	5	5	10	30	50
Job Seekers	65	55	10	20	40	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	130	30	100	40	65	25	0	20	20	35	55
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	105	50	55	10	40	15	25	10	5	25	65
Bereaved	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

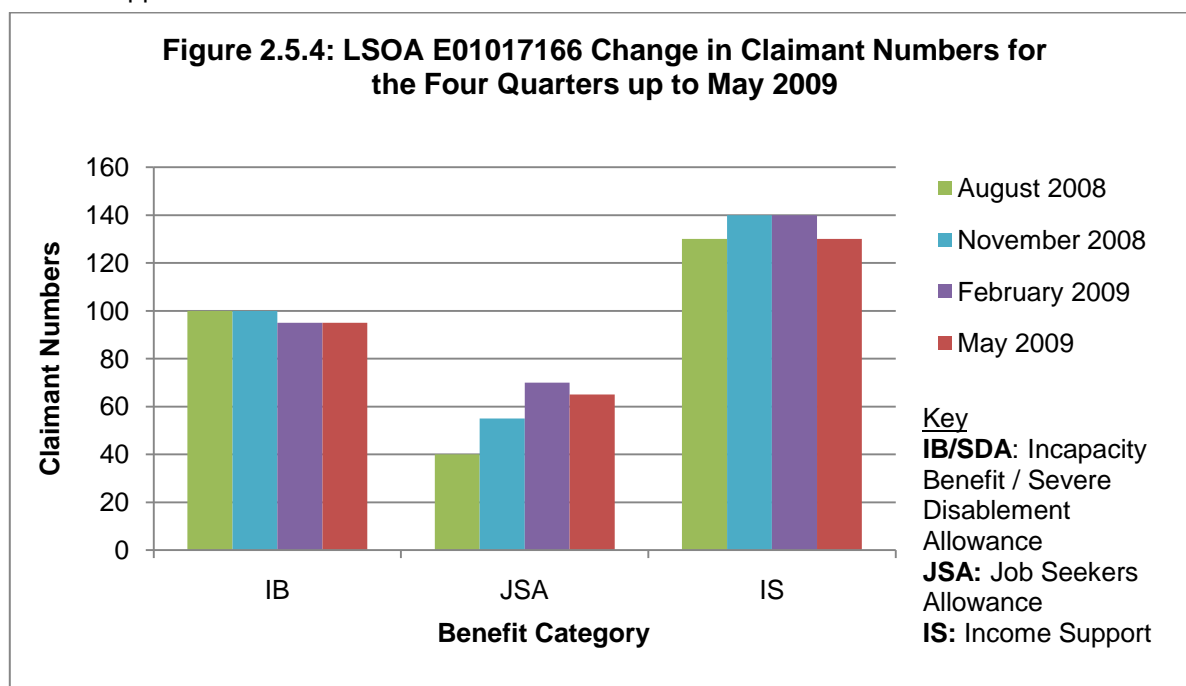
<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 10 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 5 DLA claimants aged over 70

<sup>32</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.

Table 2.5.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017166 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.5.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.5.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>33</sup>). As a result, therefore individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.5.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017166 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>34</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017166 has altered. In particular, the number of JSA claimants increased between August 2008 and February 2009, although it then fell slightly until May 2009. The number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) and Income Support has remained relatively static over the same period (see Figure 2.5.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

### **Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008. In E01017166, this decrease in the number of IB claimants was slightly lagged, as it did not appear until the May 2009 data.

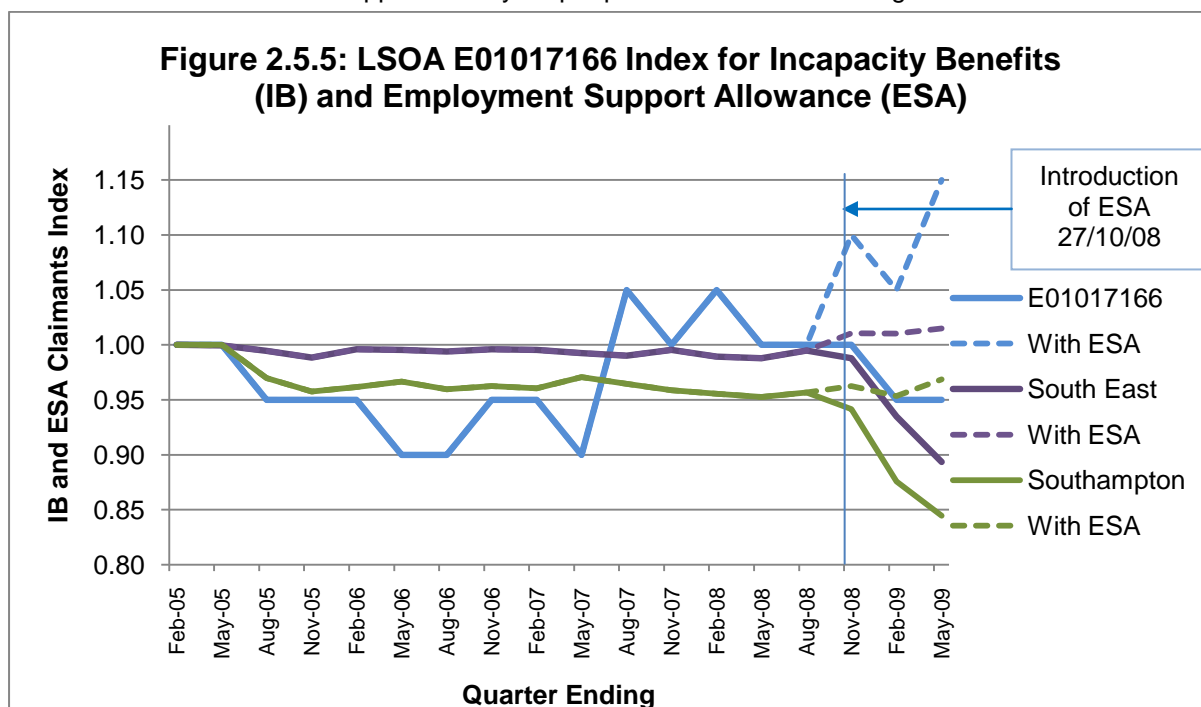
Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only

<sup>33</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>34</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.5.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.

an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy and any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.5.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005, the solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed line includes ESA claimants<sup>35</sup>. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The May 2009 data for LSOA E01017166 shows approximately 20 people to have been claiming ESA.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.5.3. Since November 2008, there appears to have been a decline in the number of recipients of IB who have been claiming for less than six months. However, the majority of claimants have been receiving IB for longer than two years, and nearly 50 per cent of those have been claiming for in excess of 5 years.

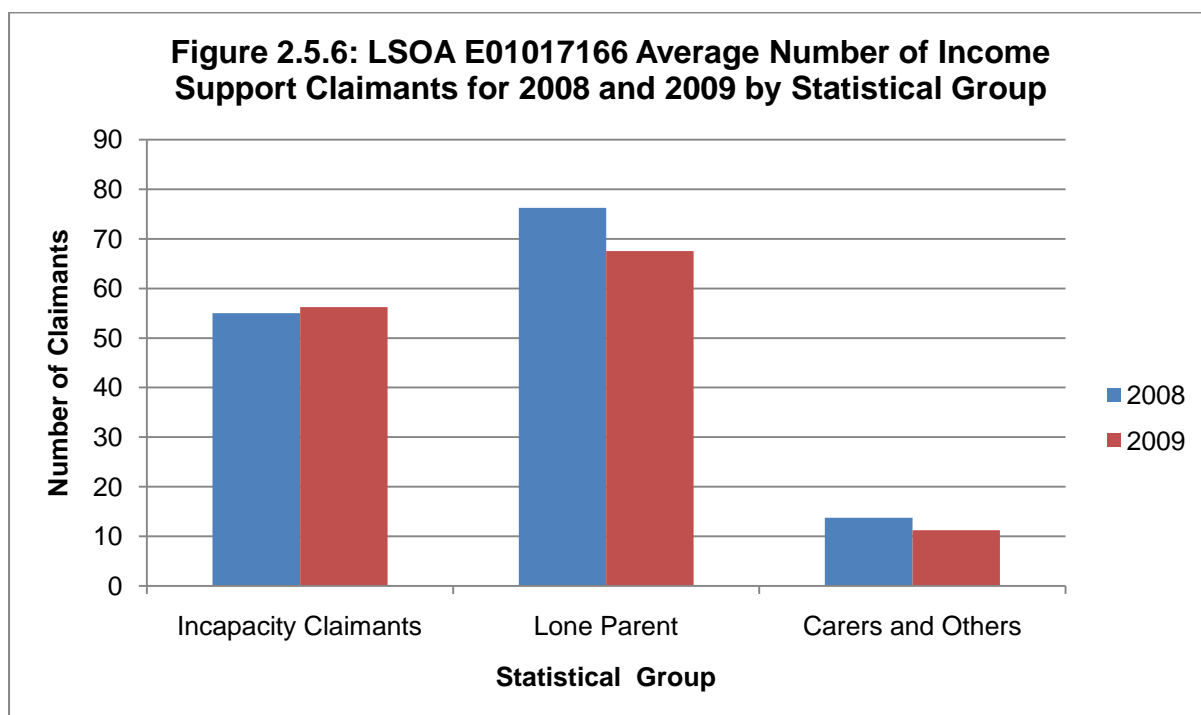
There has been no major shift in the ratio of male to female claimants which is approximately 63:37. Similarly, the composition of claimants by age has altered little over the last year, with 53 per cent and 28 per cent of claimants belonging to the 25-49 and 50-59 age categories respectively. There has been little change in the reasons for the award of IB to residents of E01017166 since February 2008. The proportion of claimants in E01017166 receiving IB for mental or behavioural disorders has remained relatively static at about 50 per cent since 2002. Claims for musculoskeletal disorders, however, are beginning to increase.

<sup>35</sup> This figure was calculated from taking the number of those stated as claiming Incapacity Benefit from an individual Incapacity Benefit series which does not include ESA, as in Table 2.5.2 (Source: DWP) and subtracting this from the number of those stated as claiming Incapacity Benefit from a Total Claimant series which includes ESA, as in Table 2.5.2 (Source: DWP). As the Total Claimant series is subject to a hierarchy and both series have rounding errors, estimated ESA figures may also incorporate errors as visible on graph 2.5.5 where the May 2009 ESA figure is negative for E01017250.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.

### **Income Support claimants**

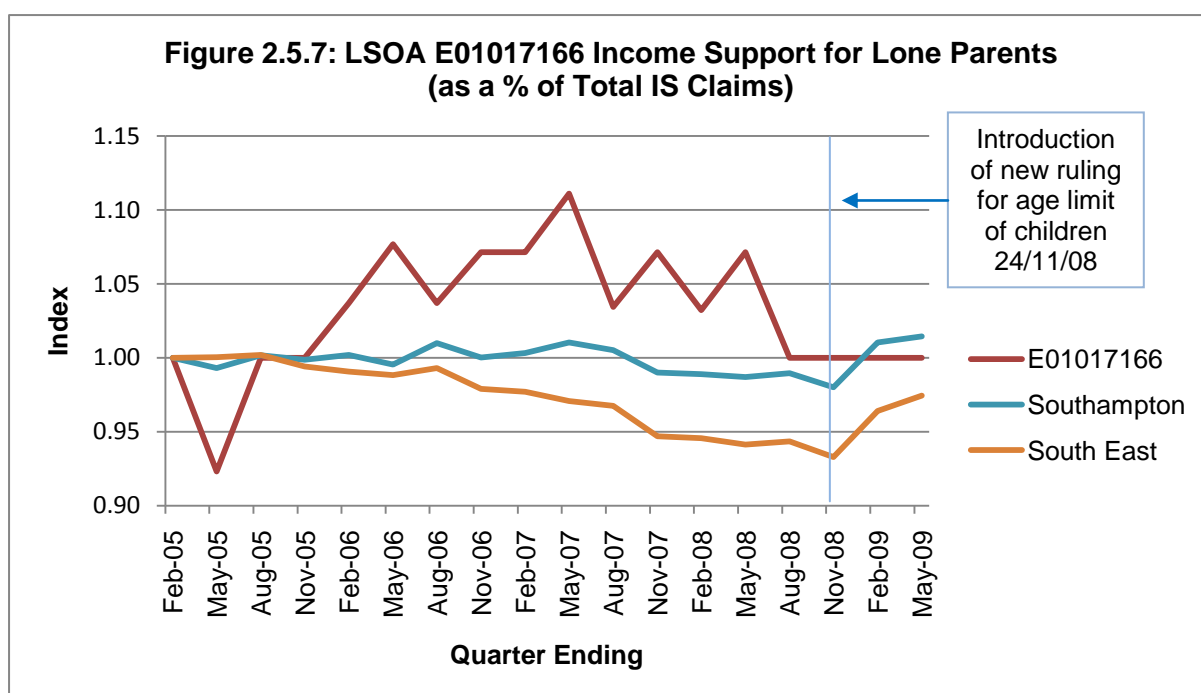
Following the reduction in Income Support claimants in 2003 due to the introduction of the Pension Credit scheme, numbers in E01017166 had begun to rise. Between May 2008 and May 2009, however, numbers decreased by 10% (see Table 2.5.4 in the Data Appendix). Income Support benefit claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.5.6, on average claimant numbers in the Incapacity Benefit and Carers and others statistical groups have remained fairly constant, whilst the average number of lone parents has declined.



Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.5.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton and the South East has increased since November 2008 and remained static in LSOA E01017163. Although the proportion has remained unchanged in E01017163 for the quarter up to May 2009, this is in relation to the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS, which has decreased. The actual number of people claiming IS as a lone parent decreased over this timeframe. However, a longer data series is needed to identify whether or not this reduction is likely to be due to the changes in the benefit system, or whether this is simply claimant numbers naturally fluctuating over time.



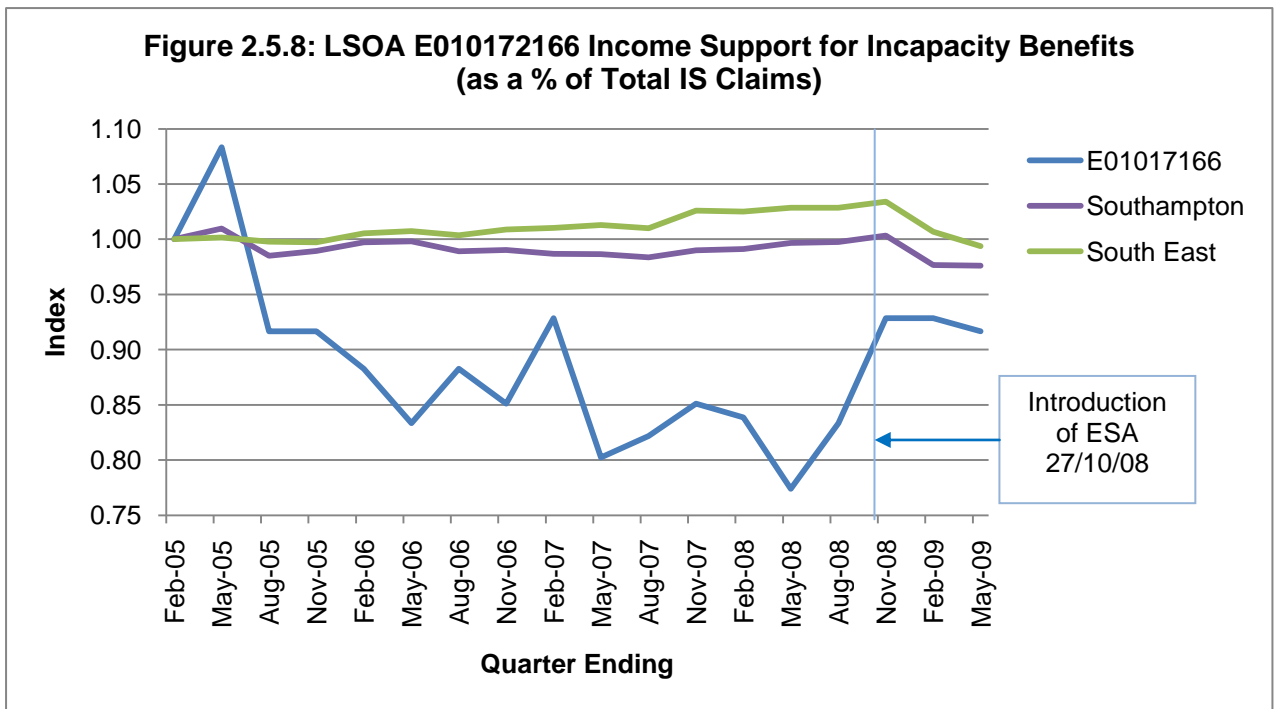
Source: DWP

The introduction of ESA is also affecting those claiming Income Support as part of their Incapacity Benefits. Claimant numbers in E01017166 have marginally decreased since November 2008 as new Incapacity Benefit claimants have been transferred onto ESA. This corresponds with city-wide and regional trends where claimant numbers have also fallen (see Figure 2.5.8).

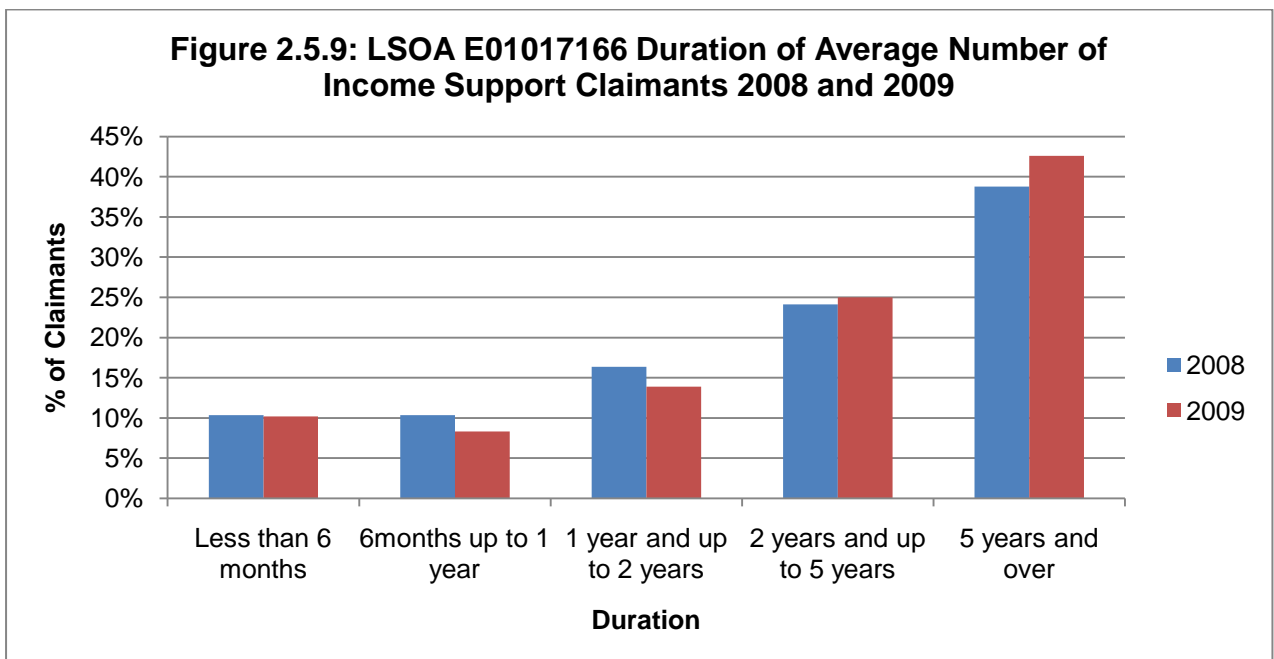
As shown in Figure 2.5.9, the percentage of claimants in each duration band has remained fairly constant between 2008 and 2009. However, the demographic of claimants by age has altered, with a 13 per cent decline in claimant numbers in the 25-49 age band, whilst other age categories remained mostly static. Additionally, the number of male claimants decreased by 18 per cent whilst female claimants decreased by 2 per cent, altering the ratio of male to female claimants from 29:71 to 26:74.

Otherwise, the characteristics of IS claimants have remained largely unchanged over the last year, despite an overall decrease in the number of claimants. Those without a partner continue to represent approximately 90 per cent of claimants, whilst the statistical groups remained fairly static for those claiming either for Incapacity Benefits, as a lone parent, or as a carer except for a 10 per cent decrease in lone parent claimants.

The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a Lone Parent, often for longer than 2 years.



Source: DWP

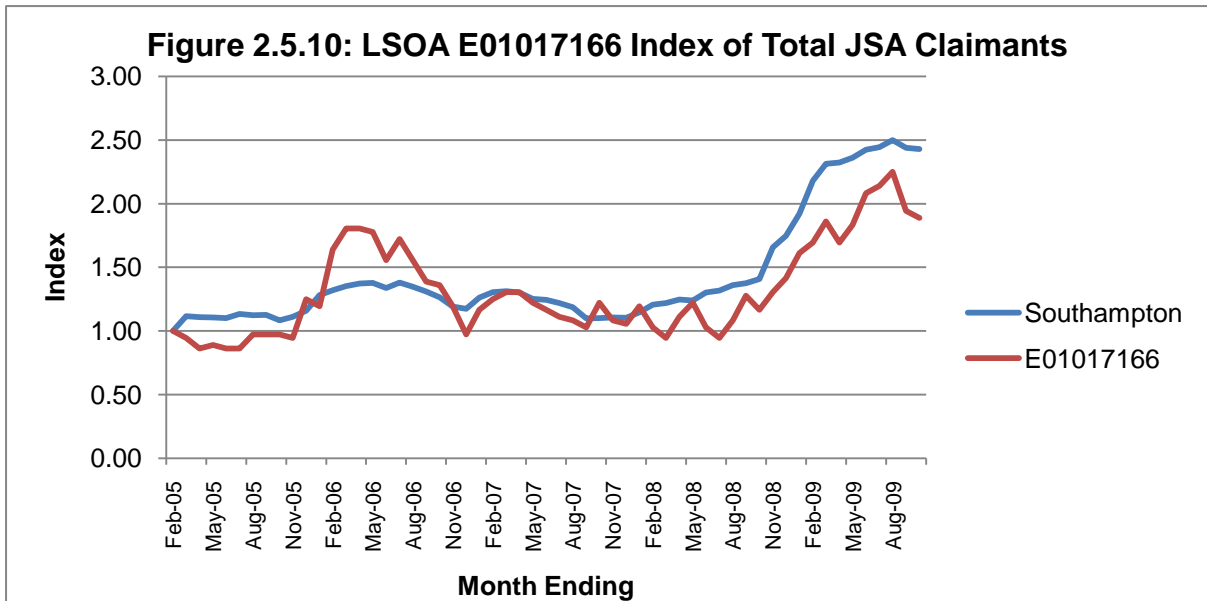


Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

Table 2.5.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017166 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.5.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between October 2008 and January 2009, where figures rose by nearly 40% in E01017166. Overall, there has been a less pronounced effect on LSOA E01017281 over the last year than on Southampton as a whole.

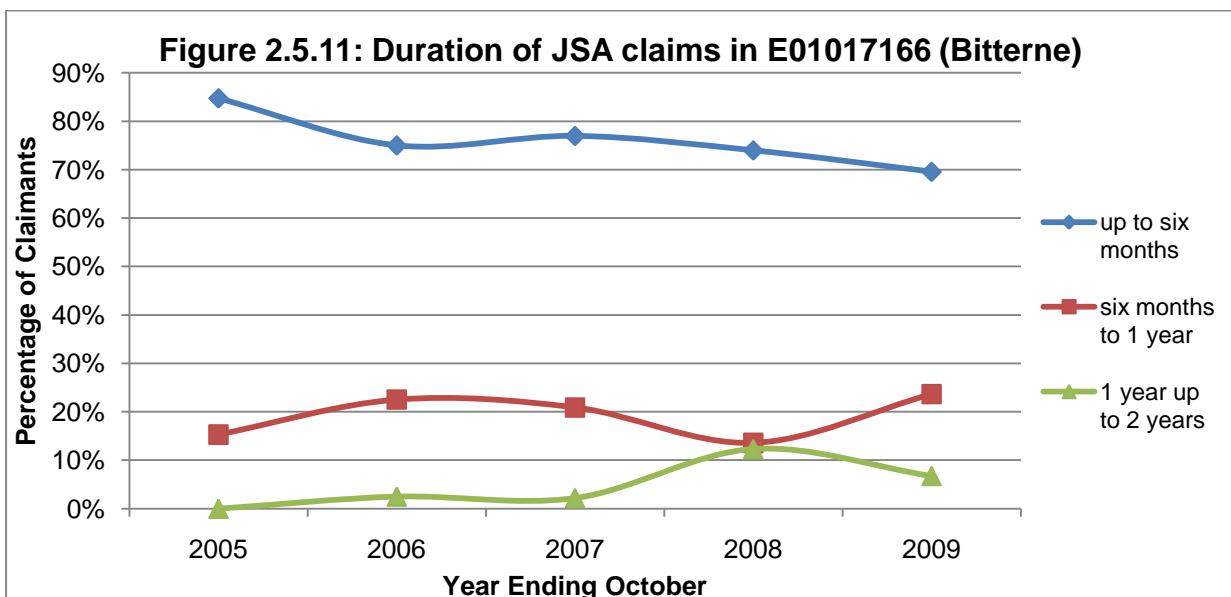




Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with an average of 21 more male claimants and 5 more female claimants. However, the ratio of male to female claimants remains broadly similar to last year at approximately 80:20 (see Table 2.5.5). The data also suggests that the increase has affected the older age bands more than the younger age bands as the number of JSA claimants aged 50 and over has increased from an average of 1 in 2008 to 5 in 2009, whilst claimants aged 25-49 still dominate the proportion of those claiming JSA and increased by 80 per cent between 2008 and 2009. The youngest 16-24 age band saw a smaller rise in numbers.

The rising number of E01017281 JSA claimants since mid 2008 has resulted in an increased proportion of those claiming for less than six months and six months to a year, as demonstrated in Figure 2.5.11 below. The noticeably shorter durations for claims of JSA compared with other benefits is likely to be mainly due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.

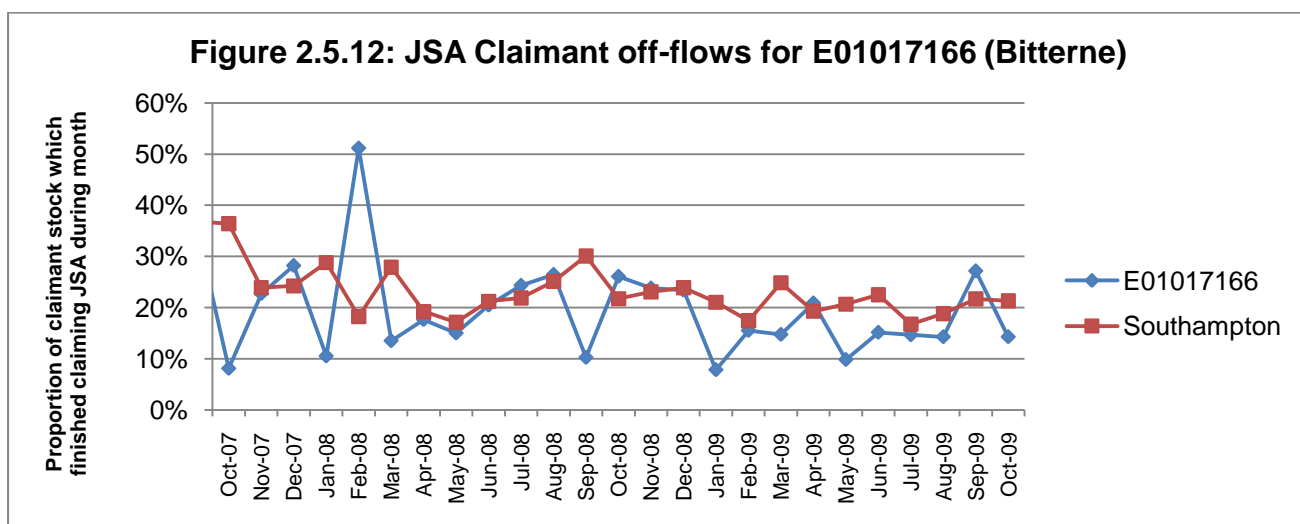


Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

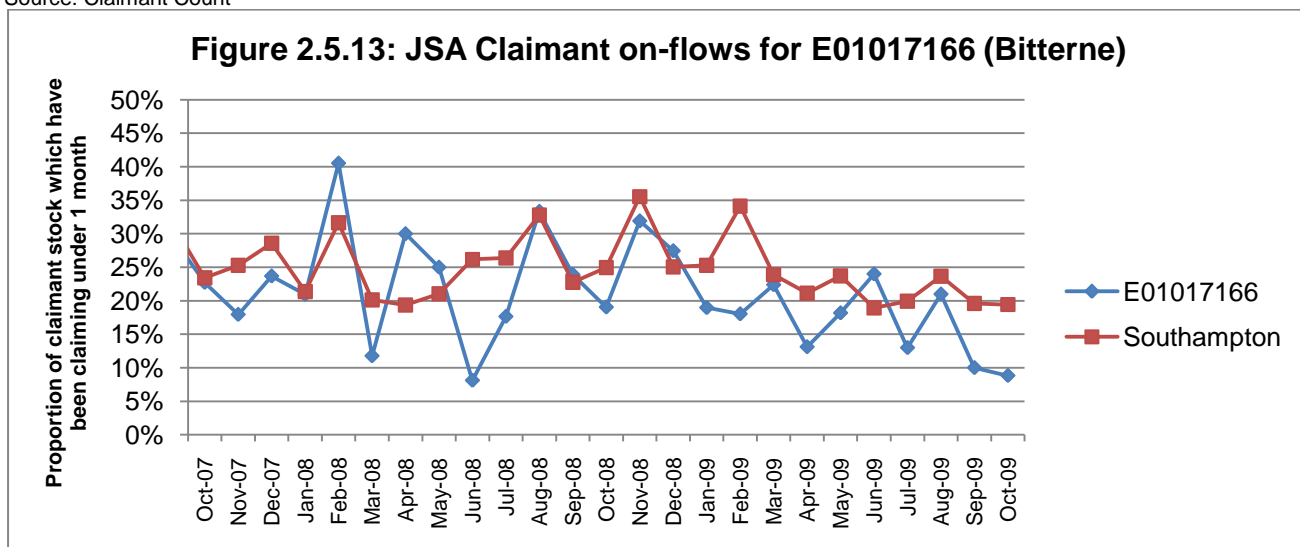
Figures 2.5.12 and 2.5.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows) and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017166 (Bitterne) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas and in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is similar for both the LSOA and the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017166 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017166 (Bitterne) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in retail and construction, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017166 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the number claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		98	103	93	94	96	94	105	100
Type	IB	97%	96%	96%	95%	96%	95%	94%	90%
	SDA	3%	4%	4%	5%	4%	5%	6%	10%
Age	16-24	12%	15%	11%	8%	10%	12%	15%	11%
	25-49	53%	51%	57%	56%	60%	60%	62%	59%
	50-59	28%	24%	26%	29%	22%	23%	17%	24%
	Over 60	8%	10%	7%	7%	8%	5%	6%	6%
Gender	Male	63%	62%	64%	57%	61%	59%	61%	59%
	Female	37%	38%	36%	43%	39%	41%	39%	41%
Duration	Less than 6 months	8%	9%	9%	13%	9%	7%	12%	9%
	6 months up to 1 year	6%	6%	5%	7%	6%	9%	8%	8%
	1 year and up to 2 years	10%	15%	14%	8%	9%	11%	12%	16%
	2 years and up to 5 years	28%	24%	22%	24%	32%	31%	25%	29%
	5 years and over	47%	46%	50%	48%	43%	43%	43%	39%
Award	Mental	47%	44%	51%	48%	48%	47%	46%	44%
	Nervous System	3%	1%	0%	3%	0%	0%	2%	4%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	8%	9%	8%	5%	6%	11%	10%	8%
	Musculoskeletal	18%	16%	16%	16%	16%	15%	12%	14%
	Injury, poisoning	6%	7%	8%	8%	10%	9%	8%	9%
	Other	18%	23%	16%	20%	19%	19%	21%	23%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		135	145	138	131	133	158	216	214
Age	16-24	30%	27%	24%	22%	22%	20%	16%	13%
	25-49	55%	59%	64%	65%	67%	60%	48%	48%
	50-59	16%	15%	13%	13%	11%	10%	8%	9%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	11%	28%	29%
Gender	Male	26%	29%	28%	26%	29%	26%	28%	27%
	Female	74%	71%	72%	74%	71%	74%	72%	73%
Duration	Less than 6 months	10%	10%	12%	10%	8%	9%	9%	9%
	6 months up to 1 year	8%	10%	9%	7%	8%	7%	8%	9%
	1 year and up to 2 years	14%	16%	14%	11%	12%	12%	13%	15%
	2 years and up to 5 years	25%	24%	23%	30%	32%	29%	26%	22%
	5 years and over	43%	39%	43%	42%	40%	43%	43%	44%
Partnered	With partner	11%	10%	10%	10%	9%	10%	13%	12%
	Single	89%	90%	90%	90%	91%	90%	87%	88%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	42%	38%	40%	41%	44%	37%	29%	30%
	Lone Parent	50%	53%	54%	51%	51%	48%	38%	37%
	Carers and Others	8%	9%	6%	8%	5%	16%	33%	33%

Source: DWP

<sup>36</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	65	81%	19%	32%	59%	8%	70%	24%	7%	0%
2008	39	80%	20%	36%	61%	2%	74%	14%	12%	0%
2007	42	73%	27%	42%	52%	6%	77%	21%	2%	0%
2006	54	77%	23%	38%	62%	0%	75%	23%	3%	0%
2005	33	77%	23%	39%	51%	10%	85%	15%	0%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		104	104	100	99	93	93	86
Age	Under 16	10%	10%	10%	10%	9%	12%	10%
	16-24	13%	14%	16%	13%	11%	15%	12%
	25-49	33%	30%	33%	34%	39%	39%	42%
	50-59	16%	19%	19%	18%	18%	18%	17%
	60-69	24%	19%	18%	19%	16%	11%	13%
	70 and over	5%	7%	5%	6%	7%	5%	6%
Gender	Male	51%	49%	50%	52%	53%	57%	57%
	Female	49%	51%	50%	48%	47%	43%	43%
Duration	Less than 12 months	6%	7%	5%	9%	11%	11%	9%
	1 year and up to 2 years	8%	7%	9%	10%	11%	9%	9%
	2 years and up to 5 years	20%	23%	19%	22%	20%	24%	22%
	5 years and over	65%	63%	68%	59%	58%	55%	61%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	40%	42%	43%	39%	39%	38%	36%
	Higher Rate	48%	46%	45%	48%	50%	47%	48%
	Nil Rate	12%	12%	13%	13%	11%	15%	16%
Care Award	Lower Rate	33%	33%	35%	34%	39%	38%	32%
	Middle Rate	46%	46%	39%	41%	35%	32%	38%
	Higher Rate	12%	13%	15%	14%	19%	23%	23%
	Nil Rate	10%	8%	11%	11%	7%	7%	7%

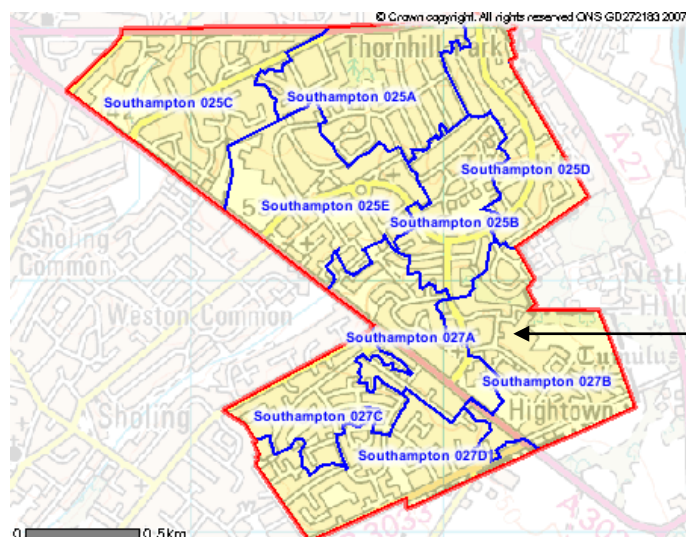
Source: DWP

## 2.6 LSOA E01017168 (Bitterne ward)

### Summary of Findings for E01017168

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017168 (Bitterne) has identified the following key points:

- LSOA E01017168 represents the twelfth highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The numbers of Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants have begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The number of short-term Income Support claimants has fallen since November 2008, potentially as a result of changes to the eligibility criteria for claiming this benefit at that time. The typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming for Income Support under the Incapacity Benefit grouping, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017168 between September 2008 and January 2009. The impact of this increase fell most heavily upon those aged 25-49, with the increase in male claimants exceeding the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.



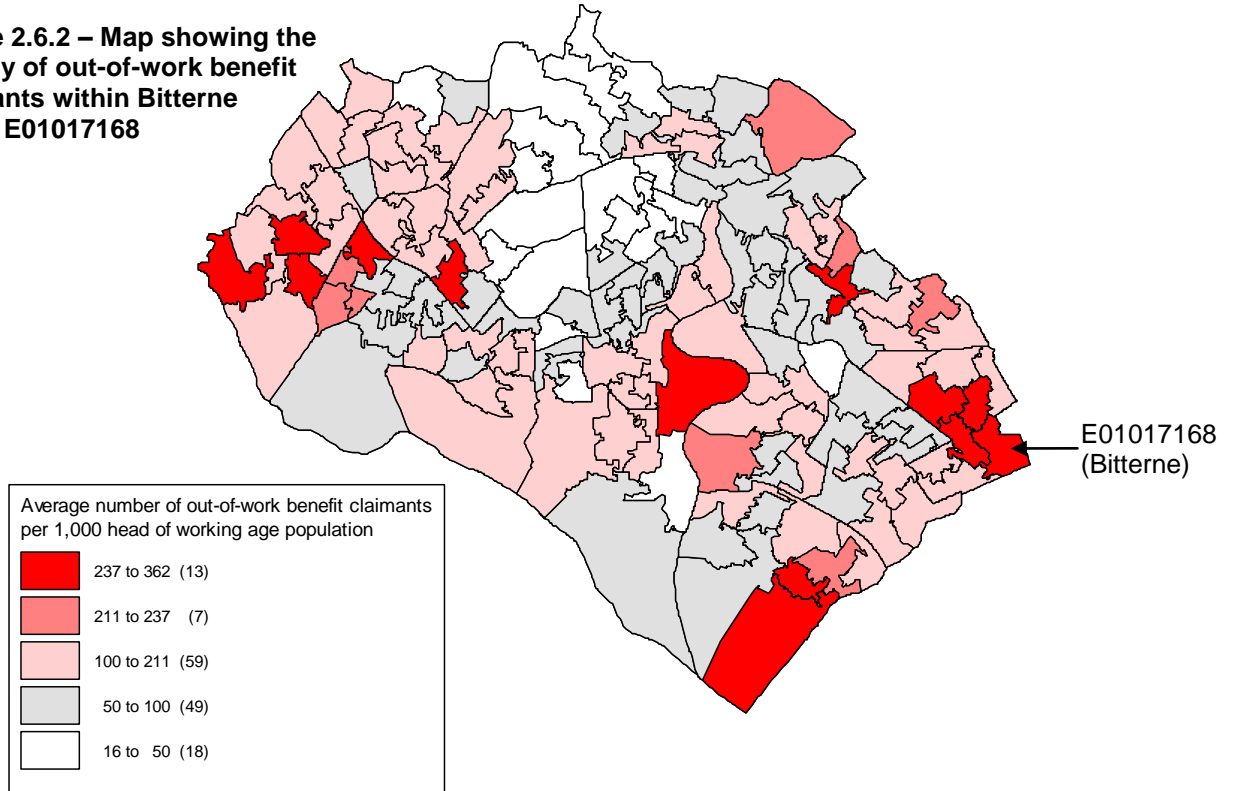
**Figure 2.6.1 – Map showing the location of Bitterne LSOA E01017168**

**E01017168 (Bitterne)**

**Profile**

LSOA E01017168 is located within the Bitterne ward (see Figure 2.6.1 for the LSOA's location within Bitterne). The LSOA is located in the Thornhill estate on the eastern edge of the city boundary. It consists mainly of Local Authority housing tenants in a mixture of high rise tower blocks and low rise flats.

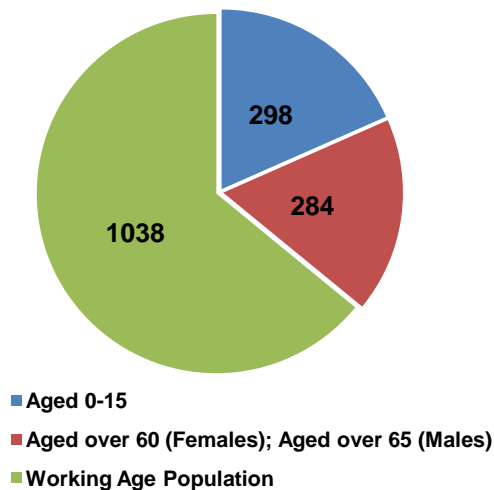
**Figure 2.6.2 – Map showing the density of out-of-work benefit claimants within Bitterne LSOA E01017168**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.6.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. There was an estimated 238 out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head in the LSOA E01017168 on average over the year between May 2008 and May 2009, an increase from 224 in last year's report. This figure represents the twelfth highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.6.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017168 (Bitterne)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017168 in 2008 was over 1,600. Of these, just over 18 per cent (around 300 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst approximately 17 per cent were over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of 1038 people. Approximately 24 per cent of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>37</sup>.

<sup>37</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.



Within both the economically active and inactive population, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent may belong to this category), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity/ Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Benefits or students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017168**

Table 2.6.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017168 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>38</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 20 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This is a relatively large increase compared to the preceding 4 years, but is reflected in increases seen more broadly across the region and may be expected due to impact of the recession.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	280	63	110	65	15	10	16	1	0
2008	260	35	115	69	13	10	14	5	0
2007	261	35	111	69	14	13	15	5	0
2006	251	41	109	60	10	10	14	8	0
2005	259	30	126	61	10	11	14	6	0
2004	233	28	103	64	9	13	13	5	0
2003	243	33	109	68	8	10	9	8	0
2002	231	24	113	70	6	13	N/A	0	6

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	95	45	50	5	50	30	10	5	10	25	55
Job Seekers	75	60	15	15	50	10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	130	35	95	40	70	20	0	25	15	40	50
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	155	65	90	10	55	25	30	20	10	30	95
Bereaved	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

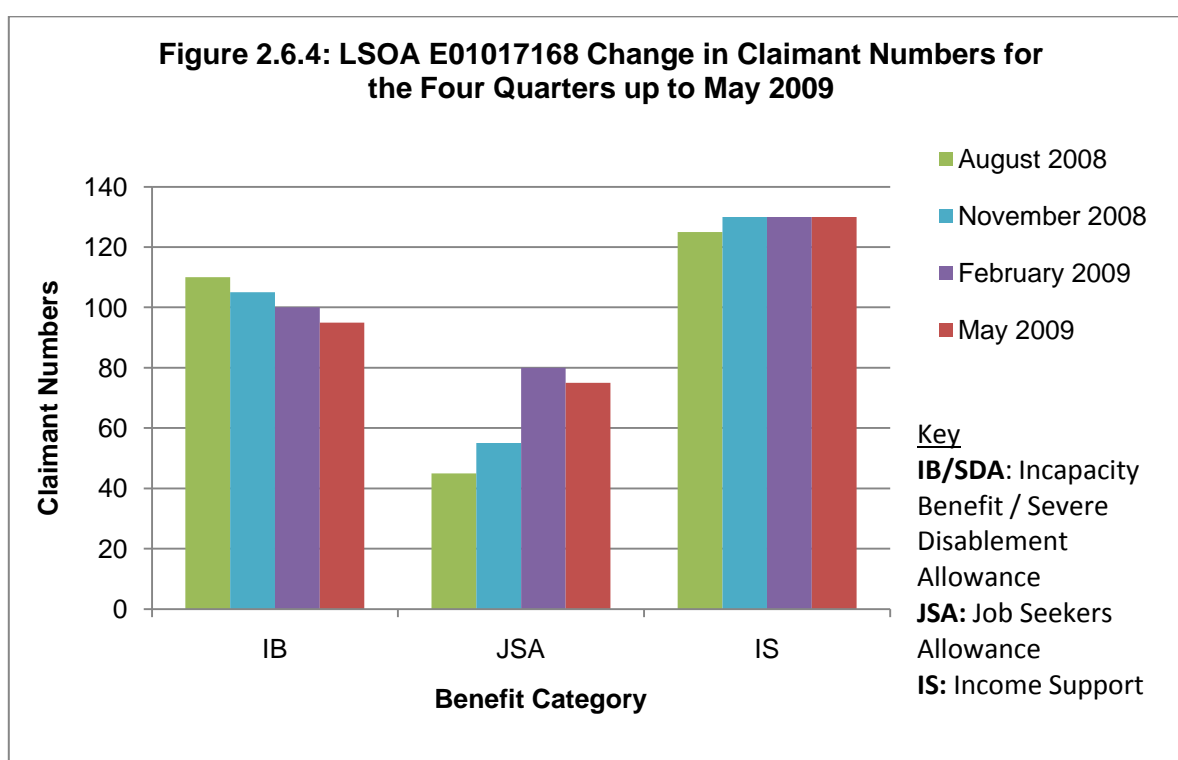
<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 20 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 15 DLA claimants aged over 70

<sup>38</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.



Table 2.6.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017168 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.6.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.6.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>39</sup>). As a result, therefore individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.6.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017168 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>40</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017168 has altered. In particular, the number of JSA claimants increased between August 2008 and February 2009, although it then fell slightly until May 2009. The number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) has decreased and Income Support claimants have remained relatively static over the same period (see Figure 2.5.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

### **Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

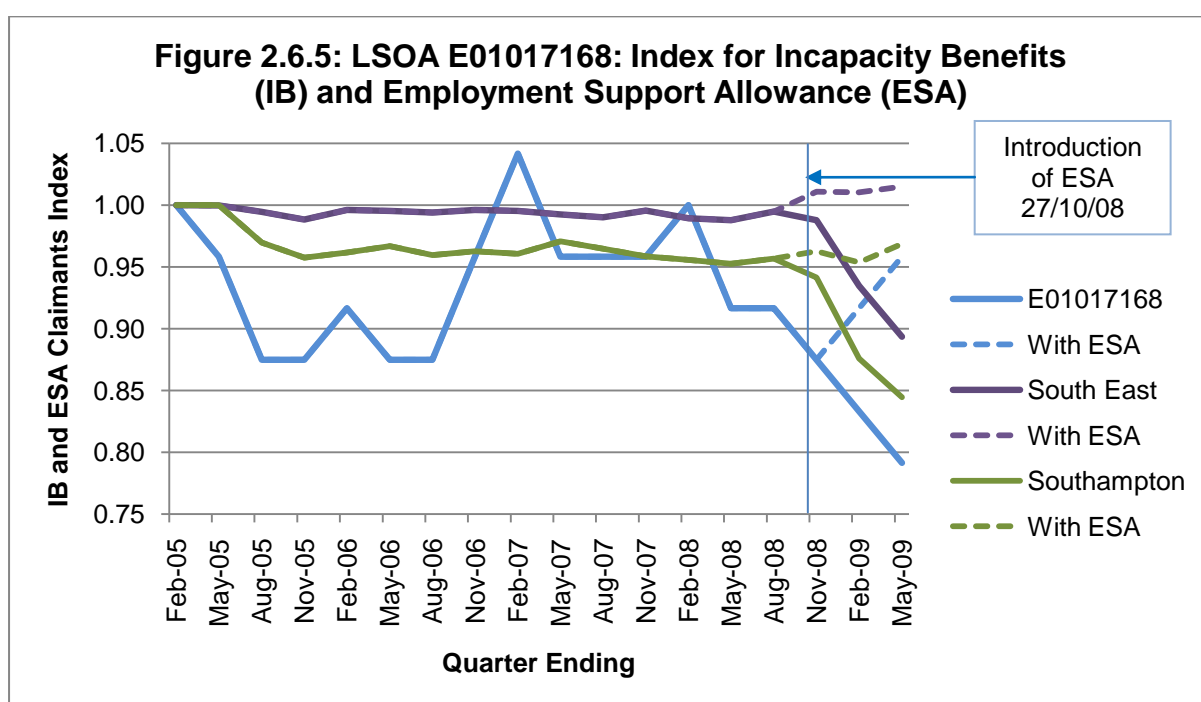
The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008. In E01017168, this decrease in the number of IB claimants was slightly lagged, as it did not appear until the May 2009 data.

<sup>39</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>40</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.3.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.

Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy and any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.4.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005. The solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed lines include ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The May 2009 data for LSOA E01017163 shows approximately 20 people to have been claiming ESA, which is relatively high compared with all other LSOAs within Southampton.



Source: DWP

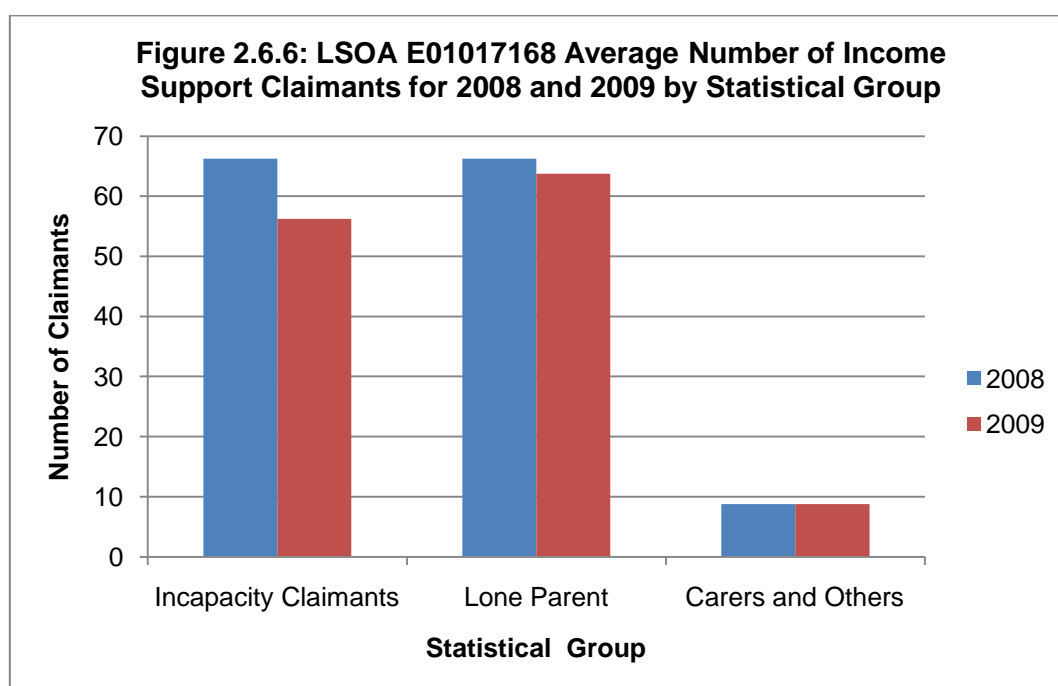
Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.6.3. Since November 2008, there appears to have been a marginal decline in the number of recipients of IB who have been claiming for less than six months. However, the majority of claimants have been receiving IB for longer than two years, and over 50 per cent of those have been claiming for in excess of 5 years.

There has been no major shift in the ratio of male to female claimants which is approximately 52:48. The composition of claimants by age has also slightly altered over the last year, with around 17 per cent fewer claimants aged 25-49, decreasing this proportion from 57 per cent to 52 per cent. The number of those receiving IB for mental or behavioural disorders has decreased by 16 per cent since 2008, although it should be borne in mind that the number of claimants from this category has been fairly volatile over previous years. Otherwise there has been relatively little change in the reasons for awarding IB.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.

### **Income Support claimants**

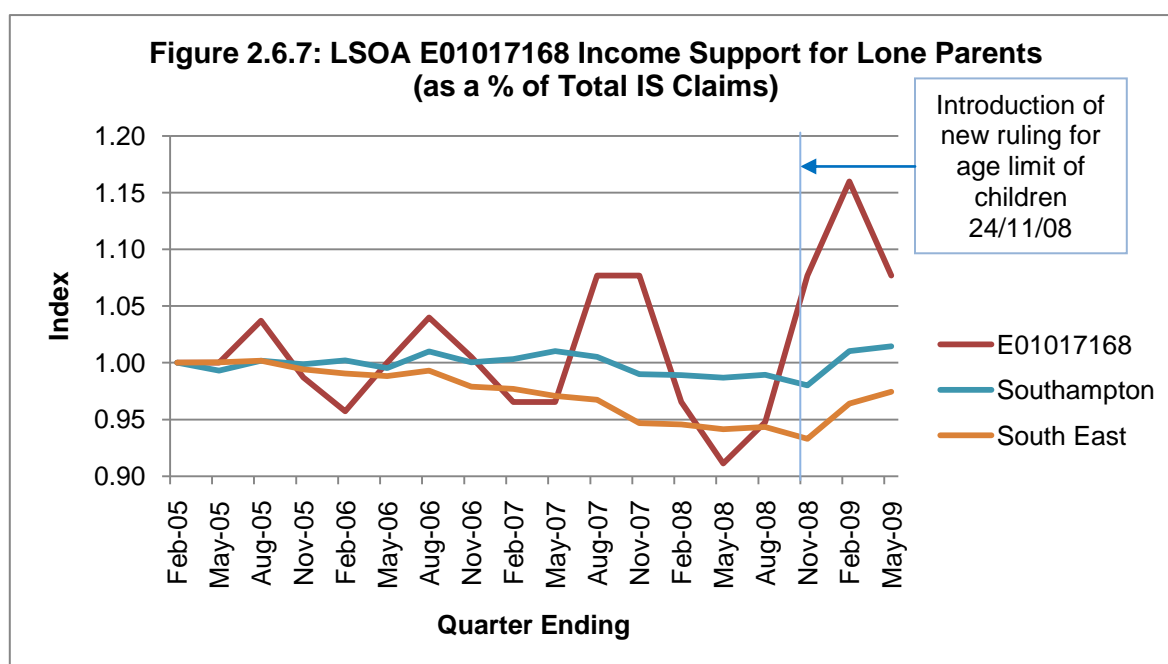
Following the reduction in Income Support claimants between 2003 and 2004 due to the introduction of the Pension Credit scheme, claimant numbers in E01017168 had, on average, been decreasing except for a 10% rise between 2006 and 2007. Between May 2008 and May 2009 numbers decreased to an average of 129 (see Table 2.6.4 in the Data Appendix). Income Support claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income, and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.6.6, on average, claimant numbers in the Incapacity Benefit band declined, whilst the average number in the lone parent and Carers and others statistical group has remained constant.



Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.6.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton and the South East has increased since November 2008 and increased in LSOA E01017168 before falling for the quarter up to May 2009. Although there appears to have been a slight increase in the proportion of claimants receiving IS as lone parents, this was caused not by the actual number of lone parent claimants increasing, but by the decline in claimants of IS for Incapacity Benefits. The actual number of people claiming IS as a lone parent remained fairly static over this timeframe in E01017167 but decreased in Southampton and the South East.



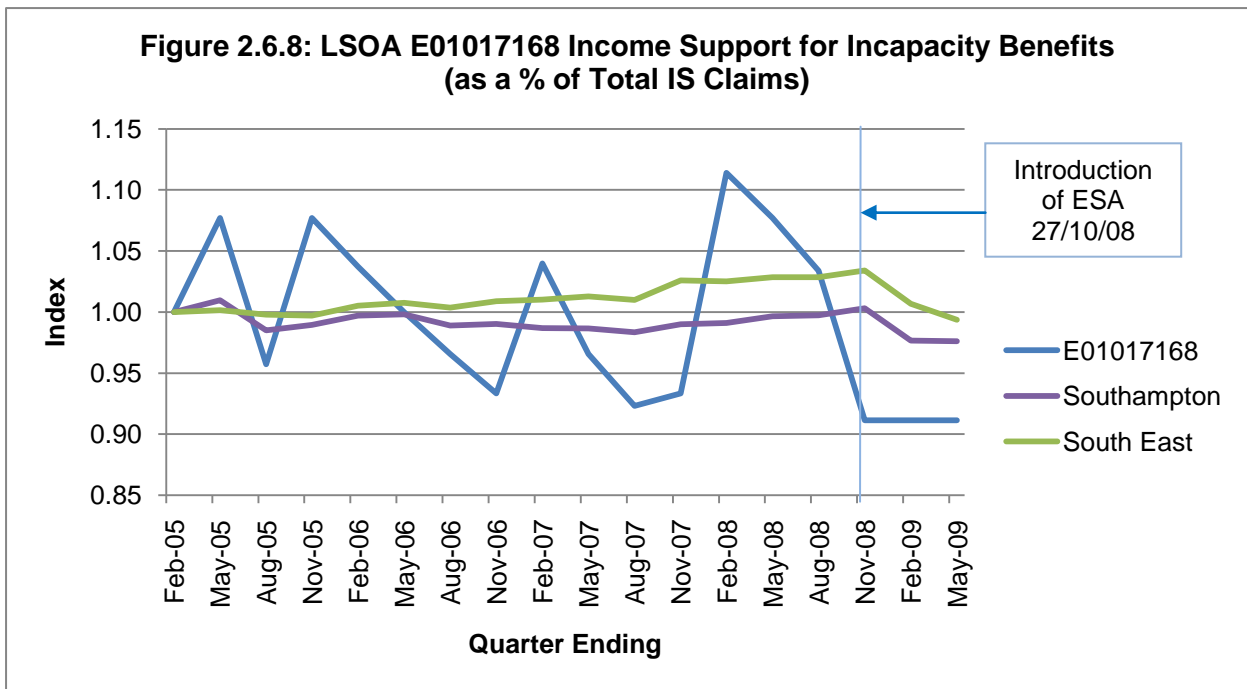
Source: DWP

The introduction of ESA is also affecting those with disabilities claiming Income Support. Despite new Incapacity Benefit claimants being transferred onto ESA, claimant numbers in E01017168 have remained unchanged since November 2008. This goes against the city-wide and regional trends where claimant numbers have fallen (see Figure 2.6.8).

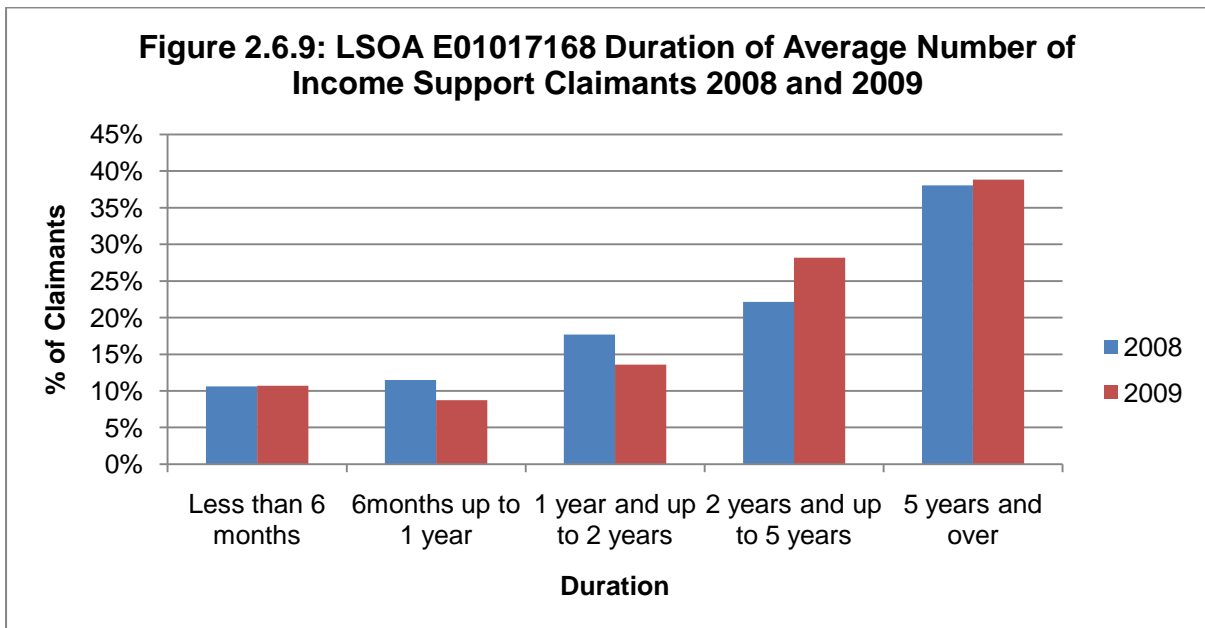
As shown in Figure 2.6.9, the percentage of claimants who have been in receipt of IS for between six months and one year and one to two years have both declined, whilst the percentage of claimants in longer duration categories have increased. The demographic of the claimants by age has remained fairly static, with a small decline in claimant numbers in the 25-49 age band.

Otherwise, the characteristics of IS claimants have remained largely unchanged over the last year, despite an overall decrease in the number of claimants. The ratio of male to female claimants remained at approximately 28:72, those without a partner continue to represent approximately 93 per cent of claimants, whilst the statistical groups remained fairly static for those claiming either for Incapacity Benefits, as a lone parent, or as a carer.

The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.



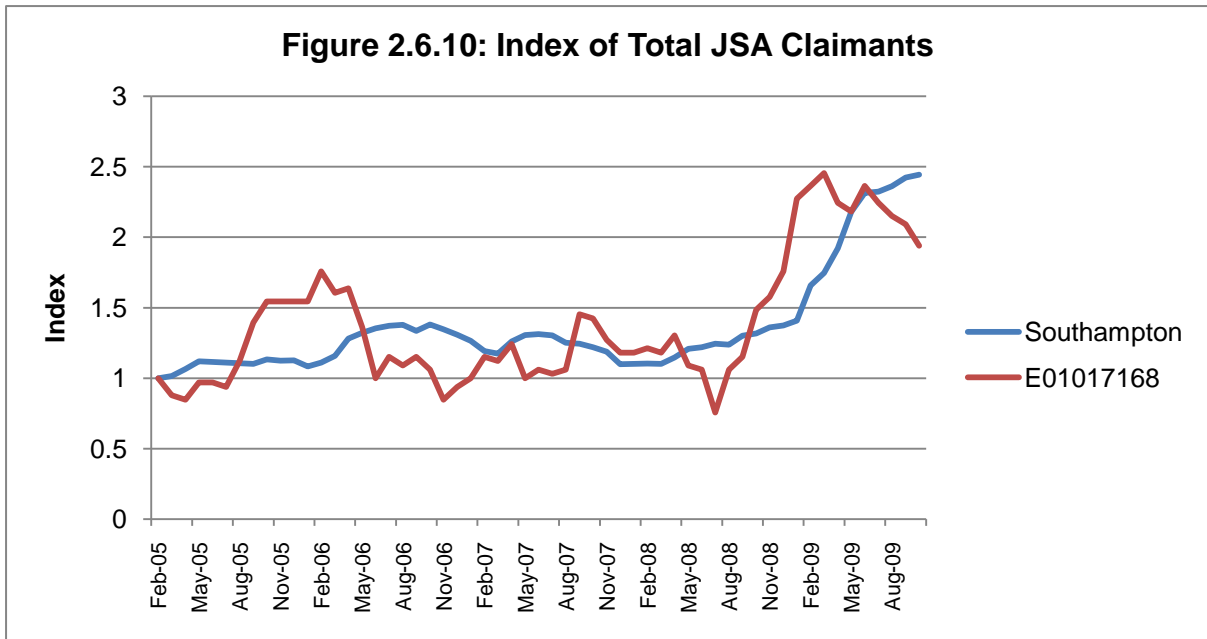
Source: DWP



Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

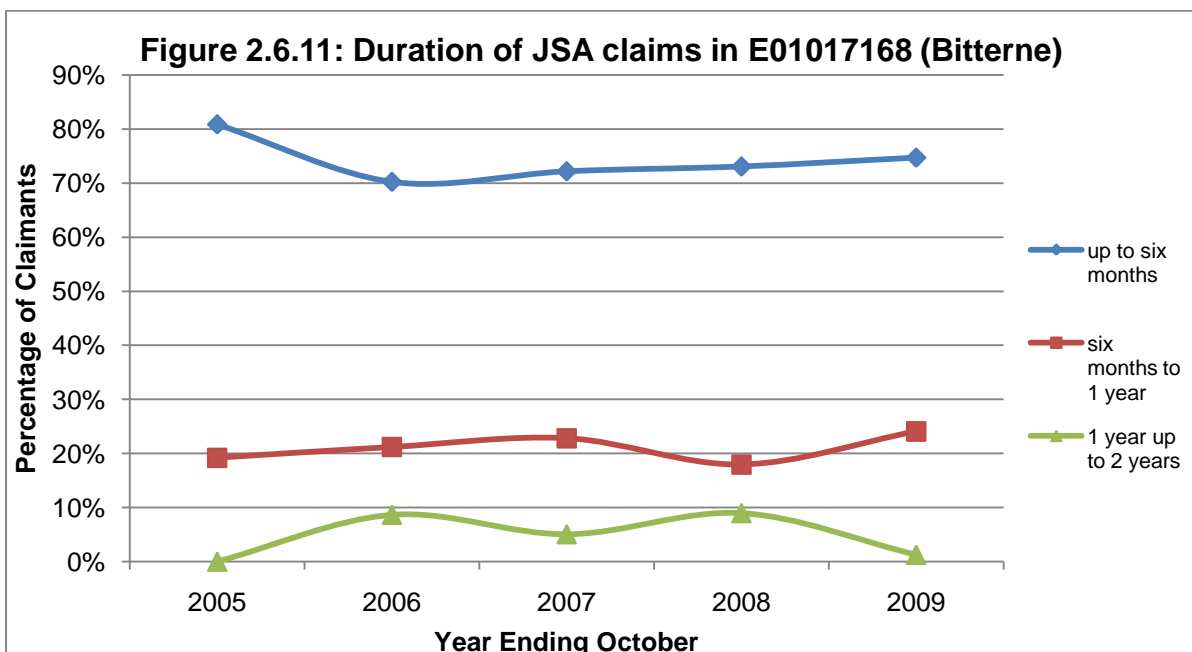
Table 2.6.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017168 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.6.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between September 2008 and January 2009, where figures rose by nearly 100 per cent in E01017168. Overall, there has been a less pronounced effect on LSOA E01017168 over the last year than on Southampton as a whole.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with an average of 26 more male claimants and 6 more female claimants altering the ratio of male claimants to female from around 68:32 last year to around 74:26 this year (see Table 2.6.5). The data also suggests that the increase has affected claimants in the mid age band of 25-49 most, with this category more than doubling in size since 2008. The 16-24 and the over 50 age brackets also increased but to a lesser extent.

The rising number of E01017168 JSA claimants since mid 2008 has resulted in an increased proportion of those claiming for less than a year, as demonstrated in Figure 2.6.11 below. The numbers claiming for up to six months more than doubled between 2008 and 2009. The noticeably shorter durations for claims of JSA compared with other benefits is likely to be mainly due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.

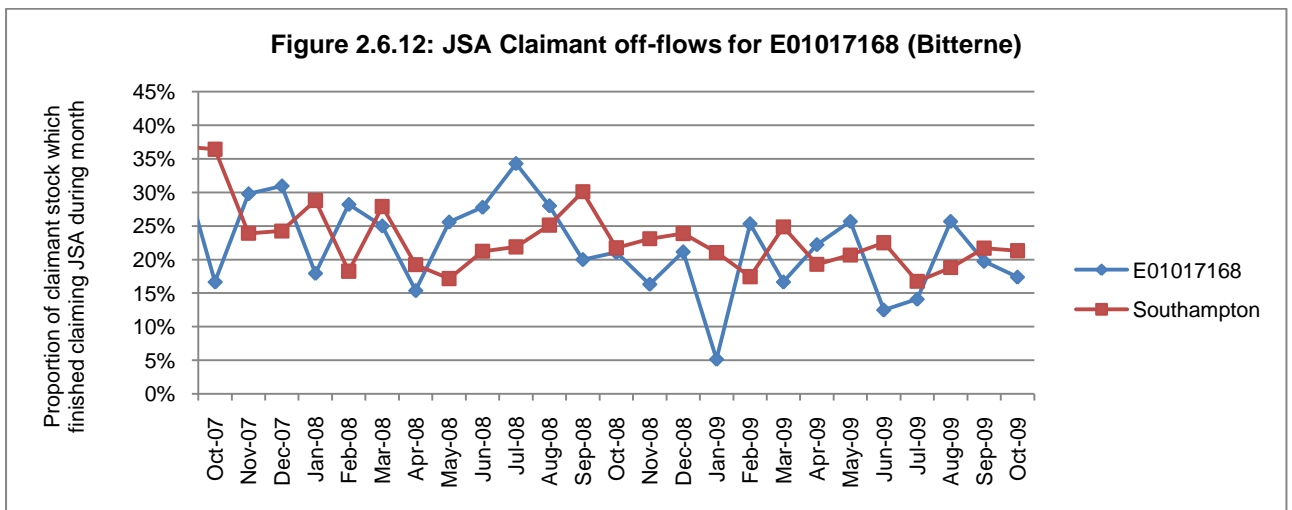


Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

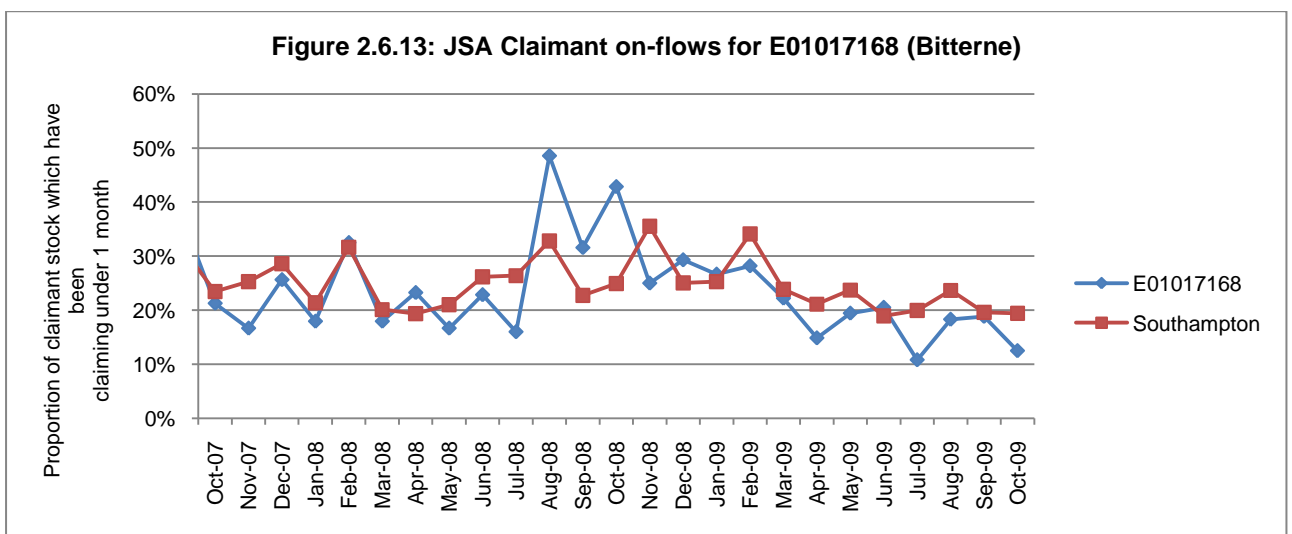
Figures 2.6.12 and 2.1.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows), and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017168 (Bitterne) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas, in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is similar for both the LSOA and the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017168 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017168 (Bitterne) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in construction, retail and goods storage, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower order occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017168 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the number claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count



**Data Appendix****Table 2.6.3: Characteristics of Incapacity Benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance claimants in E01017168<sup>41</sup>**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		103	115	115	106	124	108	106	113
Type	IB	95%	96%	96%	96%	96%	97%	93%	96%
	SDA	5%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	7%	4%
Age	16-24	11%	8%	5%	7%	11%	9%	7%	8%
	25-49	52%	57%	61%	60%	59%	57%	60%	51%
	50-59	30%	27%	25%	25%	21%	24%	24%	30%
	Over 60	6%	9%	9%	8%	9%	9%	9%	11%
Gender	Male	52%	53%	55%	49%	56%	55%	54%	58%
	Female	48%	47%	45%	51%	44%	45%	46%	42%
Duration	Less than 6 months	5%	10%	13%	11%	6%	12%	9%	10%
	6 months up to 1 year	5%	10%	9%	6%	9%	10%	6%	6%
	1 year and up to 2 years	12%	12%	11%	11%	19%	10%	12%	16%
	2 years and up to 5 years	26%	23%	24%	27%	28%	29%	26%	23%
	5 years and over	52%	46%	43%	46%	37%	38%	47%	46%
Award	Mental	52%	55%	51%	55%	55%	51%	48%	43%
	Nervous System	6%	5%	5%	5%	4%	3%	5%	6%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	4%	8%	5%	5%	5%	6%	6%	9%
	Musculoskeletal	13%	12%	16%	16%	12%	14%	14%	18%
	Injury, poisoning	5%	2%	8%	7%	8%	6%	6%	7%
	Other	20%	17%	14%	12%	16%	20%	21%	18%

Source: DWP

**Table 2.6.4: Characteristics of Income Support claimants in E01017168**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		129	141	146	133	143	148	188	189
Age	16-24	26%	24%	22%	23%	25%	22%	15%	16%
	25-49	57%	60%	62%	58%	60%	55%	46%	46%
	50-59	17%	16%	16%	19%	16%	13%	9%	9%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	30%	29%
Gender	Male	28%	29%	27%	25%	30%	30%	31%	32%
	Female	72%	71%	73%	75%	70%	70%	69%	68%
Duration	Less than 6 months	11%	11%	16%	11%	10%	12%	9%	7%
	6 months up to 1 year	9%	12%	12%	7%	11%	7%	6%	6%
	1 year and up to 2 years	14%	18%	15%	13%	17%	14%	11%	18%
	2 years and up to 5 years	28%	22%	22%	30%	30%	30%	30%	25%
	5 years and over	39%	38%	34%	39%	33%	37%	45%	44%
Partnered	With partner	7%	9%	8%	9%	8%	7%	9%	11%
	Single	93%	91%	92%	91%	92%	93%	91%	89%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	44%	47%	45%	47%	49%	42%	31%	32%
	Lone Parent	50%	47%	46%	46%	43%	41%	36%	36%
	Carers and Others	7%	6%	9%	7%	8%	17%	33%	31%

Source: DWP

<sup>41</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	71	74%	26%	22%	69%	9%	75%	24%	1%	0%
2008	38	68%	32%	31%	57%	12%	73%	18%	9%	0%
2007	37	71%	29%	19%	66%	14%	72%	23%	5%	0%
2006	45	71%	29%	19%	63%	17%	70%	21%	9%	0%
2005	34	70%	30%	21%	64%	15%	81%	19%	0%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		141	126	123	113	109	103	95
Age	Under 16	12%	14%	13%	11%	10%	13%	13%
	16-24	7%	5%	4%	4%	3%	4%	3%
	25-49	34%	34%	33%	32%	36%	34%	33%
	50-59	18%	18%	20%	22%	18%	17%	16%
	60-69	20%	21%	20%	19%	23%	23%	26%
	70 and over	10%	9%	9%	11%	9%	9%	9%
Gender	Male	42%	45%	44%	40%	44%	44%	45%
	Female	58%	55%	56%	60%	56%	56%	55%
Duration	Less than 12 months	11%	7%	10%	10%	8%	12%	13%
	1 year and up to 2 years	7%	8%	9%	8%	10%	11%	11%
	2 years and up to 5 years	19%	20%	22%	24%	28%	26%	18%
	5 years and over	64%	65%	58%	58%	54%	51%	58%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	27%	26%	27%	24%	24%	21%	14%
	Higher Rate	61%	62%	62%	59%	59%	60%	64%
	Nil Rate	12%	12%	11%	17%	17%	20%	21%
Care Award	Lower Rate	31%	29%	30%	29%	25%	27%	26%
	Middle Rate	39%	43%	42%	40%	39%	43%	33%
	Higher Rate	20%	18%	16%	18%	21%	18%	22%
	Nil Rate	10%	11%	12%	13%	15%	12%	18%

Source: DWP

## 2.7 LSOA E01017207 (Millbrook ward)

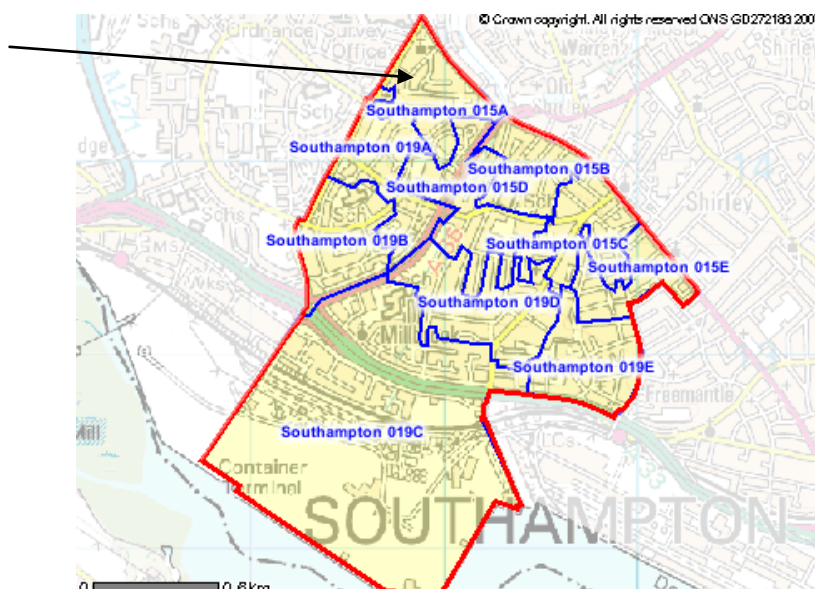
### Summary of Findings for E01017207

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017207 (Millbrook) has identified the following key points:

- LSOA E01017207 continues to have the third highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the dramatic increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The number of Income Support claimants has begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008, whilst the number of incapacity benefit claimants marginally increased.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The typical Income Support claimant remains female, aged 25-49, claiming for Income Support under the incapacity benefit grouping, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017207 between both the periods of September 2008 and November 2008 and February to April 2009. The impact fell most heavily on those aged 16-24 and the increase in male claimants exceeded the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.

**Figure 2.7.1 – Map showing the location of Millbrook LSOA E01017207**

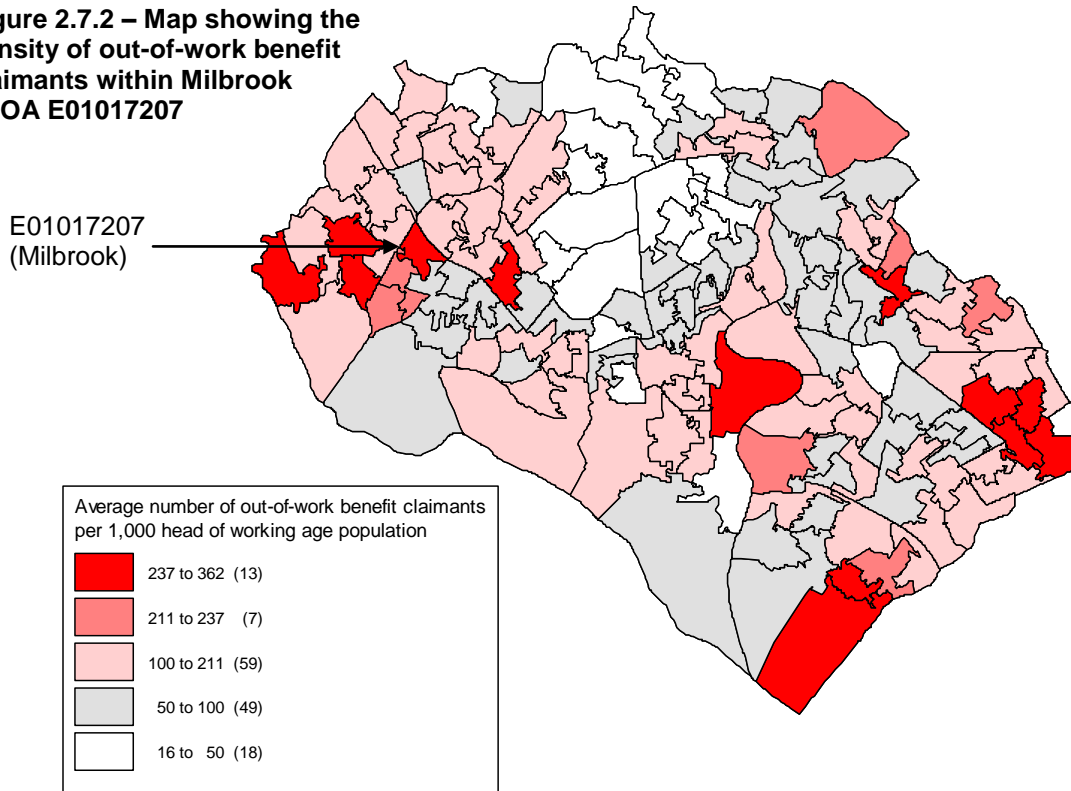
**E01017207  
(Millbrook)**



**Profile**

LSOA E01017207 is located within the Millbrook ward which is on the western side of the city (see Figure 2.6.2 for the LSOAs location within Millbrook) and neighbours the LSOAs in the Redbridge ward. The LSOA contains a large amount of social housing but little in the way of local employment opportunities. The LSOA is within one of eleven key priority neighbourhoods in Southampton as identified by Southampton Partnership and was until 2007 a regeneration programme area along with the LSOAs in Redbridge.

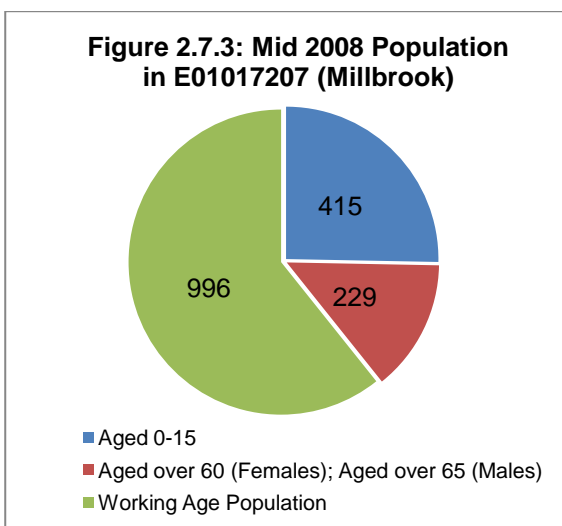
**Figure 2.7.2 – Map showing the density of out-of-work benefit claimants within Millbrook LSOA E01017207**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.7.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. There was an estimated 292 out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head in LSOA E01017207 on average over the year between May 2008 and May 2009, a slight decrease from 294 in last year’s report. This figure represents the third highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.7.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017207 (Millbrook)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017207 in 2008 was around 1,640. Of these, approximately one quarter (415 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst around 230 people were over retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of nearly 1,000 people. Approximately 29 per cent of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>42</sup>.

<sup>42</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.

Within both the economically active and inactive populations, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity Benefits / Employment Support Allowance (ESA) or full-time students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017207**

Table 2.7.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017207 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>43</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 34 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This increase may be expected as a result of the recession and is also reflected over the region as a whole, where on average, Southampton, the South East region and England have all seen increases in the number of total claimants over the same period. There has not been an increase of this magnitude since at least 2001.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	316	61	126	95	11	9	10	4	0
2008	283	36	116	96	8	14	11	1	0
2007	283	36	116	104	6	9	10	1	0
2006	276	25	118	106	8	10	9	1	0
2005	269	24	109	106	8	9	9	5	0
2004	278	40	101	114	6	6	5	5	0
2003	265	39	93	109	9	9	3	5	0
2002	256	38	89	113	6	8	N/A	0	3

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	120	65	55	5	70	35	10	10	15	30	65
Job Seekers	80	55	25	30	35	15	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	175	40	135	45	105	25	0	20	35	55	65
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	120	65	55	10	45	25	15	20	10	25	65
Bereaved	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

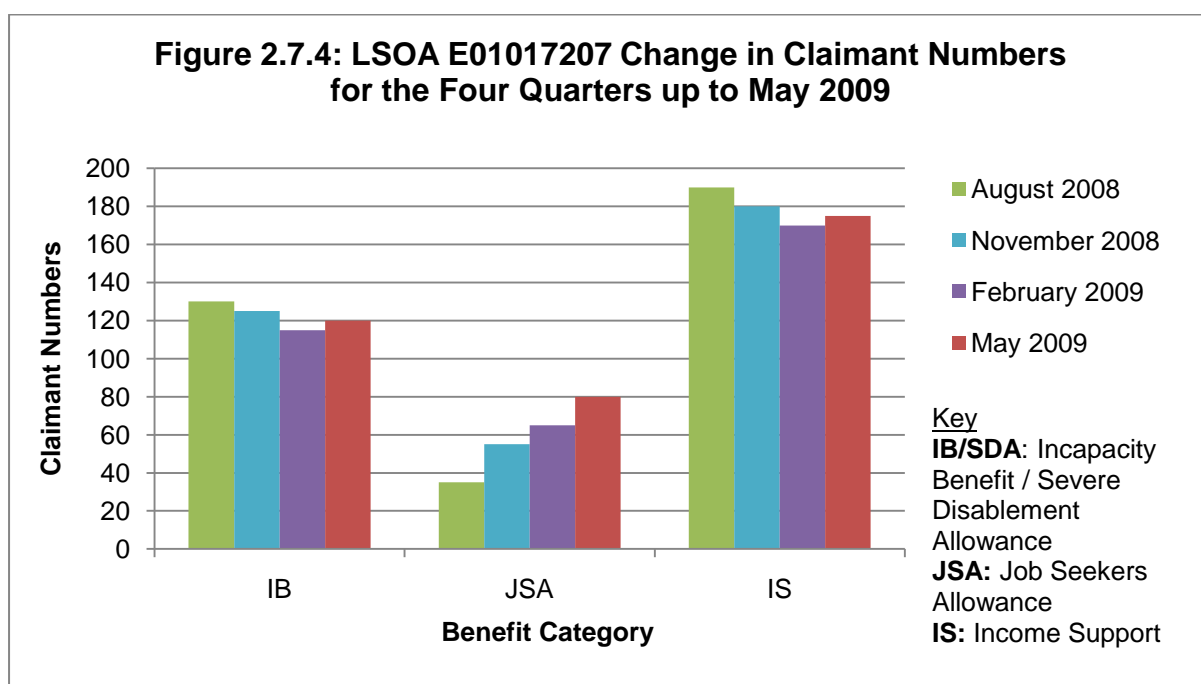
<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 15 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 10 DLA claimants aged over 70

<sup>43</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.

Table 2.7.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017207 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.12.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.12.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>44</sup>). As a result, individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.12.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017207 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>45</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017207 has altered, with a noticeable increase in the number of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA), whilst the number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) and Income Support have both slightly declined over the same period (see Figure 2.7.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

### **Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008.

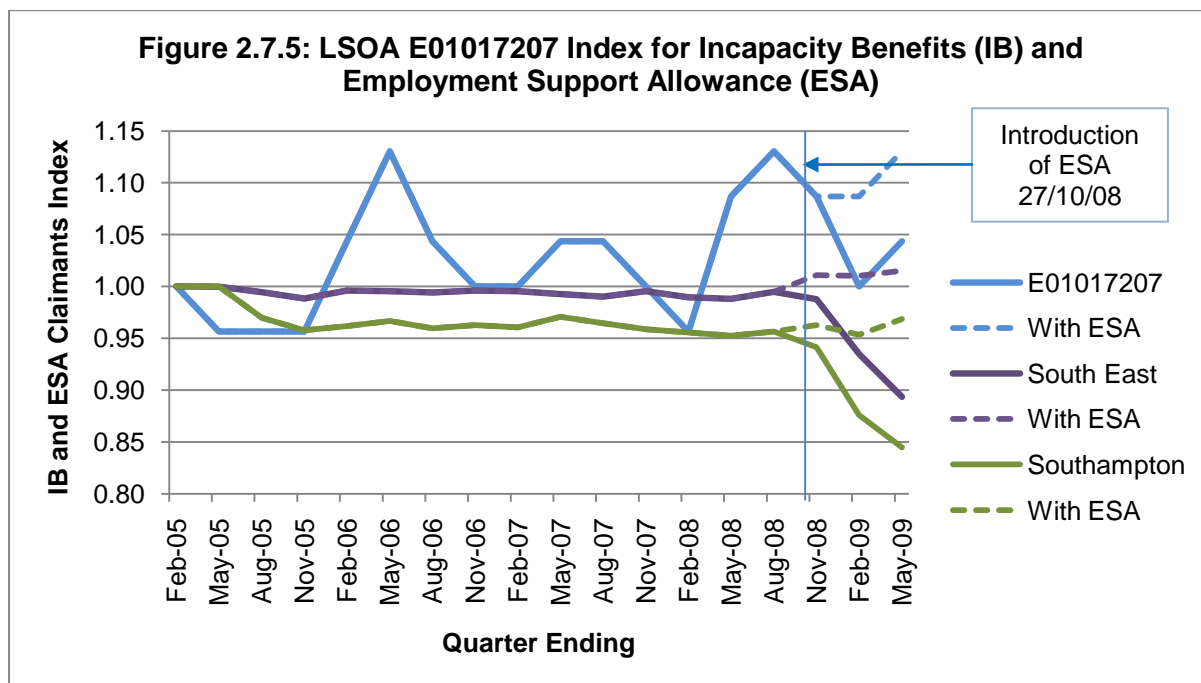
Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy of any analysis of the data.

<sup>44</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>45</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.7.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.



Figure 2.7.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005; the solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed line also includes ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The February and May 2009 data for LSOA E01017207 shows approximately 10 people to have been claiming ESA.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.7.3. Between May 2008 and May 2009, the proportion of long to short term claimants has changed slightly. The majority of claimants have been claiming IB for 5 years or more (over 50 per cent in May 2009), as was the case in 2008, but the gap between long and short-term claimants has increased since ESA came into force. Since November 2008, the number of people claiming for up to six months has decreased, as would be expected, since new claimants are being moved on to ESA, or in certain cases being directed towards alternative benefits such as JSA. The shift in the composition of claimants towards longer-term claimants is likely to become more pronounced as ESA becomes more embedded. The number of those claiming between 6 months and a year has increased by around 40 per cent whilst the number of people claiming for over 5 years has increased by around 13 per cent.

The ratio of male to female claimants remained at the same level of around 55:45. However, there appears to have been a slight shift in the age of claimants. The 50-59 age band has seen the largest change with an increase of 23 per cent whilst the other age categories remained fairly static.

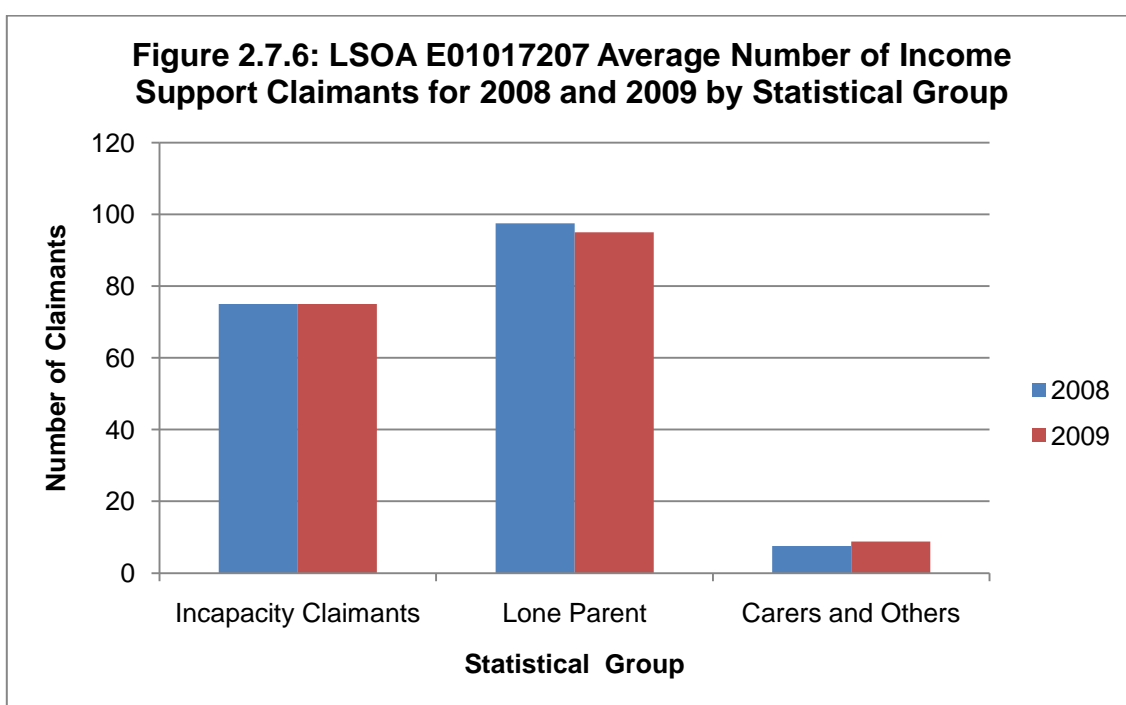
After a steep increase between 2002 and 2005 in the number of people claiming IB based on mental and behavioural disorders, numbers have, on average, remained fairly constant. However, for the year to May 2009, there were around 8 per cent fewer claimants from this category. The “Musculoskeletal” and “Other” award categories both saw increases in numbers of around 23 and 31 per cent, respectively. Otherwise, there was little alteration in the reason for awarding IB.



The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted for over five years.

### **Income Support claimants**

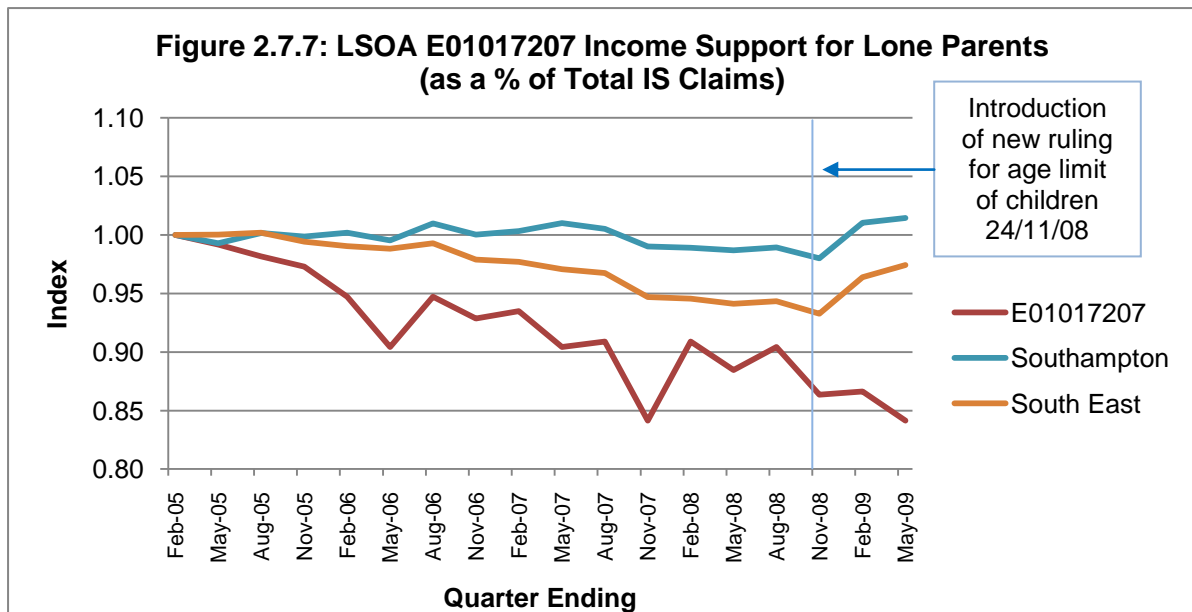
There was a moderate decrease of around 3 per cent in Income Support claimants between 2008 and 2009 as numbers dropped from 146 to 143 (see Table 2.7.4 in the Data Appendix). Income support benefit claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.7.6, there were 3 fewer lone parent claimants and a steady stream of incapacity claimants contributing towards the small change in total IS claimants in E01017207.



Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

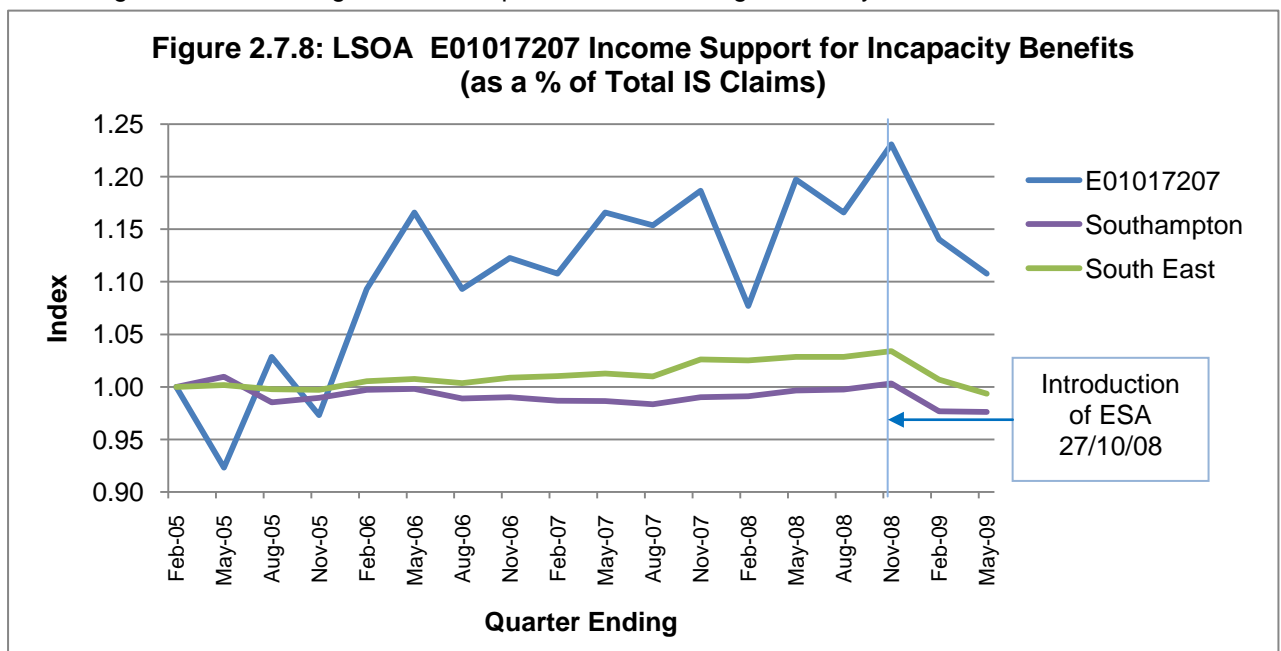
As demonstrated in Figure 2.7.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton and the South East has increased since November 2008. However, this is in relation to the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS. The actual number of people claiming IS as a lone parent has decreased for the May 2009 quarter for Southampton, the South East and E01017207.



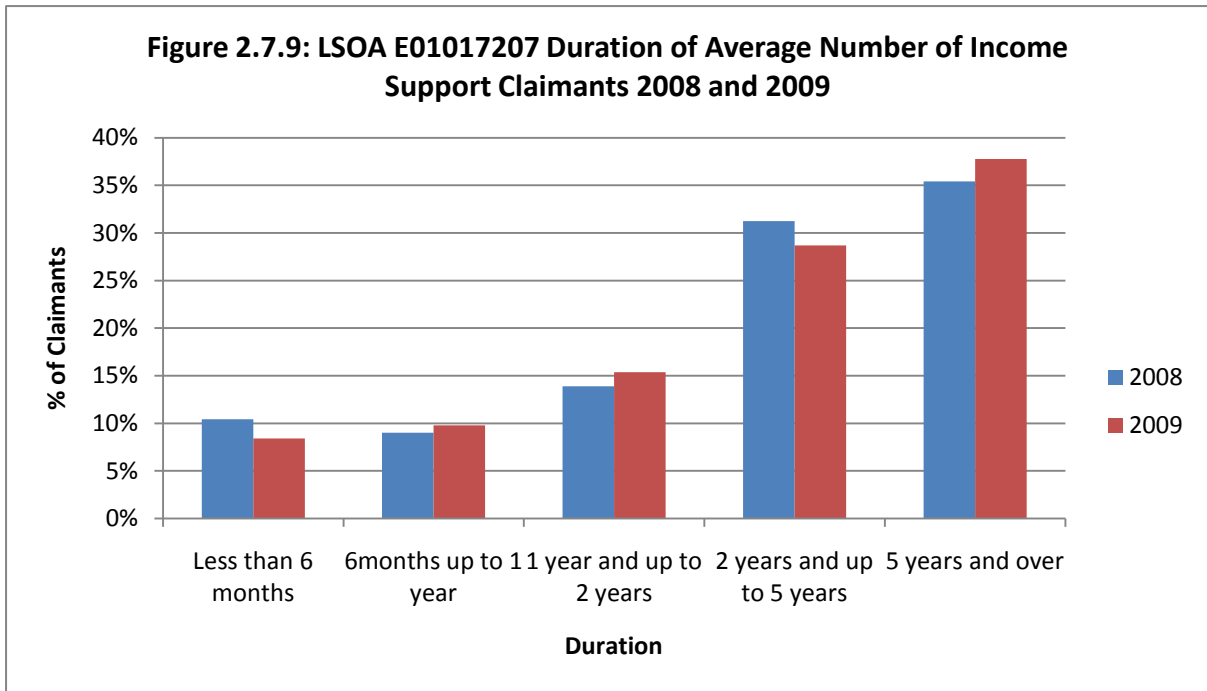
Source: DWP

All new incapacity benefit claimants for IS are to be transferred over to ESA and thus numbers fell from November 2008 for Southampton, the South East and LSOA E01017207 (see Figure 2.7.8). The number of long-term claimants (over five years) has increased by approximately 9 people and short-term claimants of less than 6 months has decreased by around 4 people between 2008 and 2009; altering the composition of the duration of claims in this category, as depicted in Figure 2.7.9. Additionally, the demographic of the claimants by age remained fairly static with the 50-59 age band changing the most with an increase of around 20 per cent.

Otherwise, the characteristics of IS claimants have remained largely unchanged over the last year, despite an overall decrease in the number of claimants. The ratio of male to female claimants remained at approximately 25:75, those with a partner remained at around 6 per cent compared to 94 per cent of those without and the statistical groups remained fairly static for those claiming as either a lone parent, carer or under Incapacity Benefits. The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming IS as a lone parent, often for longer than 5 years.



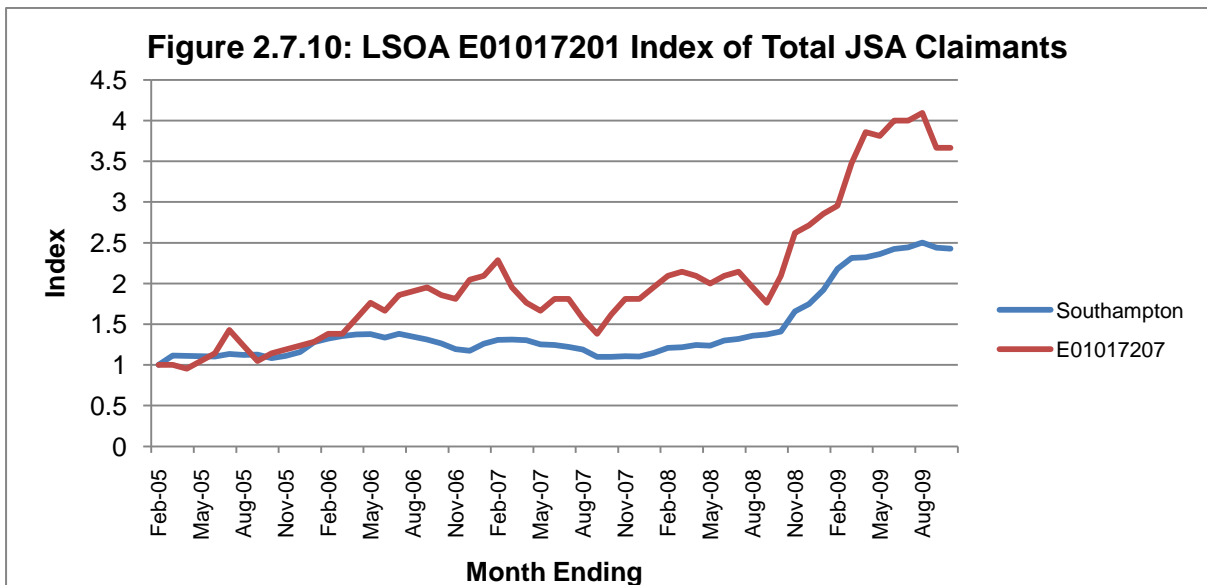
Source: DWP



Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

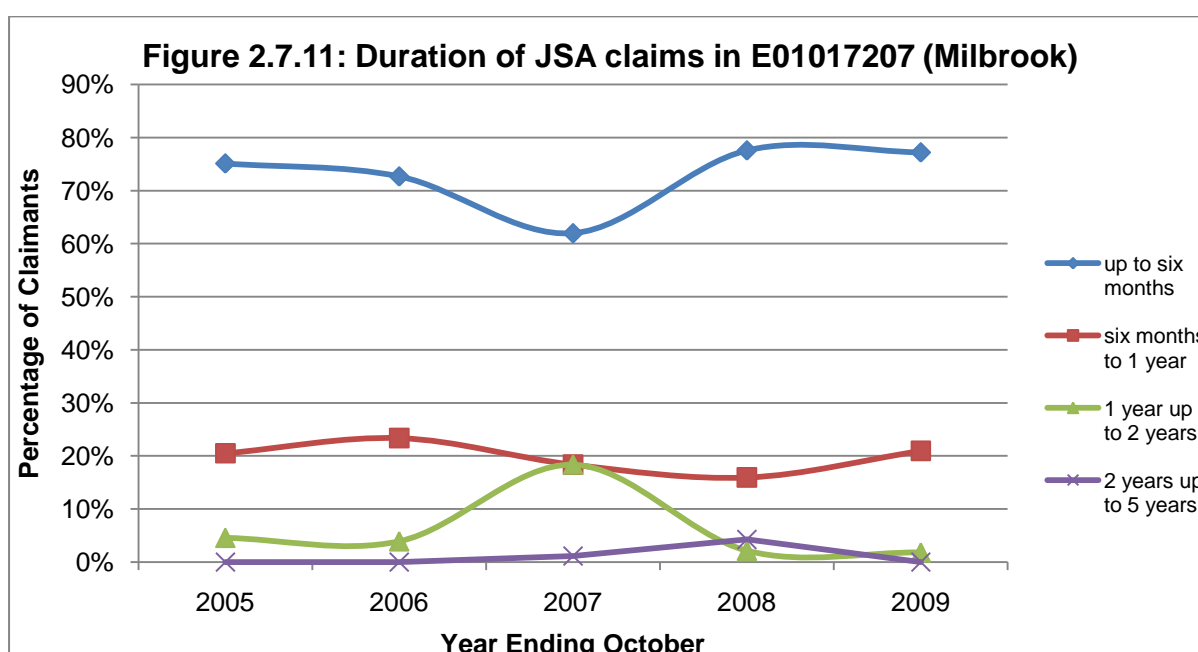
Table 2.7.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017207 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.7.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as incapacity benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between both the periods of September 2008 and November 2008, where figures rose by nearly 50 per cent, in E01017207. Overall, there has been a similar level of impact on LSOA E01017207 over the last year to Southampton as a whole.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with approximately 85 per cent more male claimants. Over the same time period the number of female claimants increased by 50 per cent, altering the ratio of male claimants to female from around 70:30 last year to around 74:26 this year (see Table 2.12.5). The data also suggests that the increase has affected the younger age bracket of 16-24 year olds most, as the number claiming from this band increased by 17 people which is more than double that of last year, whilst the 25-49 age bracket saw a less dramatic increase in numbers.

The rising number of E01017207 JSA claimants since mid 2008 has resulted in an average of 23 more individuals claiming for six months or less and 8 more claiming for between 6 months and a year (more than double that of the previous year), as demonstrated in Figure 2.7.11 below. The duration of claims for JSA are noticeably shorter than for other benefits, which is likely to be due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.



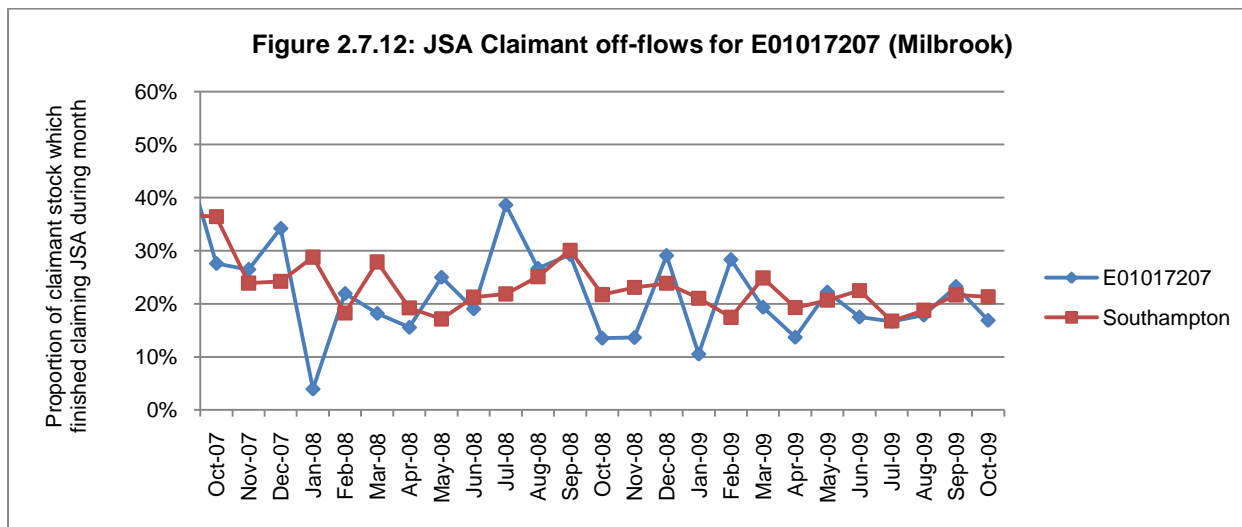
Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

Figures 2.7.12 and 2.7.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows) and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

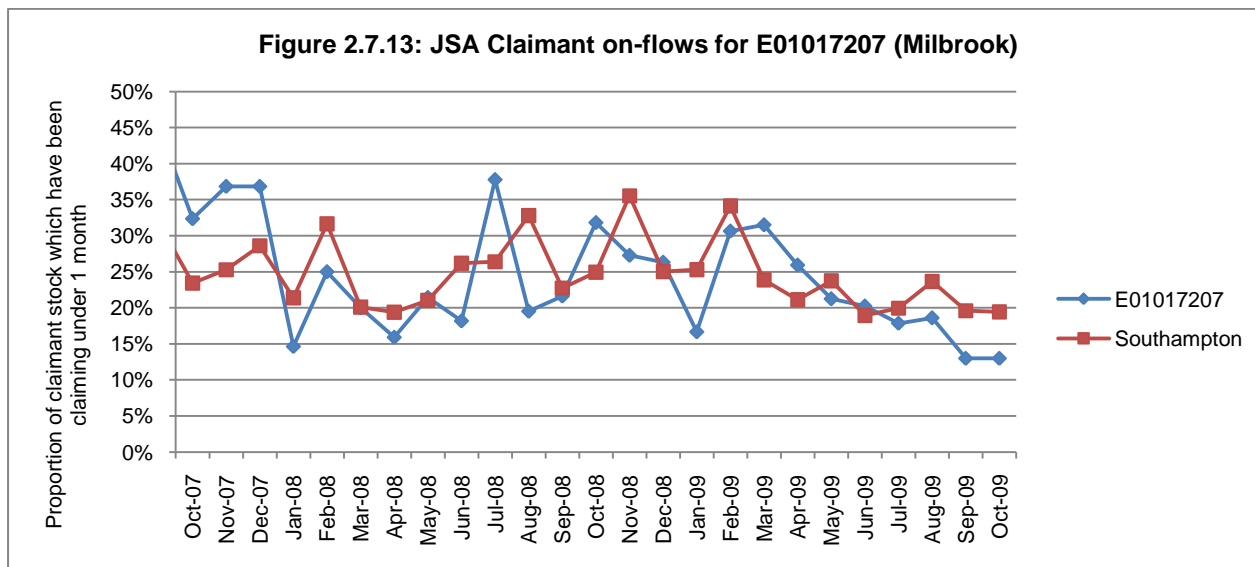
This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017207 (Milbrook) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas and in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is similar for both the LSOA and the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017207 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017207 shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in construction, goods storage and retail, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically

tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017250 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the number claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		123	118	118	118	111	100	93	89
Type	IB	93%	96%	95%	95%	94%	93%	91%	87%
	SDA	7%	4%	5%	5%	6%	8%	9%	13%
Age	16-24	6%	7%	6%	7%	9%	6%	8%	8%
	25-49	58%	62%	60%	61%	58%	58%	54%	52%
	50-59	28%	23%	27%	27%	27%	28%	30%	32%
	Over 60	8%	7%	7%	5%	6%	9%	8%	7%
Gender	Male	56%	56%	60%	57%	56%	59%	54%	59%
	Female	44%	44%	40%	43%	44%	41%	46%	41%
Duration	Less than 6 months	3%	9%	7%	10%	10%	9%	9%	8%
	6 months up to 1 year	7%	5%	10%	5%	7%	8%	7%	8%
	1 year and up to 2 years	12%	12%	13%	9%	13%	11%	9%	10%
	2 years and up to 5 years	24%	26%	24%	27%	25%	25%	30%	30%
	5 years and over	53%	49%	46%	50%	45%	48%	45%	44%
Award	Mental	50%	56%	52%	52%	45%	44%	45%	39%
	Nervous System	5%	3%	2%	5%	6%	6%	7%	4%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	4%	4%	6%	5%	9%	9%	7%	10%
	Musculoskeletal	16%	14%	15%	10%	12%	11%	11%	10%
	Injury, poisoning	7%	9%	7%	6%	9%	8%	5%	11%
	Other	17%	14%	17%	21%	19%	23%	26%	25%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		179	180	185	185	176	195	219	214
Age	16-24	26%	28%	32%	32%	33%	28%	27%	29%
	25-49	61%	60%	57%	57%	56%	54%	43%	43%
	50-59	13%	11%	10%	11%	11%	12%	9%	8%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	21%	21%
Gender	Male	24%	27%	26%	28%	24%	24%	23%	22%
	Female	76%	73%	74%	72%	76%	76%	77%	78%
Duration	Less than 6 months	8%	10%	12%	12%	12%	10%	11%	10%
	6months up to 1 year	10%	9%	11%	9%	11%	9%	9%	9%
	1 year and up to 2 years	15%	14%	17%	14%	16%	19%	15%	20%
	2 years and up to 5 years	29%	31%	29%	30%	29%	32%	37%	30%
	5 years and over	38%	35%	31%	34%	33%	30%	29%	30%
Partnered	With partner	6%	8%	9%	11%	10%	8%	8%	6%
	Single	94%	92%	91%	89%	90%	92%	92%	94%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	42%	42%	41%	39%	35%	33%	29%	25%
	Lone Parent	53%	54%	57%	58%	62%	59%	49%	53%
	Carers and Others	5%	4%	3%	3%	4%	8%	22%	22%

Source: DWP

<sup>46</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	73	74%	26%	40%	49%	12%	77%	21%	2%	0%
2008	42	70%	30%	27%	53%	19%	78%	16%	2%	4%
2007	38	73%	27%	30%	55%	16%	62%	18%	18%	1%
2006	33	81%	20%	32%	56%	12%	73%	23%	4%	0%
2005	23	79%	21%	32%	54%	14%	75%	20%	5%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		115	100	94	88	84	78	65
Age	Under 16	14%	14%	11%	10%	13%	15%	21%
	16-24	8%	9%	9%	6%	4%	3%	0%
	25-49	39%	38%	36%	40%	36%	34%	35%
	50-59	18%	20%	23%	21%	22%	23%	19%
	60-69	13%	15%	17%	17%	18%	16%	15%
	70 and over	8%	5%	4%	6%	6%	10%	10%
Gender	Male	54%	56%	56%	53%	51%	52%	48%
	Female	46%	44%	44%	47%	49%	48%	52%
Duration	Less than 12 months	13%	9%	12%	7%	12%	18%	15%
	1 year and up to 2 years	9%	13%	12%	10%	12%	10%	12%
	2 years and up to 5 years	23%	24%	24%	27%	28%	29%	25%
	5 years and over	55%	55%	52%	56%	48%	44%	48%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	38%	36%	35%	31%	25%	24%	29%
	Higher Rate	47%	50%	52%	56%	60%	56%	52%
	Nil Rate	15%	14%	13%	13%	15%	19%	19%
Care Award	Lower Rate	23%	23%	24%	26%	27%	31%	25%
	Middle Rate	46%	45%	41%	43%	36%	35%	37%
	Higher Rate	23%	21%	25%	23%	24%	21%	23%
	Nil Rate	9%	11%	9%	9%	13%	13%	15%

Source: DWP

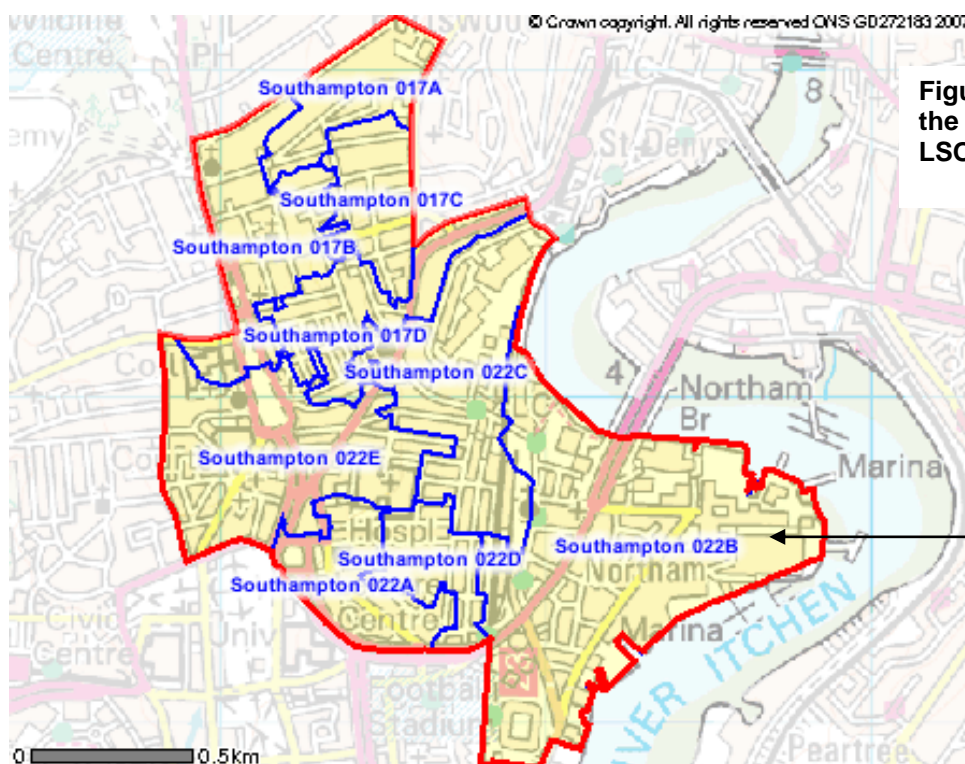


## 2.8 LSOA E01017154 (Bevois ward)

### Summary of Findings for E01017154

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017154 (Bevois) has identified the following key points:

- E01017154 continues to have the fifth highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The numbers of Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants have begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The number of short-term Income Support claimants has fallen since November 2008, potentially as a result of changes to the eligibility criteria for claiming this benefit at that time. However, the typical claimant remains female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017154 between June 2008 and March 2009, with the increase in male claimants exceeding the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.



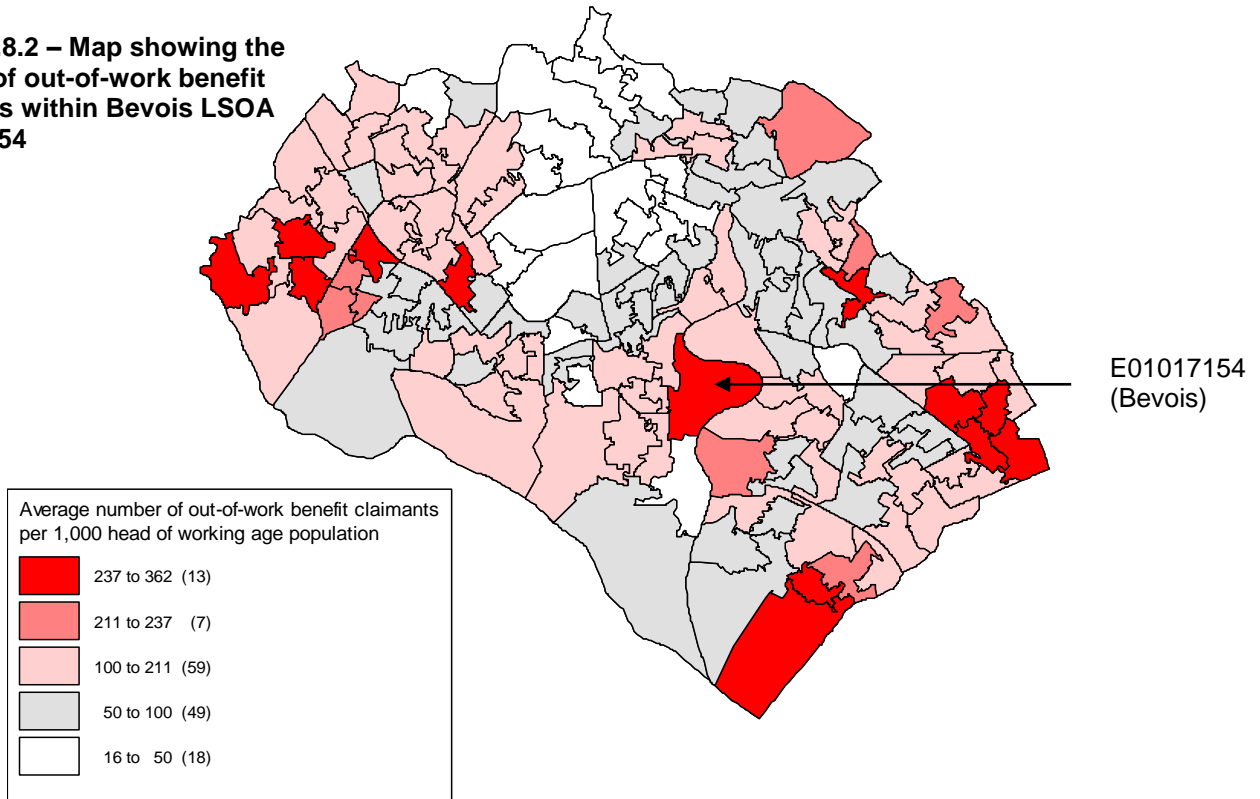
**Figure 2.8.1 – Map showing the location of Bevois LSOA E01017154**

**E01017154 (Bevois)**

**Profile**

The LSOA E01017154 is located in the centre of Southampton within Bevois ward (see Figure 2.8.1 for the LSOAs location within Bevois). The LSOA, which lies adjacent to the River Itchen, contains a large local authority housing estate at Northam and St Mary’s football stadium to the south.

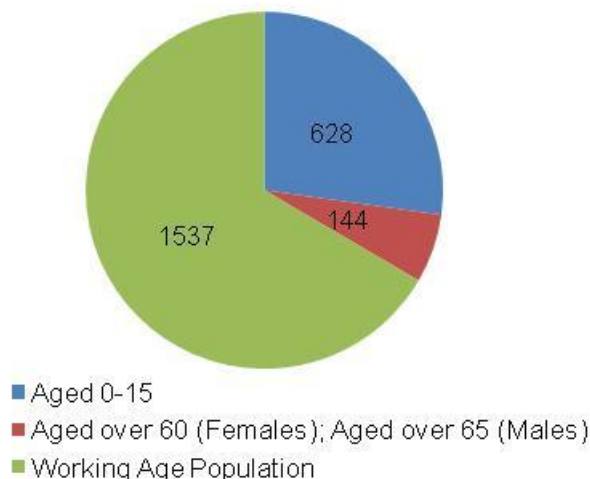
**Figure 2.8.2 – Map showing the density of out-of-work benefit claimants within Bevois LSOA E01017154**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.8.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. The LSOA E01017154 is amongst the largest LSOAs within the city, with an estimated mid-2008 working age population of over 1,500 people, and a claimant density of 283 per 1,000 head of working age population. This figure represents the fifth highest density of benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.8.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017154 (Bevois)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017154 in 2008 was just over 2,300 people. Of these, approximately one quarter (over 600 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst nearly 150 people were over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of around 1,500 people. Approximately 28% of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>47</sup>.

<sup>47</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.

Within both the economically active and inactive population, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent may belong to this category), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity/ Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Benefits or students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017154**

Table 2.8.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017154 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>48</sup>. Over the last year, the total number of benefit claimants has increased on average by 39. This relatively large increase, exceeds those from previous years, and may be expected as a result of the recession and is also reflected over the region as a whole.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	464	105	218	95	19	18	9	1	0
2008	425	74	210	94	16	16	11	4	0
2007	428	74	218	94	16	13	10	4	0
2006	423	84	203	98	14	11	9	5	0
2005	408	58	204	103	14	16	10	4	0
2004	400	66	198	98	14	15	8	3	0
2003	408	75	193	96	16	19	5	4	0
2002	391	78	193	84	18	19	N/A	0	0

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	195	30	65	5	115	65	10	25	20	55	95
Job Seekers	110	95	15	25	80	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	230	90	140	30	155	45	0	35	30	65	100
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	160	110	50	15	70	40	15	15	20	30	95
Bereaved	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

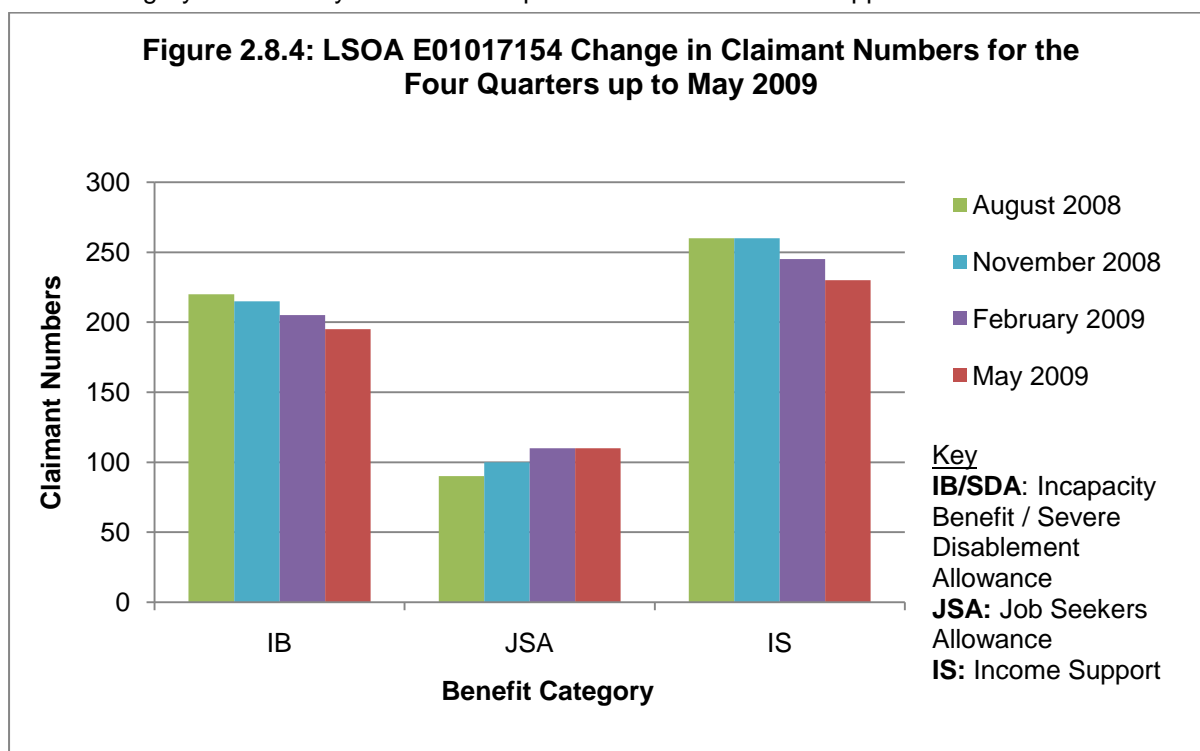
<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 20 DLA claimants aged under 16.

<sup>48</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.

Table 2.8.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017154 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.8.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.8.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>49</sup>). As a result, individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.8.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017154 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>50</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017154 has altered, with a noticeable increase in the number of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA), whilst the numbers of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) and Income Support have both declined over the same period (see Figure 2.8.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

**Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008, as is shown in the quarterly data for E01017154.

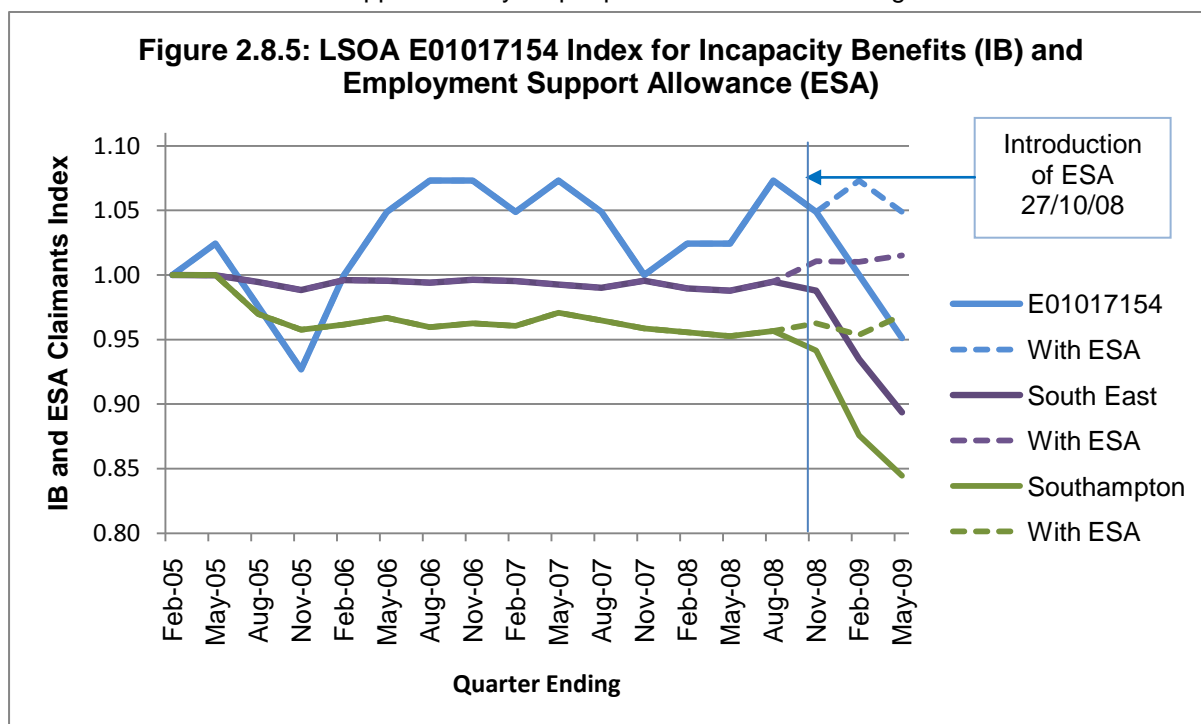
Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and

<sup>49</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>50</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.8.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.

mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy and any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.8.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005. The solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed line includes ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The May 2009 data for LSOA E01017154 shows approximately 20 people to have been claiming ESA.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.8.3. Between May 2008 and May 2009, the proportion of long to short term claimants has changed slightly. The majority of claimants have been claiming IB for 2 years or more, as was the case in 2008. Since November 2008, the number of people claiming for up to six months has decreased from 25 to 5, since new claimants are being moved on to ESA, or in certain cases being directed towards alternative benefits such as JSA. The shift in the composition of claimants towards longer-term claimants is likely to become more pronounced as ESA becomes more embedded.

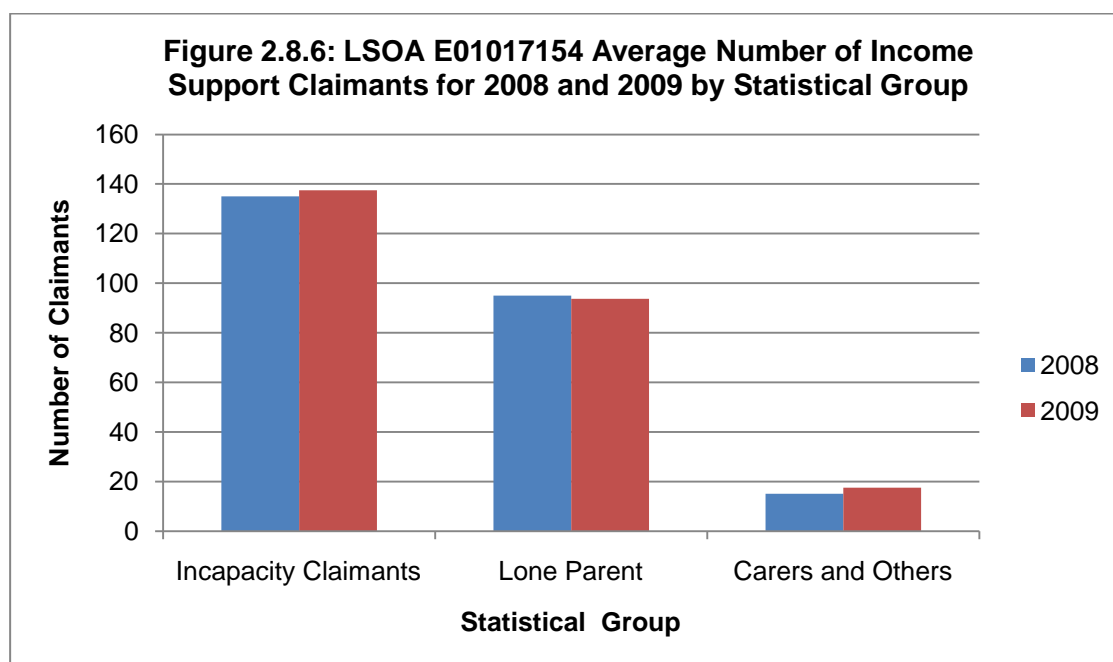
The ratio of male to female claimants remained at a similar level of 65:35. However, there appears to have been a shift in the age of claimants. The number of people from the 50-59 age band has increased by around 17%, whereas numbers in the 16-24 and 25-49 age bands have both decreased.

There have been minimal changes in the reasons for the award of IB for E01017154 residents since 2008. After an increase between 2002 and 2007 in the number of people claiming IB based on mental and behavioral disorders, the proportion of people claiming under this category has been falling over the last two years. Otherwise, there was little structural change in the reasons for awarding IB.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.

### **Income Support claimants**

Since the distinct reduction in Income Support claimants between 2003 and 2004 due to the introduction of the Pension Credit scheme, numbers have been fluctuating between 230 and 250 (see Table 2.8.4 in the Data Appendix). Between 2008 and 2009 there has been only a 2% increase in the total number of IS claimants in E01017154. Income Support benefit claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have an incapacity or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.8.6, there has only been a negligible change in number claiming under each of the categories over the last year.

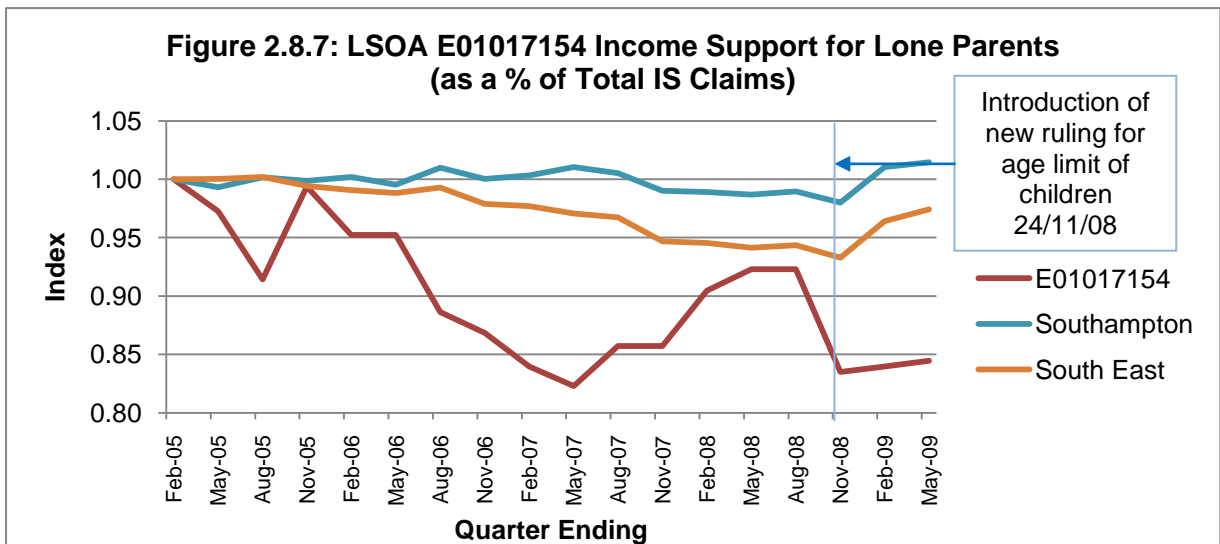


Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.8.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton and the South East has increased since November 2008. The proportion of claimants of IS who are lone parents began falling in LSOA E01017154 in February 2005. Although there appears to have been a slight increase in the proportion of claimants receiving IS as lone parents during 2007, this was caused not by the actual number of lone parent claimants increasing over this period, but by a temporary decline in claimants of IS for Incapacity Benefits. Since August 2008, numbers of lone parent claimants have once again been in decline in E01017154.

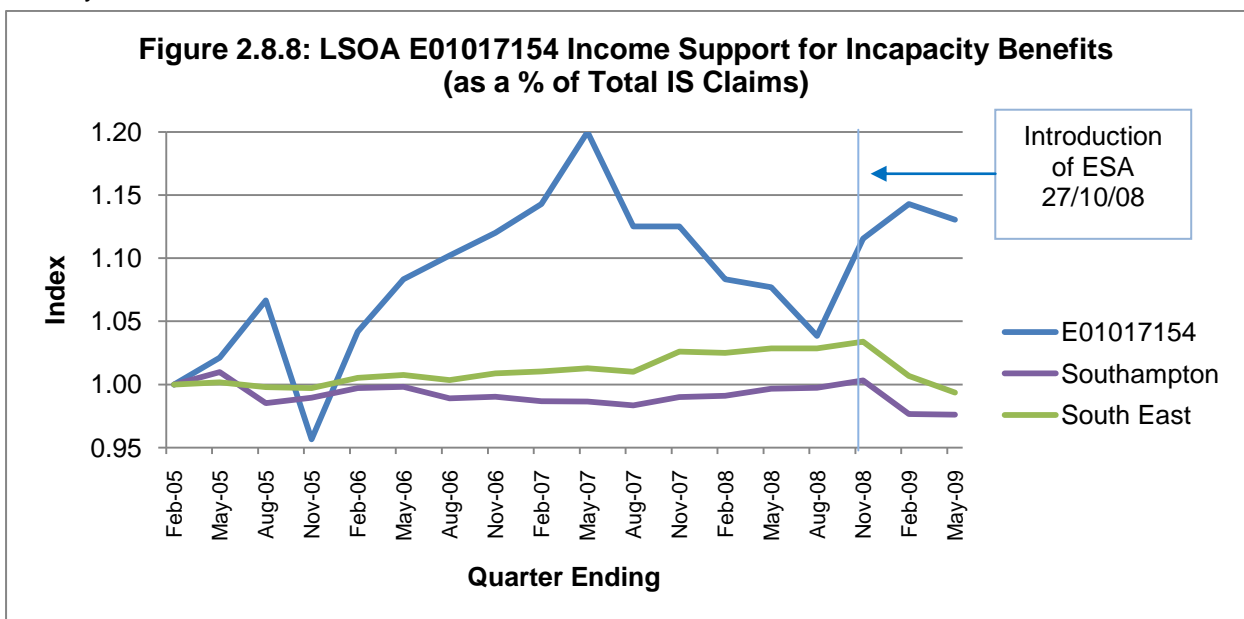




Source: DWP

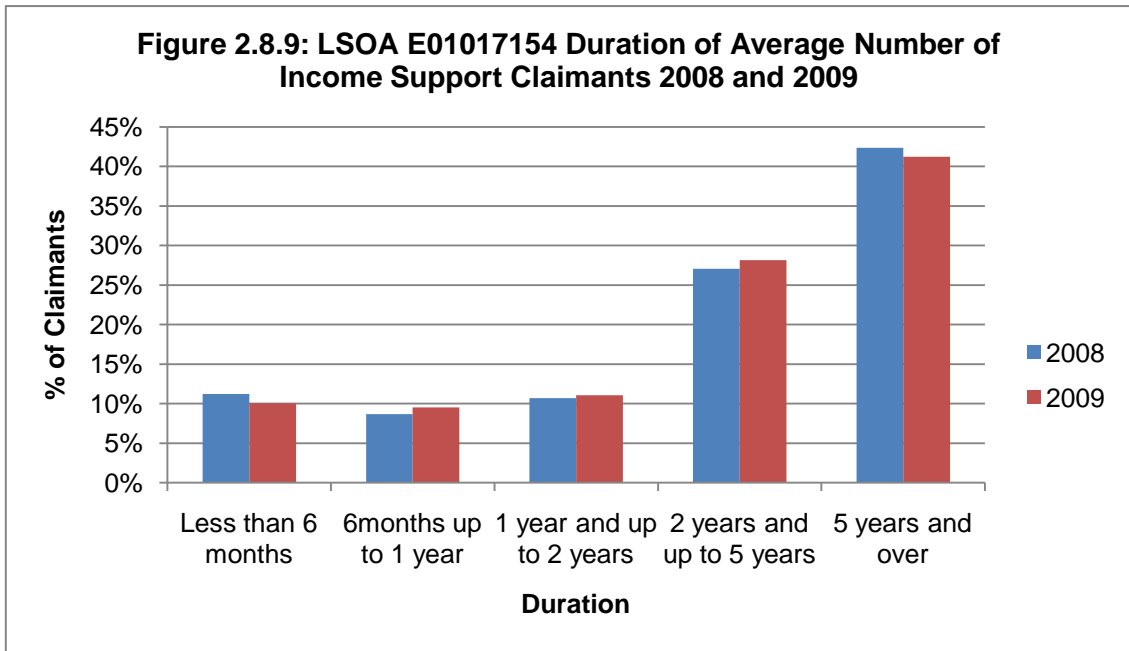
The introduction of ESA is also affecting those claiming Income Support as part of their Incapacity Benefits. All new incapacity claimants for IS are to be transferred over to ESA and thus numbers have fallen from November 2008 for Southampton, South East and LSOA E01017154 (see Figure 2.8.8). Although the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS increased in E01017154 following the introduction of ESA, the actual number of claimants decreased over this timeframe.

The recent decline in IS claimant numbers in E01017154 is largely due to a drop in short-term claimants (those receiving the benefit for less than six months). Whilst the effect on the overall composition of the duration of claims is minimal, Figure 2.8.9 shows that the number of people claiming IS for six months or less has decreased by 9% and for six months to one year has increased by 12%. Nonetheless, the majority of the claimants have been claiming for 2 years or more, although the number of claimants receiving the benefit for over 5 years has declined by 1%. There has been relatively little change in the age demographic of the claimants. The ratio of male to female claimants remained at approximately 40:60, and over 90% of claimants are classed as single. The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.



Source: DWP

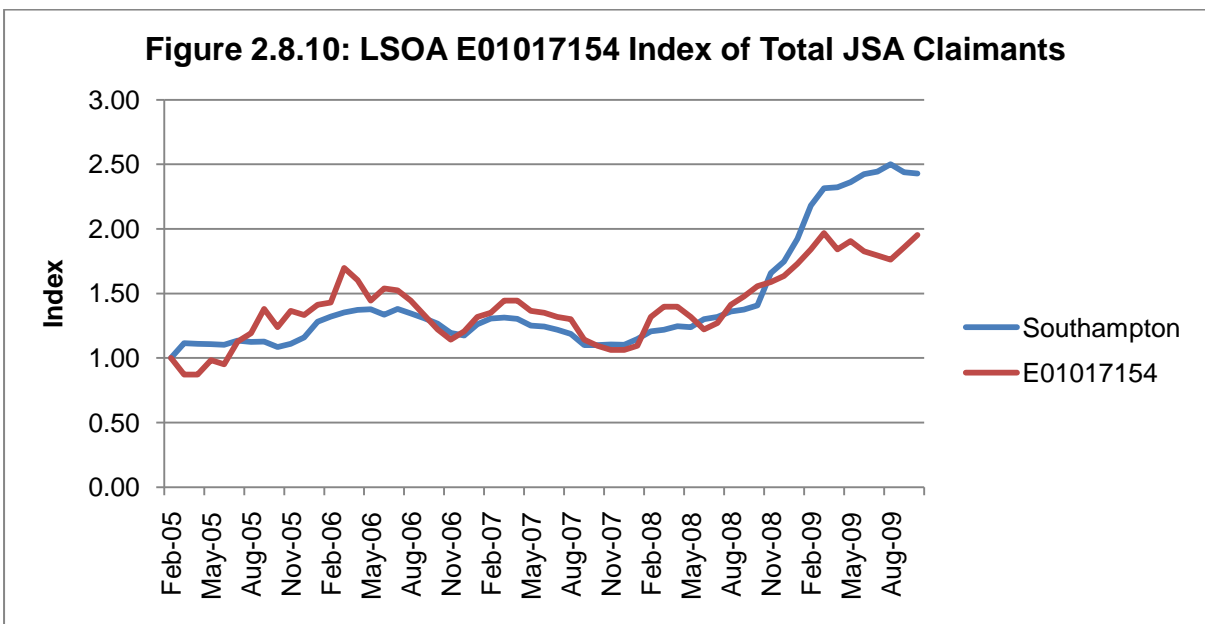




Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

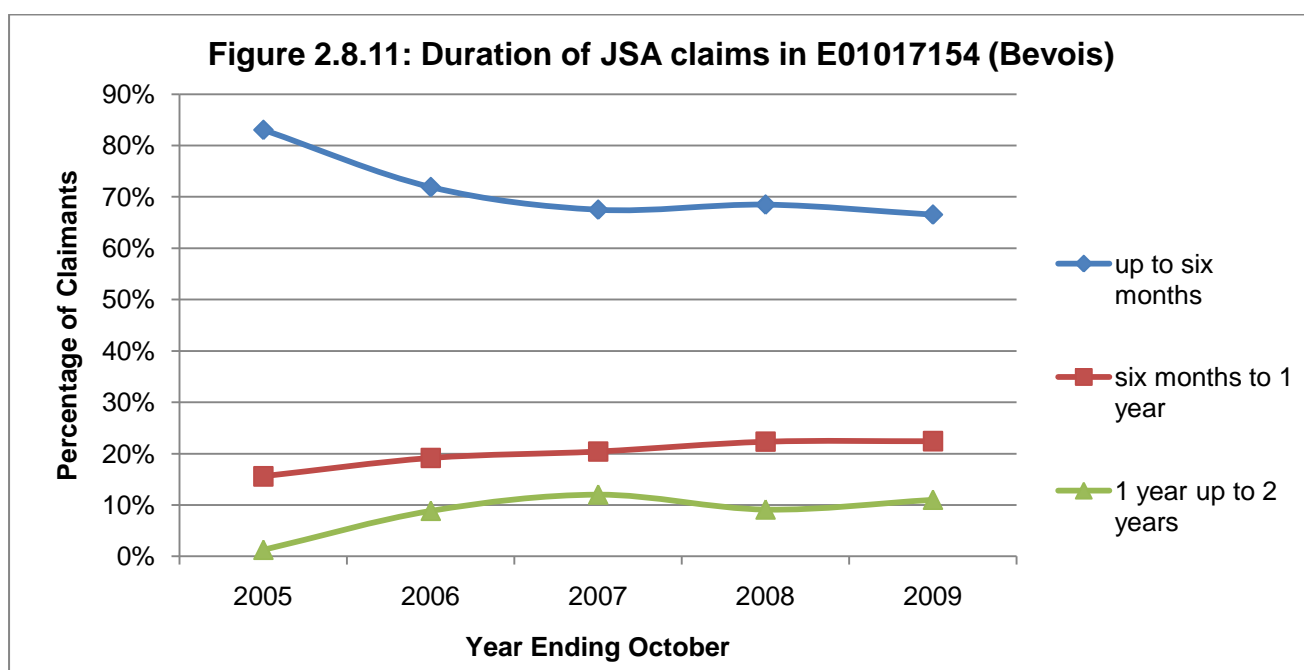
Table 2.8.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017154 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.8.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between June 2008 and March 2009, where claimant figures rose by over 60% in E01017154. However, the rise in JSA claimants has in recent months been less pronounced in E01017154 than in Southampton as a whole.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with an average of 28 more male claimants and 4 more female claimants. However, the ratio of male: female claimants remains largely unaltered at around 82:18 (see Table 2.8.5). Claimants aged 25-49 still dominate the population of JSA claimants and this category saw a rise of 34% between October 2008 and October 2009.

Since October 2008, there has been an increase in claimant numbers in all JSA duration categories. The overall composition of claimants by duration has not changed substantially, although there has been a marginal increase in the proportion of claimants in E01017154 who have been receiving the benefit for over 1 year, as shown in Figure 2.8.11. However, the duration of claims for JSA are noticeably shorter than for other benefits, which is likely to be due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.



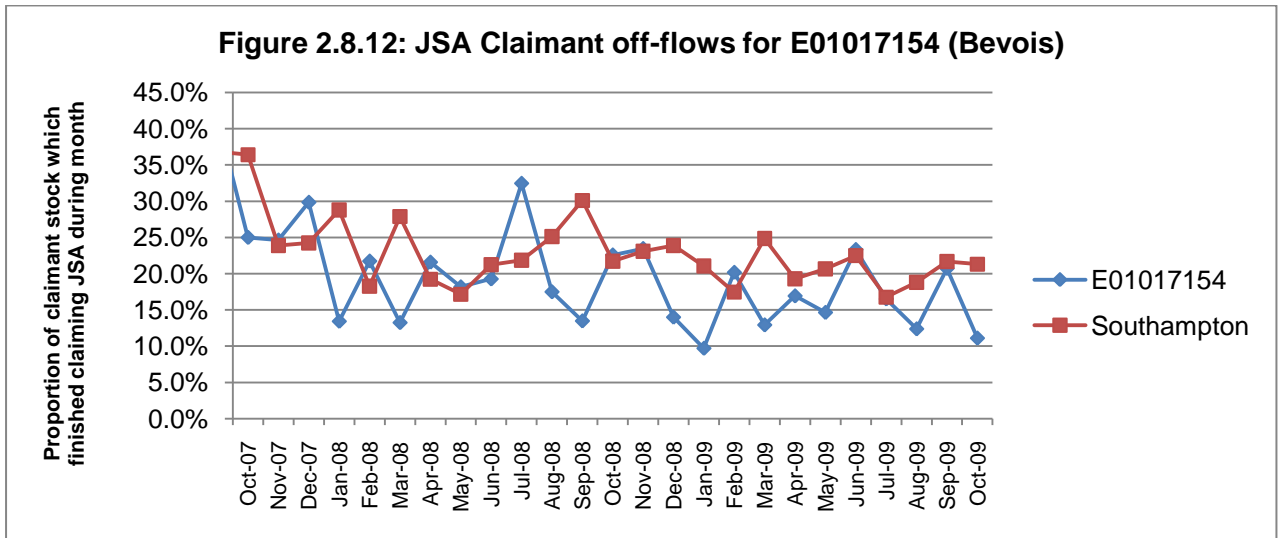
Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

Figures 2.8.12 and 2.8.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows) and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

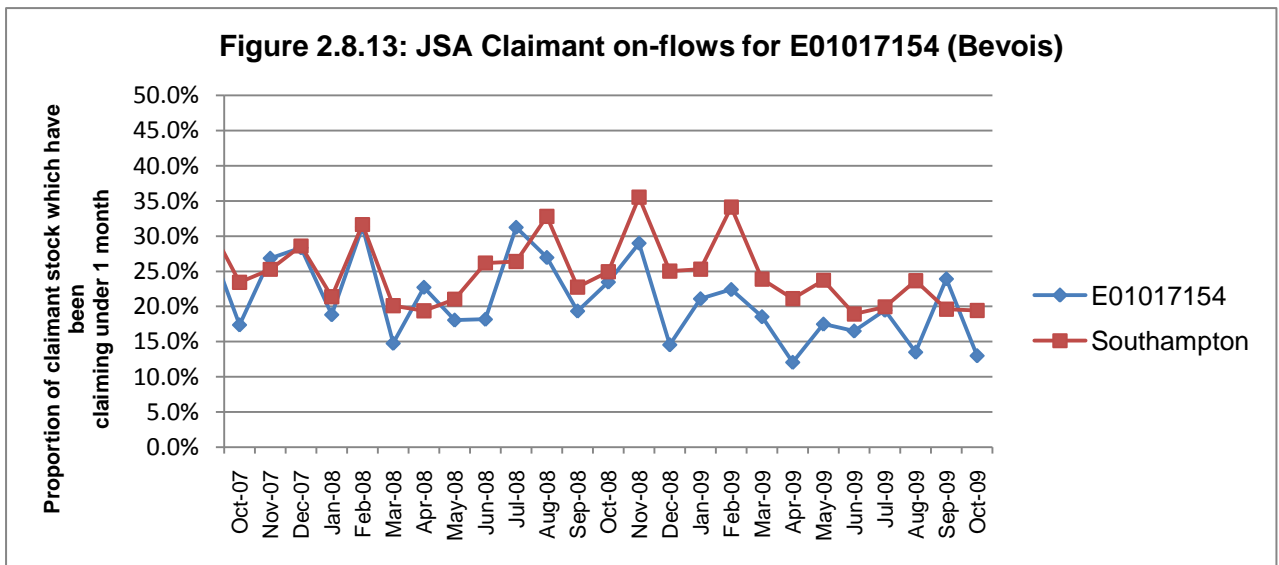
This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017154 (Bevois) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Whilst claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas, in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is lower for the LSOA than for the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017154 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017154 (Bevois) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in retail, cleaning and goods storage, and are seeking

jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017154 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the number claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		209	210	219	203	208	196	194	191
Type	IB	93%	95%	93%	95%	93%	92%	92%	92%
	SDA	7%	5%	7%	5%	7%	8%	8%	8%
Age	16-24	4%	5%	5%	6%	8%	7%	9%	8%
	25-49	60%	64%	64%	65%	64%	66%	65%	63%
	50-59	29%	25%	26%	23%	21%	22%	21%	21%
	Over 60	6%	6%	5%	6%	7%	6%	6%	8%
Gender	Male	65%	66%	67%	64%	66%	67%	66%	71%
	Female	35%	34%	33%	36%	34%	33%	34%	29%
Duration	Less than 6 months	8%	10%	10%	10%	12%	13%	12%	12%
	6 months up to 1 year	8%	7%	9%	7%	8%	8%	8%	9%
	1 year and up to 2 years	11%	12%	11%	10%	13%	11%	14%	12%
	2 years and up to 5 years	25%	23%	23%	27%	25%	27%	25%	25%
	5 years and over	47%	49%	47%	46%	41%	41%	41%	42%
Award	Mental	56%	59%	60%	59%	59%	57%	54%	54%
	Nervous System	5%	4%	4%	6%	4%	3%	3%	3%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	4%	3%	5%	4%	5%	4%	5%	3%
	Musculoskeletal	14%	14%	12%	10%	12%	11%	12%	11%
	Injury, poisoning	8%	7%	6%	5%	7%	8%	7%	7%
	Other	13%	13%	13%	15%	13%	15%	19%	21%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		249	245	248	234	244	241	291	286
Age	16-24	13%	12%	14%	16%	17%	13%	15%	13%
	25-49	69%	72%	69%	69%	70%	70%	57%	55%
	50-59	18%	16%	18%	15%	13%	11%	10%	12%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	18%	20%
Gender	Male	40%	40%	40%	35%	36%	39%	43%	45%
	Female	60%	60%	60%	65%	64%	61%	57%	55%
Duration	Less than 6 months	10%	11%	11%	11%	12%	12%	13%	14%
	6months up to 1 year	10%	9%	9%	7%	10%	7%	9%	10%
	1 year and up to 2 years	11%	11%	14%	16%	14%	13%	16%	16%
	2 years and up to 5 years	28%	27%	27%	27%	28%	35%	31%	25%
	5 years and over	41%	42%	40%	40%	36%	32%	31%	35%
Partnered	With partner	7%	7%	7%	7%	9%	9%	10%	12%
	Single	93%	93%	93%	93%	91%	91%	90%	88%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	55%	55%	57%	52%	51%	49%	43%	45%
	Lone Parent	38%	39%	37%	42%	43%	39%	33%	30%
	Carers and Others	7%	6%	6%	6%	6%	11%	24%	25%

Source: DWP

<sup>51</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	114	82%	18%	23%	68%	10%	67%	22%	11%	0%
2008	82	80%	20%	21%	72%	7%	69%	22%	9%	0%
2007	81	82%	18%	29%	66%	4%	68%	20%	12%	0%
2006	91	81%	19%	34%	61%	5%	72%	19%	9%	0%
2005	67	85%	15%	45%	54%	1%	83%	16%	1%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		164	149	138	129	124	116	106
Age	Under 16	11%	11%	10%	9%	9%	9%	8%
	16-24	6%	4%	5%	7%	5%	3%	4%
	25-49	46%	48%	45%	42%	47%	55%	51%
	50-59	24%	24%	25%	25%	19%	17%	15%
	60-69	11%	10%	11%	16%	17%	15%	19%
	70 and over	2%	3%	4%	2%	2%	1%	4%
Gender	Male	66%	68%	65%	63%	63%	61%	64%
	Female	34%	32%	35%	37%	37%	39%	36%
Duration	Less than 12 months	11%	10%	10%	12%	12%	13%	18%
	1 year and up to 2 years	10%	9%	10%	12%	13%	16%	12%
	2 years and up to 5 years	24%	29%	29%	28%	29%	30%	29%
	5 years and over	55%	52%	51%	49%	45%	41%	41%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	51%	51%	53%	49%	45%	49%	45%
	Higher Rate	34%	33%	32%	32%	35%	33%	39%
	Nil Rate	15%	16%	15%	19%	19%	17%	16%
Care Award	Lower Rate	29%	31%	29%	31%	31%	29%	29%
	Middle Rate	38%	44%	45%	43%	38%	34%	33%
	Higher Rate	22%	17%	16%	17%	21%	24%	24%
	Nil Rate	11%	8%	9%	10%	9%	13%	14%

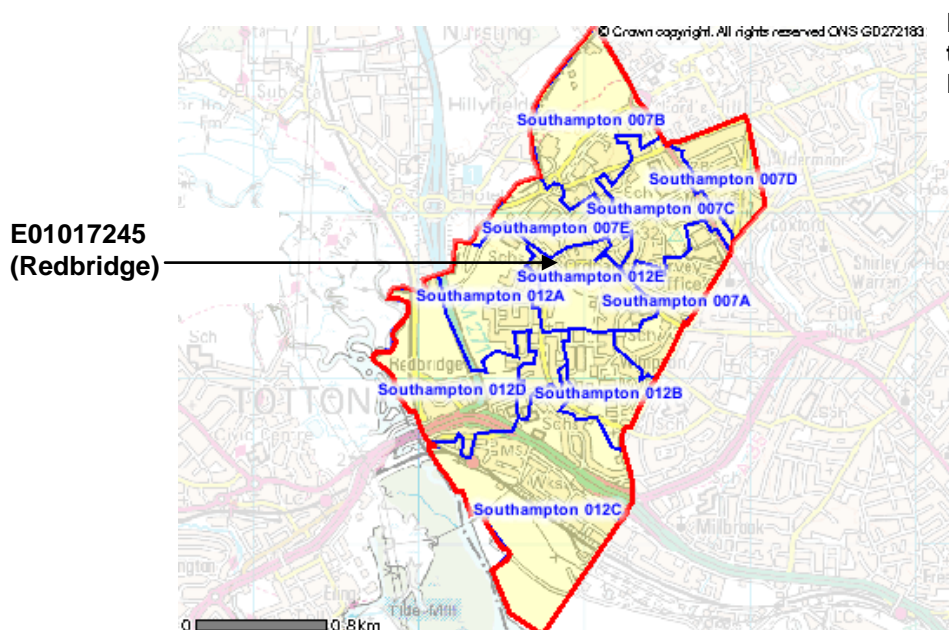
Source: DWP

## 2.9 LSOA E01017245 (Redbridge ward)

### Summary of Findings for E01017245

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017245 (Redbridge) has identified the following key points:

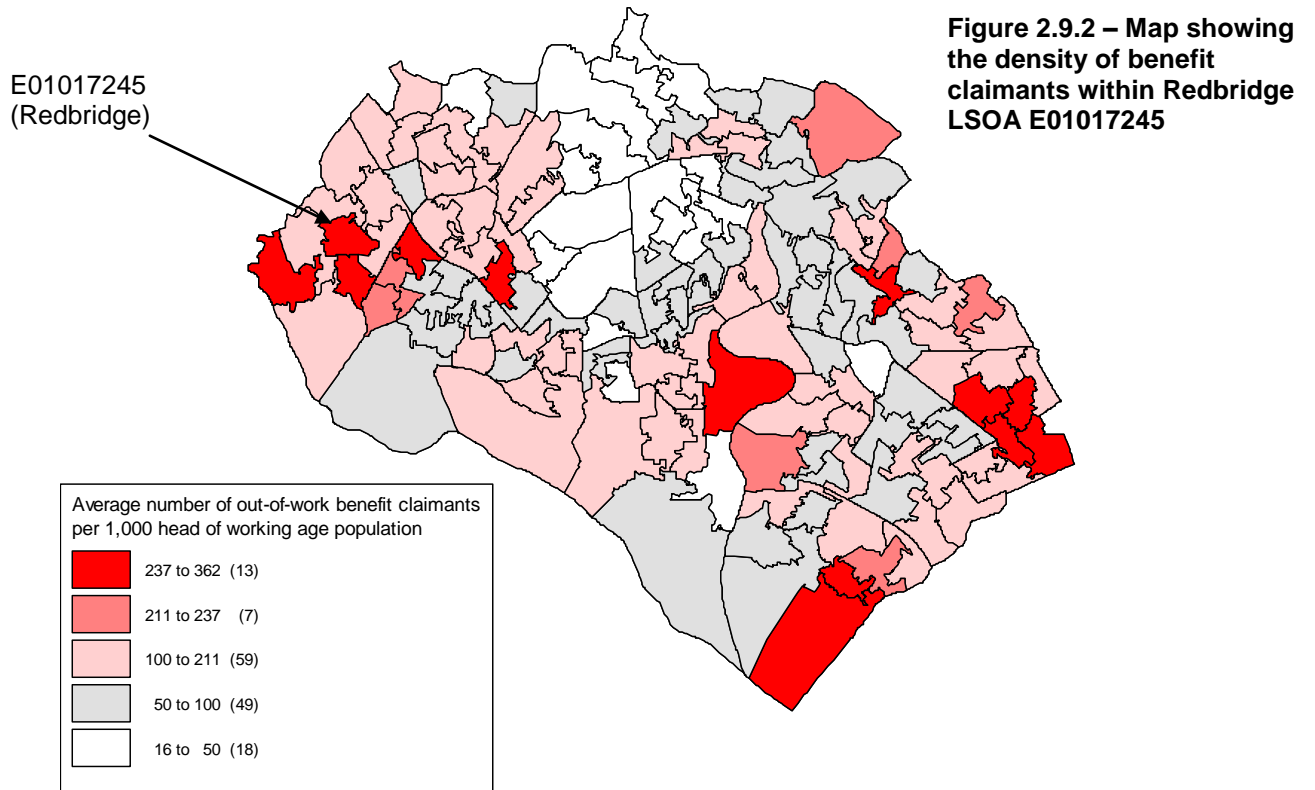
- LSOA E01017245 has the fifth highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants whilst there was also a small increase in Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The number of short-term Income Support claimants has fallen since November 2008, potentially as a result of changes to the eligibility criteria for claiming this benefit at that time. However, the typical claimant remains female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017245 between October 2008 and February 2009. The impact fell most heavily on those aged 25-49 and the increase in male claimants exceeded the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.



**Figure 2.9.1 – Map showing the location of Redbridge LSOA E01017245**

**Profile**

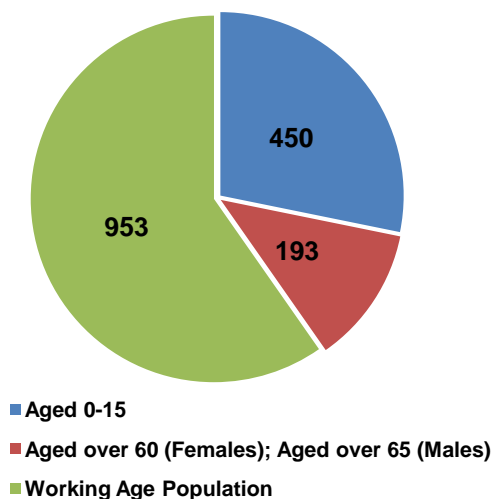
The LSOA E01017245 is located within the Redbridge ward which is on the western side of the city (see Figure 2.9.1 for the LSOA’s location within Redbridge). The LSOA contains a large amount of social housing but little in the way of local employment opportunities. The LSOA is within one of eleven key priority neighbourhoods in Southampton as identified by Southampton Partnership and was until 2007 a regeneration programme area.



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.9.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. There is an estimated 272 out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head in the LSOA E01017245 on average over the year between May 2008 and May 2009, an increase from 252 in last year’s report. This figure represents the sixth highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.9.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017245 (Redbridge)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017245 in 2008 was nearly 1,600. Of these, a high proportion of around 28 per cent (450 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst nearly 200 people were over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of just over 950 people. Approximately 27 per cent of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>52</sup>.

<sup>52</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.



Within both the economically active and inactive population, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent may belong to this category), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity/ Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Benefits or students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017245**

Table 2.9.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017245 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>53</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 28 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This is the most substantial rise since 2003 when there were 20 more benefit claimants from 2002. This increase may be expected as a result of the recession and is also reflected over the region as a whole, where on average, Southampton, the South East region and England have all seen increases in the number of total claimants over the same period.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	285	34	115	95	16	5	18	3	0
2008	258	31	105	83	13	6	16	4	0
2007	259	29	105	90	11	6	15	3	0
2006	250	31	93	94	10	5	13	5	0
2005	245	25	90	101	10	6	9	4	0
2004	248	30	90	91	8	11	13	5	0
2003	239	29	83	95	8	9	13	4	0
2002	219	25	79	95	8	8	N/A	0	5

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	100	60	40	5	55	25	15	5	10	35	50
Job Seekers	50	40	10	15	30	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	150	40	110	50	85	15	0	30	25	55	40
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	120	65	55	10	35	20	25	15	15	25	65
Bereaved	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

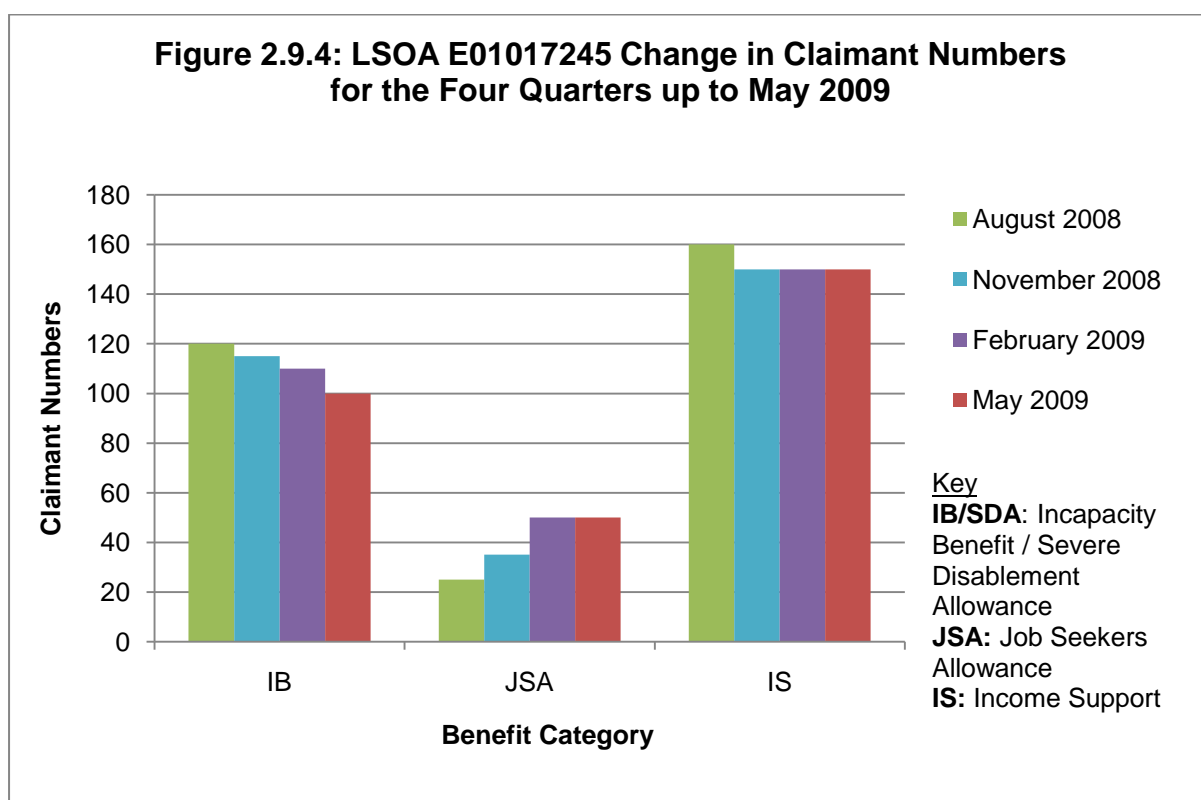
<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 15 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 15 DLA claimants aged over 70

<sup>53</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.

Table 2.9.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017245 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.9.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.9.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>54</sup>). As a result, individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.9.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017245 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>55</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017245 has altered, with a noticeable increase in the number of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA). Over the same period the number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) and Income Support both declined (see Figure 2.9.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

### **Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

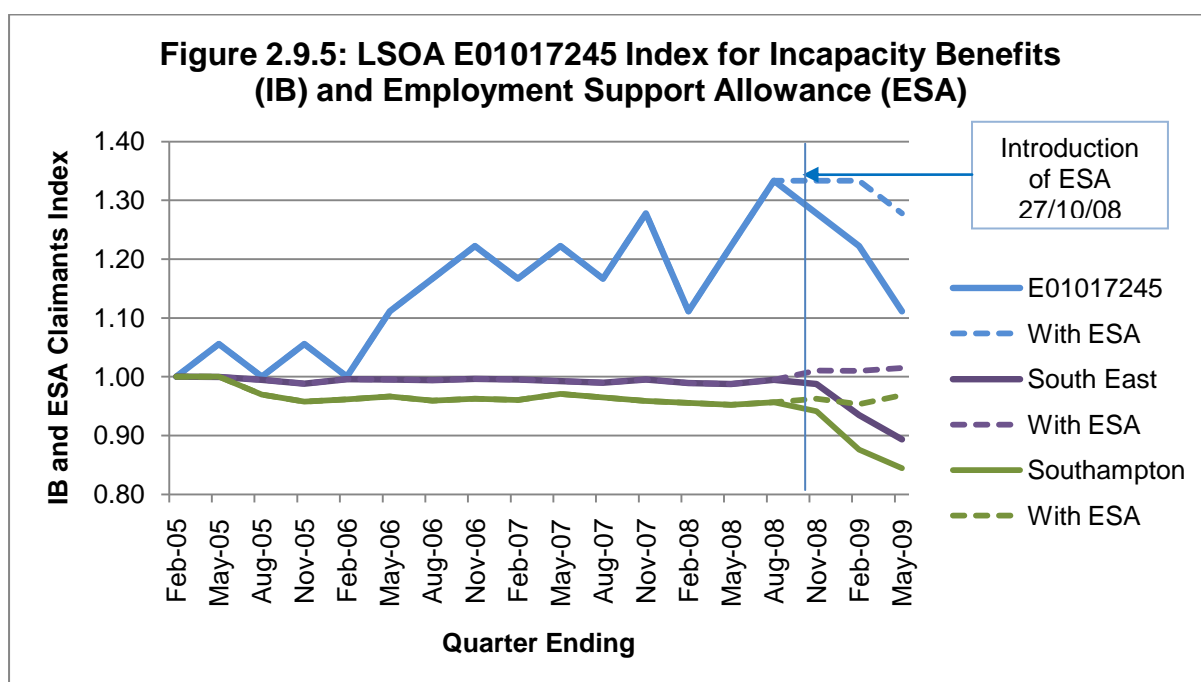
The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008, as is shown in the quarterly data for E01017154.

<sup>54</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>55</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.9.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.

Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy and any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.9.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005. The solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed line includes ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The May 2009 data for LSOA E01017245 shows approximately 15 people to have been claiming ESA.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.9.3 in the Data Appendix. Between May 2008 and May 2009, the gap between long and short term claimants increased, with lower numbers claiming for less than 1 year whilst the number of long-term claimants of over one year increased. The decrease in those claiming for less than 6 months is to be expected, since new claimants are being moved on to ESA, or in certain cases being directed towards alternative benefits such as JSA. The shift in the composition of claimants towards longer-term claimants is likely to become more pronounced as ESA becomes more embedded. In May 2009, nearly half of the number of people claiming IB in E01017245 had been claiming for 5 years or more.

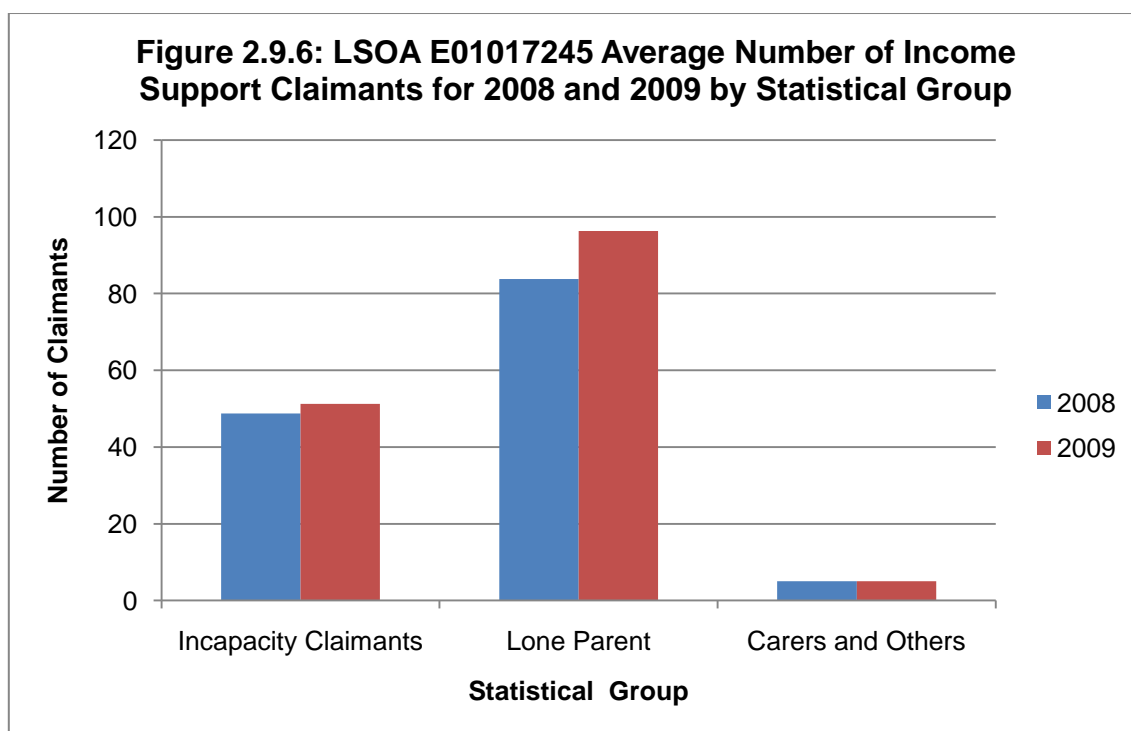
The ratio of male to female claimants remained at a similar level close to 60:40, although there was a small increase in the number of female claimants on average between 2008 and 2009. There was also a slight increase of nearly 10 per cent in the number of claimants over the age of 50 whilst the number of claimants aged below 50 remained static.

The number of people claiming IB based on mental and behavioral disorders has increased by 16 per cent in E01017245 between 2008 and 2009. However, in comparison to previous years, this is not a particularly large rise and otherwise there have been minimal changes in the reasons for the award of IB.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.

### **Income Support claimants**

There was over a 10 per cent rise in Income Support claimants between 2008 and 2009 of approximately 15 more claimants (see Table 2.9.4 in the Data Appendix). Income Support claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income, and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.9.11, there were 13 more lone parent claimants and approximately 2 more incapacity claimants contributing to the 10 per cent rise in total IS claimants in E01017245.

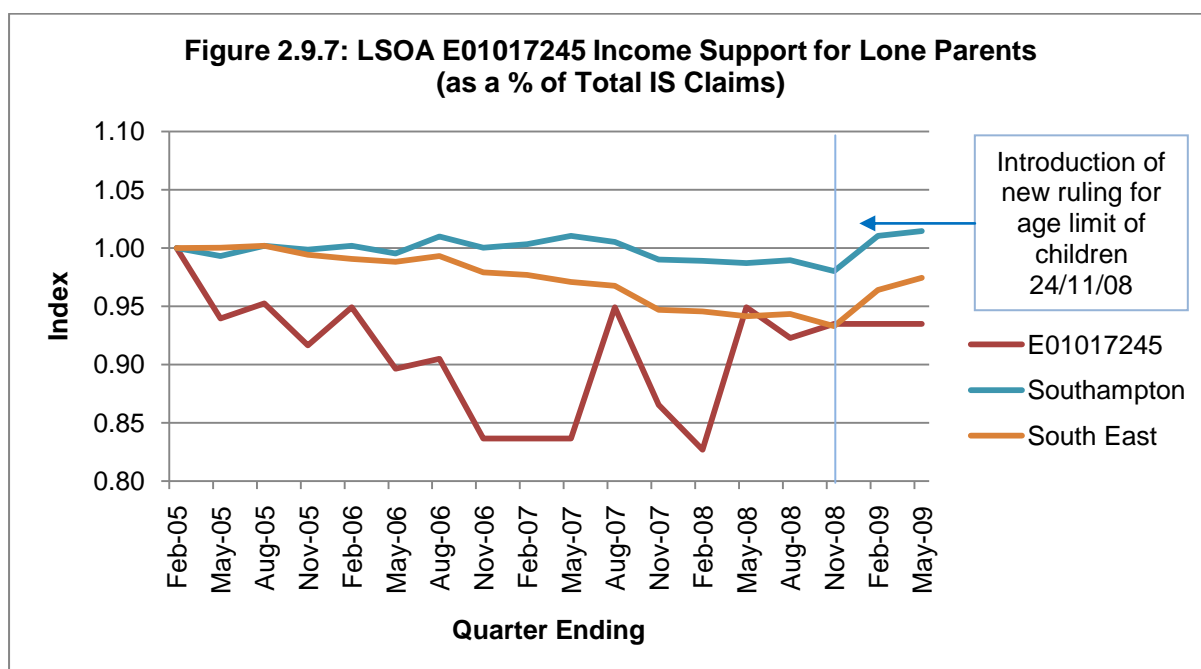


Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.9.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton and the South East has increased since November 2008 and remained constant in E01017245. Although the proportion of IS claimants who are lone parents appears to have increased for the quarter up to May 2009 in Southampton and the South East, this is in relation to the proportion of Incapacity Benefit claimants for IS, which has also decreased. The actual number of people

claiming IS as a lone parent has decreased for the May 2009 quarter for both Southampton and the South East and remained static in E01017245.



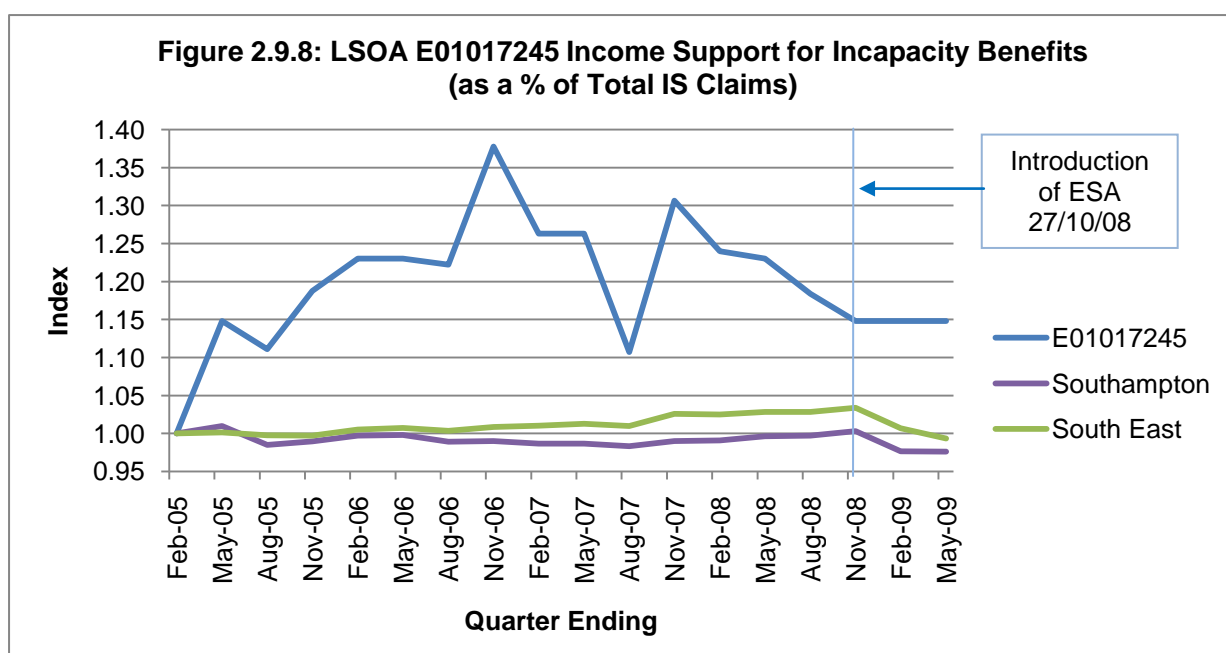
Source: DWP

The introduction of ESA is also affecting those with disabilities or illnesses claiming Income Support. All new incapacity claimants for IS are to be transferred over to ESA and thus numbers have fallen from November 2008 for Southampton and the South East whilst numbers have remained unchanged in LSOA E01017245 (see Figure 2.9.8).

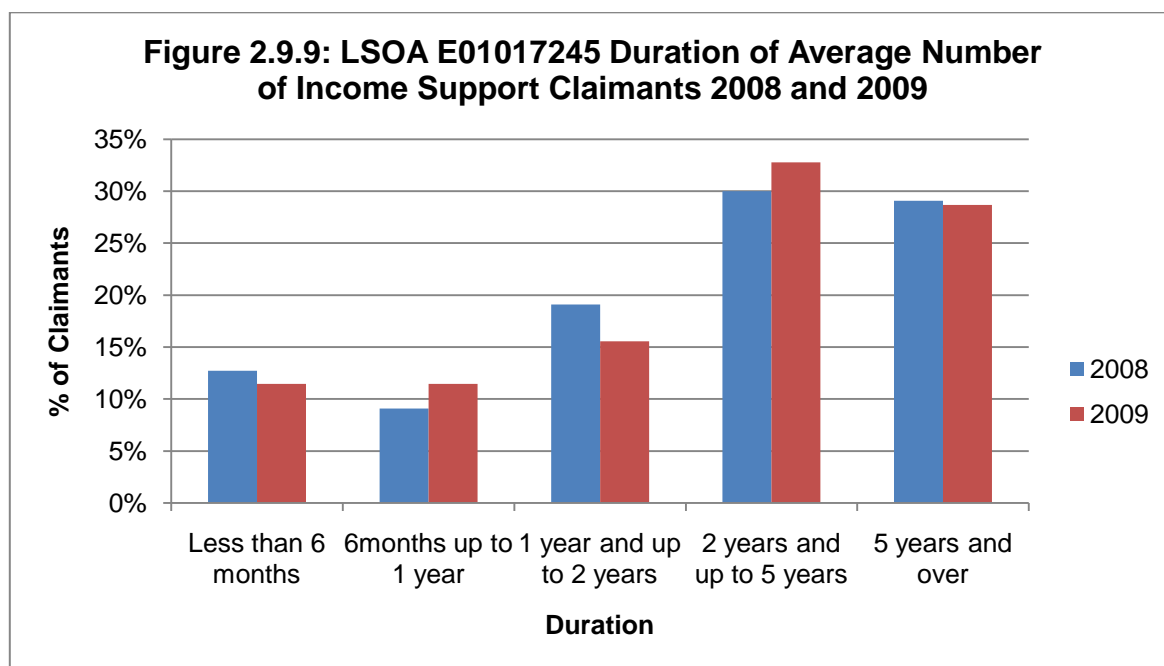
The increase in IS claimants between 2008 and 2009 appears to have affected the younger age bands as claimants from the 16-24 age bracket has increased by around 23 per cent, claimants from the 25-49 age bracket increased by around 9 per cent whilst claimants over the age of 50 marginally decreased. The effect on the change in the number of short to long term claimants is mixed as depicted in Figure 2.9.9. The proportion claiming between 1 and 2 years has decreased by 10 per cent whilst the number of those claiming between 6 months to 1 year and 2 and 5 years has increased by 40 and 21 per cent, respectively.

The number of female claimants has increased by 14% on average in E01017245 over 2008 and 2009, marginally altering the ratio of male to female claimants from 27:73 to 25:75. The ratio of claimants with a partner compared to single claimants has altered from 12:88 to 9:91 over 2008 and 2009 with 18 more single individuals claiming IS. Both of these changes are likely to be linked to the increase in lone parents claiming.

The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.



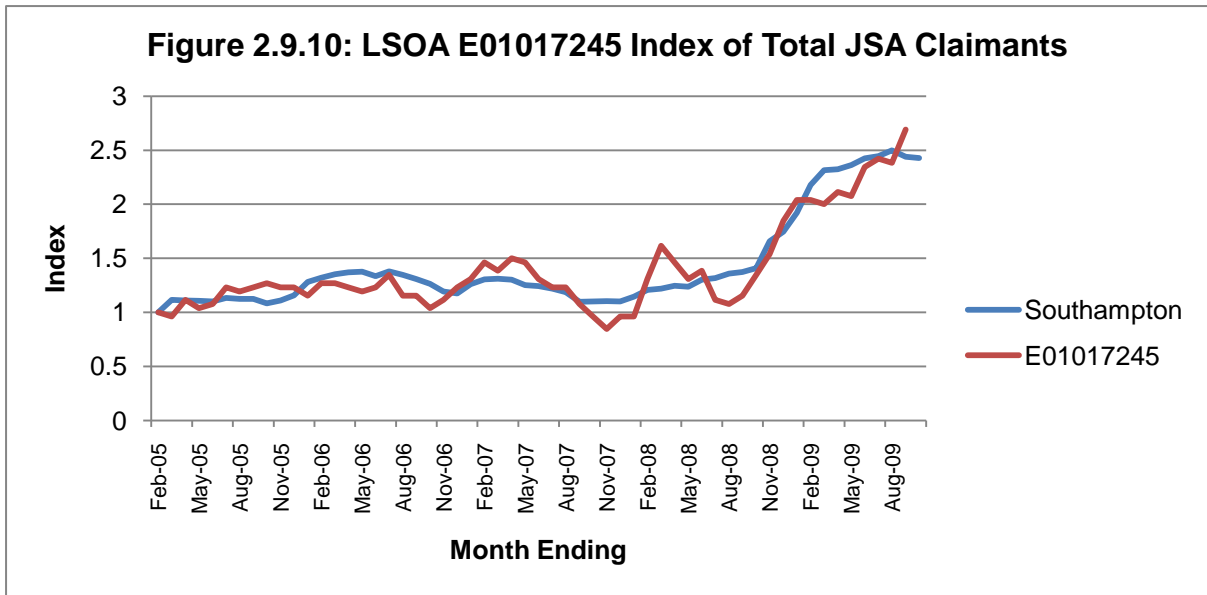
Source: DWP



Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

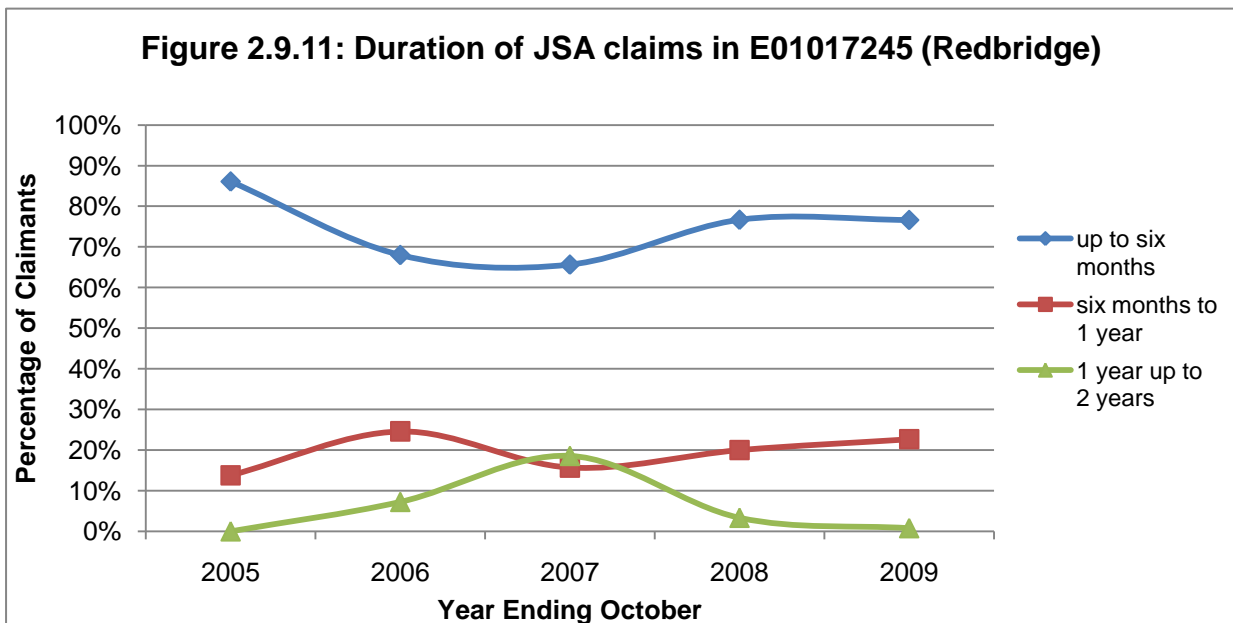
Table 2.9.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017245 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.9.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between the four months of October 2008 and February 2009, where figures rose by just over 77 per cent in E01017245. Overall, there has been a similar level of impact on LSOA E01017245 over the last year than on Southampton as a whole.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with an average of 21 more male claimants and 1 more female claimant altering the ratio of male claimants to female from around 67:33 last year to around 78:22 this year (see Table 2.9.5). The data also suggests that the increase has affected the mid age bracket of 25-49 year olds most, as the number claiming from this band increased by over 60 per cent and the 16-24 age band increased by over 55 per cent in E01017245 between 2008 and 2009, whilst the 50 and over age bracket saw a less dramatic increase in numbers. Claimants aged 25-49 still dominate the proportion of those claiming JSA in E01017245.

The rising number of E01017245 JSA claimants since mid 2008 has resulted in a doubling of the proportion of people claiming for less than a year. However, each duration category has increased numbers by a proportionate amount between 2008 and 2009, as demonstrated in Figure 2.9.11 below. The duration of JSA claims are noticeably shorter than for other benefits, which is likely to be due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.



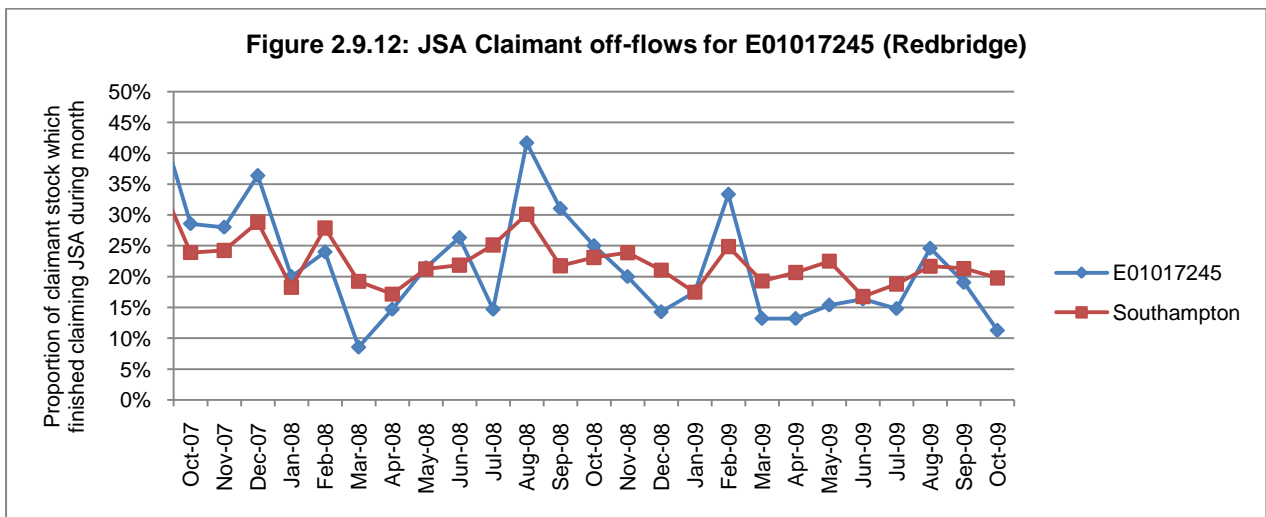
Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)



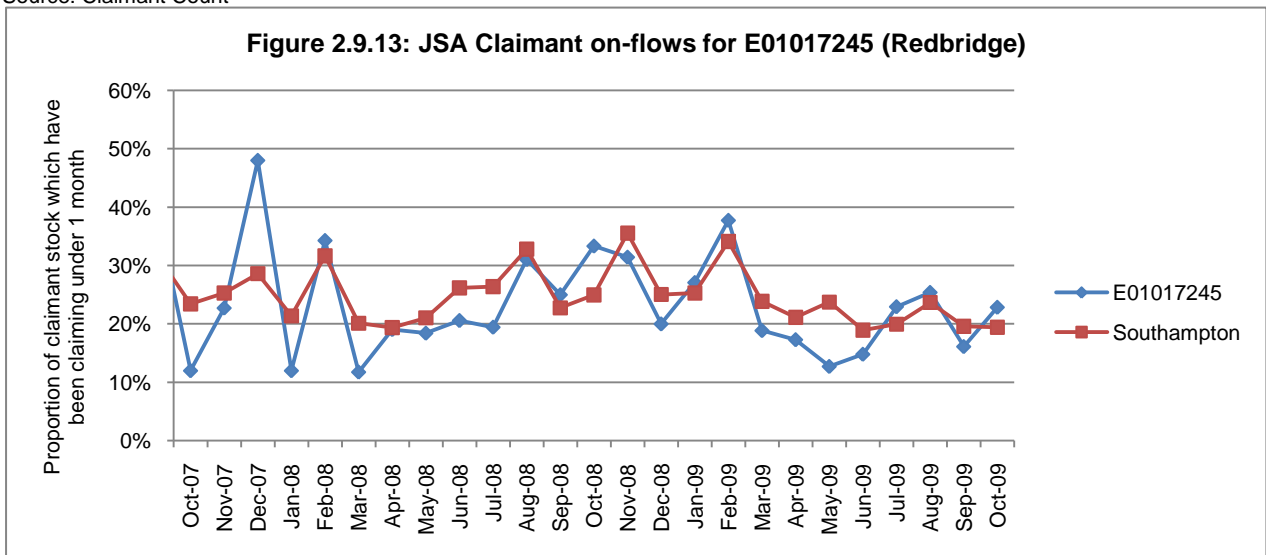
Figures 2.9.12 and 2.9.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows), and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017245 (Redbridge) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas and, in general, the proportion of on-flows and off-flows in LSOA E01017245 closely resembles that for the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017245 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017245 (Redbridge) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in transport driving and retail, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017245 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the numbers claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		111	108	108	94	94	88	89	81
Type	IB	92%	92%	91%	91%	91%	90%	89%	88%
	SDA	8%	8%	9%	9%	9%	10%	11%	12%
Age	16-24	7%	7%	10%	8%	11%	9%	10%	8%
	25-49	53%	55%	56%	60%	56%	59%	56%	54%
	50-59	25%	24%	24%	24%	25%	26%	23%	22%
	Over 60	16%	14%	9%	8%	8%	7%	11%	17%
Gender	Male	61%	63%	63%	59%	55%	53%	54%	54%
	Female	39%	37%	37%	41%	45%	47%	46%	46%
Duration	Less than 6 months	4%	7%	14%	9%	15%	14%	14%	11%
	6 months up to 1 year	6%	10%	9%	12%	7%	9%	7%	5%
	1 year and up to 2 years	15%	10%	13%	9%	15%	11%	6%	14%
	2 years and up to 5 years	30%	27%	19%	21%	20%	24%	31%	32%
	5 years and over	45%	45%	45%	48%	44%	41%	42%	38%
Award	Mental	40%	36%	43%	43%	39%	43%	45%	40%
	Nervous System	4%	5%	2%	1%	3%	3%	1%	3%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	9%	10%	12%	12%	13%	14%	17%	18%
	Musculoskeletal	22%	24%	23%	23%	25%	17%	14%	15%
	Injury, poisoning	7%	6%	5%	5%	7%	6%	4%	3%
	Other	17%	19%	15%	16%	13%	17%	18%	20%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		153	138	151	145	159	168	210	206
Age	16-24	30%	27%	28%	30%	35%	28%	24%	21%
	25-49	60%	61%	60%	61%	55%	54%	43%	45%
	50-59	10%	12%	12%	9%	9%	10%	7%	6%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	8%	26%	27%
Gender	Male	25%	27%	29%	25%	21%	22%	24%	24%
	Female	75%	73%	71%	75%	79%	78%	76%	76%
Duration	Less than 6 months	11%	13%	15%	12%	13%	11%	11%	12%
	6months up to 1 year	11%	9%	10%	10%	8%	10%	8%	8%
	1 year and up to 2 years	16%	19%	17%	15%	18%	13%	15%	13%
	2 years and up to 5 years	33%	30%	28%	29%	32%	33%	28%	28%
	5 years and over	29%	29%	30%	34%	28%	33%	38%	38%
Partnered	With partner	9%	12%	10%	9%	9%	8%	10%	8%
	Single	91%	88%	90%	91%	91%	92%	90%	92%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	34%	35%	37%	34%	32%	32%	27%	24%
	Lone Parent	63%	61%	58%	63%	65%	57%	44%	48%
	Carers and Others	3%	4%	5%	3%	3%	11%	29%	28%

Source: DWP

<sup>56</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	54	78%	22%	33%	61%	6%	77%	23%	1%	0%
2008	32	67%	33%	36%	64%	0%	77%	20%	3%	0%
2007	33	74%	26%	35%	65%	0%	66%	16%	19%	0%
2006	31	73%	27%	41%	59%	0%	68%	25%	7%	0%
2005	27	85%	15%	28%	65%	7%	86%	14%	0%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		121	103	103	94	89	91	94
Age	Under 16	11%	10%	11%	12%	15%	16%	13%
	16-24	8%	11%	7%	5%	10%	7%	8%
	25-49	32%	34%	37%	36%	28%	27%	29%
	50-59	16%	16%	15%	16%	15%	18%	16%
	60-69	21%	20%	20%	20%	23%	22%	24%
	70 and over	11%	10%	11%	11%	8%	10%	9%
Gender	Male	54%	51%	48%	49%	48%	42%	47%
	Female	46%	49%	52%	51%	52%	58%	53%
Duration	Less than 12 months	14%	7%	11%	15%	11%	5%	8%
	1 year and up to 2 years	7%	10%	11%	5%	10%	8%	16%
	2 years and up to 5 years	24%	21%	15%	19%	23%	29%	20%
	5 years and over	55%	62%	63%	61%	56%	58%	56%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	32%	34%	32%	29%	32%	33%	27%
	Higher Rate	52%	51%	55%	57%	56%	56%	59%
	Nil Rate	16%	15%	13%	13%	11%	11%	15%
Care Award	Lower Rate	25%	27%	29%	23%	24%	22%	25%
	Middle Rate	38%	40%	34%	36%	39%	38%	35%
	Higher Rate	16%	15%	13%	16%	20%	21%	20%
	Nil Rate	21%	18%	23%	25%	17%	19%	20%

Source: DWP

## 2.10 LSOA E01017240 (Redbridge ward)

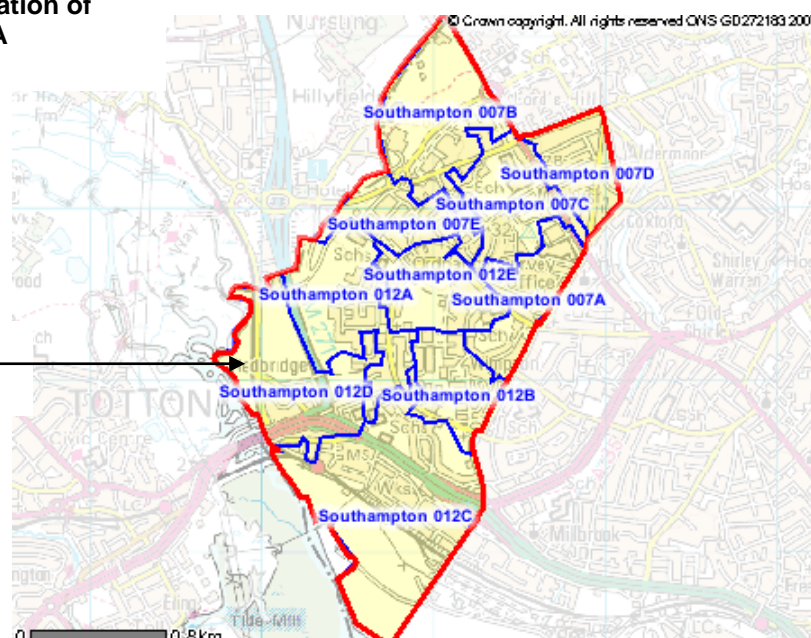
### Summary of Findings for E01017240

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017240 (Redbridge) has identified the following key points:

- LSOA E01017240 has the eighth highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The numbers of Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants have begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The number of short-term Income Support claimants has fallen since November 2008, potentially as a result of changes to the eligibility criteria for claiming this benefit at that time. The typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming Income Support under the Incapacity Benefit grouping often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017240 between September 2008 and February 2009. The impact of this increase fell most heavily on males and those aged 16-25. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.

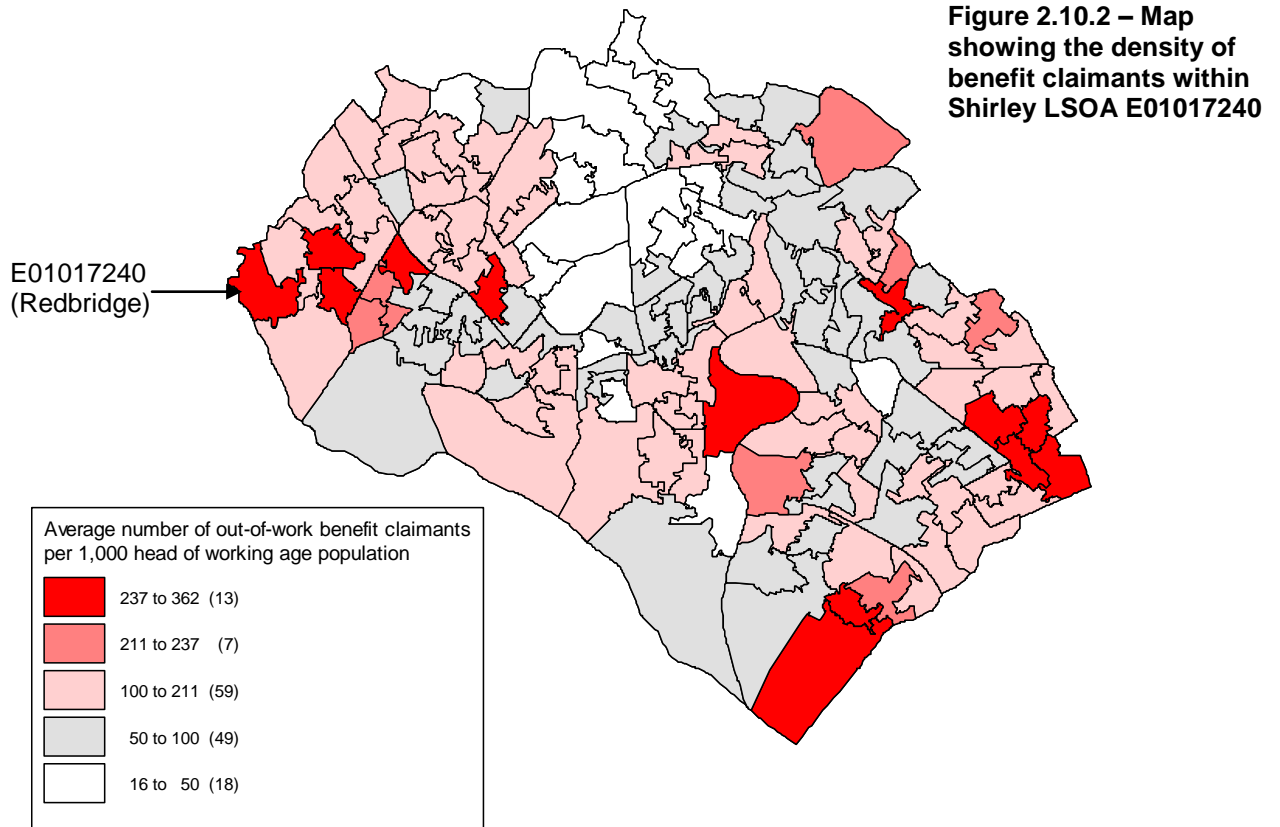
**Figure 2.10.1 – Map showing the location of Redbridge LSOA E01017240**

**E01017240 (Redbridge)**



**Profile**

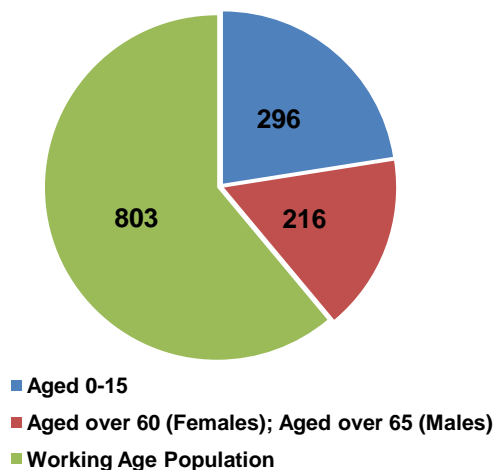
The LSOA E01017240 is located within the Redbridge ward which is on the western side of the city (see Figure 2.10.1 for the LSOA's location within Redbridge). The LSOA contains a large amount of social housing but little in the way of local employment opportunities. The LSOA is within one of eleven key priority neighbourhoods in Southampton as identified by Southampton Partnership and was until 2007 a regeneration programme area.



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.10.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. There is an estimated 269 out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head in the LSOA E01017240 on average over the year between May 2008 and May 2009, an increase from 256 in last year's report. This figure represents the eighth highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.10.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017240 (Redbridge)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017240 in 2008 was over 1,300. Of these, approximately 23 per cent (nearly 300 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst over 200 people were over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of just over 800 people. Approximately 27 per cent of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>57</sup>.

<sup>57</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at 28 August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.

Within both the economically active and inactive population, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent may belong to this category), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity/ Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Benefits or students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017240**

Table 2.10.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017240 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>58</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 8 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This increase may be expected as a result of the recession and is also reflected over the region as a whole, where on average, Southampton, the South East region and England have all seen increases in the total number of claimants over the same period. However, this increase in benefit claimants in E01017240 is not significantly larger than in previous years. For instance, for the year ending May 2006, there was on average 23 more benefit claimants compared to the average for the year ending May 2005.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	241	45	114	53	14	5	9	3	0
2008	234	28	109	63	13	6	14	3	0
2007	239	30	113	64	13	5	11	4	0
2006	243	31	115	63	14	5	13	3	0
2005	220	25	113	53	11	6	8	5	0
2004	213	28	103	54	11	9	5	4	0
2003	216	35	96	60	11	6	3	5	0
2002	216	34	99	59	14	5	N/A	1	4

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance	110	70	40	10	70	25	5	10	5	30	65
Job Seekers	55	45	10	5	35	15	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support	115	45	70	30	75	10	0	20	15	35	45
Disability Living Allowance <sup>1</sup>	110	60	50	10	50	20	15	10	10	20	70
Bereaved	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

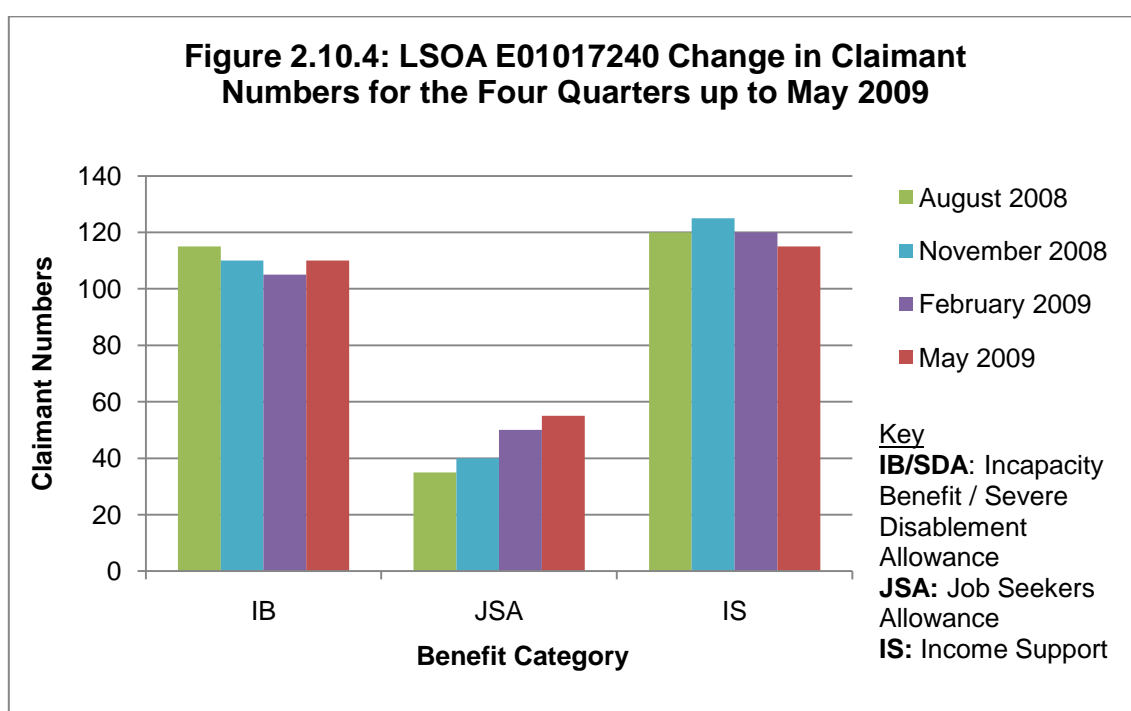
<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 10 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 5 DLA claimants aged over 70

<sup>58</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.



Table 2.10.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017240 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.10.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.10.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>59</sup>). As a result, individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.10.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017240 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>60</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017240 has altered, with a noticeable increase in the number of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA), and a decline in the number of people claiming Income Support over the same period (see Figure 2.10.4). The number claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) has remained fairly static between 2008 and 2009. Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

**Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008, as is shown in the quarterly data for E01017154.

Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only

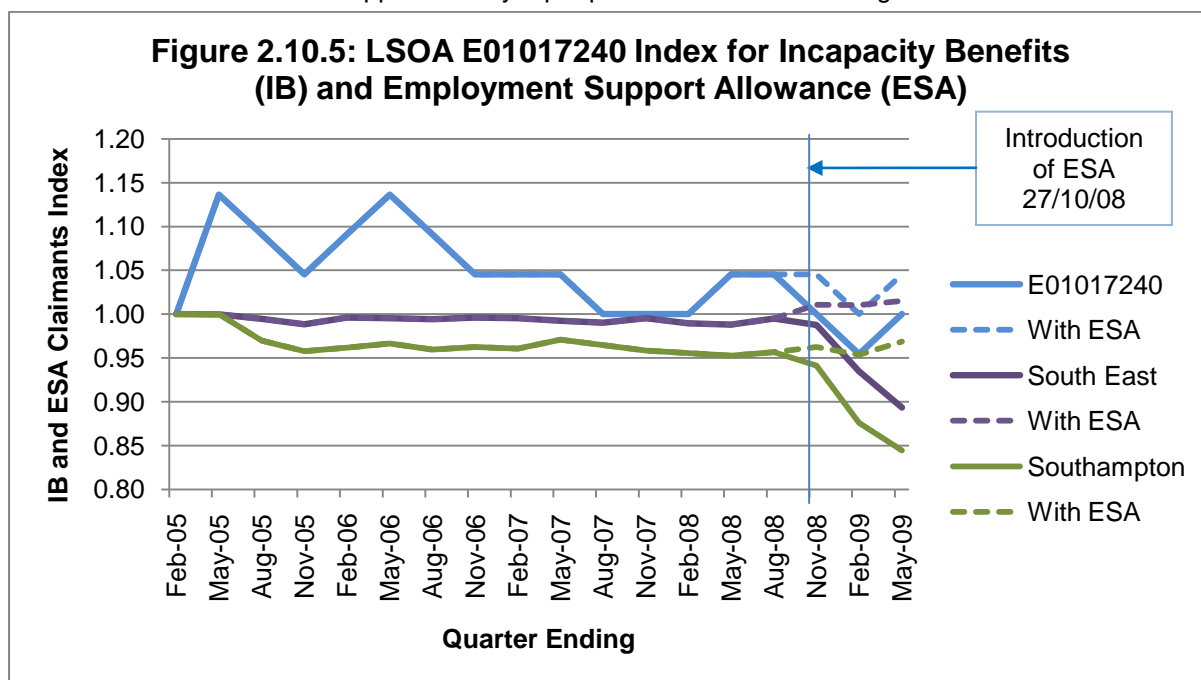
<sup>59</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>60</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.10.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.



an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy and any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.10.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005. The solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed lines include ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The May 2009 data for LSOA E01017240 shows approximately 5 people to have been claiming ESA.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.10.3. Between May 2008 and May 2009, the proportion of long to short term claimants has changed slightly. The majority of claimants have been claiming IB for 2 years or more (approximately 80 per cent of total IB claimants in May 2009), as was the case in 2008. Since November 2008, the number of people claiming for up to six months has decreased, as would be expected, since new claimants are being moved on to ESA, or in certain cases being directed towards alternative benefits such as JSA. In May 2009, over half of claimants in E01017240 had been claiming IB for 5 years or more, a 12 per cent increase from May 2008. The shift in the composition of claimants towards longer-term claimants is likely to become more pronounced as ESA becomes more embedded.

The ratio of male to female claimants remained fairly static at 67:33 in 2009 compared to 69:31 in 2008. There appears to have been a shift in the age of claimants. The number of people claiming from the 16-24 age bracket increased by 50 per cent whilst the numbers claiming aged over 25 decreased.

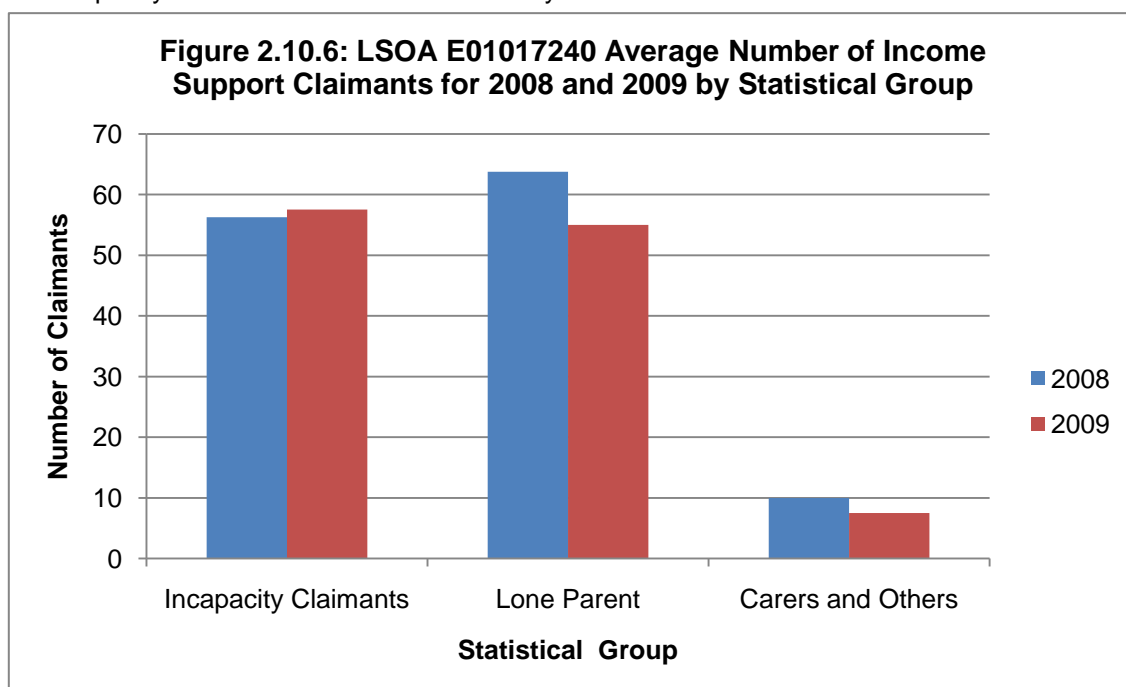
There have been minimal changes in the reasons for the award of IB for E01017240 residents since 2008, the biggest change being a 50 per cent decrease in numbers claiming under the category "Respiratory or Circulatory". After a steep increase in the number of people claiming IB due to mental

and behavioral disorders between 2003 and 2004, the proportion of people claiming under this heading marginally decreased in the last year. Otherwise, there was little structural change in the reasons for awarding IB.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.

### **Income Support claimants**

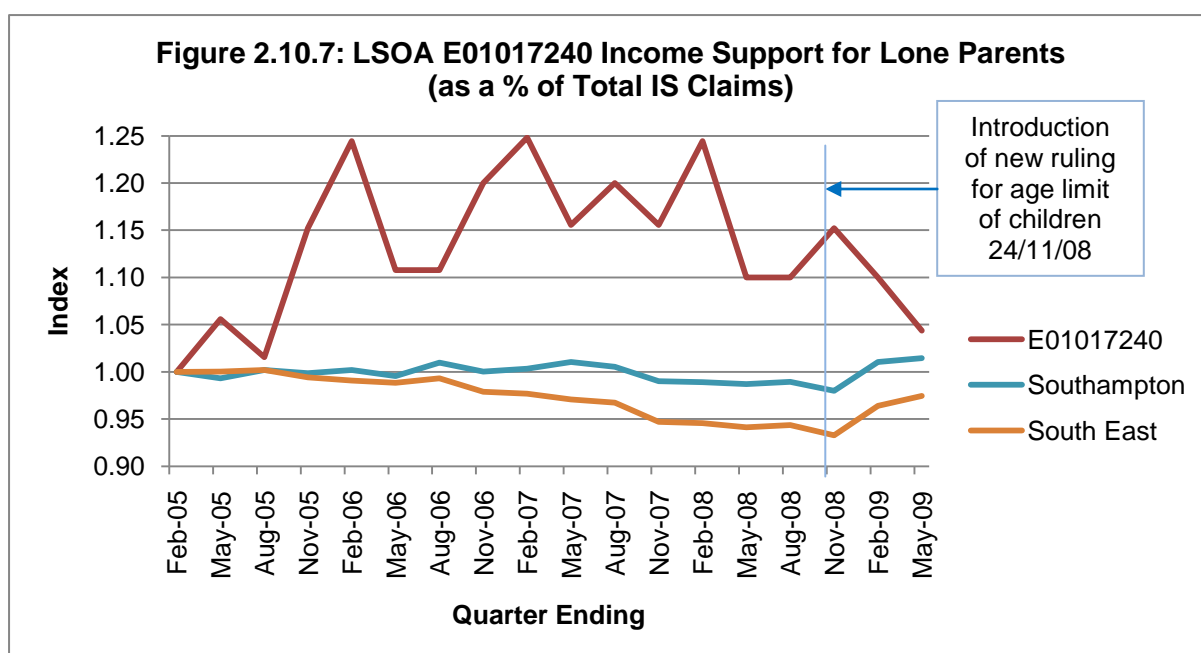
Between May 2008 and May 2009, there was an 8 per cent reduction in Income Support claimants, the largest change since the effect of the introduction of the Pension Credit scheme from 2003 (see Table 2.10.4 in the Data Appendix). Income Support claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for income support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income, and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.10.6, both the decrease in the Statistical Group 'Carers and Others' and lone parent claimants contributed to the drop in numbers whilst Incapacity Benefit claimants remained fairly static.



Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.10.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton and the South East has increased since November 2008. However, this is as a proportion of total IS claimants and is in relation to the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS which has also decreased. The actual number of IS claimants who are lone parents decreased in May 2009 for both Southampton and the South East. LSOA E01017240 saw a reduction since November 2008, which may be due to the introduction of the new ruling for the age limit of children, although the decrease is not abnormal in comparison to the fluctuations seen over previous quarters.



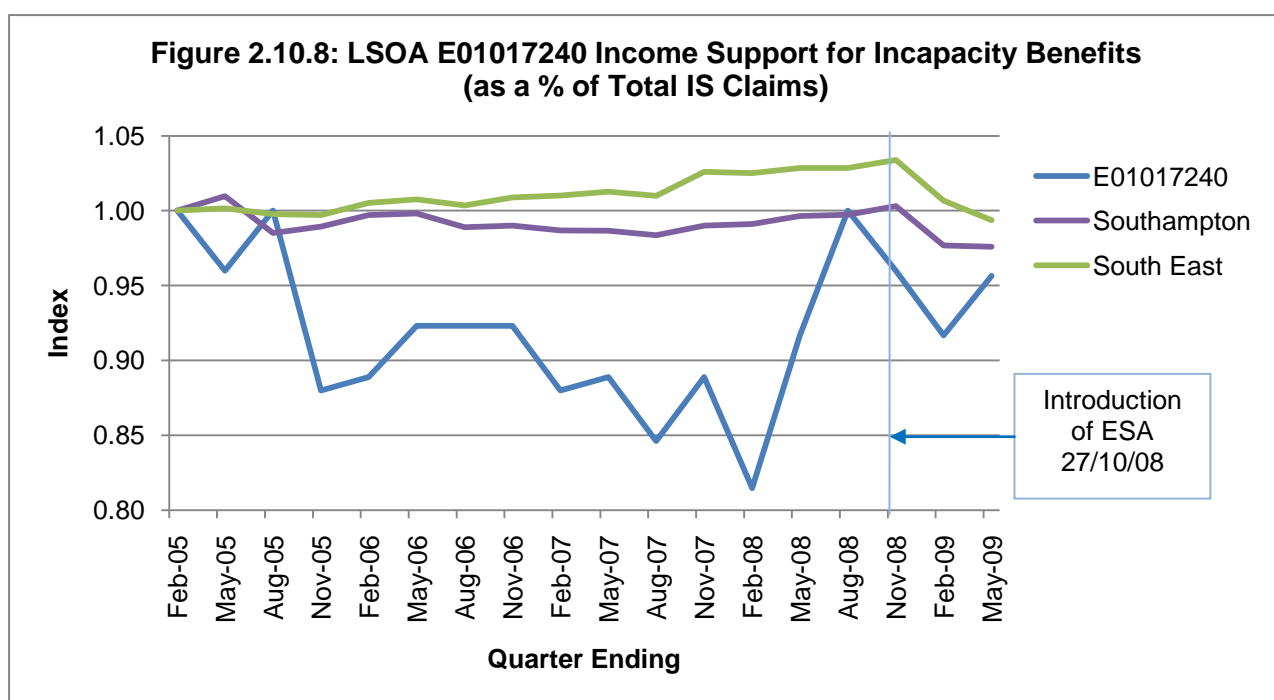
Source: DWP

The introduction of ESA is also affecting those with disabilities or illnesses claiming Income Support. All new incapacity claimants for IS are to be transferred over to ESA and thus numbers have fallen from November 2008 for Southampton, South East and LSOA E01017240 (see Figure 2.10.8). Although the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS increased following the introduction of ESA, the actual number has remained the same.

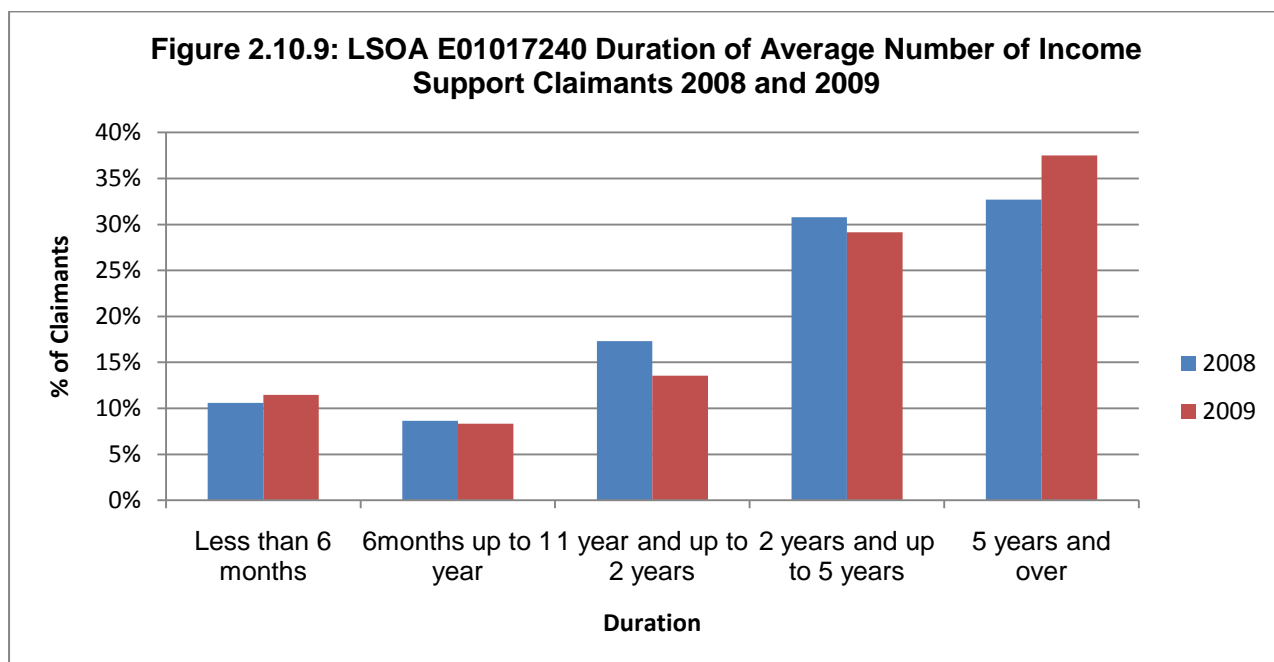
The composition of the duration of claims has altered slightly between 2008 and 2009, as depicted in Figure 2.10.9 as the proportion of long-term claimants (over 5 years) increased in proportion to shorter-term claimants. The proportion of those claiming for six months or less has remained fairly constant between 2008 and 2009, whilst the number of people claiming for this amount of time has decreased since the November 2008 quarter when ESA was introduced. Overall, the number of people claiming under each duration category decreased between 2008 and 2009 except for those claiming for over 5 years which has increased by around 6 per cent.

The lone parent statistical group decreased in proportion between 2008 and 2009, with 9 fewer claimants in E01017240 whilst incapacity claimants increased slightly. The ratio of male to female claimants has altered between 2008 and 2009 closing the gap a little from 36:64 to 39:61 (see Table 2.10.4 in the Data Appendix). This may partly be due to the new lone parent ruling, as there were ten fewer females claiming since November 2008 whilst the number of male claimants remained unchanged. The 25-49 and 50 and over age brackets both decreased in numbers between 2008 and 2009 whilst the number of 16-24 year olds marginally crept up by around 8 per cent. There were approximately 12 fewer single claimants, which may again reflect the new lone parent ruling.

The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming income support under the incapacity benefit grouping, often for longer than 2 years.



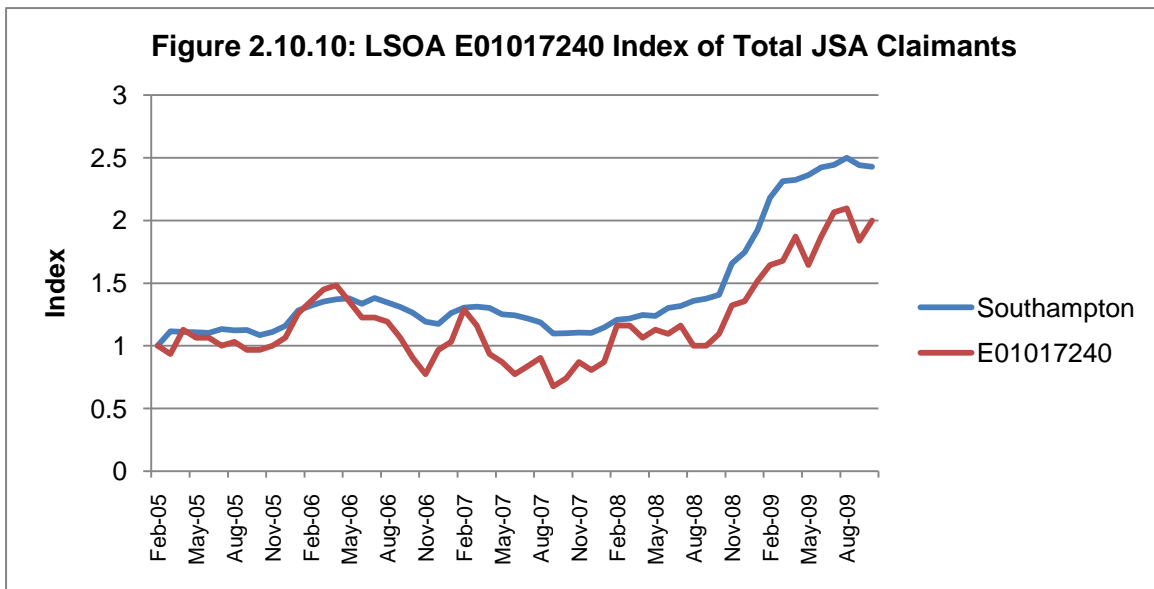
Source: DWP



Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

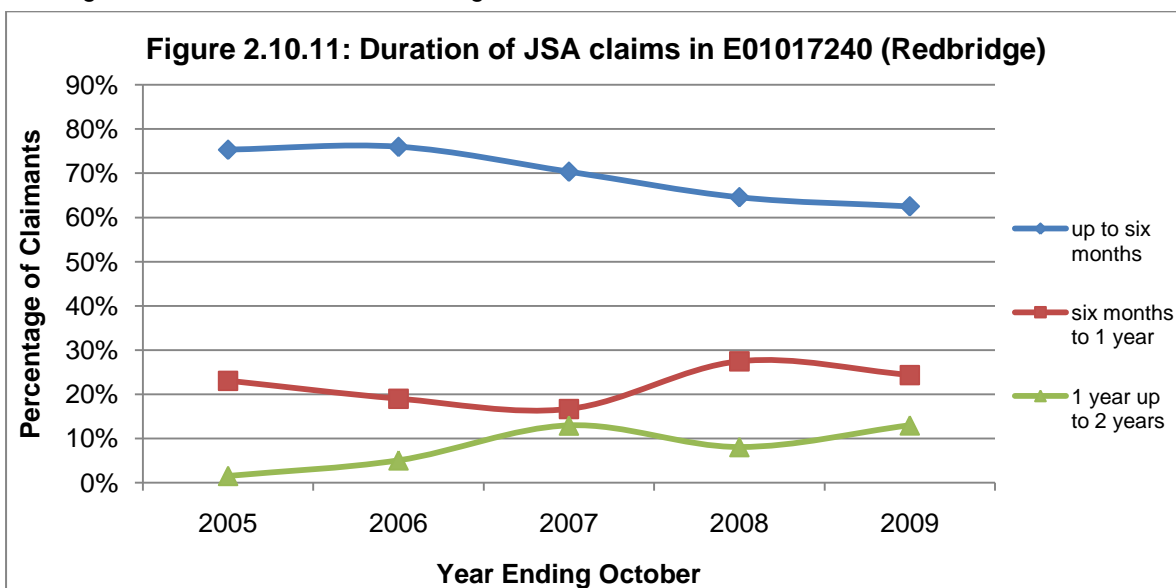
Table 2.10.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017240 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.10.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as incapacity benefit and income support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between the five months of September 2008 and February 2009, where figures rose by approximately 65 per cent in E01017240. Overall, there has been a similar level of impact on LSOA E01017240 over the last year than on Southampton as a whole.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males slightly more than females, with an average of around 70 per cent more male claimants and 65 per cent more female claimants. However the impact on the ratio of male to female is minimal (see Table 2.10.5). The data also suggests that the increase has affected the younger age band more than the older age bands as the number of people aged 16-24 increased by 7 people and now represent nearly one-fifth of the total JSA claimants in 2009 in E01017240, up from one-tenth last year. Claimants aged 25-49 still dominate the proportion of those claiming JSA and saw an increase of around 13 claimants between October 2008 and 2009 and the over 50 age bracket had an increase of around 4 people claiming JSA.

The rising number of JSA claimants in E01017240 since mid 2008 has resulted in 15 more people claiming under 6 months in 2009, nearly double that of 2008. However, the proportion claiming for longer periods has also increased, as demonstrated in Figure 2.10.11 below, where the 1-2 year duration band has increased as the average number of claimants rose from 2 to 7. The duration of JSA claims are noticeably shorter than for other benefits, which is likely to be due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.

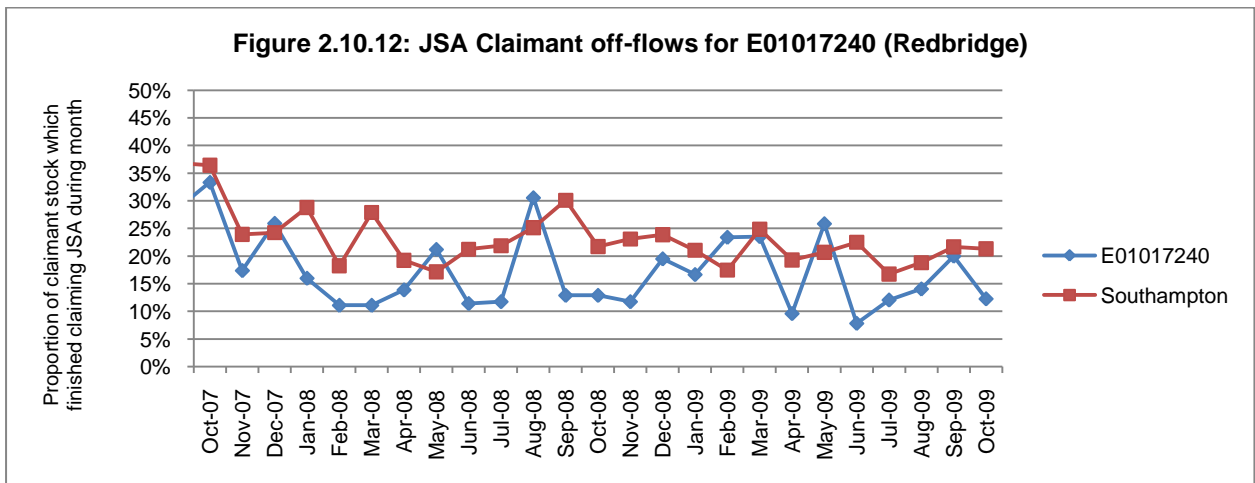


Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

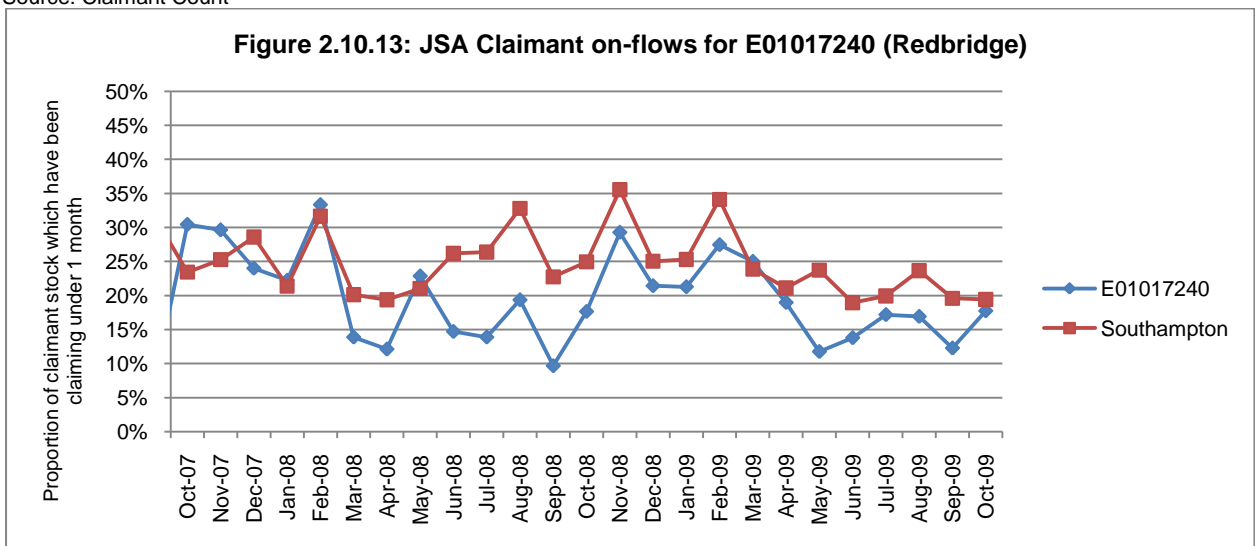
Figures 2.10.11 and 2.10.12 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows), and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017240 (Redbridge) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Whilst claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas, in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is lower for the LSOA than for the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017240 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017240 (Redbridge) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in retail and goods storage, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017240 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the numbers claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		110	111	116	120	116	108	98	98
Type	IB	94%	92%	91%	92%	89%	90%	87%	85%
	SDA	6%	8%	9%	8%	11%	10%	13%	15%
Age	16-24	10%	7%	8%	7%	6%	8%	5%	6%
	25-49	60%	61%	56%	56%	56%	56%	54%	49%
	50-59	24%	25%	28%	31%	31%	30%	33%	36%
	Over 60	6%	8%	9%	5%	6%	6%	8%	9%
Gender	Male	67%	69%	68%	68%	65%	62%	62%	62%
	Female	33%	31%	32%	32%	35%	38%	38%	38%
Duration	Less than 6 months	7%	8%	12%	9%	9%	10%	10%	6%
	6 months up to 1 year	6%	8%	9%	7%	8%	8%	9%	5%
	1 year and up to 2 years	8%	13%	9%	11%	13%	12%	12%	15%
	2 years and up to 5 years	27%	25%	26%	24%	23%	24%	26%	24%
	5 years and over	52%	46%	45%	48%	48%	45%	44%	49%
Award	Mental	48%	49%	48%	47%	44%	48%	41%	42%
	Nervous System	5%	2%	3%	3%	4%	7%	4%	3%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	3%	7%	5%	4%	8%	7%	5%	9%
	Musculoskeletal	22%	19%	22%	21%	19%	19%	24%	23%
	Injury, poisoning	3%	3%	4%	8%	5%	5%	5%	4%
	Other	19%	19%	17%	17%	19%	15%	21%	19%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		120	130	130	130	121	131	151	154
Age	16-24	29%	25%	24%	18%	19%	19%	16%	17%
	25-49	63%	64%	64%	66%	65%	61%	55%	48%
	50-59	8%	11%	12%	15%	16%	14%	10%	12%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	20%	23%
Gender	Male	39%	36%	34%	37%	35%	35%	31%	31%
	Female	61%	64%	66%	63%	65%	65%	69%	69%
Duration	Less than 6 months	11%	11%	11%	11%	11%	13%	12%	6%
	6 months up to 1 year	8%	9%	10%	9%	10%	11%	7%	8%
	1 year and up to 2 years	14%	17%	15%	17%	18%	14%	9%	18%
	2 years and up to 5 years	29%	31%	34%	29%	28%	30%	34%	28%
	5 years and over	38%	33%	31%	35%	33%	30%	37%	40%
Partnered	With partner	13%	11%	7%	9%	9%	12%	12%	12%
	Single	88%	89%	93%	91%	91%	88%	88%	88%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	48%	43%	45%	46%	48%	46%	36%	37%
	Lone Parent	46%	49%	49%	47%	42%	41%	39%	38%
	Carers and Others	6%	8%	6%	7%	9%	13%	26%	24%

Source: DWP

<sup>61</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.



Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	54	78%	22%	19%	62%	19%	63%	24%	13%	0%
2008	32	77%	23%	10%	68%	22%	65%	27%	8%	0%
2007	28	76%	24%	11%	66%	24%	70%	17%	13%	0%
2006	38	81%	19%	24%	57%	19%	76%	19%	5%	0%
2005	32	86%	14%	28%	60%	12%	75%	23%	2%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		106	104	91	95	90	89	75
Age	Under 16	9%	10%	11%	13%	15%	21%	20%
	16-24	11%	7%	10%	7%	6%	4%	7%
	25-49	41%	40%	38%	38%	39%	39%	33%
	50-59	18%	18%	19%	25%	24%	18%	23%
	60-69	15%	18%	16%	12%	11%	11%	10%
	70 and over	6%	7%	5%	5%	6%	6%	7%
Gender	Male	55%	57%	56%	58%	54%	52%	57%
	Female	45%	43%	44%	42%	46%	48%	43%
Duration	Less than 12 months	8%	10%	3%	7%	7%	11%	8%
	1 year and up to 2 years	9%	5%	7%	8%	10%	7%	10%
	2 years and up to 5 years	18%	22%	26%	30%	28%	30%	20%
	5 years and over	65%	64%	64%	55%	56%	52%	62%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	41%	42%	41%	41%	47%	42%	33%
	Higher Rate	42%	40%	38%	39%	35%	39%	47%
	Nil Rate	16%	18%	21%	20%	18%	18%	20%
Care Award	Lower Rate	36%	34%	33%	36%	28%	25%	23%
	Middle Rate	34%	36%	34%	38%	46%	44%	43%
	Higher Rate	20%	18%	22%	18%	19%	23%	20%
	Nil Rate	9%	12%	11%	8%	7%	8%	13%

Source: DWP

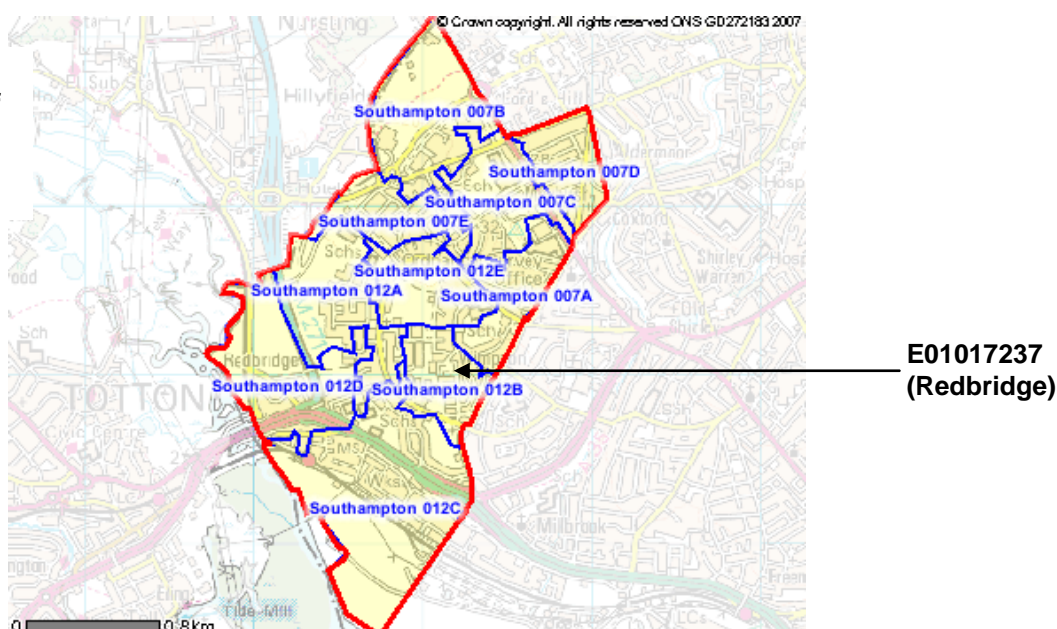
## 2.11 LSOA E01017237 (Redbridge ward)

### Summary of Findings for E01017237

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017237 (Redbridge) has identified the following key points:

- LSOA E01017237 continues to have the tenth highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The numbers of Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants have begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant is as likely to be male as female, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted for over a relatively long period.
- The number of short-term Income Support claimants has moderately decreased over the last year. The typical claimant remains female, aged 25-49, claiming for Income Support as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017237 between October 2008 and December 2008. The impact fell most heavily on those aged 25-49 and over 50 and the increase in male claimants exceeded the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.

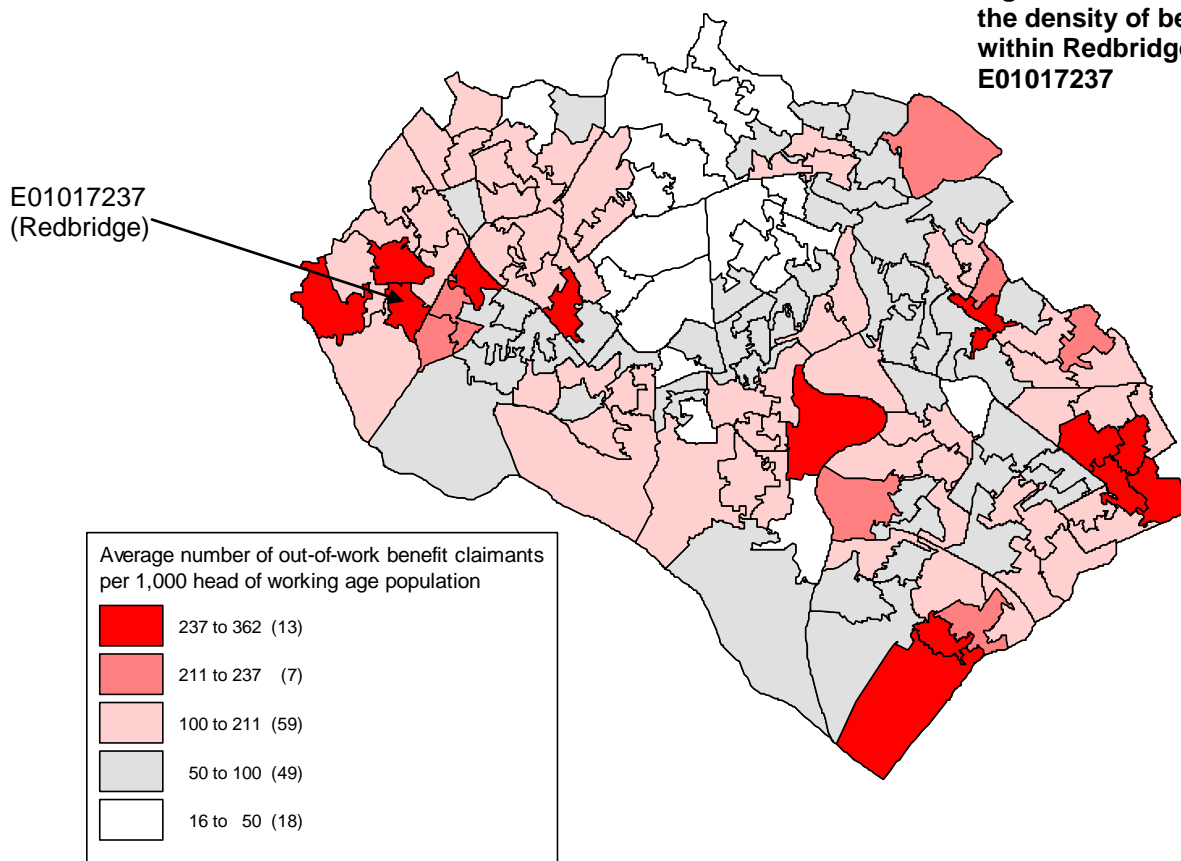
**Figure 2.11.1 – Map showing the location of Redbridge LSOA E01017237**



**Profile**

LSOA E01017237 is located within the Redbridge ward which is on the western side of the city (see Figure 2.11.1 for the LSOA's location within Redbridge). The LSOA contains a large amount of social housing but little in the way of local employment opportunities. The LSOA is within one of eleven key priority neighbourhoods in Southampton as identified by Southampton Partnership and was until 2007 a regeneration programme area.

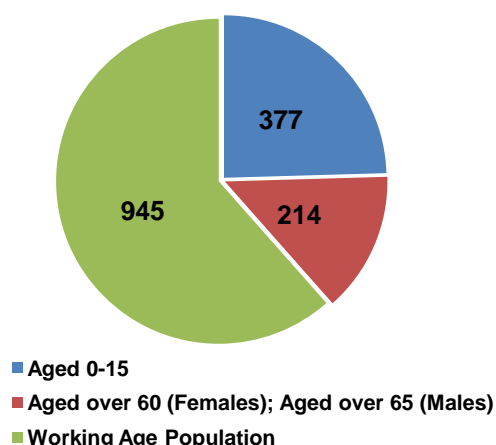
**Figure 2.11.2 – Map showing the density of benefit claimants within Redbridge LSOA E01017237**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.11.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. There was an estimated 257 out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of working age population in the LSOA E01017237 on average over the year between May 2008 and May 2009, an increase from 236 in last year's report. This figure represents the tenth highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.11.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017237 (Redbridge)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017237 in 2008 was over 1,500. Of these, approximately one quarter (nearly 380 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst over 210 people were over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of 945 people. Approximately 26 per cent of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>62</sup>.

<sup>62</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.

Within both the economically active and inactive populations, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity Benefits / Employment Support Allowance (ESA) or full-time students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017237**

Table 2.11.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017237 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>63</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 15 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This increase may be expected as a result of the recession and is also reflected over the region as a whole, where on average, Southampton, the South East region and England have all seen increases in the number of total claimants over the same period. There has not been an increase of this magnitude since at least 2001.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	278	46	119	73	19	5	16	0	0
2008	263	31	118	75	19	6	13	1	0
2007	254	31	115	70	20	5	13	0	0
2006	254	33	118	70	18	8	9	0	0
2005	246	21	123	64	21	8	8	3	0
2004	250	29	118	66	19	8	10	1	0
2003	256	31	123	64	20	6	10	3	0
2002	250	33	120	68	15	9	N/A	1	3

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	115	55	60	0	55	50	10	5	10	35	65
Job Seekers	55	45	10	15	30	10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	135	35	100	15	90	30	0	20	15	35	65
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	135	55	80	10	45	30	25	10	5	25	95
Bereaved	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

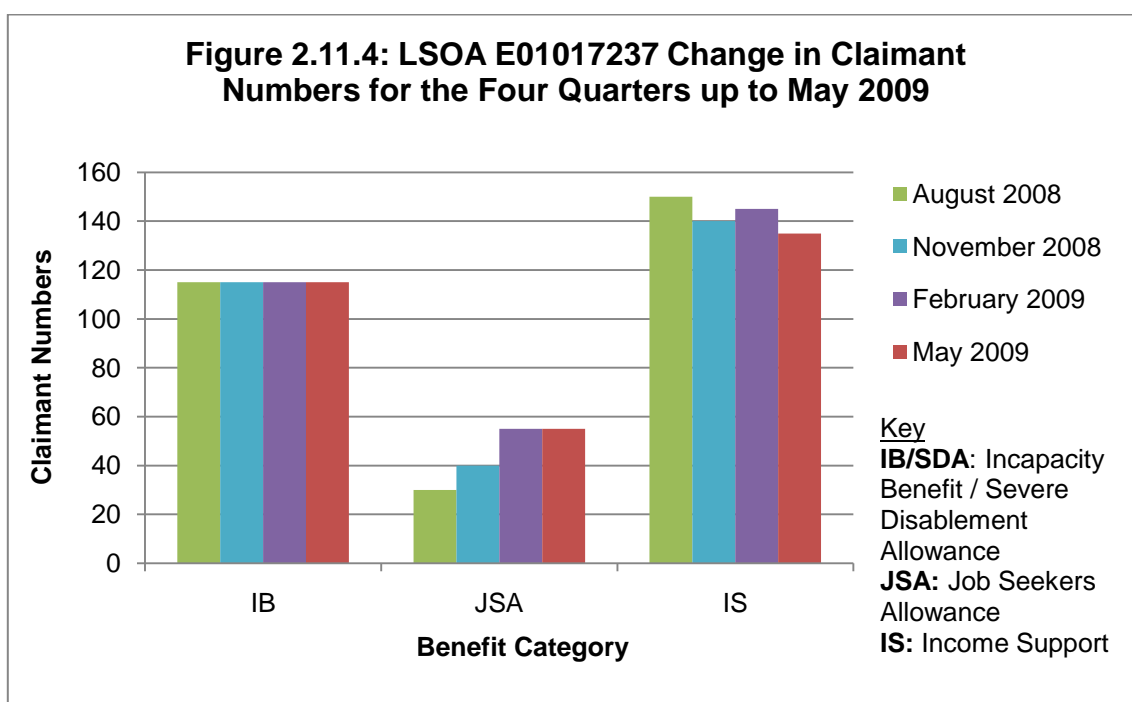
<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 15 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 10 DLA claimants aged over 70

<sup>63</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.

Table 2.11.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017237 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.11.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.11.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>64</sup>). As a result, individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.11.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017237 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>65</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017237 has altered, with a noticeable increase in the number of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA), whilst the number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) has remained static and Income Support claimants declined over the same period (see Figure 2.11.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

### **Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

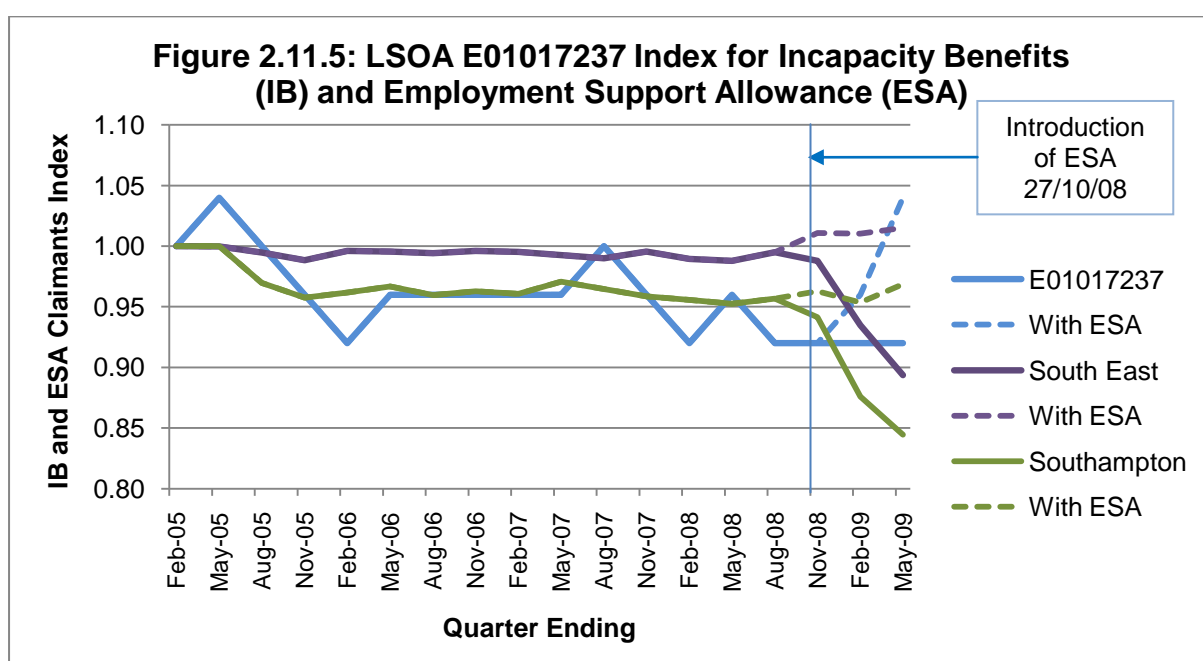
The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased or remained the same since November 2008, as is shown in the quarterly data for E01017237. The downturn in the economy is unlikely to have had any particular effect on the number of people claiming IB as this is awarded on the basis of the claimant suffering from particular health conditions as listed under the "Award" section in Table 2.11.3 in the Data Appendix.

<sup>64</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>65</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.11.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.

Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy of any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.11.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005; the solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed line also includes ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The February and May 2009 data for LSOA E01017237 shows approximately 15 people to have been claiming ESA and numbers claiming IB and ESA have been increasing since August 2008.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.11.3. Between May 2008 and May 2009, the proportion of long to short term claimants has changed slightly. The majority of claimants have been claiming IB for 5 years or more (nearly 60 per cent in May 2009), as was the case in 2008, but the gap between long and short-term claimants has increased since ESA came into force. Since November 2008, the number of people claiming for up to six months has decreased, as would be expected, since new claimants are being moved on to ESA, or in certain cases being directed towards alternative benefits such as JSA. The shift in the composition of claimants towards longer-term claimants is likely to become more pronounced as ESA becomes more embedded. The number of those claiming between 6 months and a year has decreased by around 33 per cent whilst the number of people claiming between 1 and 2 years has decreased by around 29 per cent.

The ratio of male to female claimants remained at the same level of around 50:50. However, there appears to have been a slight shift in the age of claimants. The number of claimants in the 25-49 age band decreased by around 12 per cent whilst the number of claimants aged 50-59 has increased by 16 per cent.

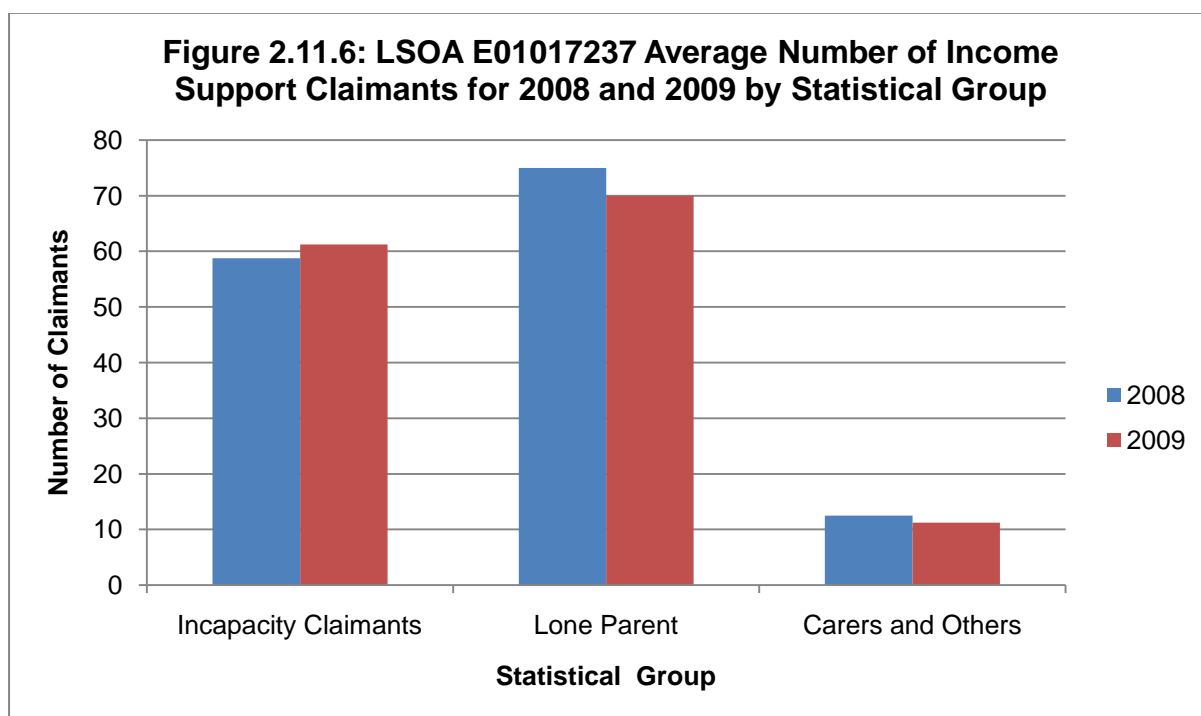


There have been minimal changes in the reasons for the award of IB for E01017280 residents since 2008. After a steep increase between 2005 and 2007 in the number of people claiming IB based on mental and behavioural disorders, numbers have, on average, remained fairly constant. The “Musculoskeletal” award category saw an increase in numbers of around 13 per cent. Otherwise, there was little alteration in the reason for awarding IB.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is as likely to be male as female, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted for over five years.

### **Income Support claimants**

There was over a moderate decrease of around 3 per cent in Income Support claimants between 2008 and 2009 as numbers dropped from 146 to 143 (see Table 2.11.4 in the Data Appendix). Income Support benefit claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.11.6, there were 5 fewer lone parent claimants and 4 fewer incapacity claimants contributing towards the small change in total IS claimants in E01017237.

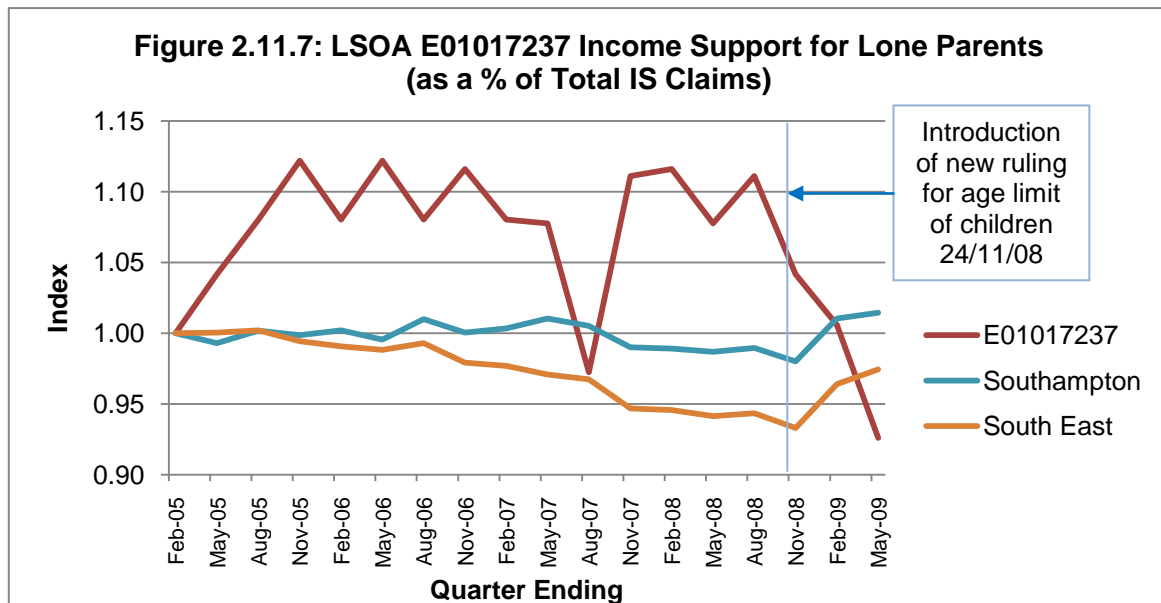


Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.11.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton and the South East has increased since November 2008. However, this is in relation to the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS. The actual number of people claiming IS as a lone parent has decreased for the May 2009 quarter for Southampton, the South East and E01017237.

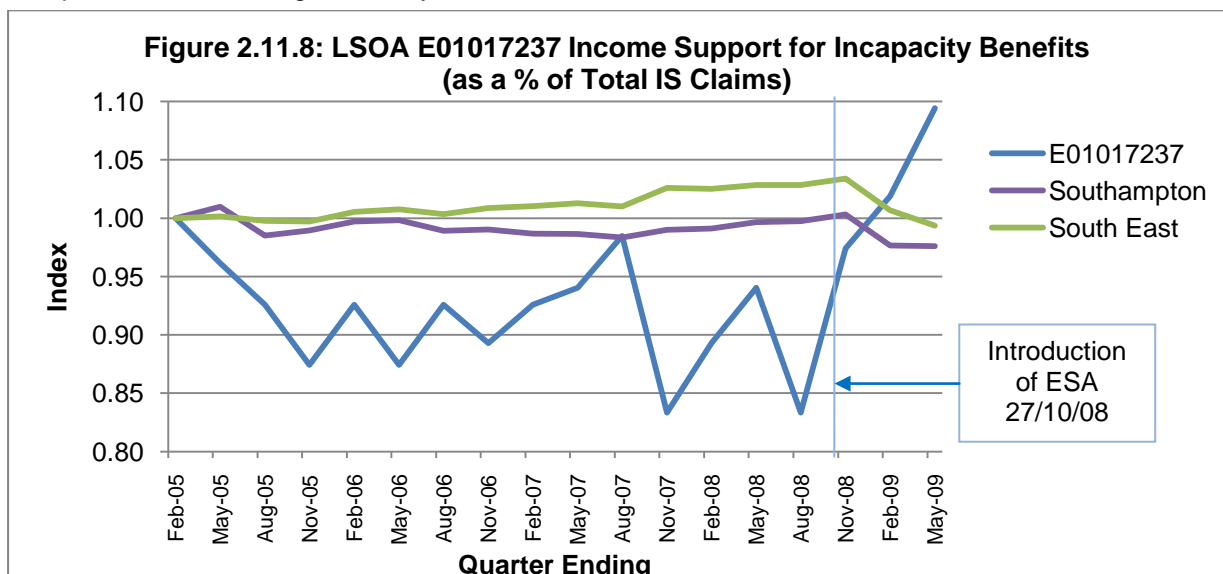




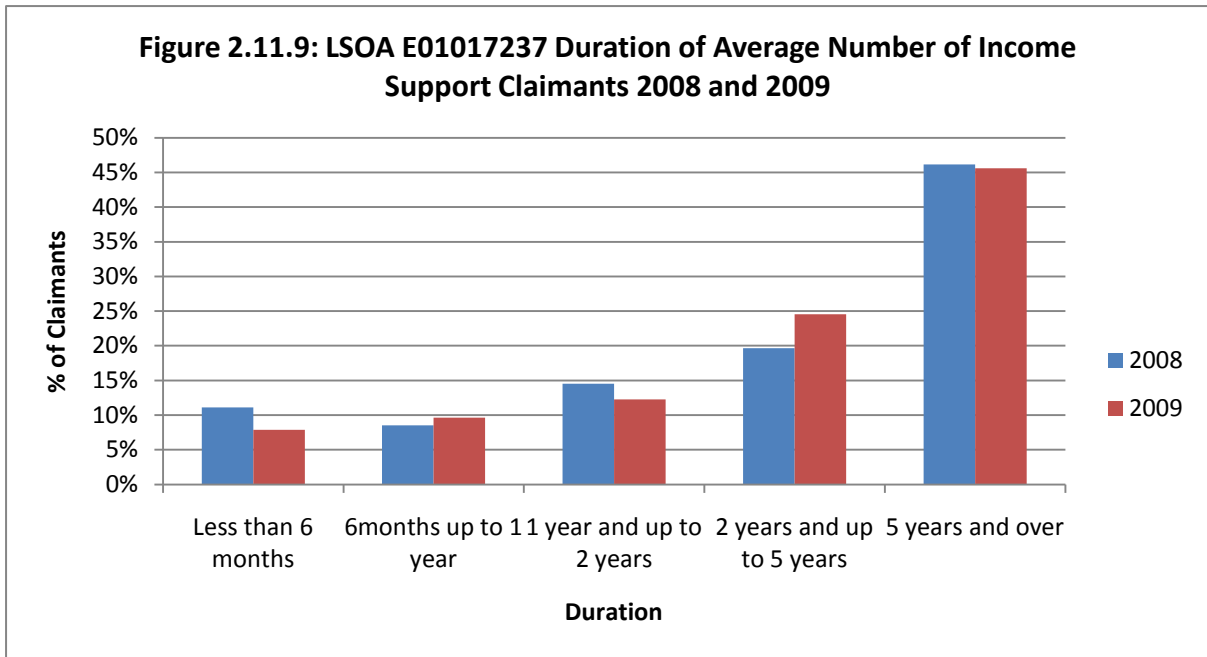
Source: DWP

All new Incapacity Benefit claimants for IS are to be transferred over to ESA and thus numbers fell from November 2008 for Southampton and the South East (see Figure 2.11.8). However, numbers increased for LSOA E01017237 by 5 over this timeframe which is against expectations and perhaps due to a rounding error. The duration of IS claims in E01017237 has only slightly altered as depicted in Figure 2.11.9, as the number of people claiming for 2-5 years has increased by 22 per cent. Additionally, the demographic of the claimants by age has also altered with claimant numbers decreasing by nearly 9 per cent in the 25-49 age band but increasing by 10 per cent for the 50-59 age band.

Otherwise, the characteristics of IS claimants have remained largely unchanged over the last year, despite an overall decrease in the number of claimants. The ratio of male to female claimants remained at approximately 25:75, those with a partner remained at around 15 per cent compared to 85 per cent of those without. The majority of change in the statistical groups for those claiming as either a lone parent, carer or under Incapacity Benefits was due to the decrease in lone parent claimants. The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming IS as a lone parent, often for longer than 5 years.



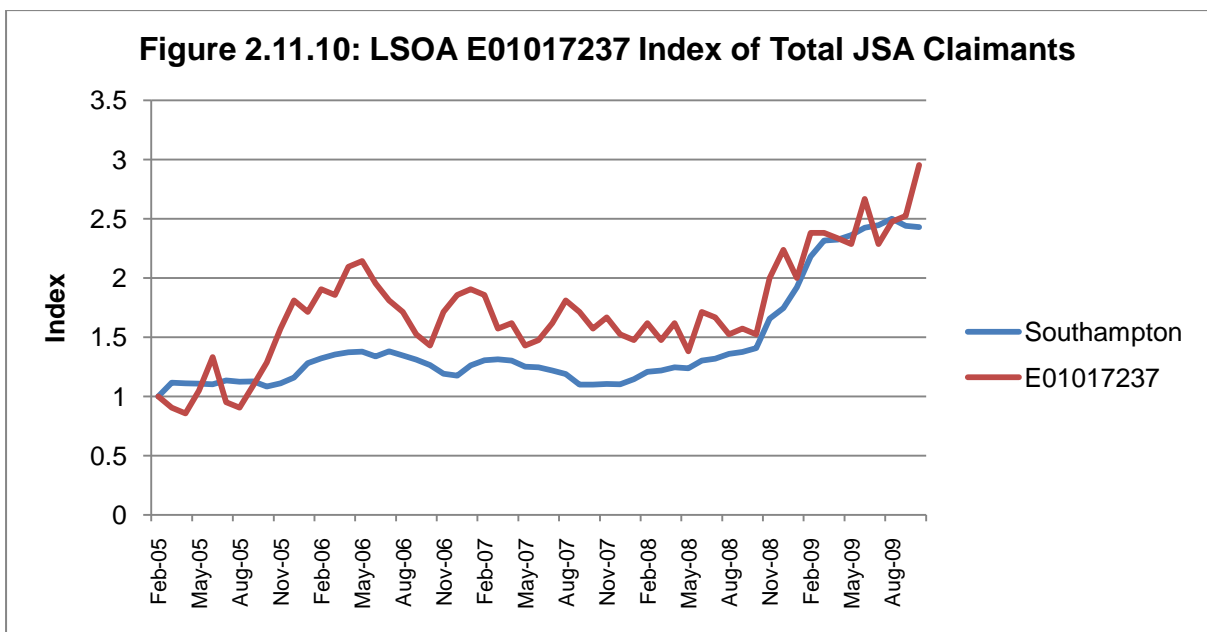
Source: DWP



Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

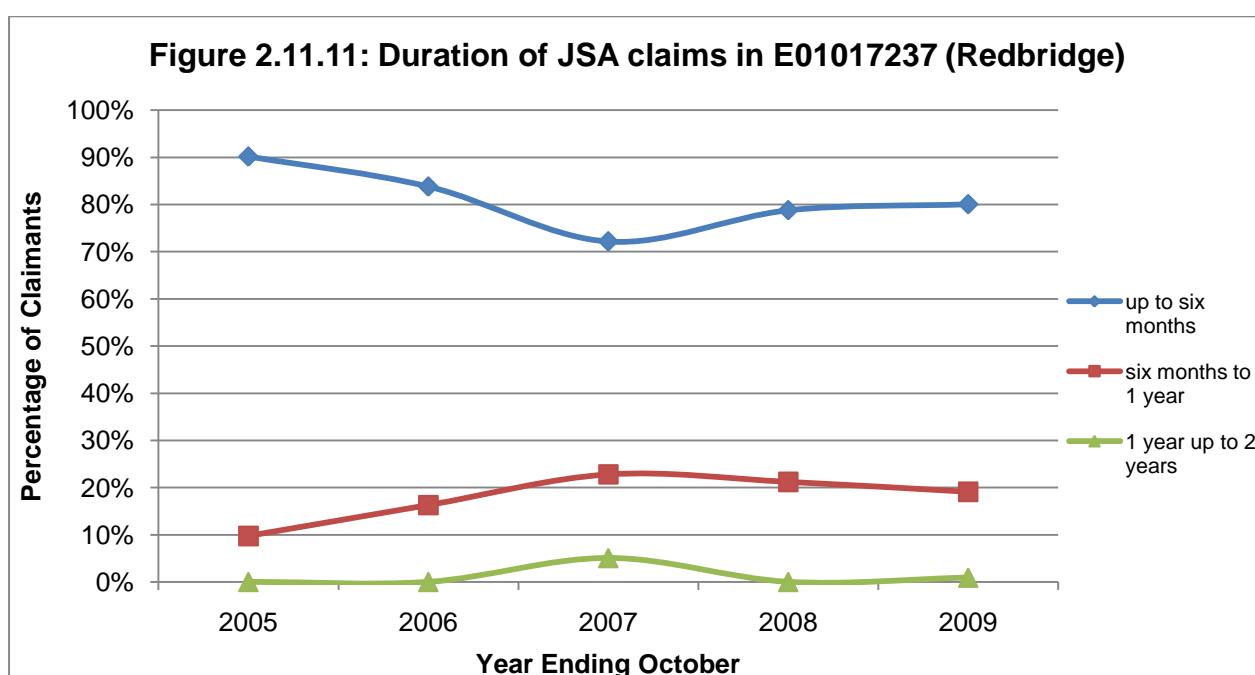
Table 2.11.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017237 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.11.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between October 2008 and December 2008, where figures rose by nearly 50 per cent in E01017237. Overall, there has been a similar level of impact on LSOA E01017237 over the last year than on Southampton as a whole.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with approximately 75 per cent more male claimants whilst the number of female claimants remained constant, altering the ratio of male claimants to female from around 71:29 last year to around 81:19 this year (see Table 2.11.5). The data also suggests that the increase has affected both the 25-49 age bracket, which more than doubled, and those aged 50 and over most, which increased disproportionately from an average of 1 claimant in 2008 to 6 in 2009.

The rising number of E01017237 JSA claimants since mid 2008 has resulted in an average of 22 more individuals claiming for six months or less and those claiming for between 1 and 2 years, which for JSA is quite long-term, has disproportionately increased from an average of 1 claimant in 2008 to 9 in 2009, as demonstrated in Figure 2.12.11 below. The duration of claims for JSA are noticeably shorter than for other benefits, which is likely to be due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.



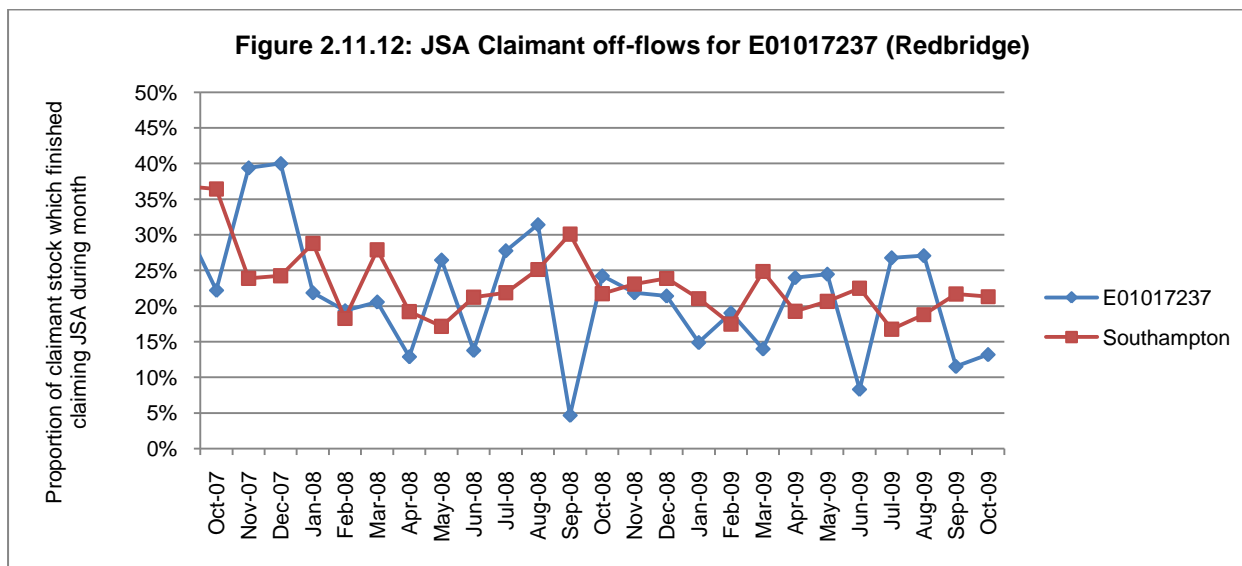
Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

Figures 2.11.12 and 2.11.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows) and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

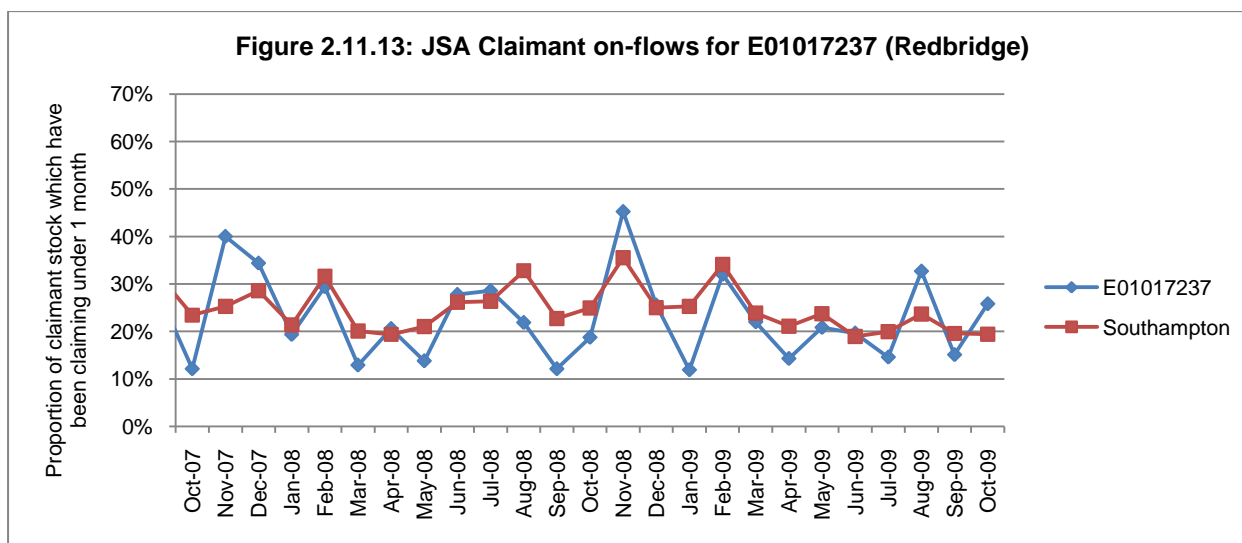
This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017237 (Redbridge) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas and in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is similar for both the LSOA and the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017237 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017237 shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in goods storage and retail, and are seeking jobs in precisely

the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017237 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the number claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		115	120	120	120	124	123	125	121
Type	IB	87%	89%	88%	88%	88%	87%	86%	84%
	SDA	13%	11%	13%	13%	12%	13%	14%	16%
Age	16-24	2%	4%	5%	7%	6%	7%	7%	6%
	25-49	49%	53%	49%	47%	45%	42%	42%	41%
	50-59	39%	32%	33%	30%	30%	33%	35%	37%
	Over 60	10%	10%	13%	16%	18%	18%	16%	15%
Gender	Male	50%	49%	52%	55%	54%	55%	56%	58%
	Female	50%	51%	48%	45%	46%	45%	44%	42%
Duration	Less than 6 months	5%	10%	9%	6%	7%	6%	9%	3%
	6 months up to 1 year	4%	6%	5%	5%	5%	5%	6%	3%
	1 year and up to 2 years	10%	7%	8%	9%	7%	11%	5%	12%
	2 years and up to 5 years	24%	22%	21%	18%	21%	19%	26%	26%
	5 years and over	57%	54%	56%	61%	60%	58%	54%	56%
Award	Mental	46%	46%	46%	42%	35%	38%	36%	37%
	Nervous System	7%	8%	8%	5%	5%	7%	7%	8%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	5%	4%	4%	10%	12%	12%	12%	11%
	Musculoskeletal	20%	17%	16%	15%	14%	13%	18%	15%
	Injury, poisoning	5%	7%	6%	8%	11%	11%	10%	11%
	Other	17%	18%	20%	20%	22%	18%	17%	16%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		143	146	139	133	128	136	166	171
Age	16-24	16%	14%	14%	14%	11%	10%	10%	12%
	25-49	65%	69%	67%	69%	70%	61%	47%	47%
	50-59	19%	17%	19%	17%	20%	19%	17%	15%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%	26%	26%
Gender	Male	26%	26%	23%	22%	25%	27%	30%	33%
	Female	74%	74%	77%	78%	75%	73%	70%	67%
Duration	Less than 6 months	8%	11%	11%	8%	9%	9%	8%	8%
	6months up to 1 year	10%	9%	8%	7%	4%	6%	6%	6%
	1 year and up to 2 years	12%	15%	9%	8%	9%	9%	8%	15%
	2 years and up to 5 years	25%	20%	22%	25%	25%	24%	28%	26%
	5 years and over	46%	46%	50%	53%	53%	51%	50%	46%
Partnered	With partner	15%	13%	13%	12%	12%	14%	20%	19%
	Single	85%	87%	87%	88%	88%	86%	80%	81%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	43%	40%	41%	40%	42%	39%	36%	34%
	Lone Parent	49%	51%	52%	53%	50%	48%	39%	40%
	Carers and Others	8%	9%	7%	8%	8%	13%	25%	26%

Source: DWP

<sup>66</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	50	81%	19%	31%	56%	13%	80%	19%	1%	0%
2008	33	71%	29%	48%	48%	4%	79%	21%	0%	0%
2007	35	76%	24%	48%	47%	6%	72%	23%	5%	0%
2006	38	83%	17%	43%	52%	5%	84%	16%	0%	0%
2005	22	82%	18%	20%	80%	0%	90%	10%	0%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		133	124	119	115	118	116	114
Age	Under 16	12%	16%	16%	14%	17%	16%	15%
	16-24	8%	6%	4%	2%	4%	4%	7%
	25-49	35%	35%	37%	36%	33%	31%	24%
	50-59	21%	20%	19%	22%	20%	24%	30%
	60-69	17%	14%	17%	20%	20%	19%	15%
	70 and over	8%	8%	7%	7%	5%	5%	9%
Gender	Male	41%	39%	40%	43%	45%	41%	44%
	Female	59%	61%	60%	57%	55%	59%	56%
Duration	Less than 12 months	8%	6%	6%	9%	5%	8%	10%
	1 year and up to 2 years	4%	5%	9%	7%	6%	8%	12%
	2 years and up to 5 years	18%	15%	13%	21%	32%	28%	27%
	5 years and over	71%	74%	72%	64%	56%	57%	51%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	32%	30%	32%	28%	32%	29%	30%
	Higher Rate	59%	58%	56%	58%	55%	53%	53%
	Nil Rate	8%	12%	13%	14%	13%	18%	18%
Care Award	Lower Rate	29%	30%	29%	32%	33%	31%	33%
	Middle Rate	26%	28%	28%	27%	30%	31%	33%
	Higher Rate	30%	29%	29%	30%	27%	26%	21%
	Nil Rate	14%	12%	13%	11%	11%	12%	13%

Source: DWP

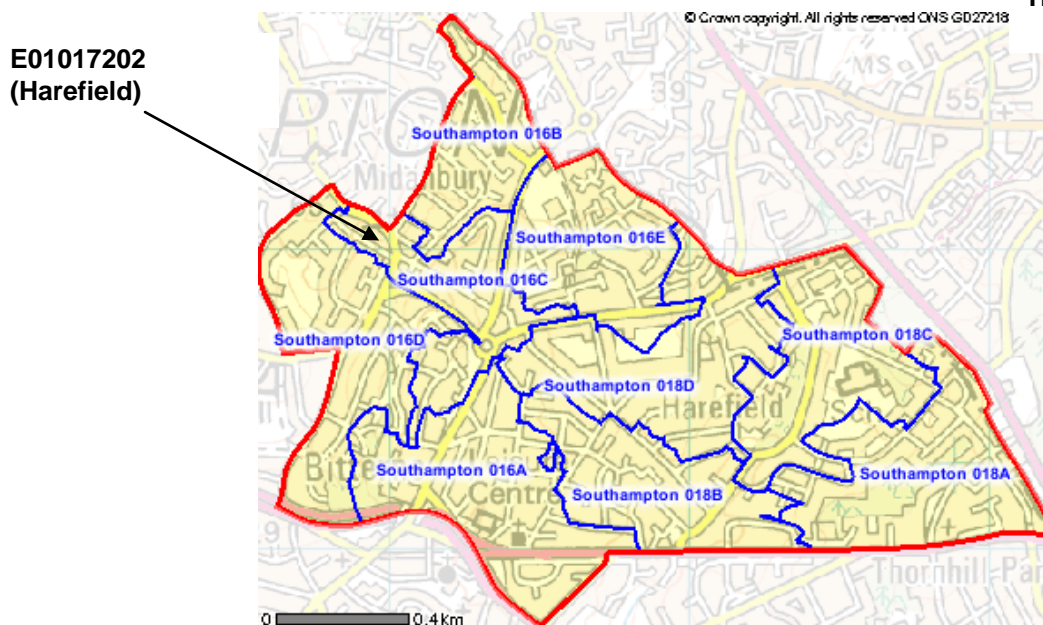
## 2.12 LSOA E01017202 (Harefield ward)

### Summary of Findings for E01017202

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017202 (Harefield) has identified the following key points:

- LSOA E01017202 has the seventh highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the dramatic increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The numbers of Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants have begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The typical Income Support claimant remains female, aged 25-49, claiming for Income Support under the Incapacity Benefit grouping, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017202 between January 2009 and March 2009. The impact fell most heavily upon those aged 25-49 and the increase in male claimants exceeded the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.

**Figure 2.12.1 – Map showing the location of Harefield LSOA E01017202**

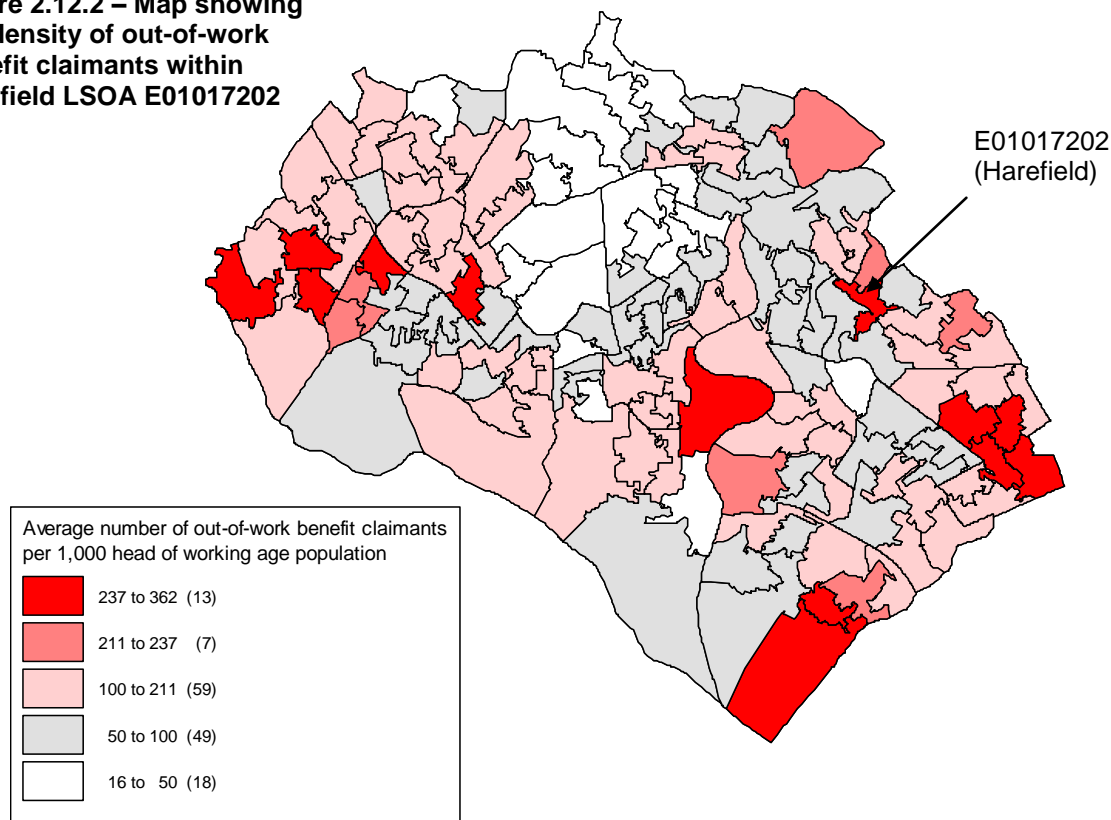




**Profile**

LSOA E01017202 is located within the Harefield ward which is on the north east side of the city (see Figure 2.12.1 for the LSOA's location within Harefield). The LSOA contains an area of suburban social housing; a mix of small terraces and semi detached post war housing with a few low rise blocks of flats.

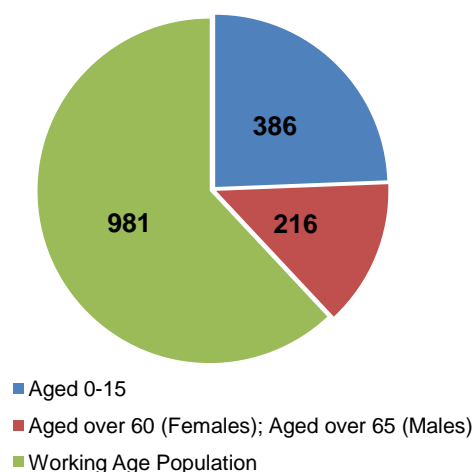
**Figure 2.12.2 – Map showing the density of out-of-work benefit claimants within Harefield LSOA E01017202**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.12.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. There was an estimated 270 out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head in LSOA E01017202 on average over the year between May 2008 and May 2009, a large increase from 232 in last year's report. This figure represents the seventh highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.12.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017202 (Harefield)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017202 in 2008 was over 1,580. Of these, approximately one quarter (nearly 390 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst around 215 people were over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of just over 980 people. Approximately 27 per cent of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>57</sup>.

<sup>57</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.

Within both the economically active and inactive populations, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity Benefits / Employment Support Allowance (ESA) or full-time students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017202**

Table 2.12.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017202 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>68</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 35 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This increase may be expected as a result of the recession and is also reflected over the region as a whole, where on average, Southampton, the South East region and England have all seen increases in the number of total claimants over the same period. There has not been an increase of this magnitude since at least 2001.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	285	66	105	86	8	8	10	3	0
2008	250	38	103	80	10	8	8	5	0
2007	248	39	100	84	10	5	8	3	0
2006	248	35	105	76	9	9	11	3	0
2005	250	28	109	88	10	4	9	4	0
2004	245	28	96	93	10	6	10	3	0
2003	243	25	94	98	9	6	9	3	0
2002	243	28	93	103	9	8	N/A	0	3

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	90	55	35	0	55	25	10	10	10	15	55
Job Seekers	75	45	30	25	45	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	150	30	120	40	95	15	0	35	20	40	55
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	90	40	50	0	50	15	5	10	10	15	55
Bereaved	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

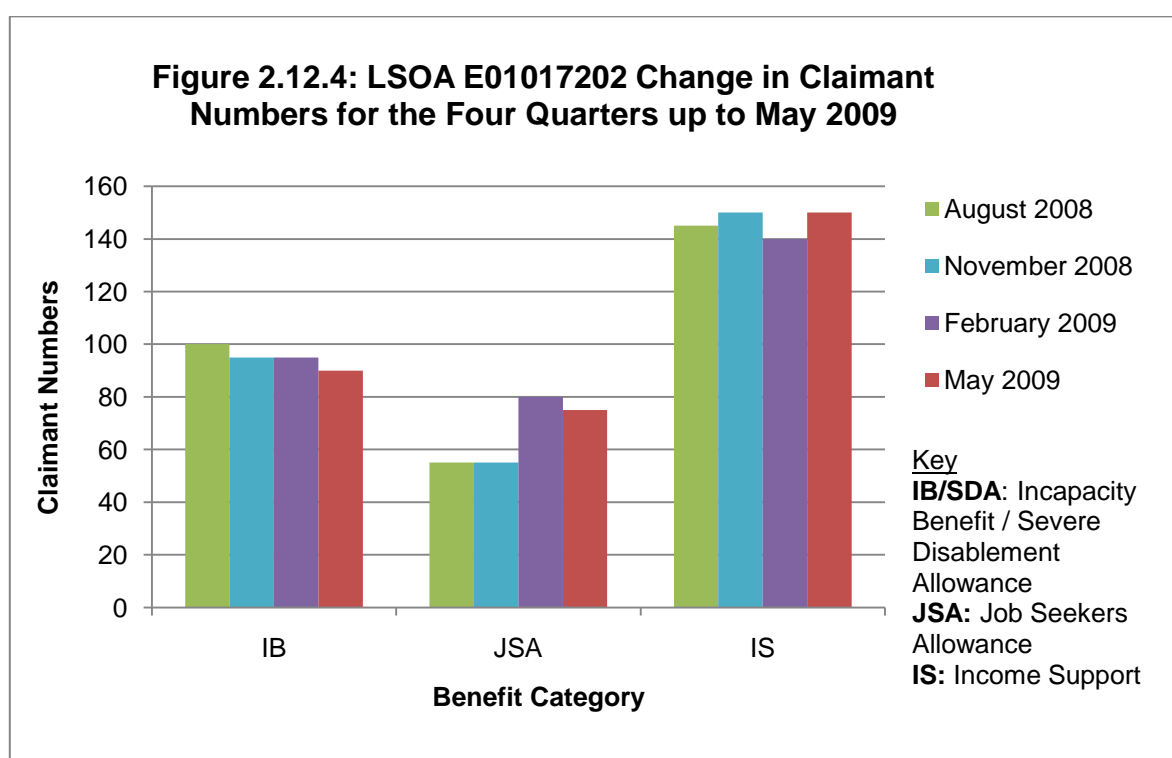
<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 15 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 5 DLA claimants aged over 70

<sup>68</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.

Table 2.12.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E01017202 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.12.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.12.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>69</sup>). As a result, individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.12.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017202 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>70</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017202 has altered, with a noticeable increase in the number of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA), whilst the number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) has declined slightly and the number of Income Support claimants has remained fairly static (see Figure 2.12.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

### **Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

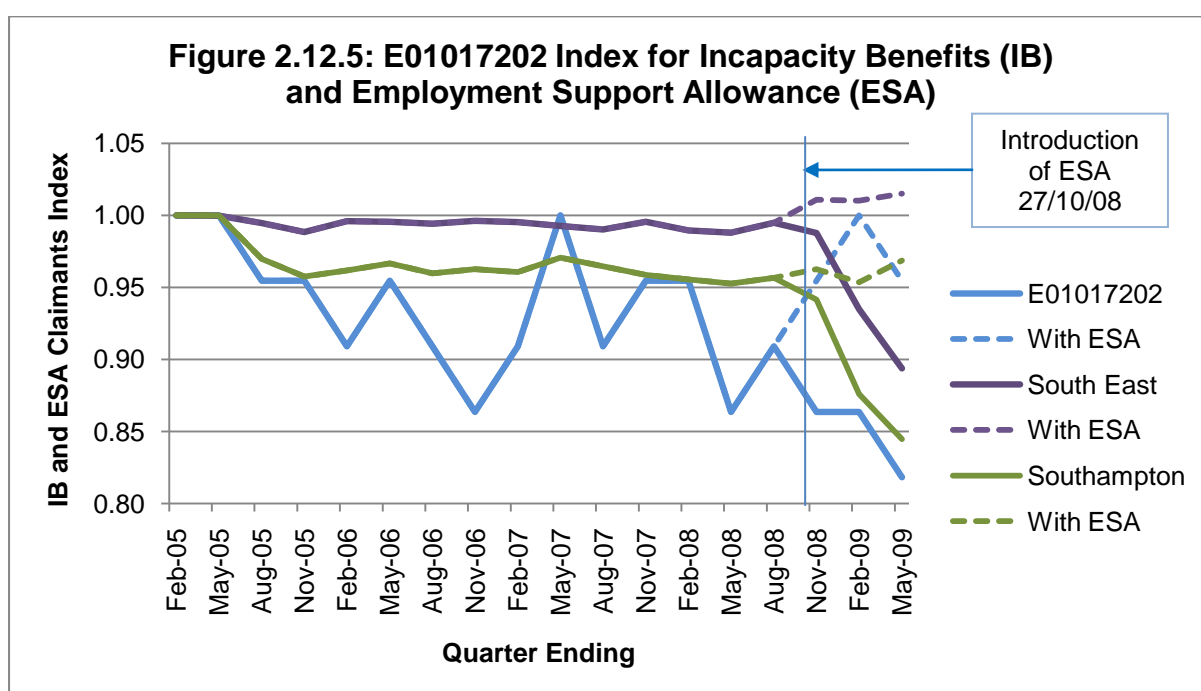
The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased or remained the same since November 2008, as is shown in the quarterly data for E01017202.

<sup>69</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>70</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.12.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.

Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy of any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.12.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005; the solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed line also includes ESA claimants. Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The February and May 2009 data for LSOA E01017202 shows approximately 15 people to have been claiming ESA and numbers claiming IB and ESA have been slightly declining since August 2008.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.12.3. Between May 2008 and May 2009, the proportion of long to short term claimants in E01017202 has changed slightly. The majority of claimants have been claiming IB for 5 years or more (over 50 per cent in May 2009), as was the case in 2008. Since November 2008, the number of people claiming for up to six months has decreased, as would be expected, since new claimants are being moved on to ESA, or in certain cases being directed towards alternative benefits such as JSA. The shift in the composition of claimants towards longer-term claimants is likely to become more pronounced as ESA becomes more embedded. The number of those claiming for over 5 years has increased by around 11 per cent whilst the number of people claiming in the shorter duration bands has decreased.

The ratio of male to female claimants remained at around the same level at 60:40. However, there appears to have been a slight shift in the age of claimants. The overall decrease in the number of people claiming IB between 2008 and 2009 appears to have had a higher impact on affected people claiming from the younger age bands of 16-24 and 25-49 which fell by approximately 14 per

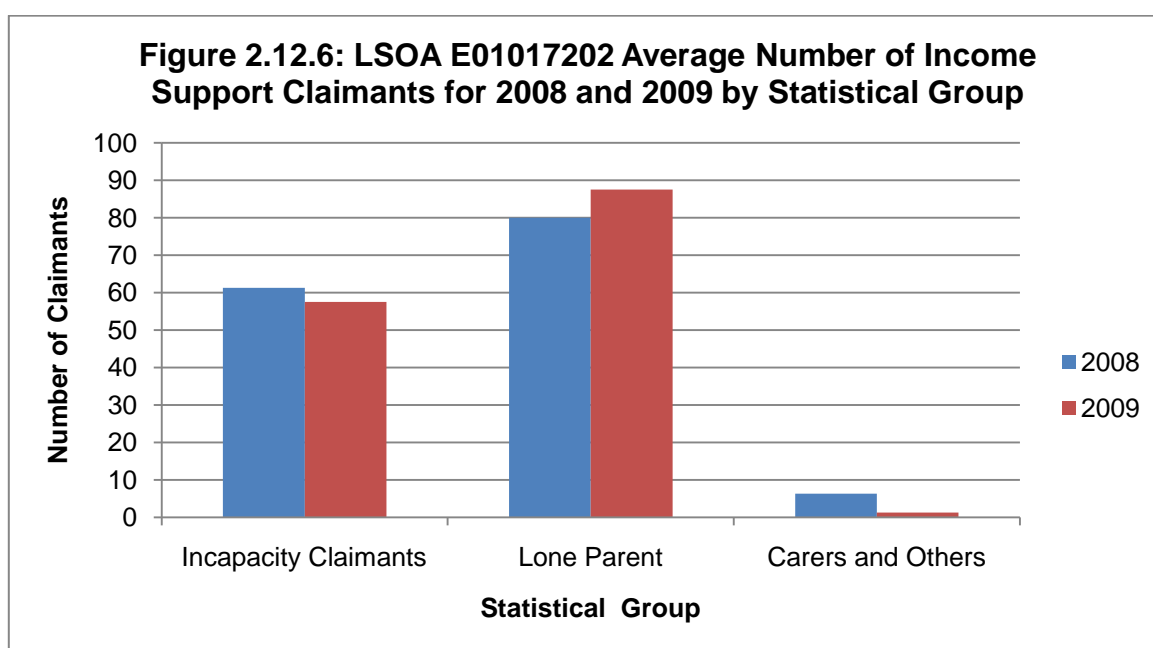
cent and 9 per cent, respectively whilst the number claiming from the over 60 age band increased by around 40 per cent.

After a steep increase between 2002 and 2005 in the number of people claiming IB based on mental and behavioral disorders, numbers have, on average, been dropping. For the year to May 2009, there were around 15 per cent fewer claimants from this category. Otherwise, there was little alteration in the reason for awarding IB.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted for over five years.

### **Income Support claimants**

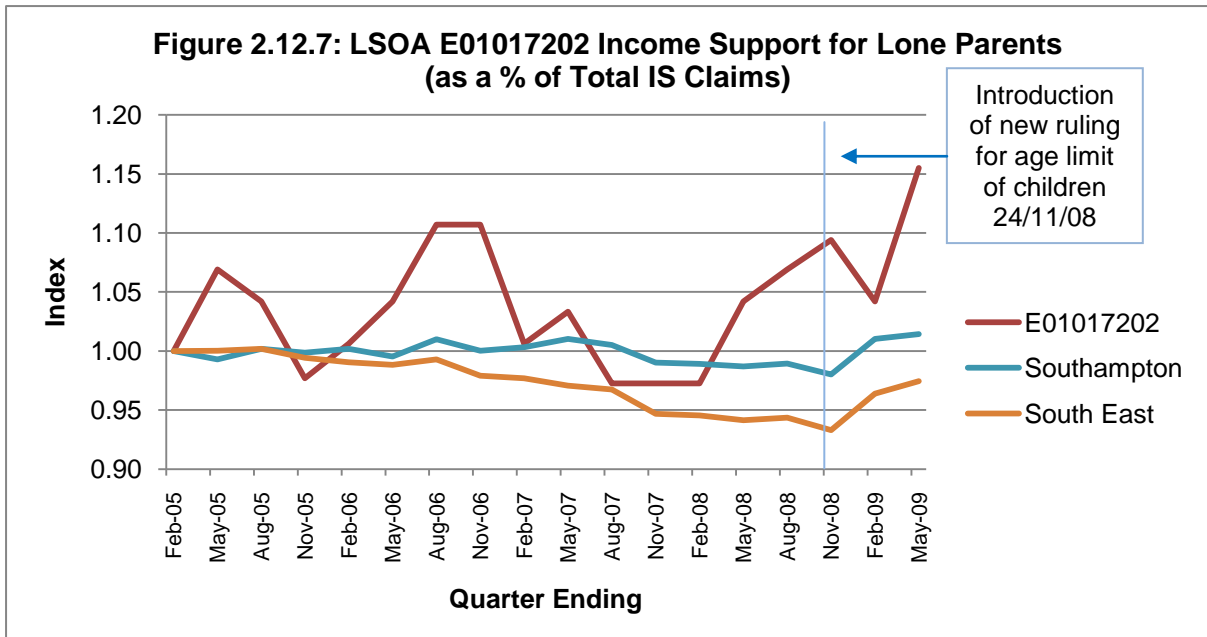
There was a moderate decrease of around 1 per cent in Income Support claimants between 2008 and 2009 as numbers dropped from 148 to 146 (see Table 2.12.4 in the Data Appendix). Income Support benefit claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have a disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.12.6, there were 8 more lone parent claimants and a steady stream of incapacity claimants contributing towards the small change in total IS claimants in E01017202.



Source: DWP

As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.13.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton, the South East and E01017250 has increased since November 2008. However, this is in relation to the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS. The actual number of people claiming IS as a lone parent has decreased for the May 2009 quarter for Southampton and the South East but increased for LSOA E01017202.

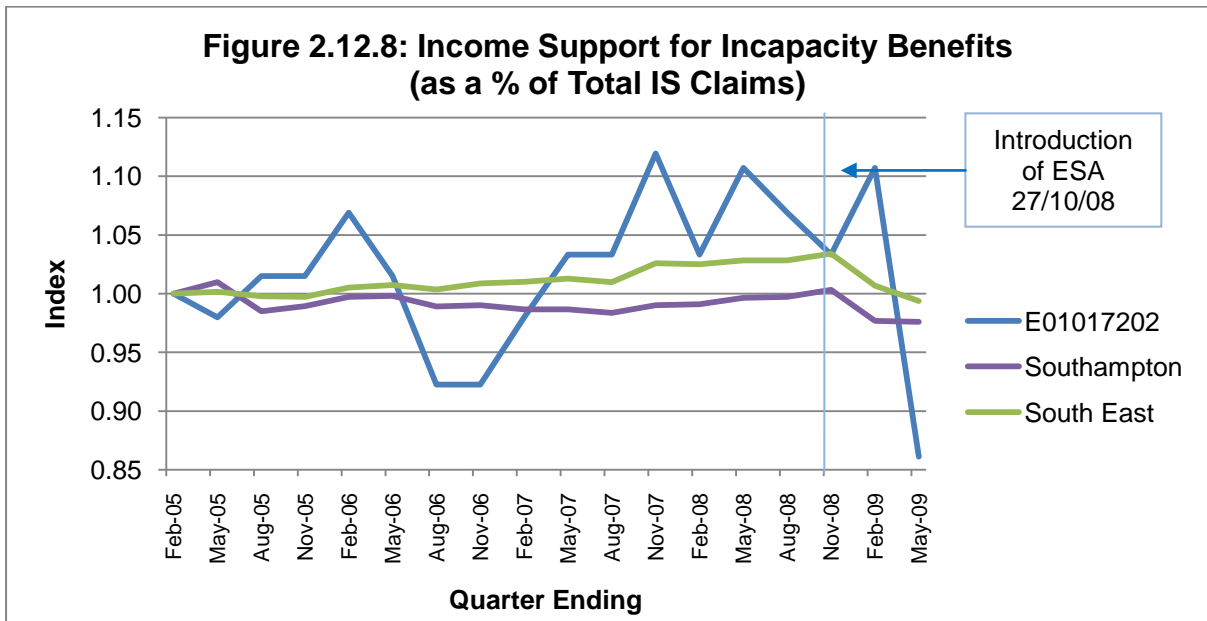


Source: DWP

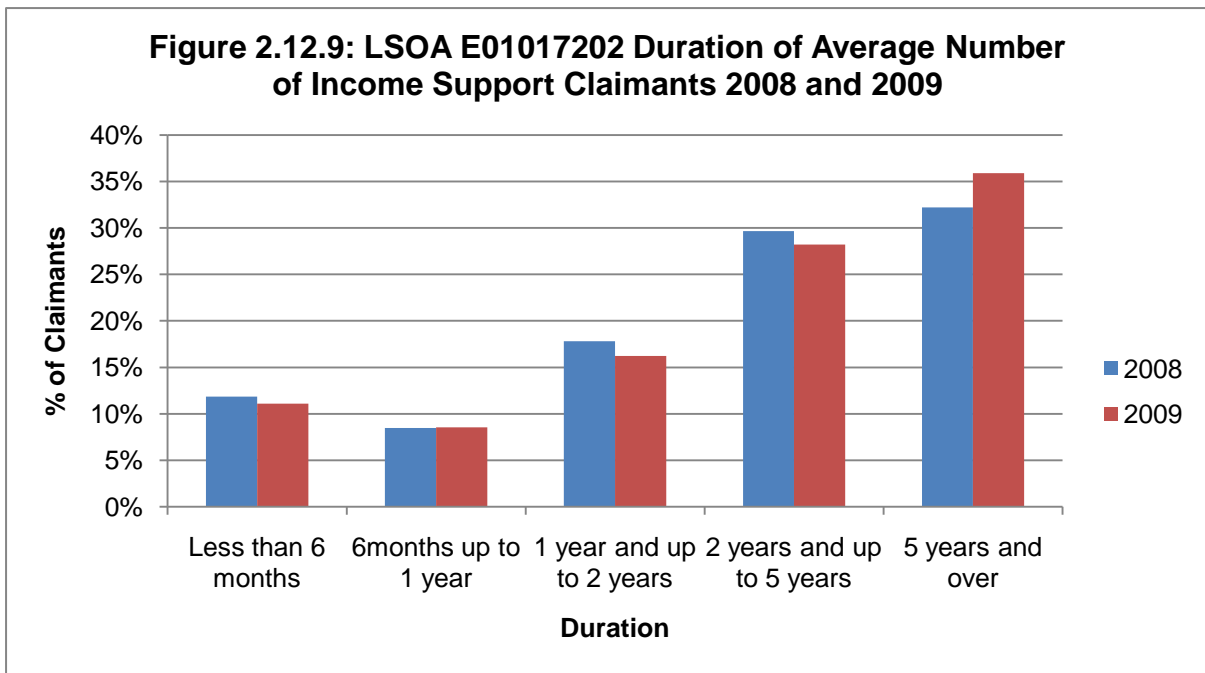
The introduction of ESA is also affecting those with incapacities claiming Income Support. All new incapacity claimants for IS are to be transferred over to ESA and thus numbers have fallen from November 2008 for Southampton, the South East and LSOA E01017202 (see Figure 2.12.8).

The duration of IS claims in E01017202 between 2008 and 2009 has slightly altered as depicted in Figure 2.12.9, as the number of people claiming between 1 and 5 years slightly decreased and those claiming for over 5 years increased by around 11 per cent. Additionally, the demographic of the claimants by age has only slightly altered with at most a 14 per cent reduction in those from the 50-59 age bracket. The number of male claimants has decreased by 11 per cent on average in E01017202 between 2008 and 2009, altering the ratio of male to female claimants from 26:74 to 24:76. The ratio of claimants with a partner compared to single claimants has remained at 3:97.

The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.



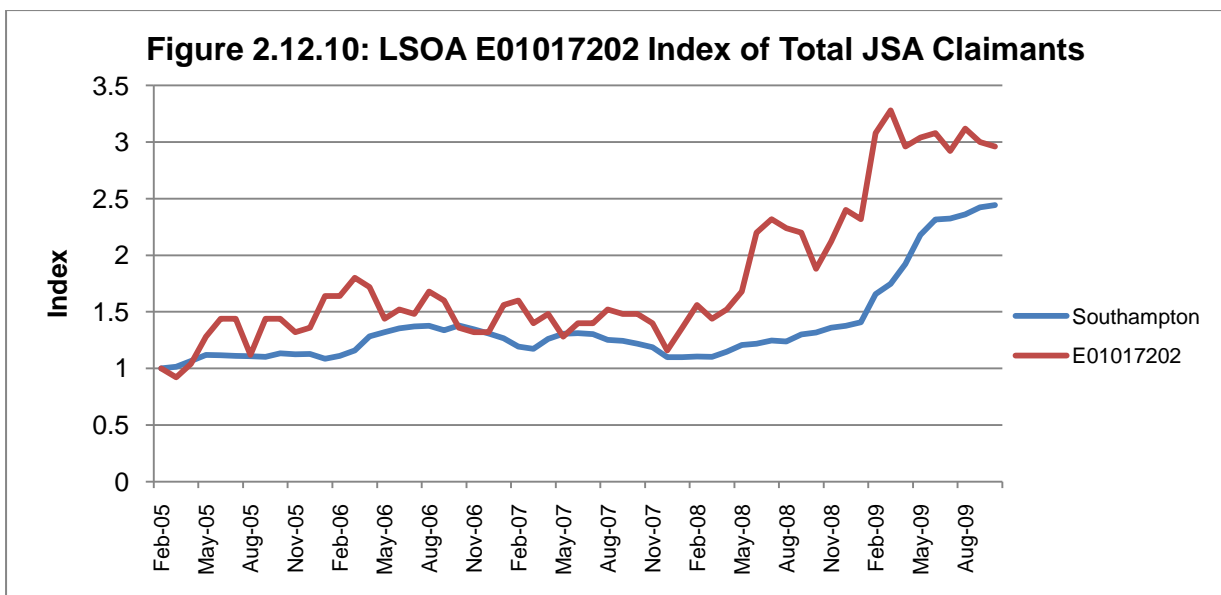
Source: DWP



Source: DWP

**Job Seekers' Allowance claimants**

Table 2.12.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017202 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.12.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between January 2009 and March 2009, where figures rose by over 40 per cent in E01017237. Overall, the recession has caused a similar level of impact on LSOA E01017237 over the last year than on Southampton as a whole.

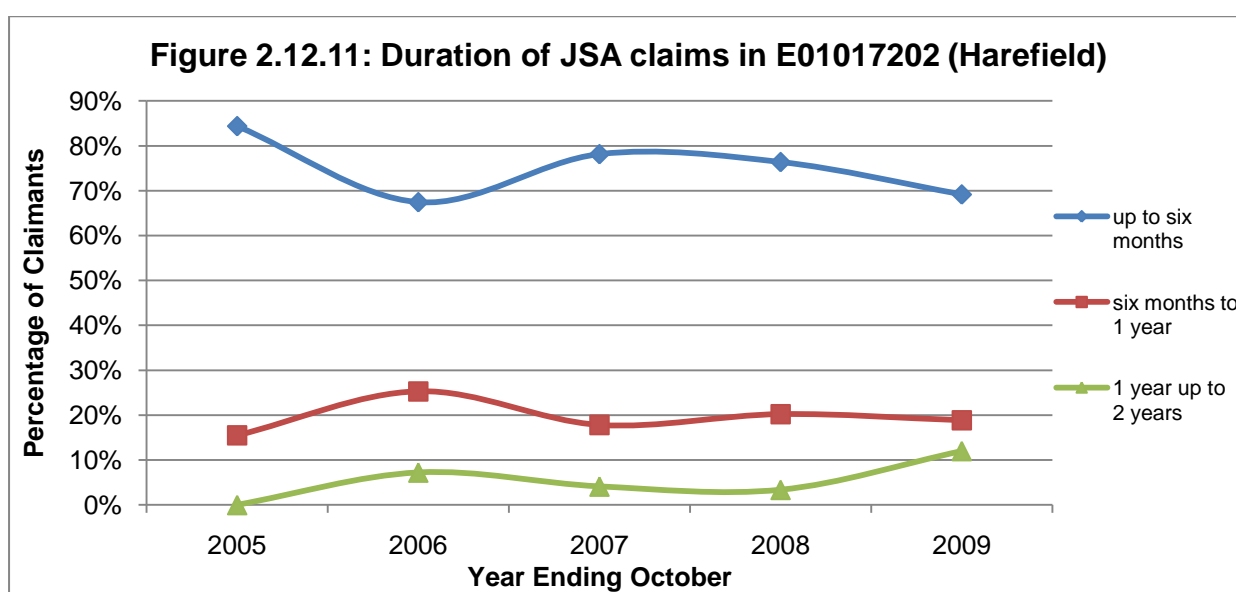


Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)



The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with approximately 75 per cent more male claimants whilst the number of female claimants increased by under 40 per cent, altering the ratio of male claimants to female from around 67:33 last year to around 72:28 this year (see Table 2.12.5). The data also suggests that the increase has affected the mid age bracket of 25-49 year olds most, as the number claiming from this band increased by 50 per cent in E01017202 between 2008 and 2009, whilst the 16-24 and 50 and over age brackets saw a less dramatic increase in numbers.

The rising number of E01017202 JSA claimants since mid 2008 has resulted in an average of 22 more individuals claiming for six months or less. Those claiming for between 1 and 2 years, which for JSA is quite long-term, has disproportionately increased from an average of 1 claimant in 2008 to 9 in 2009, as demonstrated in Figure 2.12.11 below. The duration of claims for JSA are noticeably shorter than for other benefits, which is likely to be due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.



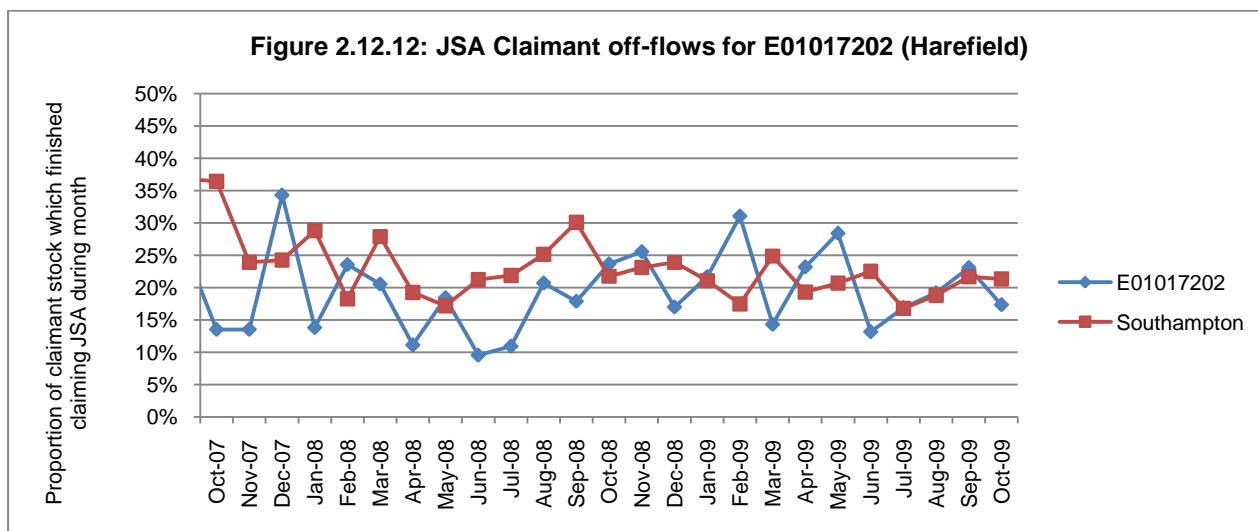
Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

Figures 2.12.12 and 2.12.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows) and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

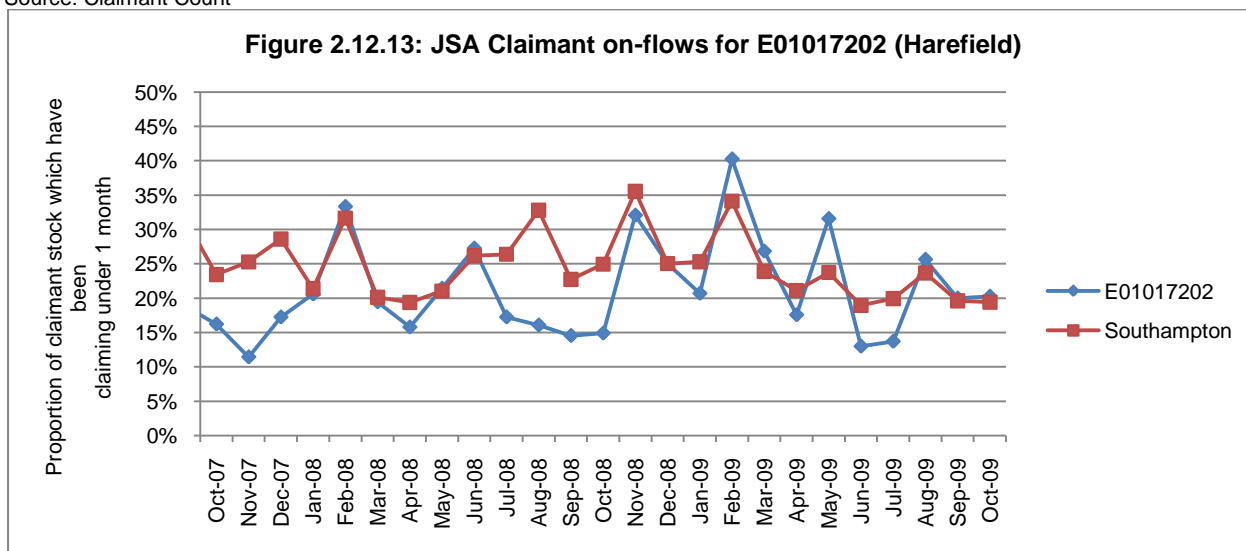
This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017202 (Harefield) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas and in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows are similar for the LSOA than for the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017202 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017202 (Harefield) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in retail and goods storage, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of

occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017202 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the number claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count

**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		95	101	101	104	108	98	96	93
Type	IB	89%	89%	90%	90%	93%	90%	90%	85%
	SDA	11%	11%	10%	10%	7%	10%	10%	15%
Age	16-24	8%	9%	9%	8%	12%	6%	6%	9%
	25-49	57%	58%	54%	55%	58%	64%	65%	55%
	50-59	26%	27%	31%	30%	23%	23%	19%	26%
	Over 60	9%	6%	6%	6%	7%	6%	9%	9%
Gender	Male	61%	60%	60%	64%	65%	65%	61%	57%
	Female	39%	40%	40%	36%	35%	35%	39%	43%
Duration	Less than 6 months	11%	10%	10%	11%	13%	14%	14%	14%
	6 months up to 1 year	7%	7%	10%	6%	12%	9%	6%	9%
	1 year and up to 2 years	9%	14%	10%	12%	17%	12%	12%	14%
	2 years and up to 5 years	20%	23%	22%	30%	23%	26%	23%	22%
	5 years and over	54%	46%	48%	41%	35%	40%	44%	42%
Award	Mental	46%	51%	52%	54%	53%	51%	55%	46%
	Nervous System	8%	7%	6%	5%	9%	6%	5%	5%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	5%	5%	7%	5%	3%	5%	5%	5%
	Musculoskeletal	13%	11%	11%	12%	12%	12%	14%	18%
	Injury, poisoning	11%	9%	6%	7%	9%	12%	8%	5%
	Other	17%	17%	17%	17%	13%	14%	13%	20%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		146	148	144	141	151	164	198	198
Age	16-24	29%	30%	28%	24%	26%	25%	22%	26%
	25-49	61%	58%	60%	63%	64%	60%	53%	48%
	50-59	10%	12%	12%	13%	10%	8%	4%	7%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%	20%	19%
Gender	Male	24%	26%	26%	28%	26%	25%	24%	22%
	Female	76%	74%	74%	72%	74%	75%	76%	78%
Duration	Less than 6 months	11%	12%	10%	10%	12%	15%	13%	15%
	6 months up to 1 year	9%	8%	10%	8%	15%	11%	8%	10%
	1 year and up to 2 years	16%	18%	11%	19%	14%	15%	16%	15%
	2 years and up to 5 years	28%	30%	37%	33%	30%	31%	31%	29%
	5 years and over	36%	32%	31%	30%	29%	29%	32%	31%
Partnered	With partner	3%	3%	3%	5%	5%	3%	4%	6%
	Single	97%	97%	97%	95%	95%	97%	96%	94%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	39%	42%	37%	40%	38%	31%	28%	26%
	Lone Parent	60%	54%	58%	56%	58%	57%	48%	51%
	Carers and Others	1%	4%	4%	4%	4%	11%	23%	23%

Source: DWP

<sup>71</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2009	71	72%	28%	29%	58%	13%	69%	19%	12%	0%
2008	44	67%	33%	29%	67%	4%	76%	20%	3%	0%
2007	36	65%	35%	28%	69%	3%	78%	18%	4%	0%
2006	39	73%	27%	35%	61%	4%	67%	25%	7%	0%
2005	29	68%	32%	43%	46%	10%	84%	15%	0%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		90	73	79	85	85	74	75
Age	Under 16	14%	12%	17%	19%	16%	15%	18%
	16-24	7%	7%	8%	7%	7%	10%	10%
	25-49	47%	38%	37%	38%	43%	44%	47%
	50-59	18%	17%	19%	22%	19%	17%	10%
	60-69	7%	14%	13%	12%	10%	10%	13%
	70 and over	7%	12%	6%	1%	4%	3%	2%
Gender	Male	49%	53%	51%	51%	51%	54%	53%
	Female	51%	47%	49%	49%	49%	46%	47%
Duration	Less than 12 months	13%	10%	3%	7%	16%	19%	12%
	1 year and up to 2 years	11%	5%	8%	15%	9%	7%	13%
	2 years and up to 5 years	18%	19%	22%	22%	24%	20%	18%
	5 years and over	58%	66%	67%	56%	51%	54%	57%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	49%	45%	40%	40%	44%	47%	47%
	Higher Rate	35%	43%	46%	41%	38%	34%	33%
	Nil Rate	17%	12%	14%	19%	18%	19%	20%
Care Award	Lower Rate	33%	33%	33%	32%	34%	34%	35%
	Middle Rate	40%	40%	38%	35%	34%	34%	33%
	Higher Rate	18%	19%	16%	16%	16%	15%	13%
	Nil Rate	8%	9%	13%	16%	16%	17%	18%

Source: DWP

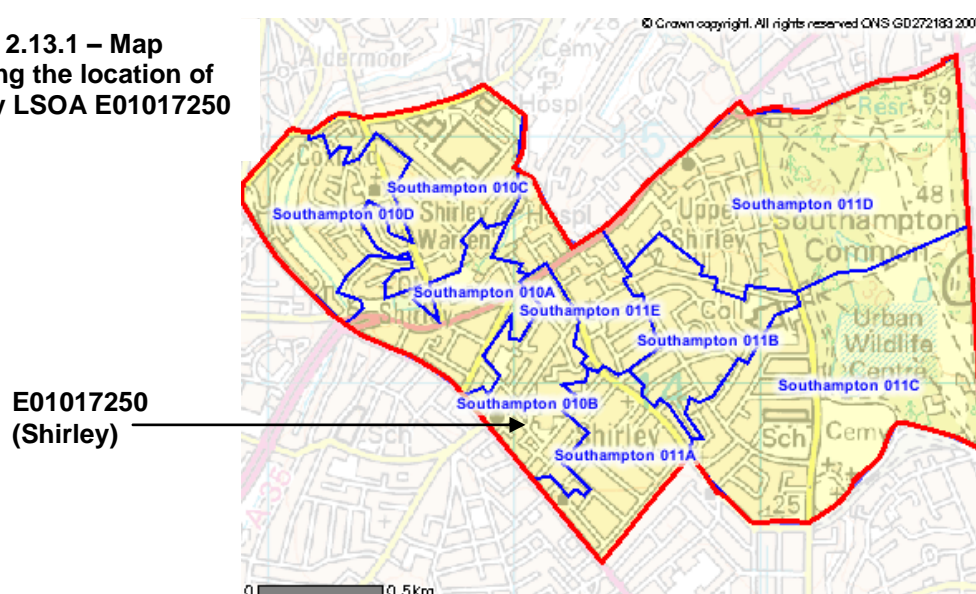
## 2.13 LSOA E01017250 (Shirley ward)

### Summary of Findings for E01017250

The analysis of benefit claimants in E01017250 (Shirley) has identified the following key points:

- LSOA E01017250 has the thirteenth highest density of benefit claimants out of the 146 LSOAs located within Southampton.
- The total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009, chiefly due to the increase in Job Seekers' Allowance claimants. The numbers of Incapacity Benefit and Income Support claimants have begun to decline following the changes made to the benefit system in late 2008.
- The typical Incapacity Benefit claimant has remained unchanged from last year's report and is male, aged 25-49, claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.
- The number of short-term Income Support claimants has fallen since November 2008, potentially as a result of changes to the eligibility criteria for claiming this benefit at that time. However, the typical claimant remains female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.
- There was a substantial growth rate in the number of Job Seekers' Allowance claimants in E01017250 between September 2008 and November 2008 and February 2009 to May 2009. The impact fell most heavily upon those aged 25-49 and the increase in male claimants exceeded the increase in female claimants. The typical JSA claimant is male, aged 25-49 and has been claiming the benefit for less than six months.

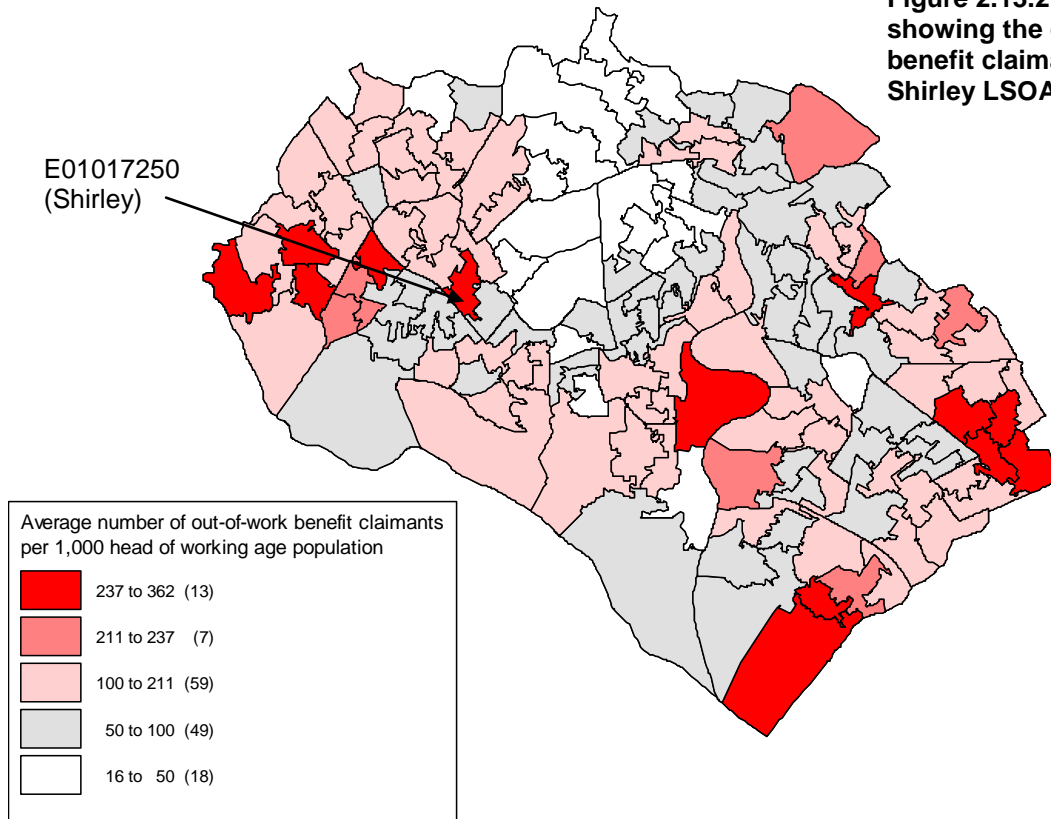
**Figure 2.13.1 – Map showing the location of Shirley LSOA E01017250**



**Profile**

The LSOA E01017250 is located within the Shirley ward which is on the western side of the city (see Figure 2.13.2 for the LSOA’s location within Shirley). The LSOA contains the Shirley Estate, situated between Shirley High Street and St James’ Park. A small social housing estate, it consists of low rise walk up blocks and one large tower block of flats. The LSOA is within one of eleven key priority neighbourhoods in Southampton as identified by Southampton Partnership.

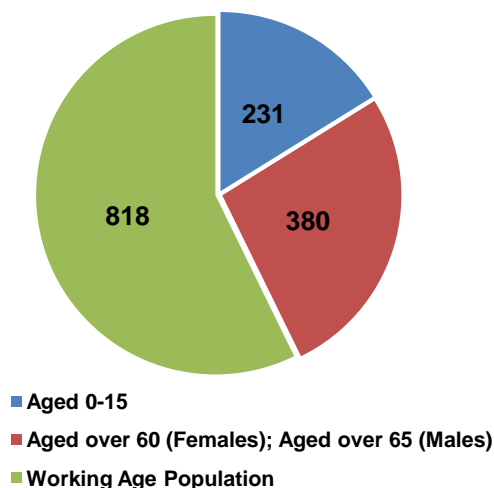
**Figure 2.13.2 – Map showing the density of benefit claimants within Shirley LSOA E01017250**



Map © Crown Copyright 2009, an EDINA supplied service; Data sources: DWP and ONS.

Figure 2.13.2 shows the average number of out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head of the working age population in each LSOA within Southampton. There was an estimated 237 out-of-work benefit claimants per 1,000 head in the LSOA E01017250 on average over the year between May 2008 and May 2009, an increase from 228 in last year’s report. This figure represents the thirteenth highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants for any LSOA within Southampton.

**Figure 2.13.3: Mid 2008 Population in E01017250 (Shirley)**



According to ONS, the population of E01017250 in 2008 was over 1,400. Of these, just over 15 per cent (around 230 people) were children under the age of 16, whilst a high proportion of nearly 30 per cent was over the retirement age. Correspondingly, this LSOA had a working age population of approximately 818 people. Approximately 24 per cent of this working population was claiming some type of out-of-work benefit in the year ending in May 2009<sup>72</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> The figure for the year ending at May 2009 is the average of the four quarterly snapshot figures taken at August 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009.



Within both the economically active and inactive population, there are people claiming benefits. The economically active segment of the population incorporates people defined as either being in work or seeking work (for example, those claiming JSA). The economically inactive segment of the population includes those not intending to seek work (for instance, a carer or lone parent may belong to this category), or those who claim to want to work but are unable to for a variety of possible reasons (such as the long-term sick who may be claiming Incapacity/ Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Benefits or students). This study will focus on those claiming out-of-work benefits, for the reasons outlined in Section One.

### **The Extent of Worklessness within E01017250**

Table 2.13.1 shows the average number of total benefit claimants in E01017250 between May 2002 and May 2009 (see column two) and the number of people claiming each of the main benefit categories over this timeframe (columns three to ten)<sup>73</sup>. Over the last year, there has been on average 10 more benefit claimants within this LSOA. This increase is the largest since 2003, when there was on average 28 more benefit claimants compared to the average for the year ending in May 2002. An increase may be expected as a result of the recession and is also reflected over the region as a whole, where on average, Southampton, the South East region and England have all seen increases in the number of total claimants over the same period.

Year ending May	Total claimants	Job Seeker	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit	Disabled	Bereaved	Unknown
2009	215	50	89	49	9	6	13	0	0
2008	205	30	98	55	6	6	8	3	0
2007	204	23	106	53	5	10	8	0	0
2006	199	18	109	54	4	6	6	3	0
2005	206	13	118	60	3	8	3	4	0
2004	221	26	116	59	4	9	3	5	0
2003	225	23	113	64	5	11	5	5	0
2002	198	19	95	71	3	6	N/A	0	4

Source: DWP

Benefit	Number of Claimants	Gender		Age				Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50-59	60 and over	Less than 1 year	1 year to less than 2 years	2 years to 5 years	5 years and over
Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance <sup>1</sup>	85	45	40	5	35	30	15	0	5	20	60
Job Seekers	65	50	15	10	40	15	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Income Support <sup>2</sup>	90	25	65	15	50	25	0	15	5	30	40
Disability Living Allowance <sup>3</sup>	130	70	60	5	25	25	45	10	5	20	95
Bereaved	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: DWP

<sup>1</sup> Does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance (explained more fully in Section 1.2)

<sup>2</sup> Includes the categories Incapacity Benefit, Lone Parents, Carers and others on an income related benefit.

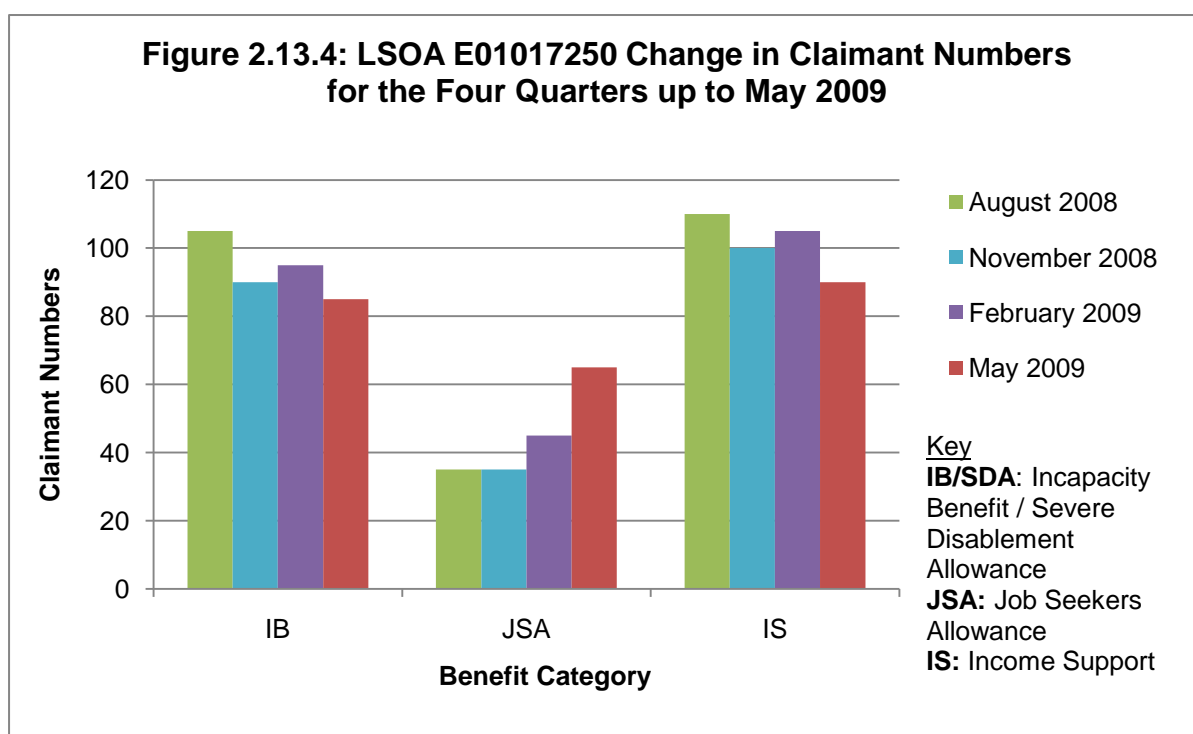
<sup>73</sup> The figure for each benefit refers to the number of people for which the benefit is the *highest priority benefit that they claim*, and will therefore underestimate the actual number of claimants of certain benefits.



<sup>3</sup> In May 2009 there were 5 DLA claimants aged under 16 and 25 DLA claimants aged over 70

Table 2.13.2 provides a snapshot of the characteristics of the claimants for each of the main benefits in E0101725 at May 2009. The claimant figures for each benefit in Table 2.13.2 are not subject to the priority order previously defined for Table 2.13.1 (with the exception of Income Support figures<sup>74</sup>). As a result, therefore individuals can appear more than once within Table 2.13.2, so that the data represents an estimate of the number of **benefit claims** being made in E01017250 at May 2009 rather than the number of **benefit claimants**<sup>75</sup>.

During the year to May 2009, the composition of the type of benefits being claimed within E01017250 has altered, with a noticeable increase in the number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA), whilst the number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) and Income Support have both declined over the same period (see Figure 2.13.4). Each benefit category will be analysed in more depth below and in the Data Appendix.



Source: DWP

### **Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) claimants**

The new benefit Employment Support Allowance (ESA, as described in Section 1.2), has been introduced to replace Incapacity Benefit (IB) for all new claimants, with the intention that IB will eventually be discontinued. The natural result of no new claimants being entitled to this benefit is that the number of IB claimants would have decreased since November 2008, as is shown in the quarterly data for E01017250.

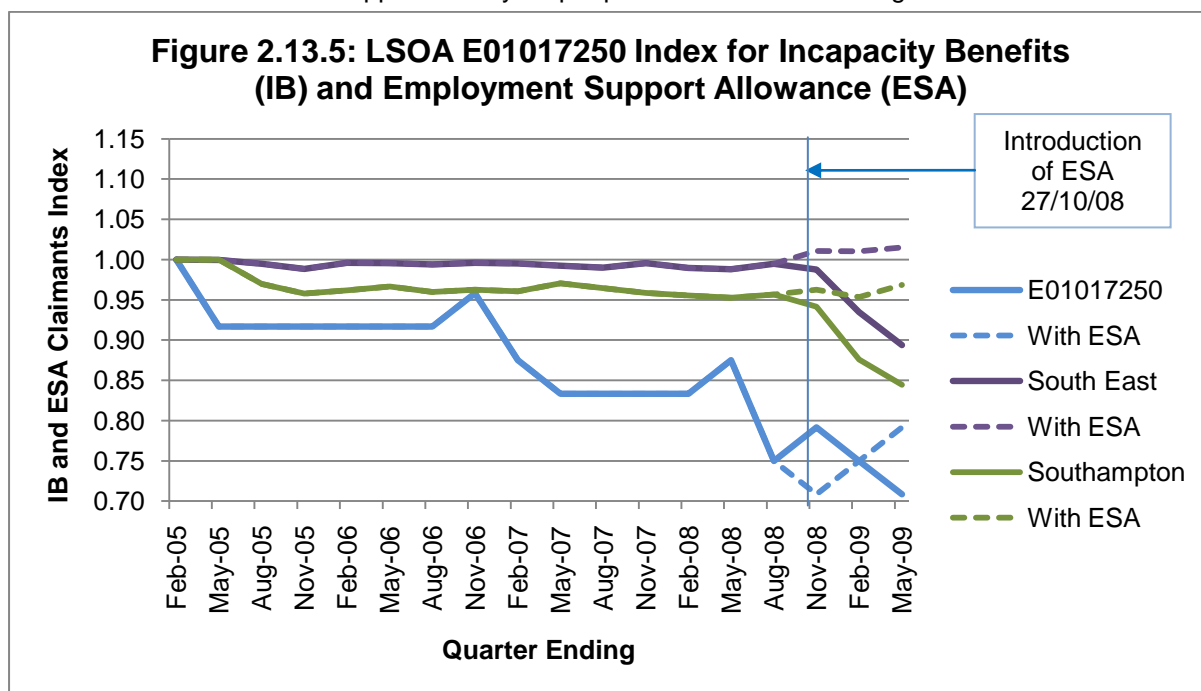
Published figures for IB incorporating the new ESA figures are provisional and subject to change and should therefore be interpreted with caution. Numbers are still very small, with for the most part only

<sup>74</sup> The Income Support figures are still subject to a hierarchical system (see Appendix One) which means that the total shows the number of *claimants*, but is likely to underestimate the number of *claims*.

<sup>75</sup> Therefore, some individuals may be making multiple claims and are being double counted in Table 2.13.2, with, for example somebody claiming both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support being represented in both benefit categories. However, this leads to the advantage that the characteristics of benefit claimants can be interpreted more accurately in this context, where individuals are not excluded from the dataset.

an estimated 5 or 10 people claiming ESA within each of the top 13 LSOAs in February 2009 and mostly 10 to 20 people in May 2009. The rounding of this data to the nearest 5 will also impact upon the level of accuracy and any analysis of the data.

Figure 2.13.5 shows the change in IB and ESA claimants as an index, with the base point at February 2005. The solid lines show the estimated increase and decrease in IB claimants alone, the dashed lines include ESA claimants.<sup>76</sup> Bearing in mind the noted concerns regarding the accuracy of the ESA data, early evidence suggests that the introduction of the new benefit has kept the proportion of people claiming IB and ESA fairly constant in Southampton and the South East. The May 2009 data for LSOA E01017250 shows approximately 10 people to have been claiming ESA.



Source: DWP

Changes in the characteristics of IB claimants and the effect of the introduction of ESA from 2008 to 2009 can be viewed in Table 2.13.3. Between May 2008 and May 2009, the proportion of long to short term claimants has changed slightly. The majority of claimants have been claiming IB for 2 years or more, as was the case in 2008. Since November 2008, the number of people claiming for up to six months has decreased, as would be expected, since new claimants are being moved on to ESA, or in certain cases being directed towards alternative benefits such as JSA. The shift in the composition of claimants towards longer-term claimants is likely to become more pronounced as ESA becomes more embedded. In May 2009, 65 per cent of people claiming IB in E01017250 had been claiming for 5 years or more. The numbers claiming for 1-2 years and 2-5 years saw the most significant change, decreasing by approximately 30 per cent and 60 per cent, respectively. The ratio of male to female claimants remained at a similar level of 55:45 and there has been minimal change in the age demographic of the claimants.

The number of people claiming IB under each award classification in E01017250 has decreased between 2008 and 2009 with the exception of those claiming for IB under the classification "Nervous

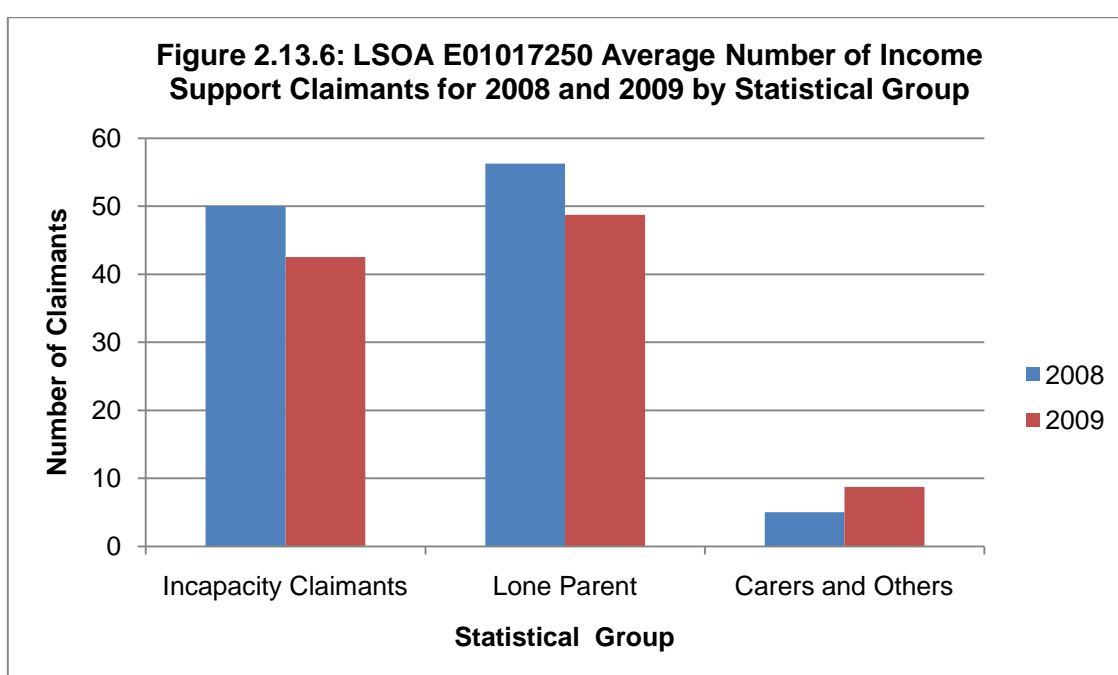
<sup>76</sup> This figure was calculated from taking the number given to be claiming Incapacity Benefit from an individual Incapacity Benefit series which does not include ESA claimants, as in Table 2.13.2 (Source: DWP) and subtracting this from the number given to be claiming Incapacity Benefit from a Total Claimant series which includes ESA, as in Table 2.13.2 (Source: DWP). As the Total Claimant series is subject to a hierarchy and both series have rounding errors, estimated ESA figures may also incorporate errors as visible on graph 2.13.5 where the May 2009 ESA figure is negative for E01017250.

System” which has increased from approximately 6 people in 2008 to 9 people in 2009. Overall, there was little structural change in the reasons for awarding IB.

The latest data suggests that the typical IB claimant is male, aged between 25 and 49 and claiming for a mental or behavioural disorder that has persisted over a relatively long period.

### **Income Support claimants**

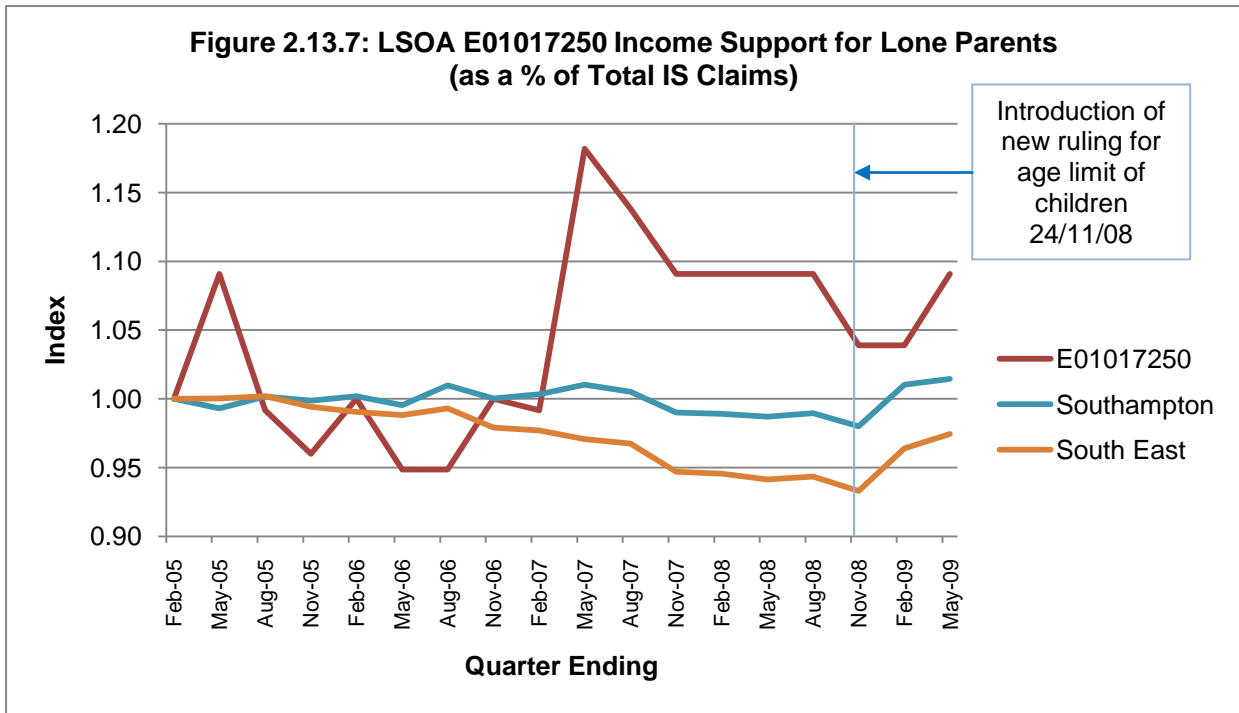
There was over a 10 per cent decrease in Income Support claimants between 2008 and 2009 as numbers dropped from 111 to 100 (see Table 2.13.4 in the Data Appendix). Income Support claimants are classified into three sub-categories: those who are lone parents, those who have an disability or illness preventing them from working full-time and who are eligible for Income Support or a top-up payment to reach a minimum standard of income, and carers and others. As shown in Figure 2.13.11, there were 7 fewer claimants for both lone parents and incapacity claimants contributing towards the 10 per cent decrease in total IS claimants in E01017250.



Source: DWP

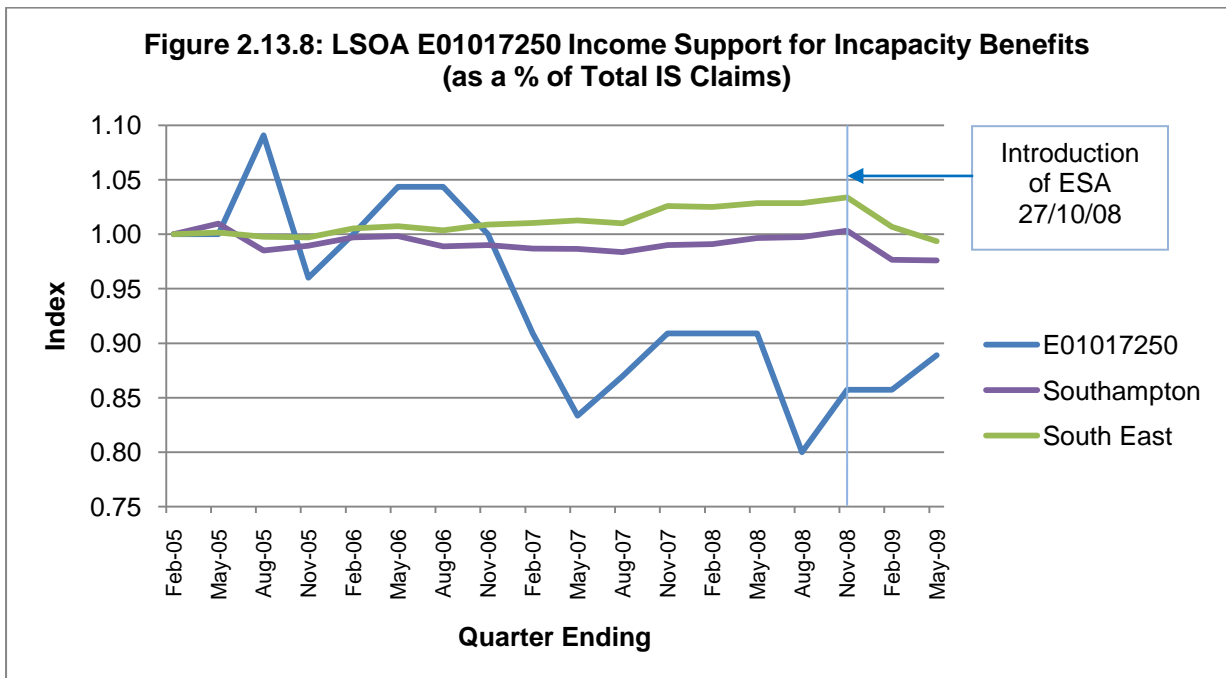
As previously noted, there are a number of factors which might influence any change in IS claimant numbers between May 2008 and May 2009. Whilst the impact of the recession might increase numbers as individuals struggle to find jobs, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which might have the opposite effect on claimant numbers.

As demonstrated in Figure 2.13.7, the average proportion of people claiming IS as a lone parent in Southampton, the South East and E01017250 has increased since November 2008. Although there appears to have been a slight increase in the proportion of claimants receiving IS as lone parents, this was caused not by the actual number of lone parent claimants increasing, but by the decline in claimants of IS for Incapacity Benefits. The actual number of people claiming IS as a lone parent has decreased for the May 2009 quarter for Southampton, the South East and E01017250.



Source: DWP

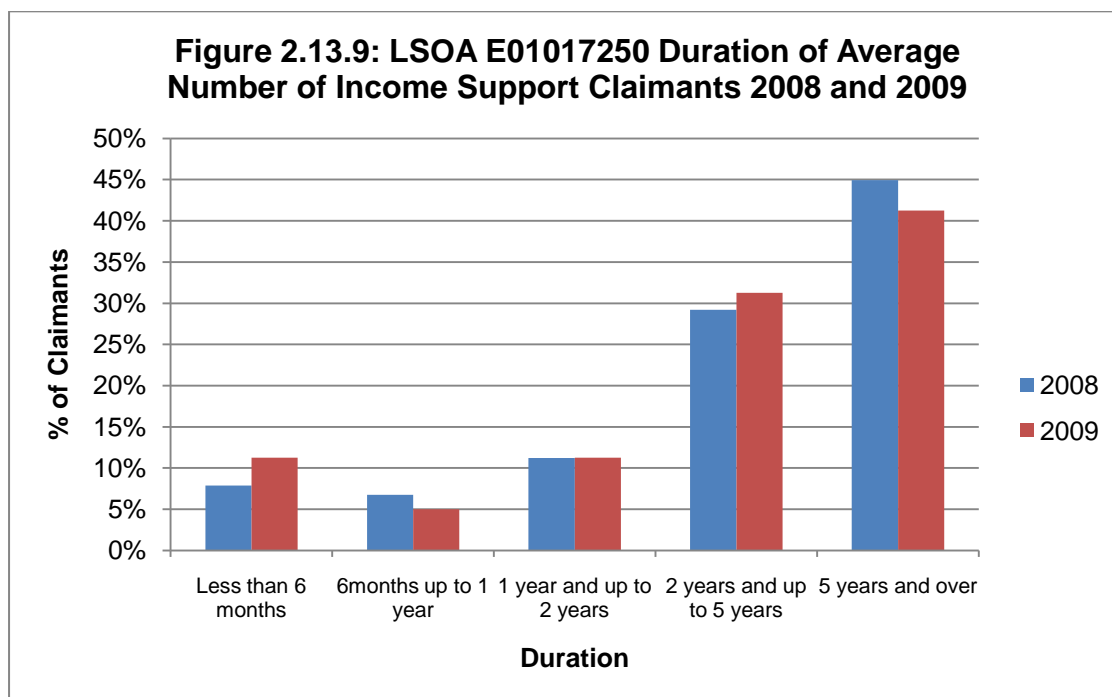
The introduction of ESA is also affecting those with disabilities claiming Income Support (see Figure 2.13.8). All new incapacity claimants for IS are to be transferred over to ESA and thus numbers have fallen from November 2008 for Southampton, South East and LSOA E01017250. Again, although the proportion of incapacity claimants for IS has increased for the May 2009 quarter for E01017250, the actual number has decreased over this timeframe.



Source: DWP

The number of long-term claimants (over five years) has decreased by approximately 9 people between 2008 and 2009; altering the composition of the duration of claims in this category, as depicted in Figure 2.13.9. Overall, numbers have fallen for each duration band except for those

claiming for less than six months which has marginally increased. Additionally, the demographic of the claimants by age has also altered. The reduction in IS claimants has most greatly affected the younger age bands as the 16-24 and 25-49 age brackets have decreased in numbers by around 11 per cent and 14 per cent respectively between 2008 and 2009. This has increased the proportion of claimants aged 50-59, despite the actual number of claimants remaining the same.

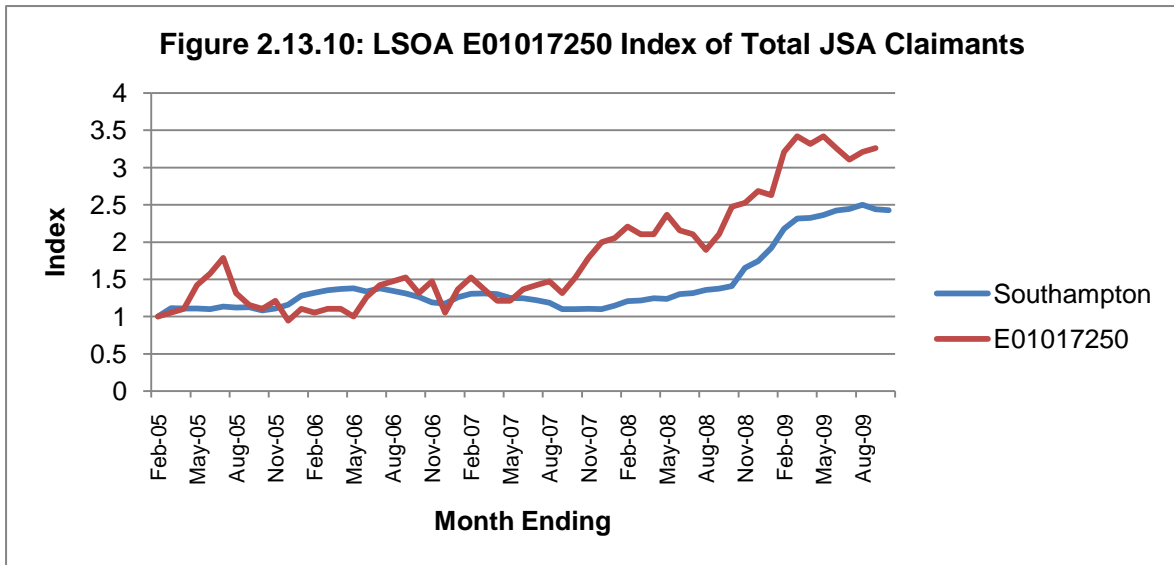


Source: DWP

Otherwise, the characteristics of IS claimants have remained largely unchanged over the last year. The ratio of male to female claimants remained at approximately 25:75, those with a partner remained at around 5 per cent compared to 95 per cent of those without. The statistical groups also remained fairly static, however the group “Carers and Others” increased from 5 people to 9 over 2008 and 2009. The latest data suggests that the typical claimant is female, aged 25-49, claiming as a lone parent, often for longer than 2 years.

### **Job Seekers’ Allowance claimants**

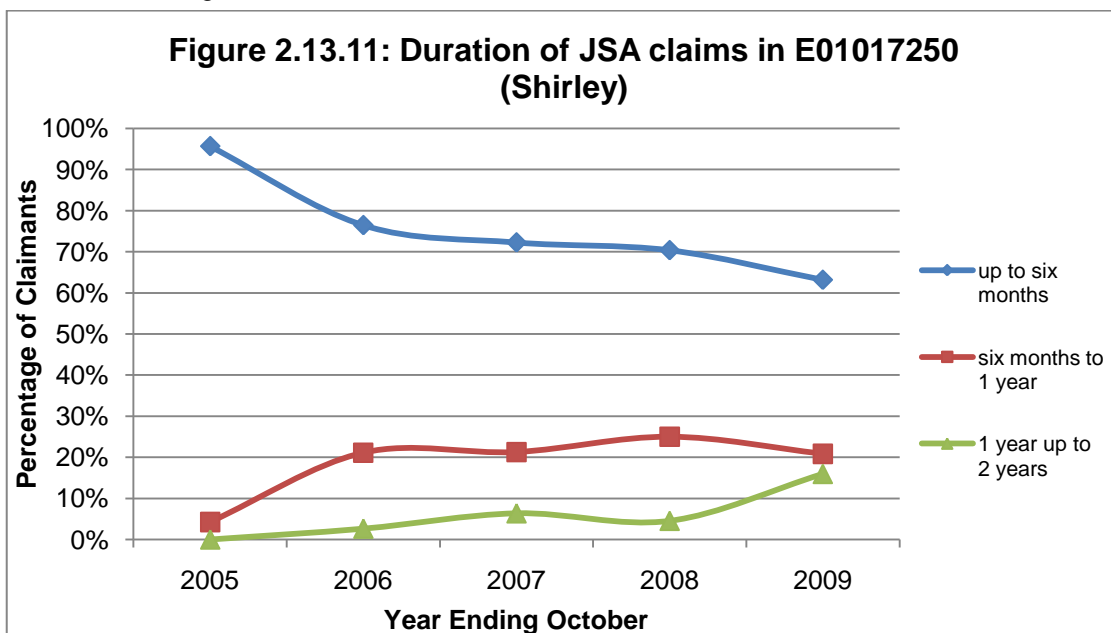
Table 2.13.5 uses data from the Claimant Count (see Appendix One for an explanation of the differences between the Claimant Count and DWP JSA figures) to show the characteristics and total number of JSA claimants living within E01017250 between 2006 and 2009. A rise in the number of JSA claimants over the last year is an inevitable effect of the recession and visible in Figure 2.13.10. The increase may also have been bolstered by the changes affecting other out-of-work benefits such as Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, which are designed to shift claimants onto JSA with a view to them finding work. The growth in JSA claimants was particularly pronounced between both September 2008 and November 2008 and February 2009 to May 2009, where figures rose by around 30 per cent over each period in E01017250. Overall, there has been a similar level of impact on LSOA E01017250 over the last year than on Southampton as a whole.



Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

The increase in the JSA claimant figures between the end of October 2008 and October 2009 appears to have affected males more than females, with approximately 70 per cent more male claimants whilst the number of female claimants remained constant, altering the ratio of male claimants to female from around 67:33 last year to around 78:22 this year (see Table 2.13.5). The data also suggests that the increase has affected the mid age bracket of 25-49 year olds most, as the number claiming from this band increased by nearly 70 per cent in E01017250 between 2008 and 2009, whilst the 16-24 and 50 and over age brackets saw a less dramatic increase in numbers.

The rising number of E01017250 JSA claimants since mid 2008 has resulted in an average of 12 more individuals claiming for six months or less and those claiming for between 1 and 2 years, which for JSA is quite long-term, has disproportionately increased from an average of 2 claimants in 2008 to 10 in 2009, as demonstrated in Figure 2.13.11 below. The duration of claims for JSA are noticeably shorter than for other benefits, which is likely to be due to restrictions on the length of time that individuals are eligible to claim JSA for.

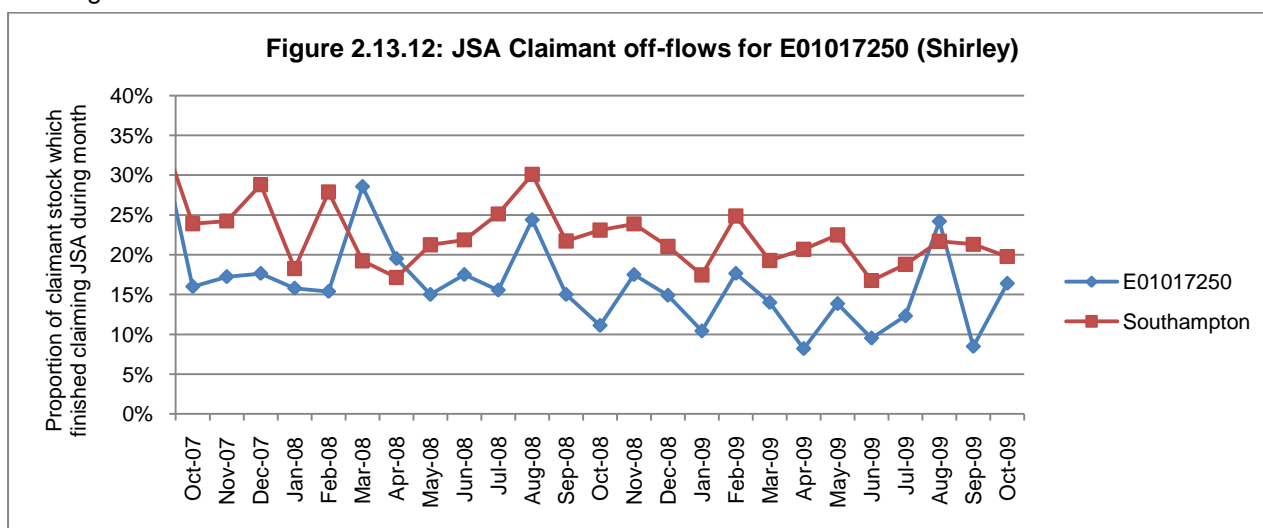


Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

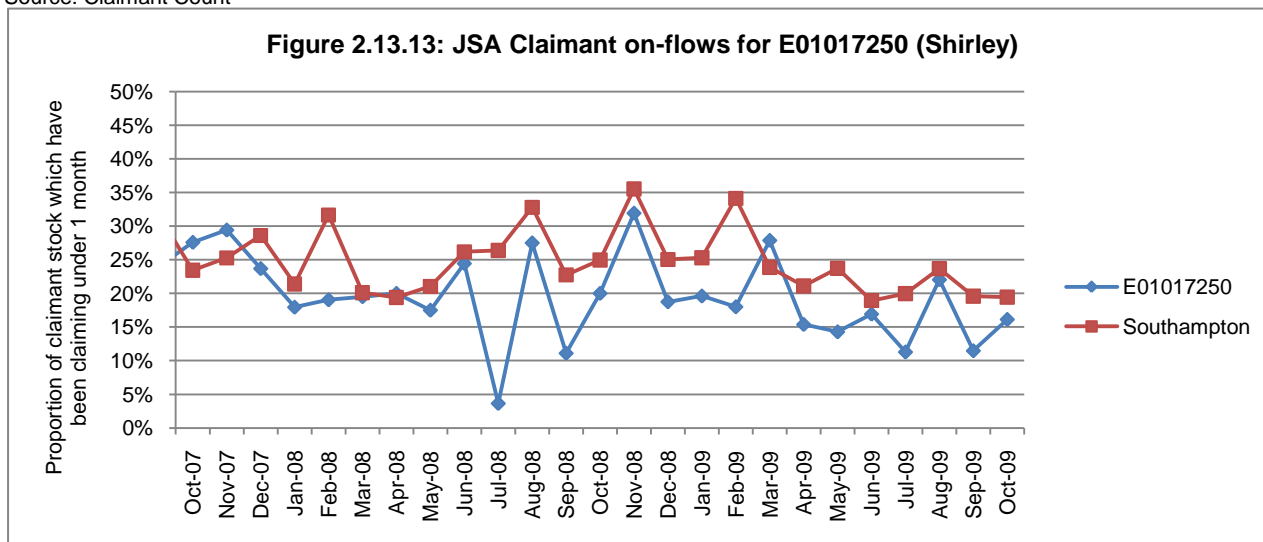
Figures 2.13.12 and 2.13.13 give details of the proportion of the total number of claimants in any one monthly snapshot that started claiming JSA during the preceding month (claimant on-flows), and the number of claimants that stopped receiving JSA in any one month as a proportion of the stock of claimants in the preceding monthly snapshot (claimant off-flows). The data shown covers the period from October 2007 to October 2009.

This flow data for JSA shows that the claimant population for both the LSOA E01017250 (Shirley) and the city of Southampton is fluid. Whilst claimant on-flows and off-flows are volatile for both geographic areas, in general the proportion of on-flows and off-flows is lower for the LSOA than for the city as a whole. Despite the economic slowdown, the proportion of claimant on-flows in E01017250 did not increase in any major way, with any monthly increases tending to be relatively short-lived.

The Claimant Count data also provides a breakdown of the last occupation of recipients of JSA and the type of job that those on the benefit are seeking. The information for E01017250 (Shirley) shows that recipients of JSA have typically left jobs in construction and retail, and are seeking jobs in precisely the same occupational groups. Job vacancies advertised by JobCentrePlus typically tend to belong to these lower skilled occupations. The Claimant Count data shows that the type of occupation JSA recipients have come from in E01017250 has remained unchanged since 2007 but the number claiming JSA has increased.



Source: Claimant Count



Source: Claimant Count



**Data Appendix**

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total Claimants</b>		90	101	108	110	116	118	116	100
Type	IB	89%	91%	93%	94%	91%	89%	88%	88%
	SDA	11%	9%	7%	6%	9%	11%	12%	13%
Age	16-24	6%	2%	3%	5%	3%	5%	4%	6%
	25-49	40%	41%	37%	41%	42%	39%	42%	40%
	50-59	35%	35%	37%	34%	34%	39%	43%	43%
	Over 60	19%	22%	22%	20%	19%	16%	11%	11%
Gender	Male	56%	57%	59%	58%	58%	59%	56%	54%
	Female	44%	43%	41%	42%	42%	41%	44%	46%
Duration	Less than 6 months	6%	5%	5%	7%	8%	12%	12%	8%
	6 months up to 1 year	3%	4%	3%	5%	6%	7%	5%	5%
	1 year and up to 2 years	4%	9%	9%	10%	12%	10%	6%	10%
	2 years and up to 5 years	22%	25%	28%	25%	23%	21%	26%	33%
	5 years and over	65%	58%	55%	53%	52%	50%	51%	45%
Award	Mental	56%	52%	48%	52%	49%	46%	48%	45%
	Nervous System	10%	6%	5%	5%	5%	7%	5%	6%
	Respiratory or Circulatory	8%	11%	9%	9%	9%	12%	13%	15%
	Musculoskeletal	11%	12%	13%	14%	15%	15%	15%	13%
	Injury, poisoning	0%	1%	3%	0%	3%	2%	2%	5%
	Other	15%	17%	22%	20%	18%	18%	16%	16%

Source: DWP

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>Total claimants</b>		100	111	116	118	121	153	243	244
Age	16-24	21%	21%	23%	27%	26%	23%	13%	16%
	25-49	54%	56%	53%	52%	52%	39%	27%	26%
	50-59	25%	22%	25%	21%	23%	18%	13%	10%
	60 and over	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	46%	48%
Gender	Male	24%	25%	26%	26%	27%	27%	29%	27%
	Female	76%	75%	74%	74%	73%	73%	71%	73%
Duration	Less than 6 months	11%	8%	10%	10%	5%	9%	8%	8%
	6months up to 1 year	5%	7%	8%	7%	9%	7%	7%	7%
	1 year and up to 2 years	11%	11%	14%	17%	14%	12%	11%	15%
	2 years and up to 5 years	31%	29%	28%	30%	31%	33%	28%	28%
	5 years and over	41%	45%	41%	36%	40%	39%	45%	42%
Partnered	With partner	5%	4%	6%	10%	5%	6%	7%	6%
	Single	95%	96%	94%	90%	95%	94%	93%	94%
Statistical group	Incapacity Benefits	43%	45%	47%	51%	51%	40%	29%	25%
	Lone Parent	49%	51%	47%	45%	46%	39%	26%	28%
	Carers and Others	9%	4%	5%	4%	3%	20%	45%	47%

Source: DWP

<sup>77</sup> This table does not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

Year Ending October <sup>1</sup>	Total claimants	Gender		Age			Duration			
		Male	Female	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years
2005	58	78%	22%	20%	62%	18%	63%	21%	16%	0%
2006	40	67%	33%	20%	58%	21%	70%	25%	5%	0%
2007	26	70%	30%	21%	59%	20%	72%	21%	6%	0%
2008	23	68%	32%	23%	50%	27%	76%	21%	3%	0%
2009	22	74%	26%	21%	66%	13%	96%	4%	0%	0%

Source: Claimant Count (NOMIS)

<sup>1</sup>The figure for the year ending at October 2009 (for example) is the average of the twelve monthly figures taken from November 2008 to October 2009.

Year ending May		2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
<b>Total Claimants</b>		128	123	120	113	105	103	95
Age	Under 16	4%	3%	4%	7%	1%	2%	3%
	16-24	4%	2%	2%	1%	0%	1%	4%
	25-49	19%	23%	23%	24%	25%	23%	22%
	50-59	19%	19%	22%	22%	24%	28%	37%
	60-69	36%	36%	32%	32%	33%	30%	24%
	70 and over	19%	16%	17%	13%	17%	15%	11%
Gender	Male	50%	48%	47%	46%	45%	46%	41%
	Female	50%	52%	53%	54%	55%	54%	59%
Duration	Less than 12 months	7%	4%	5%	8%	7%	9%	7%
	1 year and up to 2 years	3%	4%	9%	7%	7%	9%	12%
	2 years and up to 5 years	18%	20%	22%	24%	27%	26%	25%
	5 years and over	73%	71%	64%	61%	58%	57%	57%
Mobility Award	Lower Rate	27%	30%	29%	30%	26%	18%	21%
	Higher Rate	58%	56%	58%	57%	63%	68%	64%
	Nil Rate	15%	14%	13%	13%	11%	13%	14%
Care Award	Lower Rate	25%	23%	23%	22%	23%	24%	22%
	Middle Rate	52%	53%	50%	47%	44%	40%	41%
	Higher Rate	16%	13%	14%	17%	19%	21%	21%
	Nil Rate	8%	10%	14%	14%	14%	15%	16%

Source: DWP

### Section Three – Comparisons and Conclusions

#### 3.1 Comparisons

Having analysed the current scale of worklessness and changes in each of the thirteen individual LSOAs with the highest density of out-of-work benefit claimants (as defined by the National Indicator for Local Authorities NI153), the final section of this report provides a brief summary of the key findings, overall comparisons and conclusions.

#### 3.10 Long-term Trends across Southampton

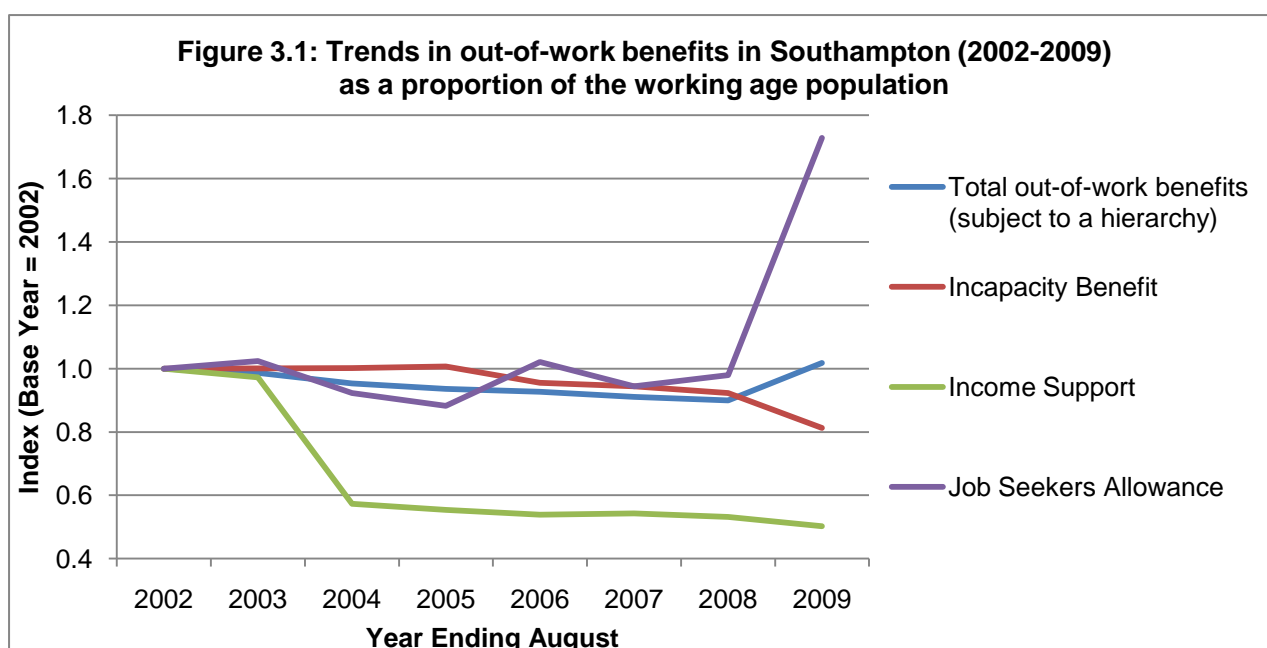
Table 3.1 and Figure 3.1 give a general overview of movements seen in out-of-work benefits being claimed in Southampton between 2002 and 2009. The total number of people claiming out-of-work benefits remained fairly constant between 2002 and 2008 but with the steadily increasing population in Southampton, the actual number of people claiming as a proportion of the working age population decreased over this time (as depicted in Figure 3.1).

The largest change in the number of out-of-work benefit claimants was unequivocally between 2008 and 2009. This is mainly due to the impact of the recession dramatically raising JSA figures whilst Incapacity Benefit and Income Support figures declined over the same period. Furthermore, there is a visible shift in Income Support claimant figures between 2003 and 2004. This was due to the introduction of the Pension Credit scheme and therefore the figures in red in Table 3.1 are not comparable to the IS figures from 2004 onwards.

Incapacity Benefit had been steadily decreasing from 2005 with a more dramatic fall from 2008 due to the introduction of Employment Support Allowance. Additionally, the proportion of Southampton citizens claiming for Income Support was also mainly decreasing from 2004. The Job Seekers Allowance series was subject to the most fluctuations, as would be expected with a series that is more sensitive to movements in the economy.

<b>Year ending August</b>	<b>Total out-of-work benefits (subject to a hierarchy)<sup>78</sup></b>	<b>Incapacity Benefit</b>	<b>Income Support</b>	<b>Job Seekers Allowance</b>
<b>2002</b>	17,323	9,498	15,535	2,995
<b>2003</b>	17,353	9,645	15,335	3,115
<b>2004</b>	17,048	9,815	9,193	2,853
<b>2005</b>	16,948	9,993	8,988	2,763
<b>2006</b>	17,155	9,688	8,943	3,268
<b>2007</b>	17,098	9,715	9,130	3,063
<b>2008</b>	17,103	9,625	9,075	3,220
<b>2009</b>	19,720	8,628	8,728	5,790

<sup>78</sup> Data from this column is subject to a hierarchy in order to avoid double counting whereas the subsequent columns are not. Thus if an individual was claiming for both Incapacity Benefit and Income Support, their count would be included in both the Incapacity Benefit and Income Support columns but only once in the 'Total out-of-work benefits' column and so the sum of the figures from columns three to five does not equate to the figures in column two.



### 3.11 Current situation

Table 3.2 provides a summary of the numbers of people claiming each of the main working age benefits<sup>79</sup> at May 2009 in each of the thirteen LSOAs. This table also shows these figures as a percentage of the mid 2008 working age population in order to facilitate comparison between the various LSOAs. Table 3.3 provides a summary of how these figures have changed in the period since 2008.

It should be borne in mind, however, that the relatively small numbers of claimants in the LSOAs compared to regional and national figures means that even a small change in claimant numbers will potentially generate a disproportionately large positive or negative percentage change.

Table 3.2 shows that the thirteen LSOAs examined in detail were of varying sizes with populations ranging from a low of 1,429 in E01017250 (Shirley) to a high of 2,009 in E01017154 (Bevois). In all thirteen LSOAs the working age population represents between 57.2% and 66.6% of the total population.

The proportion of the working age population claiming benefits in 2009 in each of the thirteen LSOAs ranged from 26.9% in E01017250 (Shirley) to 43.3% in E01017281 (Woolston). Putting this into perspective, these figures demonstrate that between over one quarter and approximately four in ten of people of working age in these LSOAs are claiming some form of benefit. The comparative figures for England and Wales, the South East and Southampton are 15.6%, 11.3% and 14.5%, respectively.

These figures highlight the fact that the proportion of the working age population claiming benefits in the worst-performing of the thirteen LSOAs in Southampton is between two and three times greater than the national and local averages and almost four times the regional average.

<sup>79</sup> It is possible for an individual to claim more than one benefit, for instance a person claiming Incapacity Benefit may also be claiming Income Support at the same time because Incapacity Benefit does not provide enough money alone to provide for that persons needs. The figures in Column six of Table 3.2 are for the total number of individuals claiming all benefits rather than the total number of benefits claimed by individuals. Thus in LSOA E01017281, 455 individuals were claiming benefits but 590 individual benefits were paid to the same 455 individuals.

**Table 3.2: Benefit claimant statistics and Working Age Population (May 2009)**

		Claimant Figures at May 2009					Type of Claimant			
LSOA	Ward	Total Population (Mid 2008)	Working Age Population (WAP) (Mid 2008)	WAP as % of Total Population	Total Number of Claimants (all types) <sup>1</sup>	All Claimants as % of WAP	IB and SDA (% of WAP) <sup>2</sup>	Income Support (% of WAP) <sup>3</sup>	DLA (% of WAP) <sup>4</sup>	JSA (% of WAP)
E01017281	Woolston	1,590	1,051	66.1%	455	43.3%	140 (13.3%)	200 (19.0%)	130 (12.4%)	120 (11.4%)
E01017167	Bitterne	1,471	911	61.9%	350	38.4%	110 (12.1%)	170 (18.7%)	125 (13.7%)	85 (9.3%)
E01017207	Millbrook	1,640	996	60.7%	340	34.1%	120 (12.0%)	175 (17.6%)	120 (12.0%)	80 (8.0%)
E01017163	Bitterne	1,660	1,014	61.1%	330	32.5%	105 (10.4%)	160 (15.8%)	125 (12.3%)	95 (9.4%)
E01017154	Bevois	2,309	1,537	66.6%	455	29.6%	195 (12.7%)	230 (15.0%)	160 (10.4%)	110 (7.2%)
E01017245	Redbridge	1,596	953	59.7%	295	31.0%	100 (10.5%)	150 (15.7%)	120 (12.6%)	50 (5.2%)
E01017202	Harefield	1,583	981	62.0%	310	31.6%	90 (9.2%)	150 (15.3%)	90 (9.2%)	75 (7.6%)
E01017240	Redbridge	1,315	803	61.1%	245	30.5%	110 (13.7%)	115 (14.3%)	110 (13.7%)	55 (6.8%)
E01017280	Woolston	1,556	951	61.1%	305	32.1%	115 (12.1%)	130 (13.7%)	155 (16.3%)	80 (8.4%)
E01017237	Redbridge	1,536	945	61.5%	285	30.2%	115 (12.2%)	135 (14.3%)	135 (14.3%)	55 (5.8%)
E01017166	Bitterne	1,556	931	59.8%	280	30.1%	95 (10.2%)	130 (14.0%)	105 (11.3%)	65 (7.0%)
E01017168	Bitterne	1,620	1,038	64.1%	305	29.4%	95 (9.2%)	130 (12.5%)	155 (14.9%)	75 (7.2%)
E01017250	Shirley	1,429	818	57.2%	220	26.9%	85 (10.4%)	90 (11.0%)	130 (15.9%)	65 (7.9%)
13 Target LSOAs		20,861	12,929	62.0%	4,175	32.3%	1,475 (11.4%)	1,965 (15.2%)	1,660 (12.8%)	1,010 (7.8%)
Southampton		234,600	160,800	68.5%	23,360	14.5%	8520 (5.3%)	8590 (5.3%)	11190 (7.0%)	6270 (3.9%)
South East		8,380,100	5,123,500	61.1%	579,910	11.3%	217,500 (4.2%)	189,950 (3.7%)	298,840 (5.8%)	145,180 (2.8%)
England and Wales		54,439,700	33,738,500	62.0%	5,248,700	15.6%	2,097,370 (6.2%)	1,792,090 (5.3%)	2,755,770 (8.2%)	1,320,080 (3.9%)

Source: DWP (WACG Benefit Claimant Statistics) and ONS (Mid-year Population Estimates).

**Notes**

<sup>1</sup> The total claimants figure includes those claiming all the main types of benefit (Incapacity Benefits (IB) and Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA), Income Support (IS), Disability Living Allowance (DLA) and Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA)). The total claimant figures are subject to a hierarchical system which means that each individual is only counted once. Those making multiple claims are counted under their highest priority claim. By contrast, the figures for each type of claimant (the final four columns) provide an estimate of the total number of claims for each benefit. Consequently, individuals making multiple claims will appear once under each type of benefit that they claim. As a result, the claimant figures from the final four columns sum up to more than the total claimant figures for each LSOA. For example, an individual claiming Incapacity Benefits (IB) and Disability Living Allowance (DLA) will appear once in the total claimant's column, once in the IB claimant's column and once in the DLA claimant column.

<sup>2</sup> The Incapacity Benefits and Severe Disablement Allowance figures do not include the new benefit Employment Support Allowance.

<sup>3</sup> The exception to Note 1 is that the Income Support claimants column which is subject to a separate hierarchical system (see Appendix One for details).

<sup>4</sup> A proportion of DLA claimants are under 16, or above retirement age. Consequently, the actual proportion of the working age population claiming the benefit may be slightly lower than reported in Table 3.2.

**Table 3.3: Percentage change in numbers (2008-2009)**

LSOA	Ward	Change in Total Population (2008-2009)	Change in Working Age Population (2008-2009)	% Change in Total Claimants	% Change in IB and SDA Claimants	% Change in Income Support Claimants <sup>1</sup>	% Change in DLA claimants	% Change in JSA Claimants
E01017281	Woolston	20	31	17%	-10%	-11%	18%	71%
E01017167	Bitterne	-21	7	8%	-4%	-8%	9%	42%
E01017207	Millbrook	70	77	15%	-4%	-5%	14%	100%
E01017163	Bitterne	13	-10	12%	0%	0%	4%	58%
E01017154	Bevois	109	69	3%	-7%	-12%	-3%	38%
E01017245	Redbridge	11	9	11%	-9%	7%	4%	67%
E01017202	Harefield	20	20	24%	-5%	7%	20%	67%
E01017240	Redbridge	18	-4	7%	-4%	-4%	0%	83%
E01017280	Woolston	4	21	13%	-15%	4%	7%	100%
E01017237	Redbridge	18	17	12%	-4%	-7%	8%	83%
E01017166	Bitterne	0	4	6%	-5%	-7%	0%	44%
E01017168	Bitterne	29	18	30%	-14%	0%	24%	200%
E01017250	Shirley	2	20	5%	-19%	-18%	4%	86%
13 Target LSOAs		293	279	12%	-8%	-5%	8%	71%
Southampton		3,400	2,900	16%	-11%	-5%	5%	98%
South East		71,400	27,800	19%	-9%	-3%	6%	119%
England and Wales		367,700	150,000	14%	-10%	-5%	3%	84%

Source: DWP and ONS

Notes:

<sup>1</sup>Income Support claimant data is subject to a hierarchy (see Appendix One for details).

**Table 3.4: Percentage change in JSA claimants nationally, regionally and at city level between October 2008 and October 2009 by the characteristics of the claimants**

Area	Age			Duration				Gender	
	16-24	25-49	50 and over	up to six months	six months to 1 year	1 year up to 2 years	2 years up to 5 years	Male	Female
Southampton	54.7%	77.7%	93.1%	37.1%	172.9%	118.0%	0.0%	71.2%	76.2%
South East	79.2%	87.7%	82.7%	47.3%	202.8%	150.9%	7.2%	83.2%	87.4%
England and Wales	58.2%	66.4%	64.3%	34.6%	147.6%	106.1%	5.2%	62.0%	67.4%

Source: Claimant Count

### 3.12 Change over the last year

Table 3.3 provides details of how the population and numbers of claimants have changed since 2008. In almost all of the LSOAs, both the total population and the working age population have increased. The only exceptions were E01017167 (Bitterne) which saw a decrease in its total population despite an increase in the working population. Additionally, E01017163 (Bitterne) and E01017240 (Redbridge) both saw a marginal decrease in the working age population whilst their total populations increased in size.

Table 3.3 shows that in each of the thirteen LSOAs the number of claimants has increased, the scale of this increase ranging from 3% in E01017154 (Bevois) to 30% in LSOA E01017168 (Bitterne). LSOA E01017168 (Bitterne) is a newcomer to the list of the 13 worst performing LSOAs this year.

The increase in claimant numbers are generally similar to the average seen in the comparator areas of England and Wales, the South East and Southampton where the claimant figures rose by 14%, 19% and 16%, respectively.

### 3.13 Impact of the Recession

The main force driving up claimant numbers over the last year has been the increase in the number of people claiming Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA). These increases are a direct result of the recession.

The final column in Table 3.3 shows the percentage increases in JSA claimants between May 2008 and May 2009, which range from 38% in LSOA E01017154 (Bevois) to 200% in newcomer LSOA E01017168 (Bitterne)<sup>80</sup>. The increase in JSA claimant numbers far outweighs increases in any of the other out-of-work benefits. Interestingly, the number of JSA claimants within the thirteen worst-performing LSOAs appears to have increased by either a similar or *smaller* amount compared to the national, regional and city averages where JSA claimant figures rose by 84%, 119% and 98%, respectively. In May 2009, JSA claimants represented between 5.2% and 11.4% of the working age population within the 13 LSOAs (see Table 3.2). Although this represents the smallest number of any individual type of benefit claimed; these figures have risen from a range of between 2.5% and 6.9% in the same month in the previous year. In 2009, the average proportion of the working age population claiming JSA regionally was 2.8% and nationally 3.9%, having gone up from figures of 1.3% to 2.1% in 2008.<sup>81</sup>

### 3.14 Changes in JSA Claimant's Characteristics

Table 3.4 looks at the percentage change in JSA claimants by the key characteristics of age, duration and gender between October 2008 and October 2009 using Claimant Count rather than DWP benefit data. Women have been slightly more adversely affected, although the ratio of male to female claimants has remained fairly constant between the ranges of approximately 70:30 and 75:25. However, in eight of the thirteen LSOAs, the increase in male claimants exceeded the increase in females, the ratio of male to female claimants ranged from 72:28 in E01017202 (Harefield) to 83:17 in E01017167 (Bitterne) in 2009. Over half of the JSA claimants belong to the 25-49 age bracket nationally, regionally and city wide and in twelve of the thirteen LSOAs. This age band saw the

<sup>80</sup> The 200% is a particularly large and unrepresentative increase given that the number of claimants in Bitterne has increased by 50 whereas in Bevois the corresponding increase is 30.

<sup>81</sup> The regulations restricting the amount of time JSA can be claimed are likely to be a significant reason why the proportion of JSA claimants is slightly lower in comparison to other benefits.



highest percentage increase nationally and regionally, whereas the over 50 age band saw the highest increase in Southampton. In the thirteen LSOAs it was the 25-49 age bracket that was most adversely affected although other bands also saw significant increases.

### **3.15 Income Support claimants**

The greatest number of claims in the majority of the LSOAs are for Income Support<sup>82</sup> with the percentage of the working age population claiming IS in May 2009 ranging from 11% in E01017250 (Shirley) to 19% in E01017281 (Woolston). The comparative figures for England and Wales, the South East and Southampton were much lower at 5.3%, 3.7% and 5.3%, respectively.

*These figures demonstrate just how benefit dependent working age populations in the worst-performing LSOAs in Southampton are, with rates three to four times the national and local benchmarks.*

Overall, there was an average decline of 4% in the number of IS claimants across the 13 LSOAs, which is in line with national, regional and city level declines of 5%, 3% and 5%, respectively. As shown in Table 3.3 there have been some significant changes. The table shows that the changes in the number of IS claimants between 2008 and 2009 ranged from an 18% decline in E01017250 (Shirley) to a 7% rise in E01017245 (Redbridge) and E01017202 (Harefield).

As mentioned previously in Section 2, there are different factors which may influence the change in IS numbers. Firstly, the recession may have the effect of increasing the number of IS claimants as individuals struggle to find jobs. However, there have also been changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit which would have the opposite effect of reducing numbers, for instance the number of those claiming IS as part of their Incapacity Benefits (IB) is likely to have dropped due to the introduction of Employment Support Allowance (ESA).<sup>1</sup> These factors may partly explain the variation in change in IS claimants across the thirteen LSOAs although changes in the demographic profile of each LSOA could also alter the number of IS claimants.

### **3.16 Reasons for the decrease in IS claimant numbers**

The decrease in IS claimant numbers across England and Wales, the South East and Southampton appears to have been mainly due to the decrease in individuals claiming IS as part of their IB which decreased by 7.8%, 6.4% 7.0%, respectively between May 2008 and May 2009 (see Table 3.5). The number of those claiming IS as a lone parent remained fairly static in the South East whilst decreasing by approximately 2.4% across England and Wales and Southampton on average. For more than half of the thirteen LSOAs the decrease in the lone parent grouping was the primary reason for the fall in the number of IS claimants. Otherwise, the number of those claiming IS as a carer increased by 7.9% and 10.1% in England and Wales and the South East whilst numbers in Southampton and the thirteen LSOAs remained fairly constant as a whole.

---

<sup>82</sup> IS claimants are paid on various grounds categorised as follows: Incapacity, Lone Parents, Carers and an 'Other' category (such as for those on paternity leave, students or for those whose statutory sick pay is too low). This benefit is means tested and individuals claiming IS may also be working but not earn enough to provide a basic standard of living.

Area	Statistical Group			
	Incapacity Benefits	Lone Parent	Carer	Others on Income Related Benefit
Southampton	-7.0%	-2.4%	0.0%	-11.8%
South East	-6.4%	0.3%	10.1%	-2.7%
England and Wales	-7.8%	-2.4%	7.9%	-5.5%

### 3.17 Incapacity Benefit claimants

Table 3.2 shows that in most LSOAs the number of people of working age claiming IB and Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) ranged from 9.2% to 13.7%. These figures are around twice those for the comparator figures for England and Wales, the South East and Southampton. Between 2008 and 2009, the number of IB claimants decreased in each of the thirteen LSOAs with the exception of E01017163 (Bitterne) which remained static. The largest decrease was 19% in E01017250 (Shirley). On average, the number of IB claimants reduced by approximately 8% across the thirteen LSOAs, a similar level compared to England and Wales, the South East and Southampton which decreased by 10%, 9% and 11%, respectively. The reduction in numbers is likely to be due to the introduction of the new benefit ESA which has been brought in to replace IB.<sup>83</sup>

### 3.18 Changes in reasons for Claiming IB

IBs are provided under different award classifications including mental and behavioural disorders, diseases of the nervous system, diseases of the circulatory and respiratory system, diseases of the musculoskeletal system, injury and poisoning and those claiming for other reasons. England and Wales, Southampton and the South East saw reductions across each of these categories between May 2008 and May 2009. The decline in total IB claimant numbers over the last year appears to have most heavily impacted upon the award categories for the circulatory and respiratory system which decreased by 13% across England and Wales, the South East and Southampton, injury and poisoning which reduced by 21%, 23% and 28% across the same regions respectively and 'other' unspecified claims which fell by 11% in England and Wales and the South East and 13% in Southampton. The majority of the thirteen LSOAs also saw a reduction in numbers under these award categories. However, the number of IB claimants for the musculoskeletal award classification increased for six of the thirteen LSOAs and remained the same in the remaining seven. Otherwise, the majority of LSOAs saw a decrease in IB claimant numbers within each category.

### 3.19 Disability Living Allowance claimants

The number of Disability Living Allowance (DLA) claimants increased across the majority of LSOAs between 2008 and 2009, the largest increase being 24% in LSOA E01017168 (Bitterne) whilst LSOA E01017154 (Bevois) decreased by a marginal 3%. England and Wales, the South East and Southampton all saw small increases in DLA claimants by 3%, 6%, and 5%, respectively. The number of DLA claimants represents between 9.2% of the working age population in E01017202 (Harefield) and 16.3% in E01017280 (Woolston). This is a slightly larger proportion than in England and Wales, Southampton and the South East, which represent an average of 8.2%, 5.8% and 7.0%, respectively.

<sup>83</sup> See Section 1.2 for more details.

## 3.2 Conclusions

The analysis contained within this report and summarised in Tables 3.2 and 3.3 highlights the extent and nature of worklessness within the thirteen LSOAs analysed. The LSOAs were selected on the basis of the aggregated density of out-of-work benefits claimants (as defined by the National Indicator for Local Authorities NI153), although the subsequent analysis studied claimants of all major working age benefits individually. Whilst this data does inevitably include some individuals who are working, and conversely does not provide details of those who are not working and not claiming benefits of any kind, it represents the most accurate information available on the characteristics of those who are out of work.

The analysis in this report highlights that worklessness in the LSOAs analysed is a significant and persistent problem. The main change to the structure of benefit claimants over the last year was the increase in the number of JSA claimants which was a direct result of the recession. This in turn led to an increase in the total number of out-of-work benefits claimants as a whole.

A worrying statistic is the high proportion of out of work claimants who have been claiming for more than five years. In some LSOAs, for certain types of benefit, this figure is either approaching or has reached 50%. In addition, on average another 20% to 30% have been claiming for between two to five years.

To put this into perspective in the thirteen LSOAs examined, a total of 4,175 people of working age (32%) are currently claiming benefits. This means that there could be over 2,000 people in these thirteen LSOAs who have been claiming benefits for more than five years; this is equal to approximately 1 in 7 of the total working age population within the thirteen LSOAs analysed. This trend towards persistent worklessness creates serious difficulties in trying to encourage those out of work back into employment.

The thirteen LSOAs within Southampton with the highest benefit claimant density are amongst the most deprived areas in England and Wales. E01017281 (Woolston) and E01017167 (Bitterne) are amongst the 5% worst effected nationally, whilst a further eight are within the 5% to 10% band. The regional positioning of E01017281 has remained fairly static as the 23<sup>rd</sup> highest claimant density area and 3<sup>rd</sup> highest within Hampshire after LSOAs E01017038 and E01017040 both within the Charles Dickens ward, Portsmouth.

### 3.21 The main findings from the research

The main highlights from the report are that:

- Worklessness within the thirteen worse LSOAs in Southampton is a significant problem. The average proportion of those of working age claiming benefits was almost one third in May 2009, figures that are between two and three times the national and city averages.
- In each of the thirteen LSOAs, the total number of benefit claimants increased between 2008 and 2009. In general, the increase has either been in line with or smaller than national, regional and local benchmark figures.

- The main reason for the increase over the last year has been the rise in JSA claimants. In the target LSOAs these have increased by an average of 71% against city and regional benchmarks of 98% and 84% respectively.
- The vast majority of benefit claims are for benefits other than JSA such as IS, IB and DLA. In the thirteen LSOAs examined an average of 15% of the working age population were claiming IS, although on average this had fallen by 5% since 2008 the level still remained almost three times the national and city average. There are a number of factors which may have influenced the decline in number of IS claimants over the last year, including changes to the eligibility criteria for the benefit and the introduction of ESA for those claiming IS under the IB grouping.
- The number of people claiming IB in the 13 LSOAs also fell by an average of 8% in the last year (a slightly lower proportion than the national average). However, the proportion of working age IB/ESA claimants remains more than twice the city average.
- The reason for the reduction is likely to be as a result of the introduction of ESA in October 2008 which replaced IB for all new claimants. Early evidence suggests that the number of ESA claimants in May 2009 may have been slightly higher in the thirteen LSOAs compared to the average in the 146 LSOAs in Southampton. Adding together figures for both IB and ESA, there does not appear to have been any significant fall in the number of claimants since ESA was introduced when compared to the number of IB claimants in previous years. However, the data is provisional and numbers are still small and subject to rounding errors which may have an impact on the level of accuracy of any analysis undertaken.
- The number of people in the 13 LSOAs claiming DLA has increased by an average of 8% (more than twice the national average). On average nearly 13% of working age people in the 13 LSOAs are claiming DLA, this figure is more than twice the regional average and over 80% higher than the city average.
- Within the thirteen LSOAs analysed, IS claimants are typically female, usually representing between 60% and 75% of all IS claimants. In almost all of the LSOAs examined in detail approximately 90% of IS claimants were single and the majority (between 50 and 65%) were aged between 25 and 49, with another 20% in the youngest age band 16 to 24. Typically, around 40% of all IS claimants had been claiming for 5 years or more and approximately half were lone parents.
- Those claiming IB are typically male (in most of the thirteen LSOAs between 50% and 60% of all IB claimants). More than half (usually 50% to 60%) are aged between 25 and 49 and another 30% are in the older age band of 50 to 59. A high proportion of IB claims are for mental or behavioural disorders, in some LSOAs this figure represents more than 50% of claims. After a fairly sharp increase in recent years the number of people claiming IB based on mental and behavioural disorders has either begun to steadily decline or remained constant. As with IS claims there is an increasing tendency towards long term claims for IB, in many LSOAs the proportion claiming for five years or more is more than 40 or 50% with another 20 to 30% claiming for between two and five years and thus moving towards becoming long-term claimants.
- Claims for DLA have also increased in most LSOAs. DLA claims tend to be more evenly split between males and females. Once again the typical profile of DLA claimant is similar to that of IS

## Worklessness in Southampton (Updated March 2010)

and IB claimants. Most are aged between 25 and 49 or 50 to 59 and have been claiming for longer than two years.

The report successfully demonstrates that the small area working age benefits data is able to pinpoint particular claimant characteristics and trends which, if used effectively, could inform policy to help alleviate the significant issue of worklessness currently evident in a number of LSOAs within Southampton.

## Appendix One

The following is an explanation of the data for each specific benefit as detailed on the Department for Work and Pensions website. This information is available from:

<http://83.244.183.180/NESS/BEN/Metadata%20for%20ORC.htm>

### **Incapacity Benefit (IB) /Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA)**

**Available data:** Total claimants, Total IB Claimants, Total SDA Claimants, claimants age, claimants gender, claim duration, medical reason for claiming

The Disease code is based on the medical reason for entitlement to Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance. All causes of incapacity referred to are based on the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 10th Revision, published by the World Health Organisation.

Classifications have only been included where the numbers involved are large enough to give out due to disclosure control. These are: Claiming IB/SDA for,

Mental or Behavioural Disorders (ICD Codes F00-F99)

Diseases of the Nervous System (ICD Codes G00 - G99)

Diseases of the Respiratory or Circulatory System (ICD Codes I00 – J99)

Diseases of the Musculoskeletal system and Connective Tissue (ICD Codes M00 - M99)

Injury, Poisoning and certain other consequences of external causes (ICD Codes S00 - U22)

Other reasons (All other ICD codes)

### **Income Support**

**Available data:** Total claimants, claimants age, claimants gender, claim duration, partnered, statistical group.

Each Income Support claimant has also been assigned to one of the following three statistical groups, in the following priority order:

<b>Incapacity Benefits</b>	Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance claimants
<b>Lone Parent</b>	Income Support claimants with a child under 16 and no partner
<b>Carer or Others on Income Related Benefit</b>	Carers Allowance claimants or Other Income Support (including IS Disability premium)

In order to avoid double counting, individuals claiming multiple benefits are classified into the highest priority category that they belong to. For example, if an individual is claiming incapacity benefit as well as income support as a lone parent, they would appear solely in the 'Incapacity Benefits' statistical group. As a result, the Lone Parent count will not include all individuals claiming that benefit.

### **Job Seekers' Allowance**

**Available data:** Total claimants, claimants age, claimants gender.

There are five key differences between the headline Claimant Count measure of the number of people claiming JSA, and DWP statistics on the number of people claiming JSA:

- '(i) The headline Claimant Count covers UK, whereas DWP JSA statistics cover GB only.
- (ii) The headline Claimant Count measures 'live' claimants on the second Thursday of the month, whereas DWP JSA statistics measures 'live' claimants on the last day of the quarter.
- (iii) The headline Claimant Count includes claims which are processed clerically, whereas the DWP JSA statistics only include computer processed claims.
- (iv) The headline Claimant Count statistics are seasonally adjusted, whereas the DWP JSA statistics are not seasonally adjusted.
- (v) Claimant Count statistics allow approximately 3 weeks for late processed claims to be input onto the DWP computer whereas DWP JSA statistics allows at least 9 weeks.'

(Source: DWP)

In order to maintain consistency as much as possible with the DWP JSA data, this report uses a Claimant Count series, obtained from NOMIS, which is not seasonally adjusted, and excludes clerical claims. The methodology used to compile the DWP JSA data has recently been improved to make the statistics more consistent with the Claimant Count. Any remaining differences between the two series are due to the known definitional reasons. To ensure that the DWP JSA statistics are comparable over time, the improved methodology has been applied to historical data, as well as current data. The DWP JSA statistics are usually around 2 per cent lower than the Claimant Count, with both series showing comparable trends in the number of JSA claimants.

### **Disability Living Allowance (DLA)**

**Available data:** Total claimants, claimants age, claimants gender, claim duration, rate of mobility component received, rate of care component received.

DLA is made up of two types of component – a care award and a mobility award, which are classified according to the following breakdowns:

<b>Lower Rate Mobility Award</b>	Number of DLA claimants entitled to the Lower Rate amount of the Mobility component.
<b>Higher Rate Mobility Award</b>	Number of DLA claimants entitled to the Higher Rate amount of the Mobility component.
<b>Nil Rate Mobility Award</b>	Number of DLA claimants entitled to Nil Rate amount of the Mobility component.
<b>Lower Rate Care Award</b>	Number of DLA claimants entitled to the Lower Rate amount of the Care component.
<b>Middle Rate Care Award</b>	Number of DLA claimants entitled to the Middle Rate amount of the Care component.
<b>Higher Rate Care Award</b>	Number of DLA claimants entitled to the Higher Rate amount of the Care component.
<b>Nil Rate Care Award</b>	Number of DLA claimants entitled to Nil Rate amount of the Care component.



