

## ECONOMIC UPDATE – MARCH 2013

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## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The headline claimant count total in January 2013 was 327 above the December 2012 total at 6,846. This figure is very slightly (0.1%) above the January 2012 figure.
- Calderdale's claimant count unemployment rate in January was 5.2%, a rise of 0.2% from December. Nationally and regionally, the rates were also up 0.2% on the previous month at 3.9% and 4.6% respectively.
- The most recent measure of unemployment figures, based on the Labour Force Survey (using the ILO definition) covers the twelve months from October 2011 to September 2012. This showed total unemployment of 9,300 and an unemployment rate of 9.0%, below the figures for the corresponding period the previous year of 9,500 and 9.4%.
- The unemployment rate on this measure, 9.0%, was slightly lower than the regional one of 9.5% but above the national rate of 7.9.
- The latest national unemployment rates based on the Labour Force Survey showed a fall in the latest quarter, compared to the previous quarter.
- The proportion of women claiming job-seeker's allowance continues to grow, so that there are now 2 men unemployed for every unemployed woman.
- The unemployment rate among young adults (under 25 years) rose in the latest two months, and is now 8.8%. This is still lower than in January last year. There were rises in unemployment for the 25 – 49 and 50+ age groups, over the last month and over the last year.
- The number in long-term unemployment (>12 months) has been rising steadily since June 2011. The long-term unemployed total of 1,875 is now over a quarter of the total unemployed, about the same as the national rate and slightly below the regional rate.
- The number unemployed more than 6 months rose in January, to 2,980. This was also higher than the previous January. Those unemployed longer than six months account for 44% of total unemployment in Calderdale, about the same as the national and regional percentage.
- Over the last twelve months, there has been a mixed picture for unemployment in the different wards, with particularly high unemployment in Park and Ovenden Wards. The largest rises in unemployment over the year have occurred in Park, with 110 more unemployed, Warley, with 39 more, Illingworth & Mixenden, with 33 more, and Rastrick, with 32 more unemployed.
- The largest falls were in Calder, down by 55, Elland, down by 52, and Todmorden, down by 48.
- The wards with the highest unemployment rates remain Park (11.9%), Ovenden (9.6%), Town (8.0%), Illingworth & Mixenden (7.4%), and Warley (6.8%). The lowest rates are in Northowram & Shelf (2.5%), Hipperholme & Lightcliffe (2.6%), Calder (2.7%), and Luddendenfoot (2.7%).
- Data on vacancies from JobCentre Plus was replaced in November with Universal Jobmatch data, which is not comparable, so at this stage there is insufficient data to draw any conclusions on trends in vacancies.

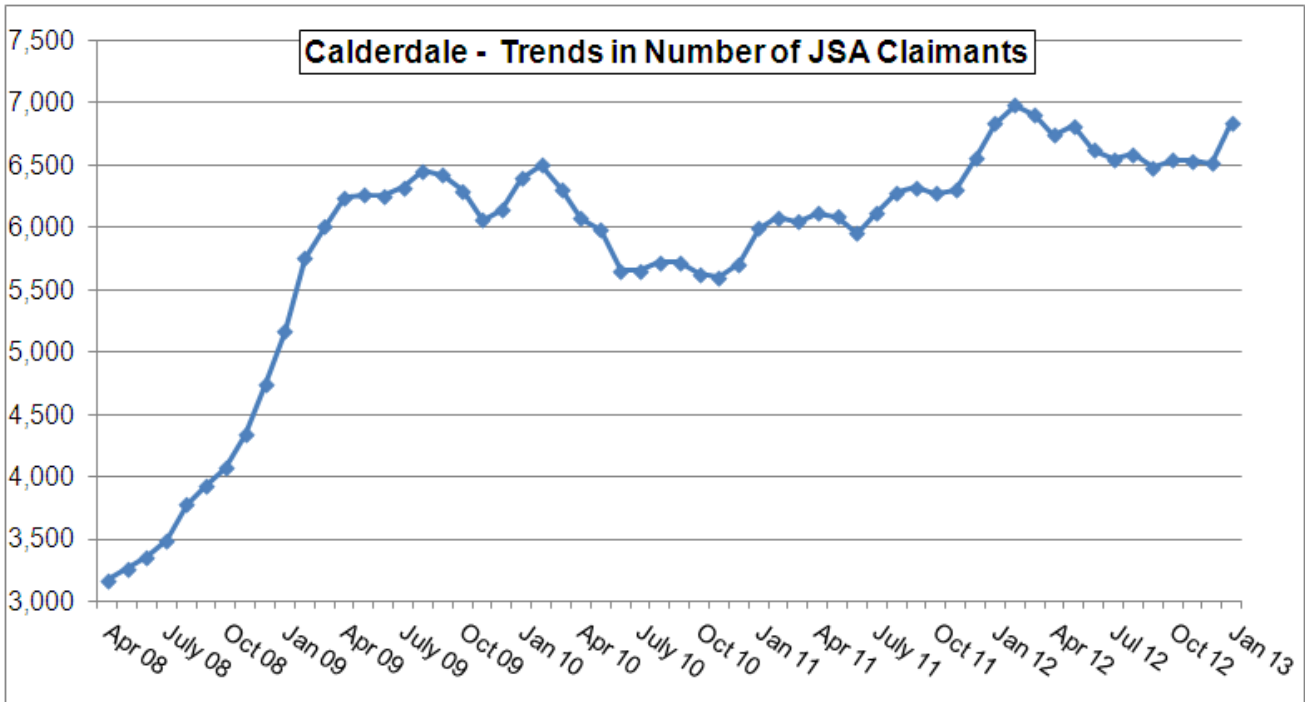
- Land registry data shows that, after falling in the second half of 2012, house prices in Calderdale have risen for the last two months. The latest (January 2013) average price, of £94,843, is 0.5% higher than the previous month, but is 1% below the figure twelve months earlier and 21% below figures at the beginning of 2008.
- The volume of house sales has been up and down so far this year, but has risen for the last two months for which data is available, with November's sales (the latest available) at 215. While the pattern of house sales over the last two years is very similar to the national one, sales in Calderdale remain lower than the national average.
- Data on numbers of working-age clients has a lag of six months. The latest data shows that in May 2012, 21,200 people in Calderdale received one or more benefits payable to people of working age. This represents 16.1% of the working-age population, an increase of 320 on the previous figure.
- Figures from 2011 for Sector of Employment show that manufacturing in Calderdale increased slightly from the low point of 2010, and remains substantially higher than the national proportion. Services now account for nearly 80% of employment in Calderdale, and nearly 85% nationally, while Construction and Primary sectors contribute about 5%, somewhat below the national figure.
- Latest crime figures for seven key offences (about 60% of total crime) for 2011/12 showed a year-on-year fall in the total for the offences covered of 25%, with largest falls in Vehicle Crime and Violence against the Person.
- Latest household income data shows a small (2%) fall in median household incomes in Calderdale (and for Great Britain as a whole). Well over one quarter of households in the District have combined incomes (including benefits) of less than £15,000.
- Data on numbers of working-age clients has a lag of six months. The latest data shows that in February 2012, 21,520 people in Calderdale received one or more benefits payable to people of working age. This represents 16.5% of the working-age population, an increase of 410 on the previous figure.
- Business Demography figures, show that while "births" i.e. start-ups, continue to fall, "deaths" i.e. closures continue to rise. Since 2009, "deaths" have exceeded "births", both locally, regionally, and nationally, and the gap is increasing..

**REGULARLY UPDATED INFORMATION**

**Unemployment**

*Trend Data*

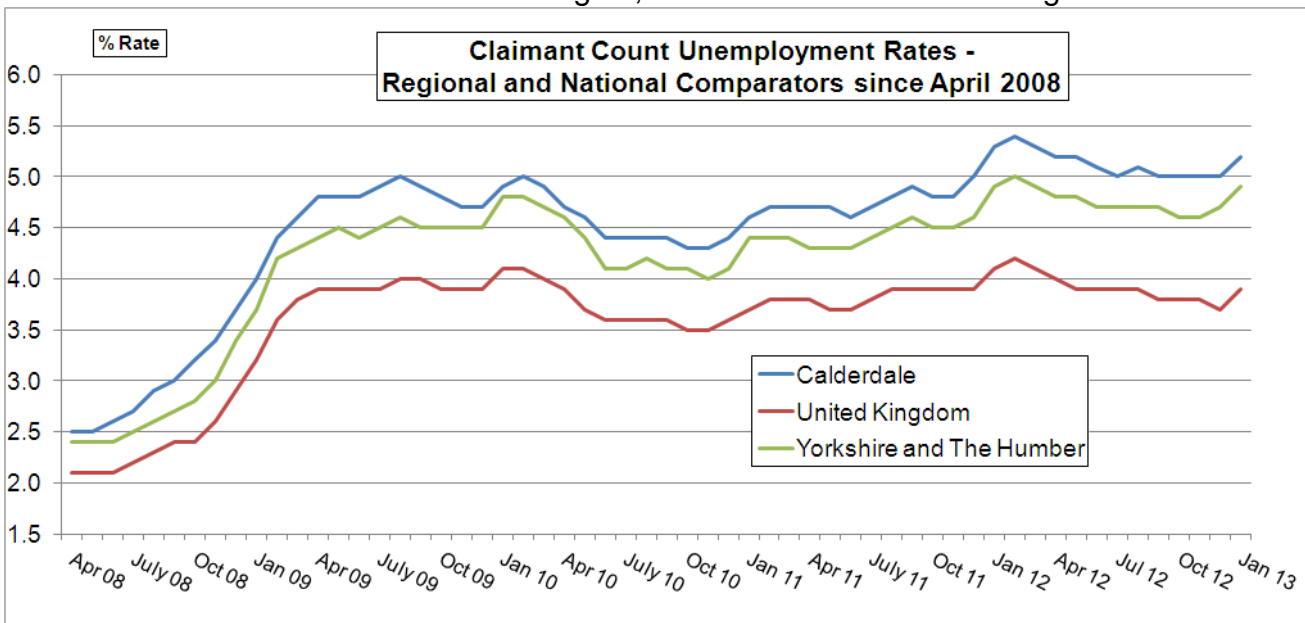
The number of people unemployed and claiming Job Seekers Allowance in Calderdale rose in January, and is now at its highest since March 2012. The January 2013 total of 6,846 was 327 above the December 2012 total.



Source: NOMIS, Claimant Count Data-set

*Comparative*

In January 2013, the total number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance rose in Calderdale, in the region and nationally. Unemployment rates rose to 5.2% for Calderdale, 4.9% for Yorkshire and the Humber Region, and 3.9% for the United Kingdom.



Source: NOMIS, Claimant Count Data-set

### Sample-based Unemployment Estimates

The traditional unemployment rate based on claimant counts suffers a number of flaws, including changes in rules and eligibility, and different rates of registration.

More reliable is the ILO rate<sup>1</sup>, which is based on a sample survey to determine numbers out of work and seeking work, and also uses the economically active population as the denominator (instead of the total population of “working age”). Although the survey is very large nationally, at District level it is only robust when applied to a full year, so it is a “modelled” figure not an unemployment count at a particular date.

Although national up-to-date figures are widely quoted in the media, the figures available for Calderdale have a substantial time-lag.

Latest available figures for Calderdale refer to a yearly “average”, and show a fall in the number unemployed and the rate between October 2010 – September 2011 and October 2011 – September 2012. The figure of 9,300 for October 2011 – September 2012 compared to an average claimant count of 6,639 for that period. This gives a clear indication of how much higher the model-based ILO figures are than the claimant count figures (or the extent to which Claimant Count is an under-count).

Unemployment – latest figures and year-on-year change (ILO definition)				
Date	Calderdale		Y&H	Great Britain
	No.	%	%	%
October 2010 – September 2011	9,500	9.4	9.5	7.9
October 2011 – September 2012	9,300	9.0	9.5	7.9

Source: NOMIS, Modelled from ONS Annual Population Survey (APS)

Most recent **national** (UK) quarterly figures based on the same data and definitions cover the period October – December 2012. They give a seasonally-adjusted unemployment total (all aged 16+) of 2,501,000 (7.8% of the economically active population). This is down by 13,000 on the previous quarter (July - September 2012), and by 156,000 over the same quarter 12 months ago.

The APS data therefore continues to show substantially higher unemployment numbers and rates (due to different definition and coverage).

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<sup>1</sup> ILO: The International Labour Organisation is an agency of the United Nations, the global body responsible for drawing up and overseeing international labour standards.

### Unemployment by Gender

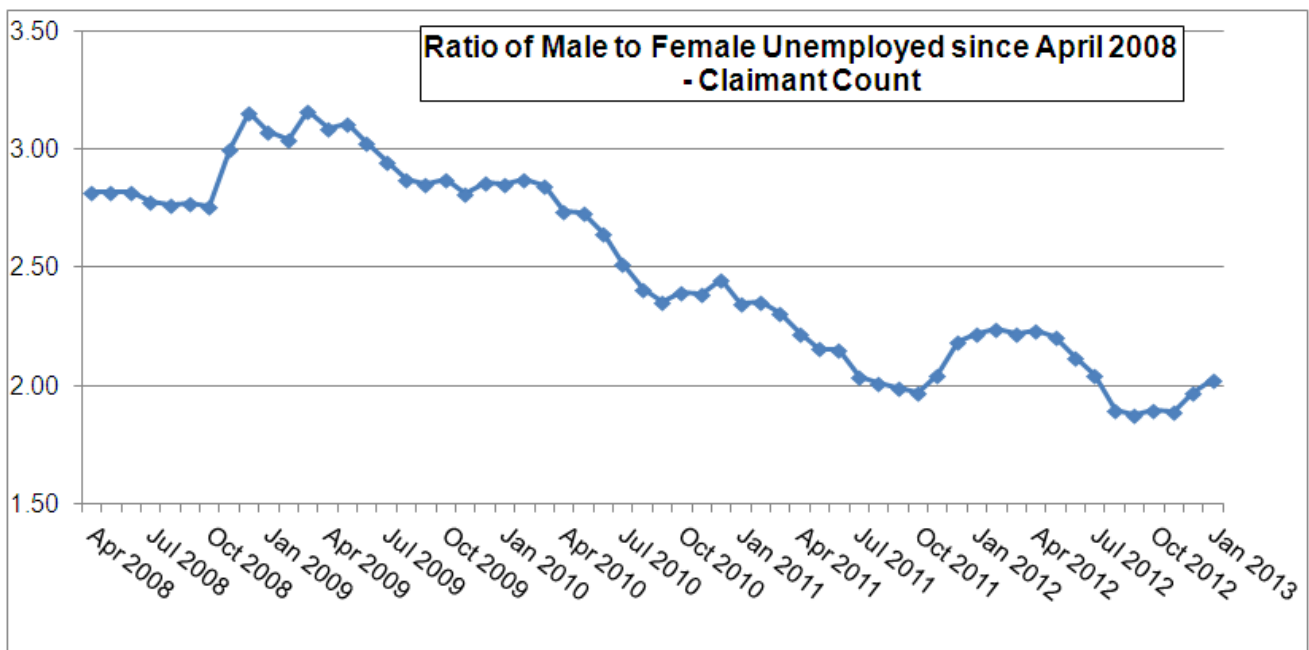
The table below shows the 6-monthly claimant count totals for male and female in Calderdale, and their proportion of the total. It shows that unemployment has had a proportionally greater effect on women than on men. As a result, women now comprise 33% of total claimants in Calderdale. This proportion is about the same as the regional figure and slightly lower than the national figure.

**Unemployment by Gender in Calderdale, May 2008 – November 2012**

Date	Male		Female	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
January 2008	2,217	73.8	788	26.2
July 2008	2,570	73.6	924	26.4
January 2009	3,898	75.5	1,268	24.5
July 2009	4,716	74.7	1,601	25.3
January 2010	4,737	74.1	1,660	25.9
July 2010	4,047	71.6	1,607	28.4
January 2011	4,205	70.2	1,789	29.8
July 2011	4,103	67.1	2,014	32.9
January 2012	4,713	68.9	2,125	31.1
July 2012	4,397	67.2	2,149	32.8
January 2013	4,584	67.0	2,262	33.0

Source: NOMIS, Claimant Count Data-set

The chart below shows the ratio of male to female unemployment since April 2008, showing the change from almost 3 men unemployed for every unemployed woman in January 2009, down to 2 men unemployed for every unemployed woman in January 2013.



Source: NOMIS, Claimant Count Data-set

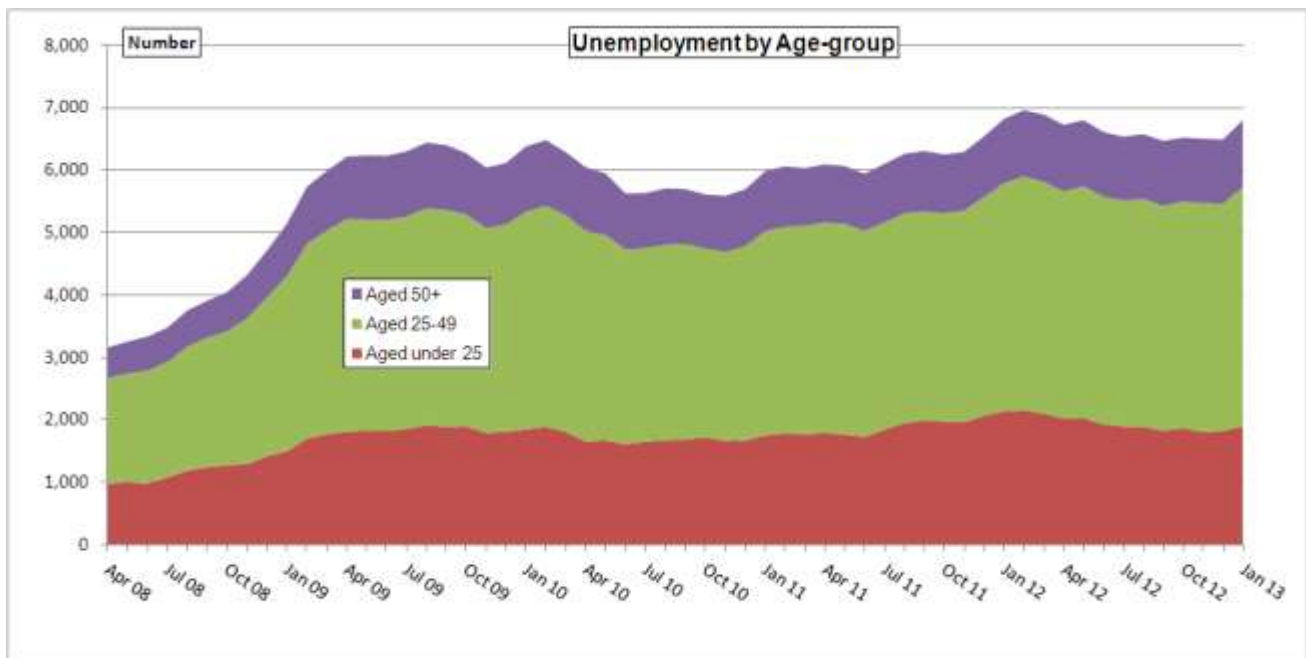
Unemployment data from the APS/LFS also suggests that in Calderdale, the growth in female unemployment over the whole period has exceeded that in male unemployment, although this data is not up-to-date.

### Age-groups

The chart below shows how different age-groups have been affected by unemployment. The total in the under 25 age group unemployed and claiming benefits, after reaching its highest level since the 1990s in February 2012, fell throughout most of the remainder of 2012, but the January 2013 total has risen again. After remaining fairly steady during 2012, the totals for the 25 - 49 and 50+ age groups also rose in January 2013.

In January 2013, there were 1,895 claimants aged under 25, 27.8% of total claimants. The unemployment rate for under 25s in Calderdale in January was 8.8. For the 25-49 age group, there were 3,830 claimants, a rate of 5.5, and for the 50+ group the total was 1,080, a rate of 2.7.

Overall, since April 2008, unemployment in the under 25 age group has risen by 91%, in the 25 – 49 age groups by 129%, and in the 50+ age group by 118%. In 2010 and 2011, under-25s were disproportionately affected by unemployment, however, since April 2012 under 25's unemployment has fallen by 6%, while unemployment for the 25-49 age group has risen by 5%, and for the 50+ age group it has risen by 1%.



Source: NOMIS, Claimant Count Data-set

### Duration of Unemployment

The crucial importance of long-term unemployment relates to the cumulative impact on individuals and households of long periods with much lower income and lack of work. Households may be able to cope with a short period of unemployment, while a longer period results in debt, loss of housing, and additional obstacles to securing new employment.

The table below shows that long-term (>12 months) unemployment has continued to rise steadily in Calderdale, and has started to rise again regionally and nationally. Long-term unemployment in Calderdale remains at its highest level since 1997.

Long-term unemployment, at 1,875, now accounts for over 27% of total unemployment, below the regional rate (29%) and about the same as the national rate (28%).

In January, the number unemployed 6 months or longer rose to 2,980, and is still higher than the previous peak in September 2009.

In Calderdale the number unemployed longer than six months accounted for 44% of total unemployment in January, about the same as the national figure, and slightly below the regional figure of 45%.

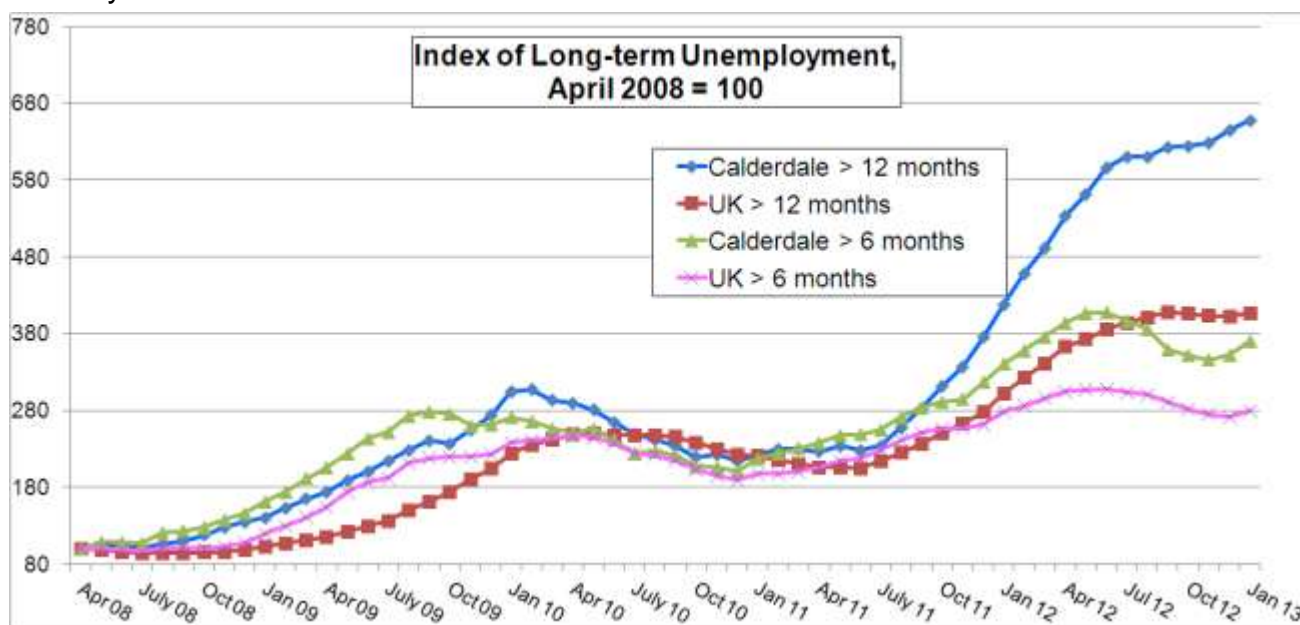
### Calderdale – Duration of Unemployment

	Unemployed longer than 12 months		Unemployed longer than 6 months	
	No.	% of total	No.	% of total
January 2008	330	11.0	795	26.6
July 2008	290	8.3	865	24.8
January 2009	400	7.7	1,295	25.1
July 2009	610	9.7	2,025	32.0
January 2010	870	13.6	2,180	34.1
July 2010	710	12.6	1,800	31.8
January 2011	630	10.5	1,750	29.2
July 2011	655	10.9	2,050	33.5
January 2012	1,190	17.4	2,740	40.1
July 2012	1,740	26.6	3,200	48.9
January 2013	1,875	27.4	2,980	43.5

Source: NOMIS, Claimant Count Data-set

The chart below shows comparative data for the growth in numbers unemployed for longer than 6 months and longer than 12 months. All figures are indexed to April 2008.

The rise in long-term unemployment since July 2011 has been much faster in Calderdale than nationally, the number unemployed more than 12 months showing a 182% increase between July 2011 and January 2013 in Calderdale, compared with 90% nationally. For unemployment longer than six months, the gap between local and national rates has recently reduced slightly. Locally, regionally and nationally, the number unemployed for more than 6 months rose in January 2013.



Source: NOMIS, Claimant Count Data-set



## Unemployment by Area

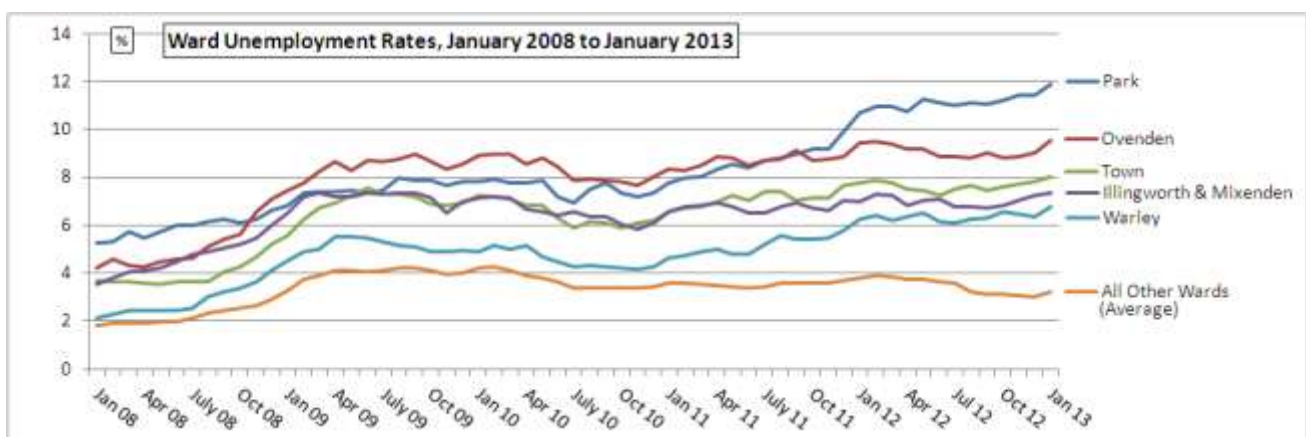
Unemployment rates for Calderdale wards in October 2012 were:

Ward	Rate	Change from last year	Ward	Rate	Change from last year
Brighouse	4.4%	- 9.0%	Park	11.9%	+ 11.1%
Calder	2.7%	- 20.3%	Rastrick	4.8%	+ 10.4%
Elland	4.6%	- 13.4%	Ryburn	3.0%	- 4.5%
Greetland & Stainland	2.9%	- 6.7%	Skircoat	3.8%	+ 0.3%
Hipperholme & Lightcliffe	2.6%	- 8.1%	Sowerby Bridge	5.2%	- 1.6%
Illingworth & Mixenden	7.4%	+ 5.5%	Todmorden	4.0%	- 13.7%
Luddendenfoot	2.7%	- 13.2%	Town	8.0%	+ 3.5%
Northowram & Shelf	2.5%	+ 14.0%	Warley	6.8%	+ 8.3%
Ovenden	9.6%	+ 1.2%			

The wards with the highest unemployment rates were Park, Ovenden, Town, Illingworth and Mixenden, and Warley.

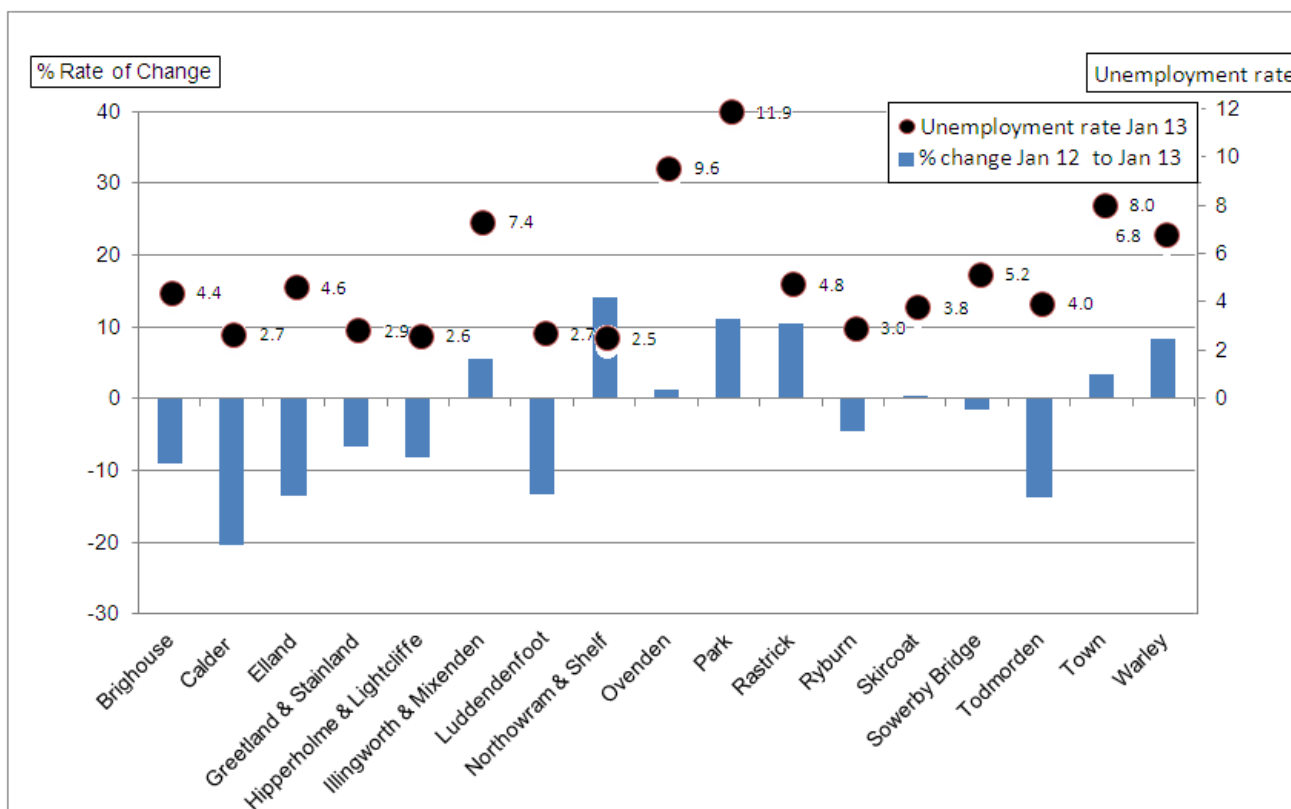
The lowest rates were in Northowram and Shelf, Hipperholme and Lightcliffe, Calder, Luddendenfoot, and Greetland and Stainland.

Although unemployment has generally been increasing throughout Calderdale, the effect in different areas has varied, as illustrated in the chart below. Park, with 7.1% of the working age population of Calderdale, had 16.1% of the Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants, and Ovenden, with 6.2% of the working age population had 11.3% of the JSA claimants. At the start of 2008, the unemployment rates for most wards were up to or a little above 2%, with the exception of the four wards Park (5.3%), Ovenden (4.2%), Town (3.7%), and Illingworth and Mixenden (3.6%). The latest figures show that rates for most wards now range from just over 2% to just over 5%, with five exceptions now, the same four wards Park (11.9%), Ovenden (9.6%), Town (8.0%), and Illingworth and Mixenden (7.4%), with the addition of Warley (6.8%).



Source: NOMIS, Claimant Count Data-set

The change in unemployment **over the past year** has varied widely across Calderdale. The chart below shows the rate of change in the number unemployed and claiming benefit, alongside the unemployment rate.



Source: NOMIS, Claimant Count Data-set

Park Ward, which was the ward worst hit in terms of the **rate of growth** in numbers unemployed over the last year, was also the ward with the highest unemployment rate, whereas Ovenden, with the next highest unemployment rate, had a very small increase in numbers unemployed.

The wards with the greatest increase in unemployment over the year were Park (110 more claimants or 11% increase), Warley (39 or 8%), Illingworth and Mixenden (33 or 6%), Rastrick (32 or 10%), and Northowram & Shelf (23 or 14%). The largest falls were in Calder (55 fewer or 14.7%), Elland (52 or 13%), Todmorden (48 or 11.1%), Brighouse (30 or 9%) and Luddendenfoot (28 or 13%).

## Vacancies

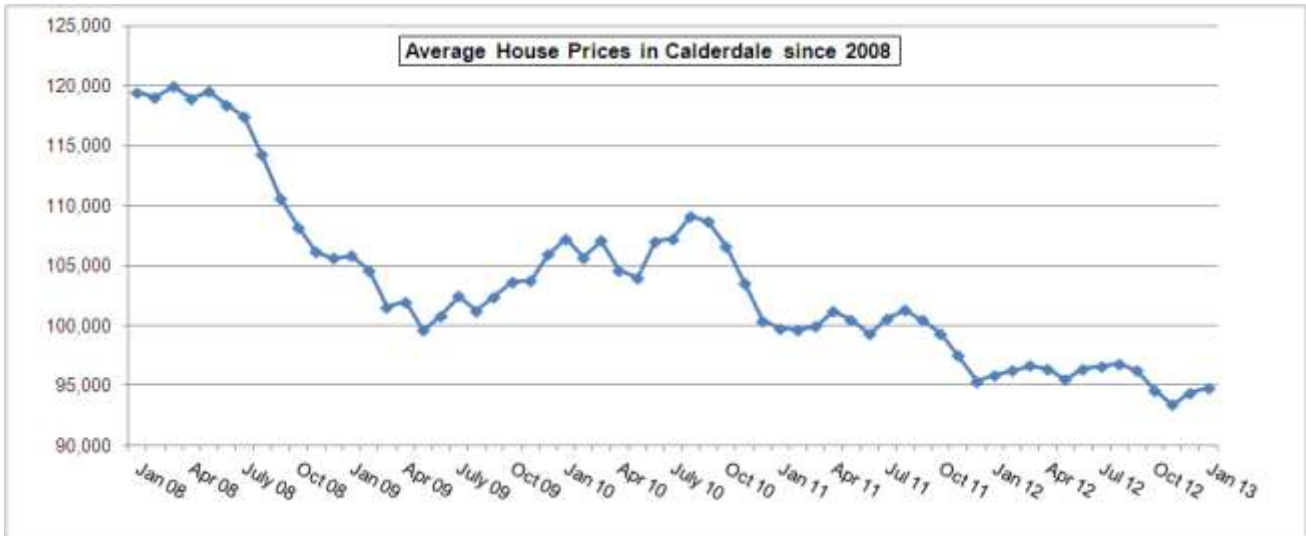
In November 2012, a new Universal Jobmatch service was launched, matching vacancies to jobseekers. As a result, the existing source of data has been decommissioned and the existing National Statistics on Jobcentre Plus vacancies has ceased. New statistics derived from Universal Jobmatch are available but definitions are not consistent with the previous statistics.

The number of live jobs shown on the Universal Jobmatch system for Calderdale in February was 812, which is the highest in the 4 months for which data on this system is available, but in the absence of any previous year's data for comparison, it is not possible to tell whether this is just due to seasonal variations. The rise in Calderdale does, however, appear to be lower than that for Yorkshire or for England.

Data on vacancies by category of occupation and by industry are not currently available at local authority level

## House Prices and Volume of Sales

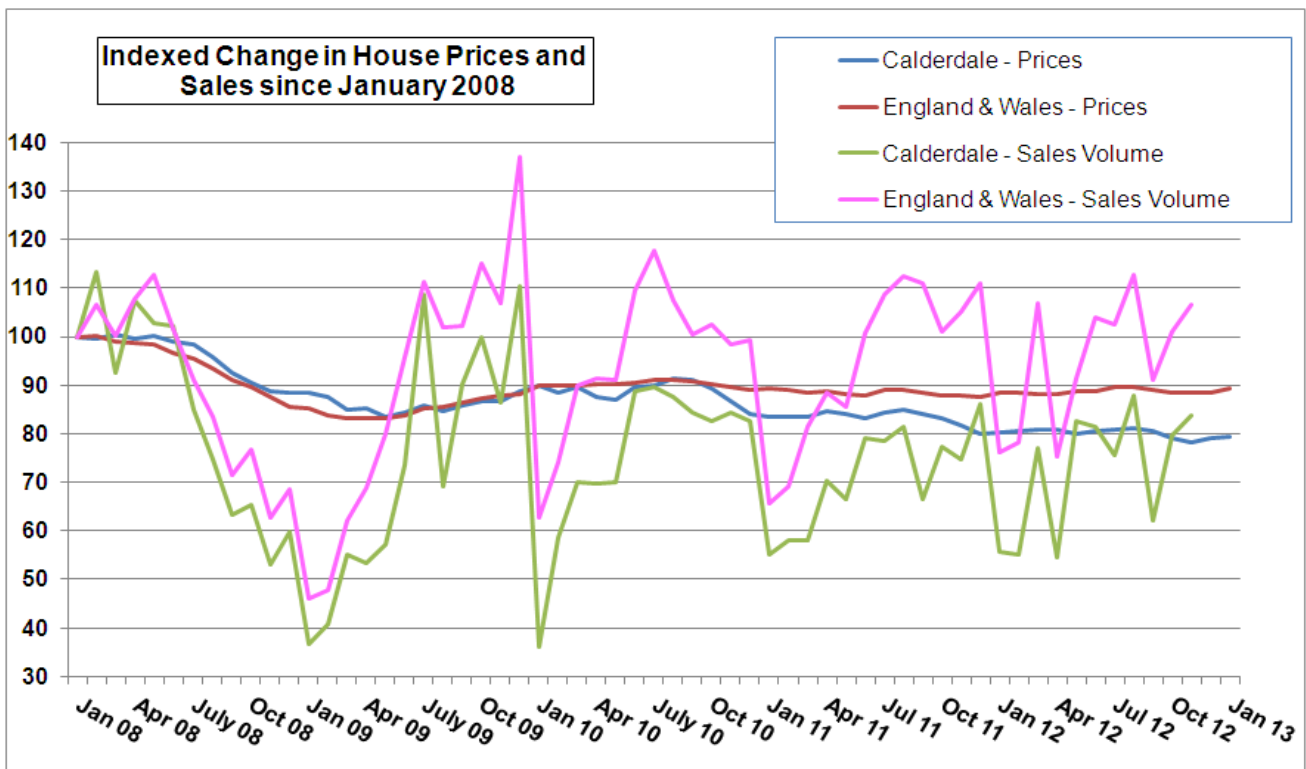
The chart below shows that average house prices in Calderdale rose in the two months up to January 2013. The average price for January was £94,843, which is 1% below the price a year ago and 21% below the price in January 2008.



Source: Land Registry

The chart below shows how house prices followed national trends very closely from January 2008, until late 2010, with an almost identical rate of decline, and recovery. Since then, however, there has been an increasing divergence, with Calderdale prices falling at a greater rate than nationally. In Calderdale, prices have fallen by 1% since November 2010, while nationally they rose by 8%.

The level of house sales also follow the national trend, but with consistently lower levels of sales. However, these figures should be treated with caution as the level of house sales is extremely volatile.

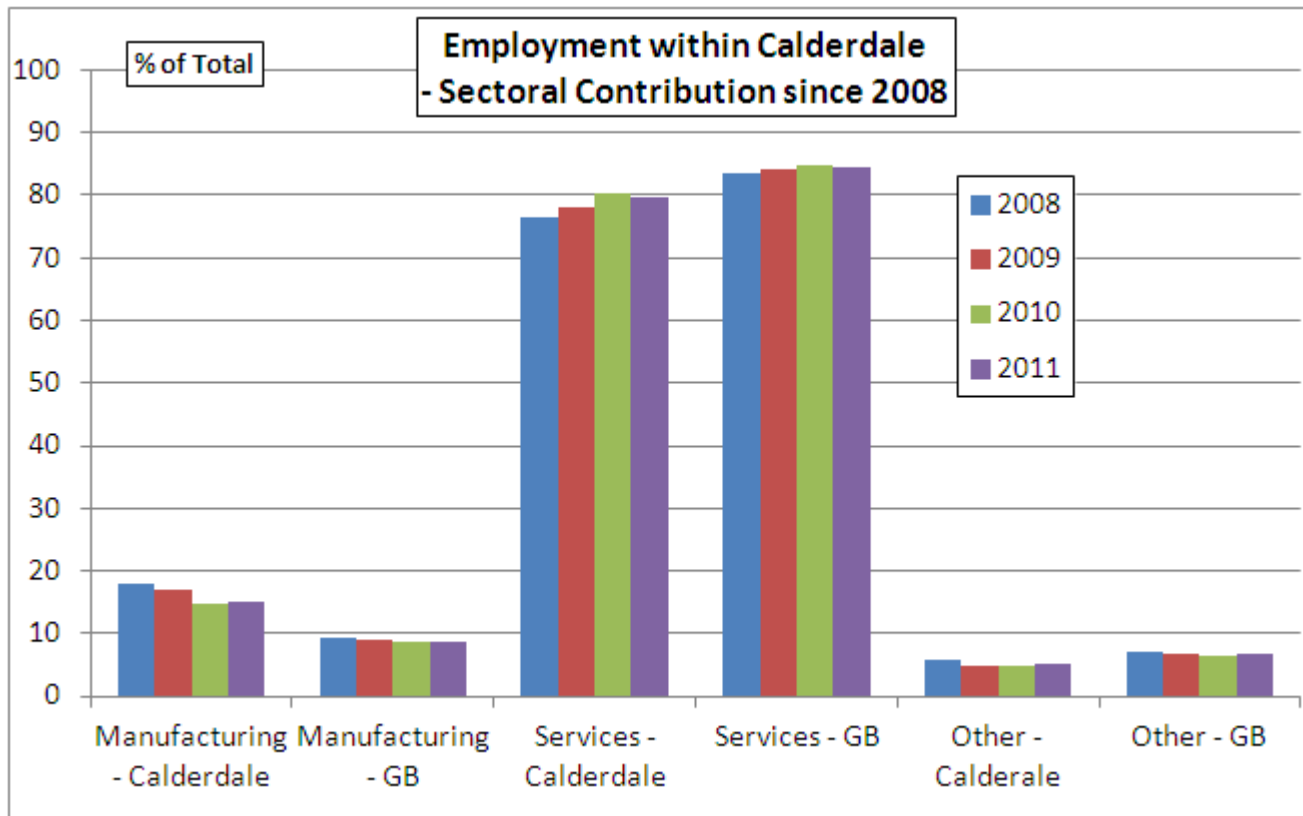


Source: Land Registry

**OTHER INFORMATION (UPDATED LESS FREQUENTLY, WHEN NEW DATA IS AVAILABLE)**

**Employment by Sector – updated September 2012**

The chart below shows the changing importance of manufacturing and services in Calderdale and Great Britain, in terms of *employment*, between 2008 and 2011.



Source: *Business Register and Employment Survey*

Manufacturing’s share of employment in Calderdale has halted its decline by rising slightly in 2011, and remains substantially higher than the national figure.

Correspondingly, the Service Sector, while showing a small increase in the number of jobs, declined slightly as a proportion of total employment. It now accounts for nearly 80% of employment in Calderdale, and almost 85% nationally.

Construction and primary sectors (agriculture, forestry, energy and water) contribute about 5%, below the national figure of nearly 7%.

## Trends in Crime – updated July 2012

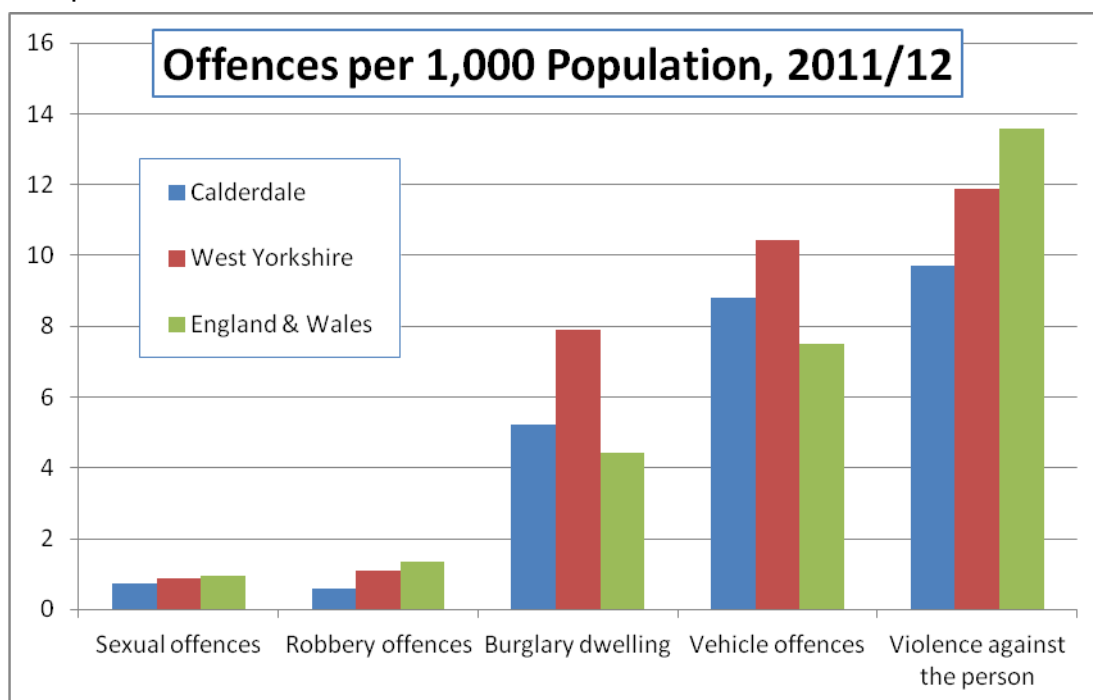
The table below shows the number offences recorded by the police in Calderdale from a sub-set of seven key offences (Vehicle crime includes 3 separate offences, theft of a vehicle, theft from a vehicle, and interfering with a vehicle). About 60% of all crime is in these categories.

There were falls in all offences except for robbery between the two years.

Offence	2011/12	2010/11	% Change in Number of Offences over Previous Year
	No of Offences		
Violence against the person	1,967	2,473	-20.5
Sexual offences	151	160	-5.6
Robbery	119	112	+6.3
Burglary (dwelling)	1,061	1,189	-10.8
Vehicle crime	1,782	2,367	-24.7

Source: Home Office, Notifiable Offences Recorded by the Police

The chart below illustrates how crime per 1,000 population in Calderdale for 2011/12 compares with the West Yorkshire and England and Wales rates. This shows that the rate in Calderdale is consistently below that for West Yorkshire as a whole for all the selected categories, and below the national rate for sexual offences, robbery offences and violence against the person.



Source: Home Office, Notifiable Offences Recorded by the Police

## Economic Activity and Self-employment – updated June 2012

Figures provided in the monthly Labour Market Profile (based on the Annual Population Survey) provide data on economic activity, employment and self-employment rates. These figures are sample-based, are based on an average over a twelve-month period and therefore have a substantial lag.

The latest figures indicate that Calderdale economic activity rates are about the same as national ones and above regional rates. For employment rates, Calderdale is higher than the Yorkshire and Humberside rate but below the GB rate. Self-employment is significantly higher than the regional average and slightly below the national average.

Summary Economic and Employment Rates, July 2011 – June 2012			
	Calderdale %	Y&H %	GB %
Economic Activity Rate	76.9	75.4	76.6
Male Economic Activity Rate	81.7	81.4	82.8
Female Economic Activity Rate	72.2	69.4	70.4
Employment Rate	69.7	67.8	70.3
Self-employment Rate	9.3	8.0	9.5

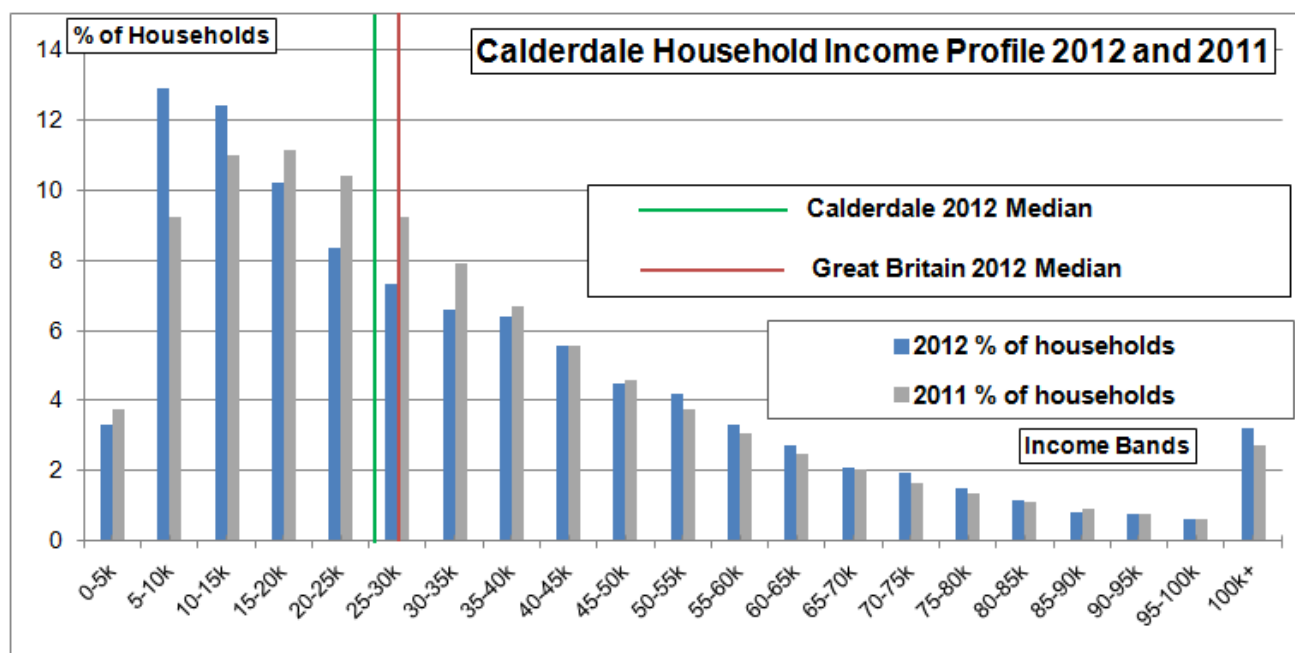
Source: NOMIS, Annual Population Survey

## Household Income – updated April 2012

The chart below illustrates the pattern of distribution of household income in Calderdale, by showing the percentage falling into income bands of £5,000, updated with 2012 data.

The chart demonstrates that 29% of Calderdale households have an income below £15,000 (including benefit and credit payments), and 39% have an income below £20,000. This is an increased percentage of households on lower incomes compared with 2011, when 24% had an income below £15,000, and 35% below £20,000. The proportion of households on middle incomes (£20,000 – £40,000) is lower than in 2011, but the higher incomes show little change.

The median household income in Calderdale is £26,920, £1,493 below the Great Britain figure. The CACI data indicates that both median figures have fallen, by £516 for Calderdale and £576 for Great Britain over the last twelve months.



Source: CACI Paycheck data, 2012

### Working Age Benefits – updated February 2012

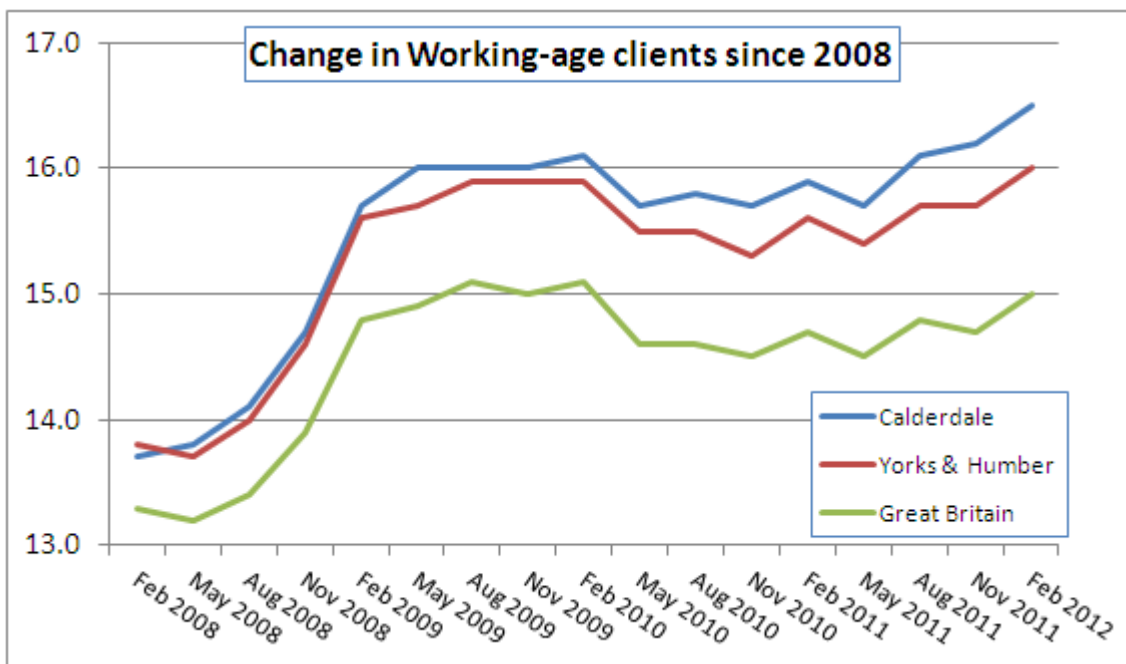
The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) produces a range of data on benefits. One series relates to benefits paid to working-age clients. This includes not only Job Seekers Allowance (which is the basis of the Claimant Count) but a number of other benefits, such as Incapacity Benefit.

The disadvantage of this measure is that there is a substantial time-lag; it provides a basis for analysing long-term changes and how we compare regionally or nationally but does not show recent changes.

The latest figures are for February 2012. These show 21,520 people of working age in Calderdale receiving one of these benefits, a rise of 410 compared with November 2011, and 890 higher than February 2011.

The chart below illustrates that the rate of working-age benefit claimants (as a % of the working age population) rose substantially between May 2008 and May 2009, and again from May 2011 up to the latest figure. This pattern echoes that regionally and nationally, although the rate for Calderdale is higher than the regional one, which in turn is higher than the national average

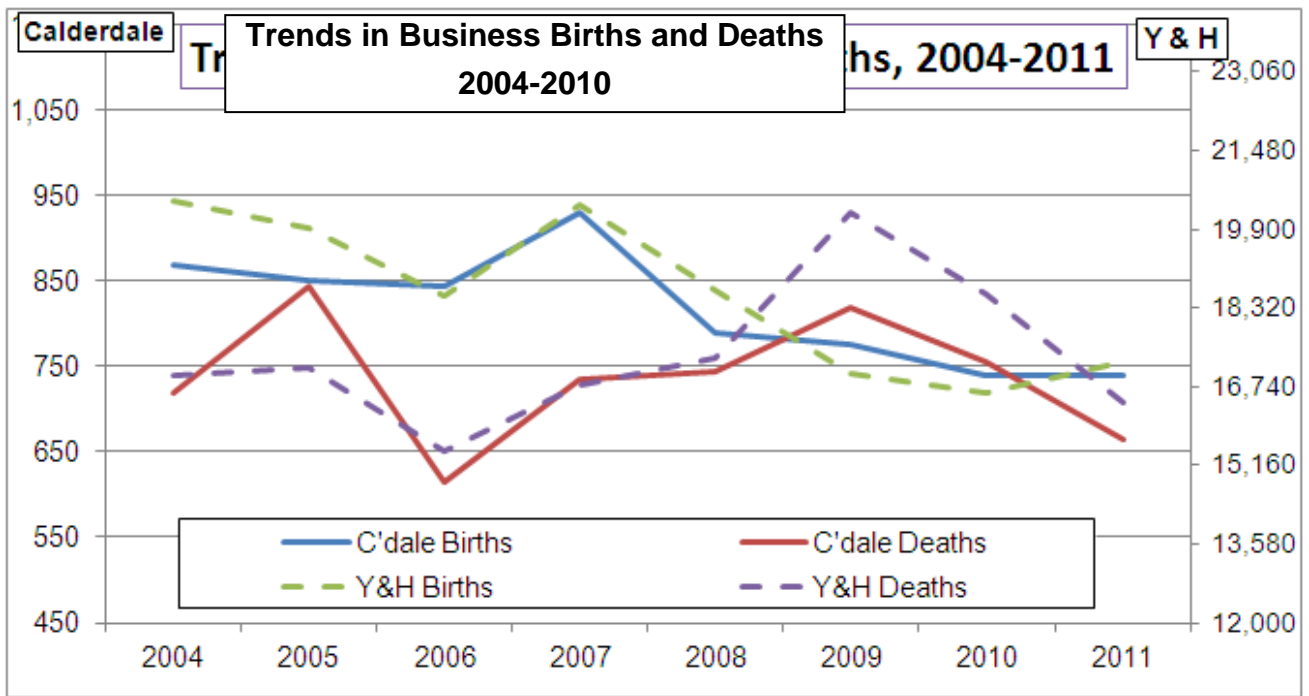
Calderdale’s rate of working-age benefits in February 2012 was 16.5%, the regional rate was 16.0%, and the national rate was 15.0%.



Source: NOMIS, DWP Data-sets

**Business “Births and Deaths” – updated February 2012**

A further indicator of the health of the economy is the number of Business Births and Deaths. This indicator replaces the previous VAT registrations and de-registrations, and is not directly comparable as it includes non-VAT registered companies. The chart following shows trends in these from 2004 to 2011 and illustrates the fact that, both locally and regionally, business deaths decreased in 2011, so that although the volume of business births was little changed, business births outnumbered business deaths in 2011. This follows the national trend.



Source: ONS Business Demography Statistics

**Produced by**

**Customer Knowledge Team  
Communities Directorate**