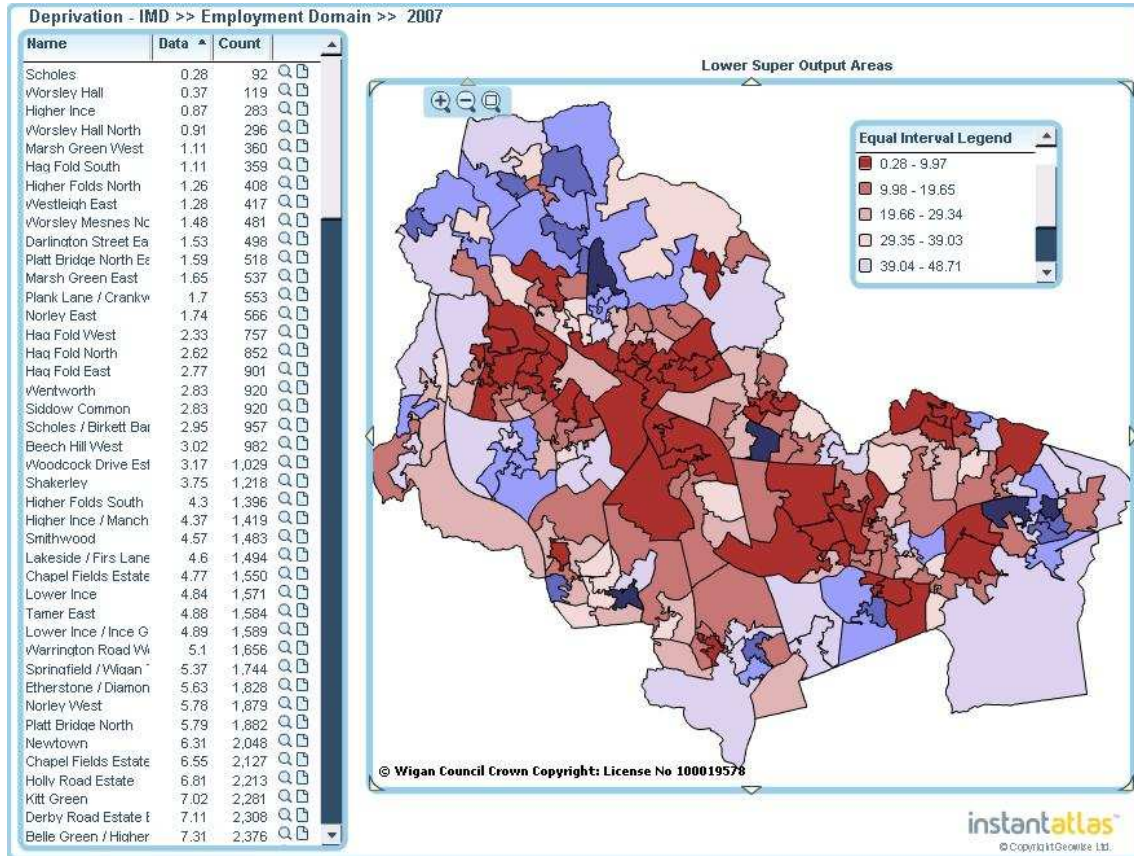
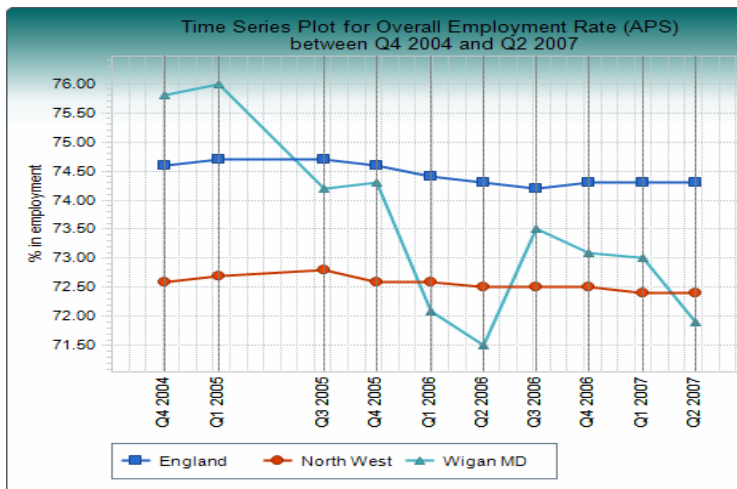


# Outcome Based Accountability Factsheet 5. Getting people into work and out of benefits

According to Indices of Deprivation 2007, 49 of Wigan's 200 LSOAs are within the 10% most deprived of all LSOAs in England for employment deprivation (see areas in red on map) which is an improvement on the 2004 position when there were 53. (ID 2004 and ID 2007 Employment Domain).



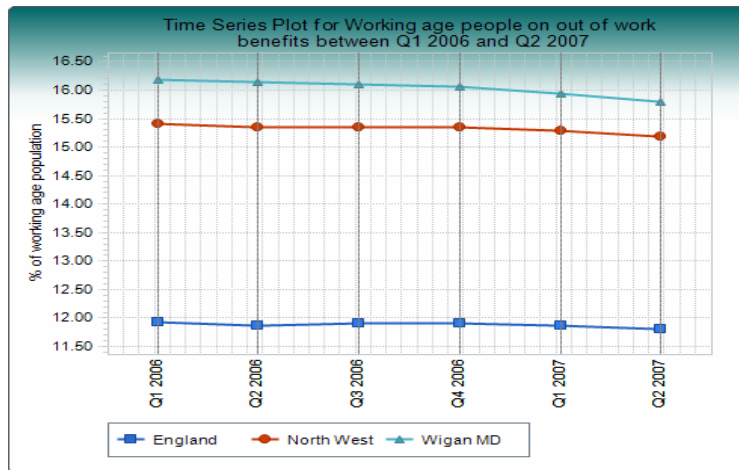
## NI 151: Overall employment rate



71.9% of Wigan's working age population are in employment which is only slightly behind the North West (72.4%) but significantly behind England (74.3%). (Source: Floor Targets Interactive).

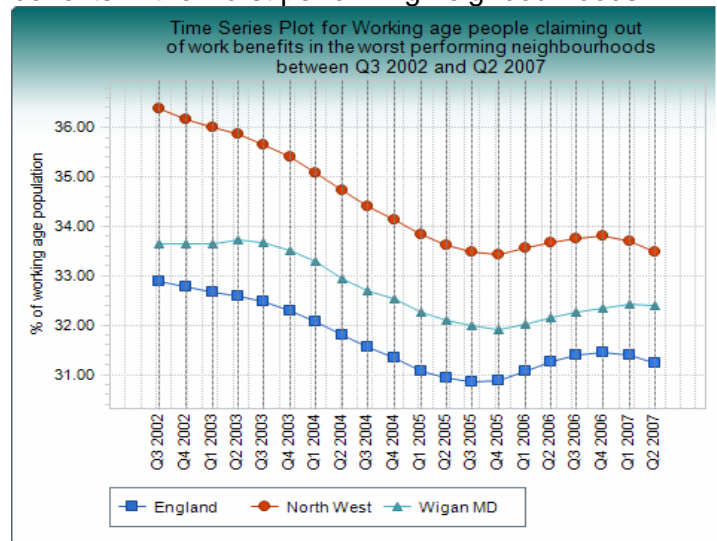
- The Department of Work and Pensions estimates the overall number of workless people in Wigan at 34,670 (2007)
- Reductions in the workless totals for Wigan are reflective of national and regional trends rather than any specific localised interventions. It is also apparent that Wigan has not closed the gap compared to the North West and UK averages
- Within the deprived areas (as defined by the DWP) there has been virtually no reduction in the overall figure for worklessness since 1999. The workless total in those areas accounted for 27% of the overall figure and by November 2008 this proportion had increased to 33% (Wigan Draft Worklessness Strategy 2008)

## NI 152: Working age people on out of work benefits



15.8% of Wigan's working age population are claiming at least one out of work benefit which is line with the North West (15.18%) but significantly above England (11.8%) and there is no evidence that the gap is narrowing. Working age out of work benefits include unemployed people on Job Seekers Allowance, Lone Parents on Income Support, Incapacity Benefits customers, and others on income-related benefits.

## NI 153: Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods

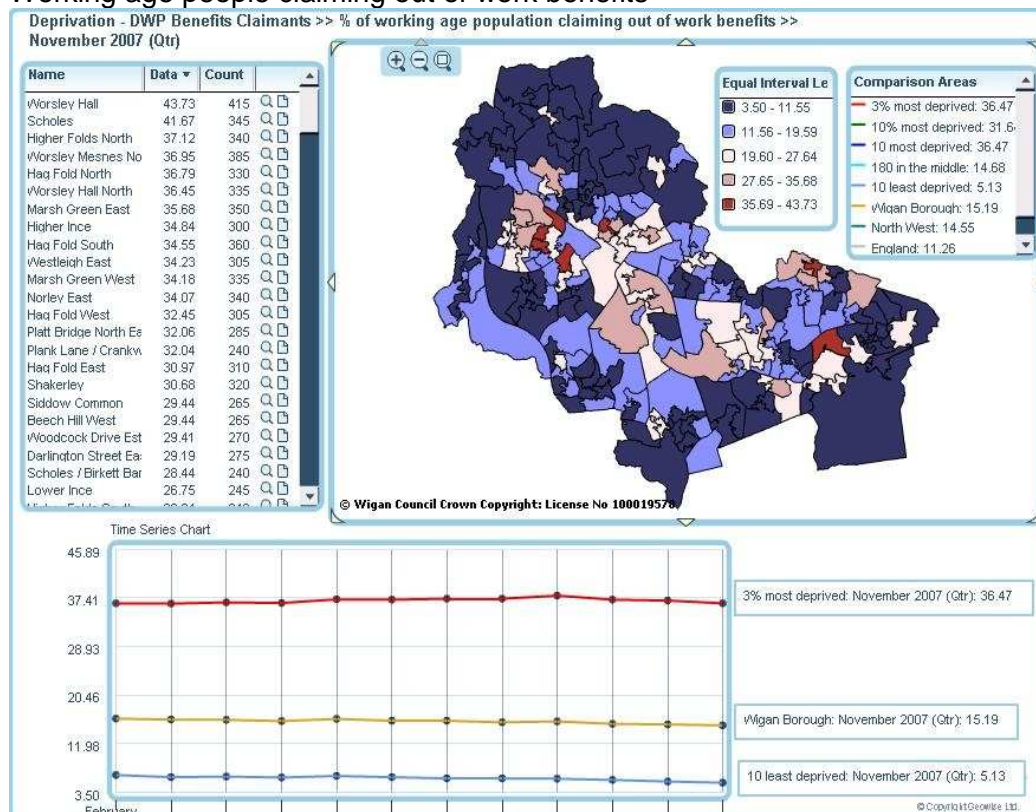


The data for May 2007 shows that the rolling 4 quarter average of Wigan's worst performing neighbourhoods is worse than England but better than the North West. The dashboard on the next page shows the situation for individual lower super output areas (LSOAs)

Note 1 Worst performing neighbourhoods are defined as LSOAs with a benefit claim rate of 25% or more based on a 4 quarter average between May 2006 and February 2007. The areas will remain the same throughout the lifetime of the indicator.

Note 2 Out of work benefits include Jobseeker's Allowance, Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance, Income Support and Other Income related benefits. The double counting of claimants of multiple benefits has been removed to provide a more accurate picture of benefit claiming and worklessness at a small area level.

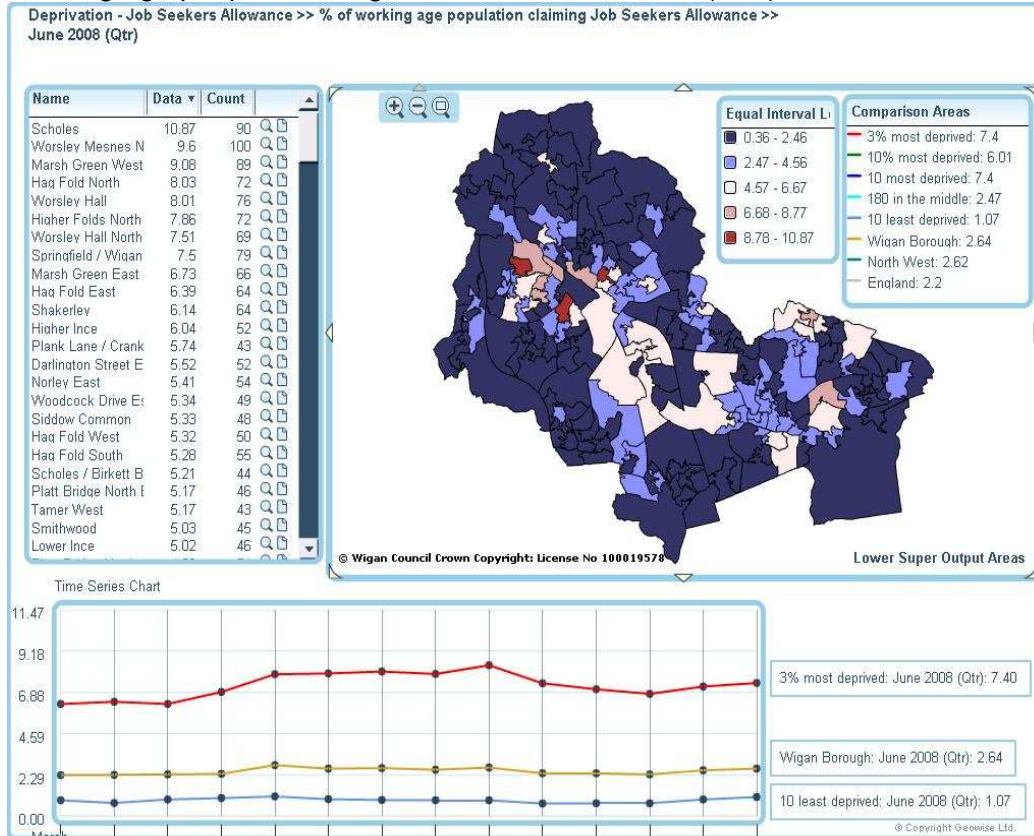
## Working age people claiming out of work benefits



The number of claimants in the 3% deprived LSOAs has remained largely unchanged between February 2005 (36.64%) and November 2007 (36.47%). There is no evidence of gap narrowing between the 3% most deprived LSOAs and the Borough average.

The areas marked in red on the map have around 2 in 5 of the working age population claiming out of work benefits. The worst performing LSOAs are Worsley Hall and Scholes with claim rates of over 40%.

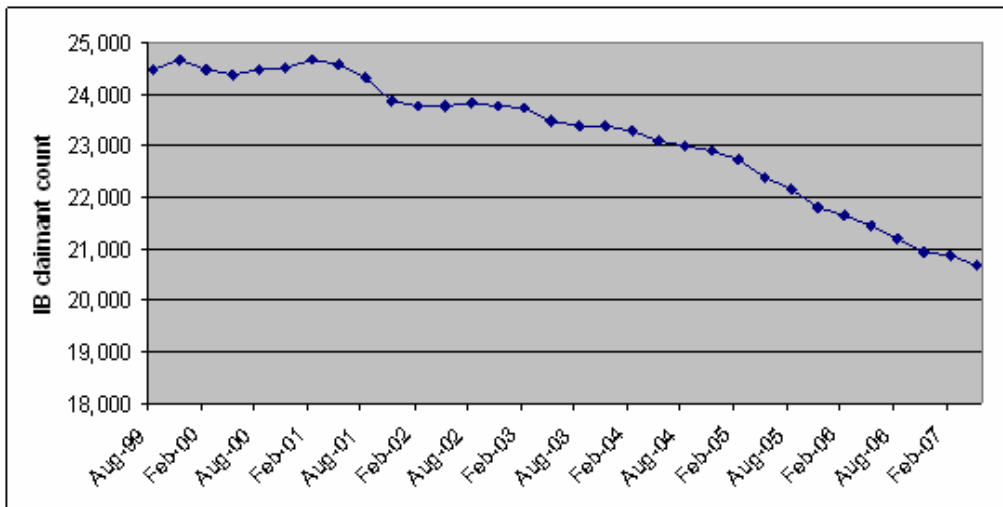
## Working age people claiming Job Seekers Allowance (JSA)



The percentage of working age population claiming JSA in the Wigan Borough has shown no real sign of decreasing. It peaked in March 2006 at 2.84% and showed a general decrease in 2007 but the decrease was not sustained at the start of 2008.

Around 1 in 10 of the working age population of Scholes, Worsley Mesnes North and Marsh Green West claim Job Seekers Allowance (highlighted in dark red on the map).

The percentage of claimants in the 3% most deprived areas has tended to be 4% to 6% higher than the borough average.



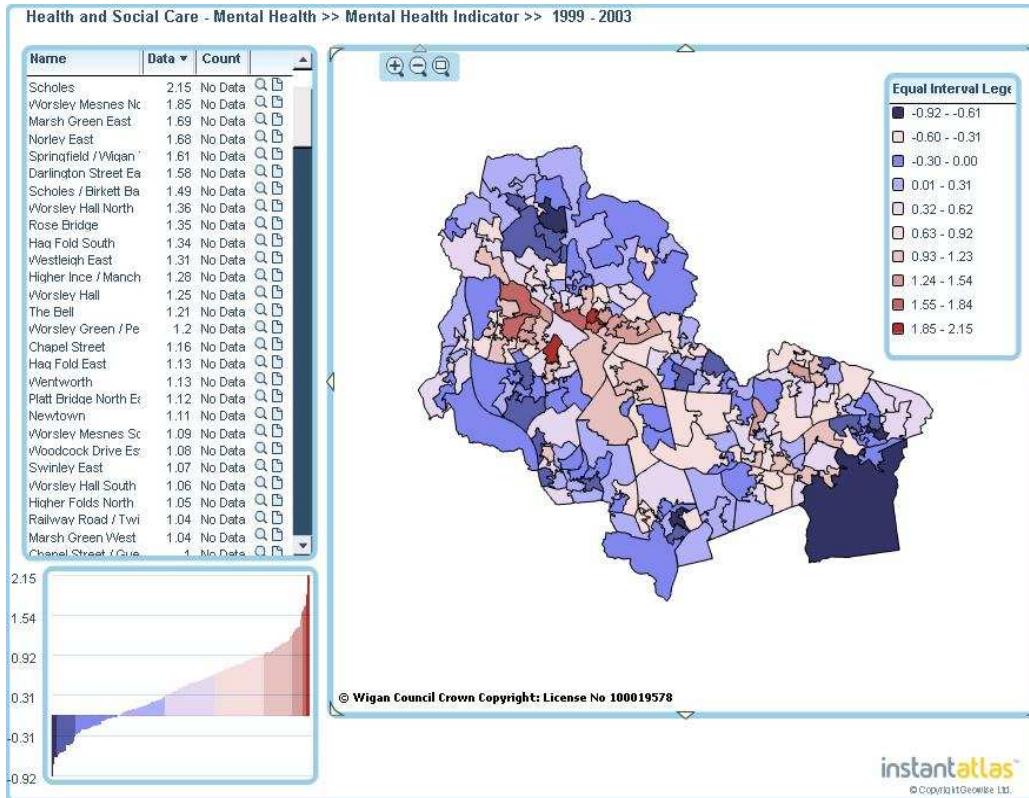
There are 20,690 people claiming Incapacity Benefit in Wigan (source DWP – May 2007). At 60% this represents the largest single category. This equates to an IB claimant rate of 10.8% of the working age population, which is significantly higher than the North West (9.5%) and UK (7.2%) averages. Of the 20,690 IB Claimants, 11,850 (56.4%) are male. Overall IB Claimant trends would seem to be encouraging with a significant decline in overall numbers and reducing the gap in terms of claimant rate with the regional and national averages. However, further analysis of IB claimants by condition, age, duration and geography reveal some underlying issues that are of major concern.

7,045 IB claimants state mental health as their primary condition - accounting for almost 34% of all claimants. This is an increase of 35% since August 1999. Mental health is the only claimant condition to show significant growth since August 1999 and now represents the largest category.

Over 91% of Wigan's IB claimants have been doing so for 6 months or more, and almost 60% of the claimants have been doing so for over 5 years.

**A person claiming IB for 2 years or more is more likely to die or retire rather than secure employment.** For Wigan, this equates to over 16,600 IB claimants who are statistically unlikely to ever work again.

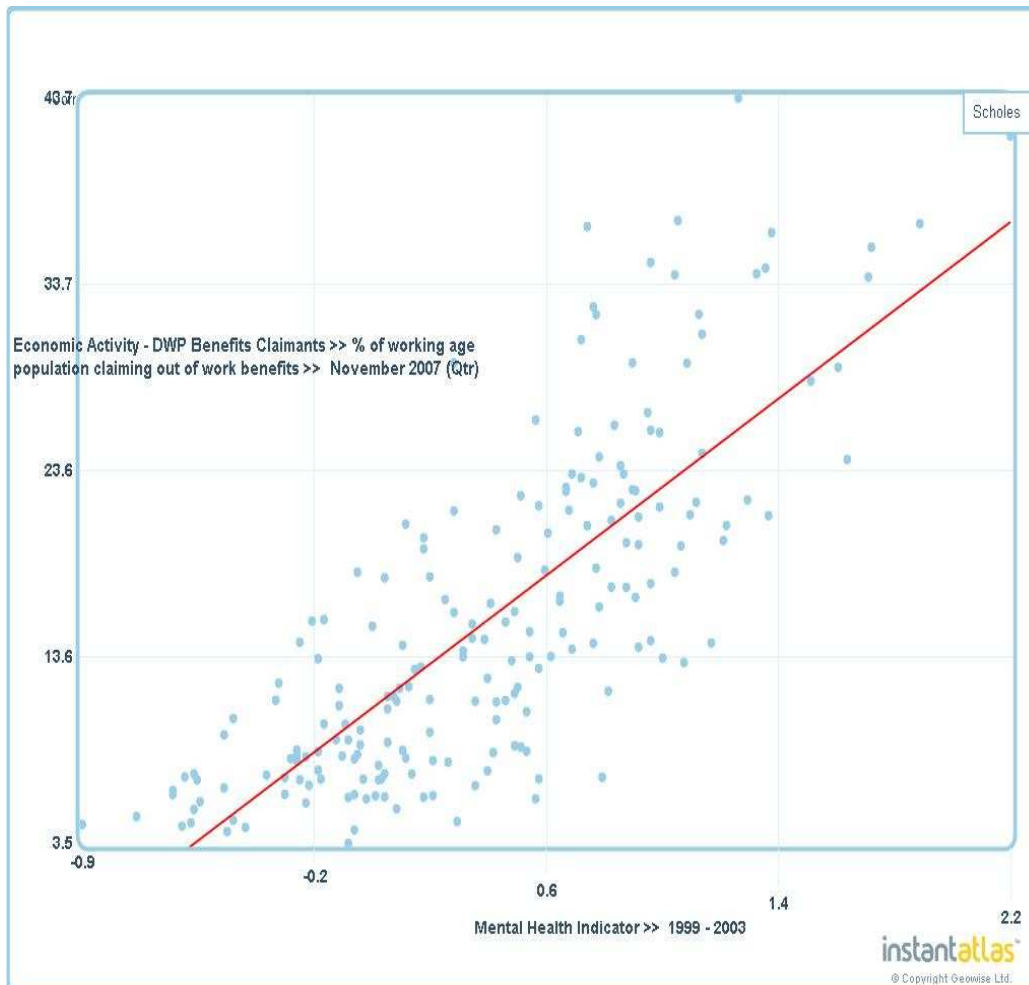
## Mental Health



The Mental Health Indicator focuses on adults under 60 suffering from mood (affective) disorders and neurotic, stress-related and anxiety disorders.

This indicator shows that the LSOAs with the worst mental health are Scholes, Worsley Mesnes North, Marsh Green East and Norley East.

Note: The data shown represents a ratio or "standardised measure" of mental illness, rather than an absolute count or percentage. A figure of less than 0 shows a lower prevalence of mental illness compared to the expected figure given the age and gender distribution in the area. Conversely, a figure of greater than 0 indicates a higher prevalence compared to the expected value



If we plot the out of work benefits LSOA data against the mental health LSOA data, we can see that there is a good correlation between the two datasets. The higher prevalence of mental health, the more likely somebody is to be claiming out of work benefits.