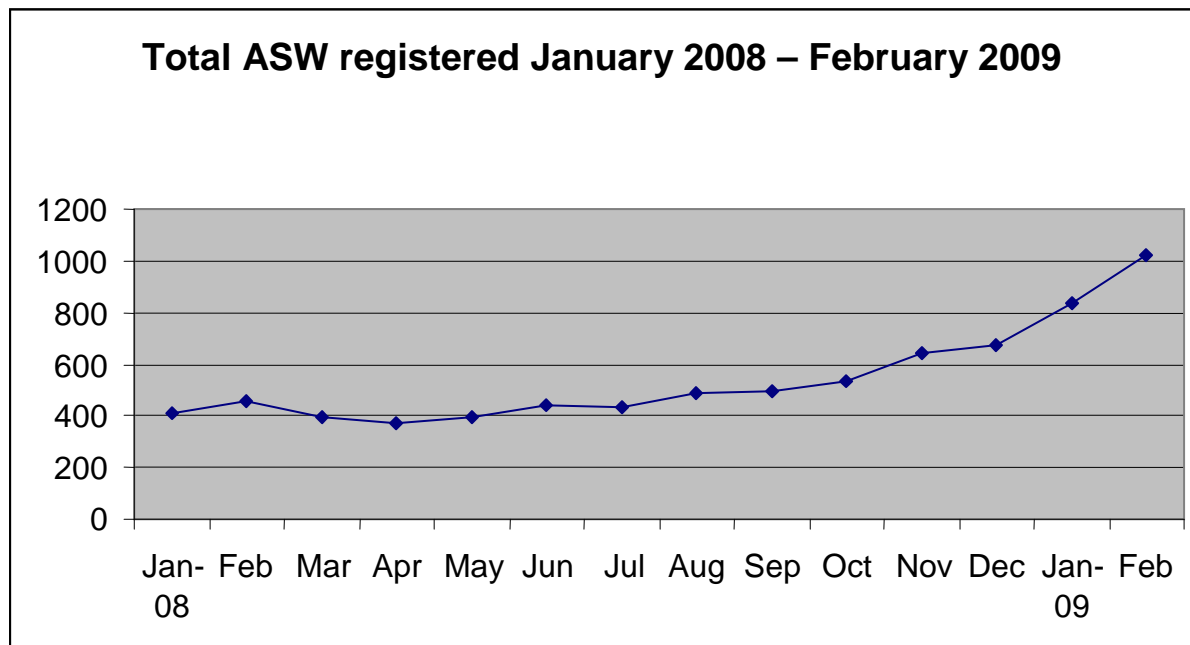


Social Security Department
Registered Unemployed Individuals Actively Seeking Work (ASW)
28 February 2009

1,023 people were registered with the Department as unemployed and actively seeking work (ASW) on 28 February 2009. Of these 700 were men and 323 women.



The number of people registered as ASW in Jersey was relatively stable throughout the first six months of 2008, at around 400 per month, before rising during the last six months of 2008. A component of this upward trend was the introduction of the 'jobseeker' process as part of the Income Support benefit. Unemployed individuals claiming Income Support are now being called in to the Department to register as ASW. These figures now also include recipients of Long Term Incapacity Allowance who register as ASW.

Of the 1,023 people registered as ASW, 529 are currently receiving Income Support¹.

In 2009 to date, the number of people registered as ASW in Jersey has increased at a greater rate than seen in late 2008, to 839 and 1,023 for January and February 2009, respectively. These more recent figures suggest a higher level of actual unemployment registration that is not due to the introduction of the 'jobseeker' process.

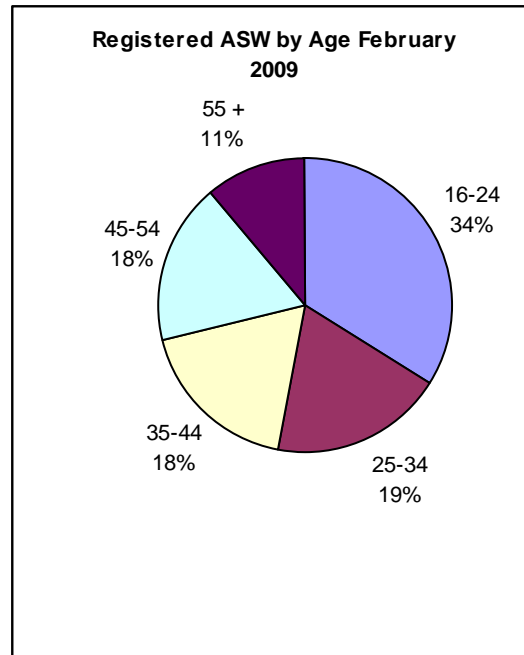
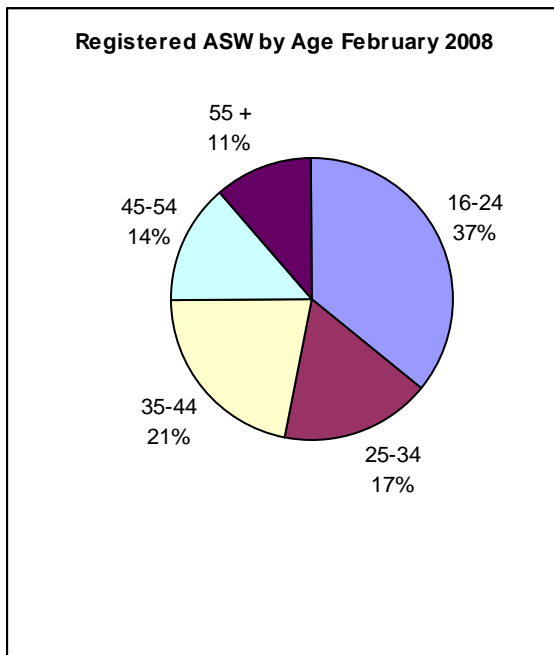
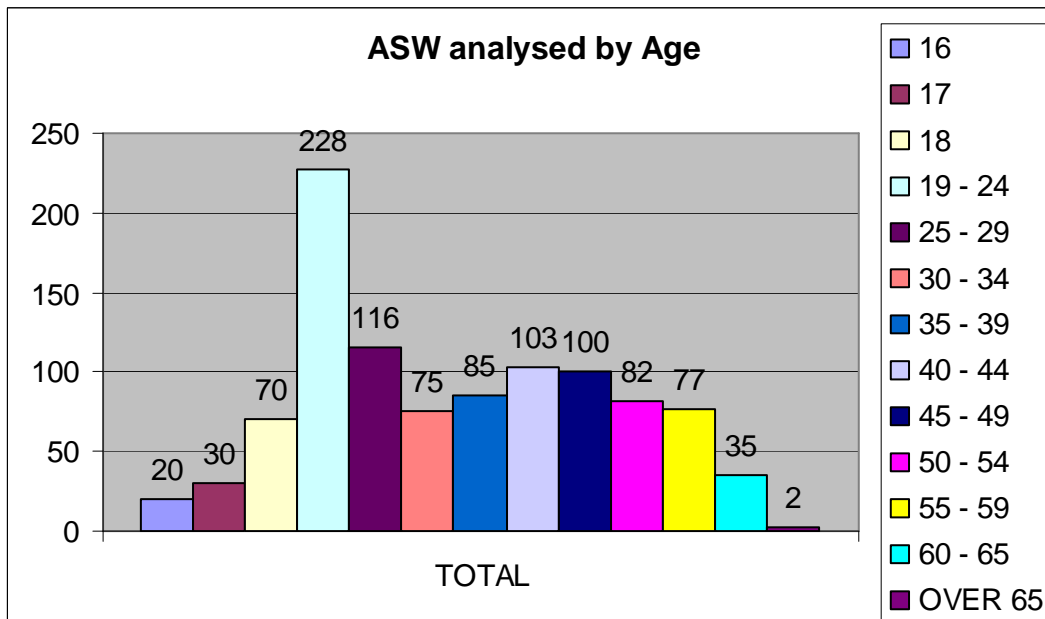
The recent co-ordination of career services and location of the new Careers Jersey service within the Social Security premises has enabled the staff from Social Security and Careers Jersey to work together to address the needs of an increased number of individuals who are actively seeking work.

The use of the learning area facilities has increased with 664 sessions in February compared to 522 in January and 419 in December.

Registered ASW by age

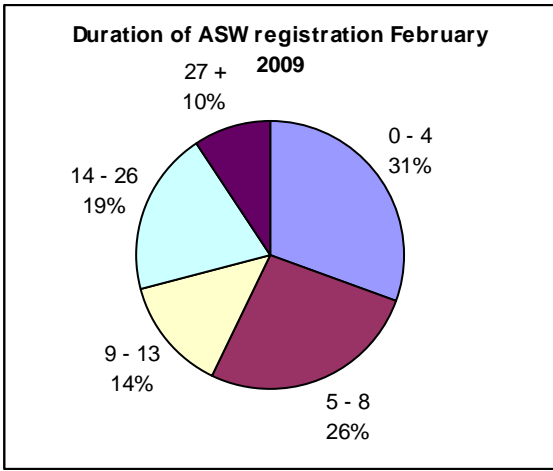
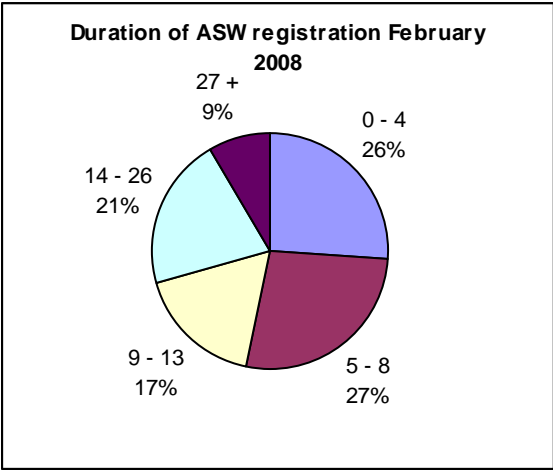
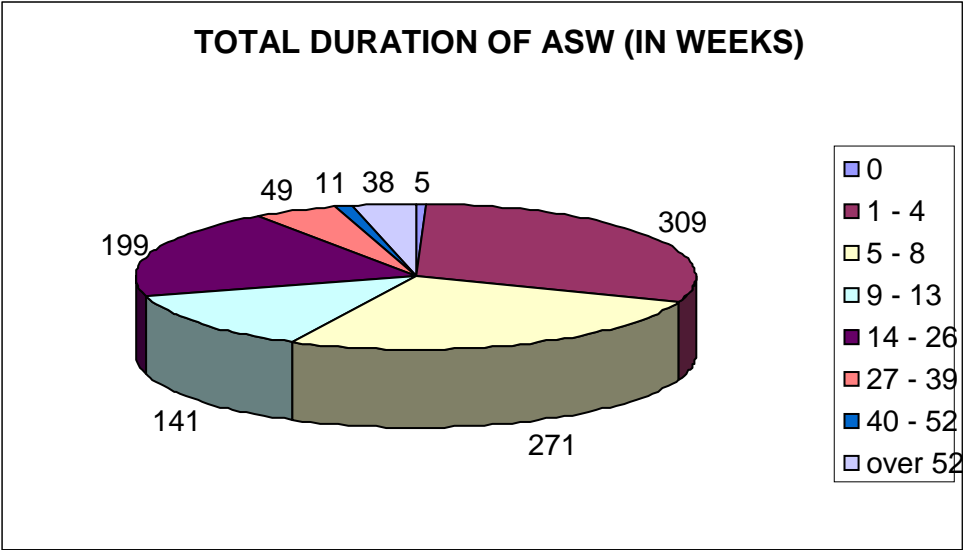
¹ The total number of adults receiving Income Support without work will be greater than this figure, however 529 is the number registered on 28 February as ASW.

The chart below shows the number of people registered as ASW by age as at 28 February 2009. 34% of those registered are aged 24 or below.

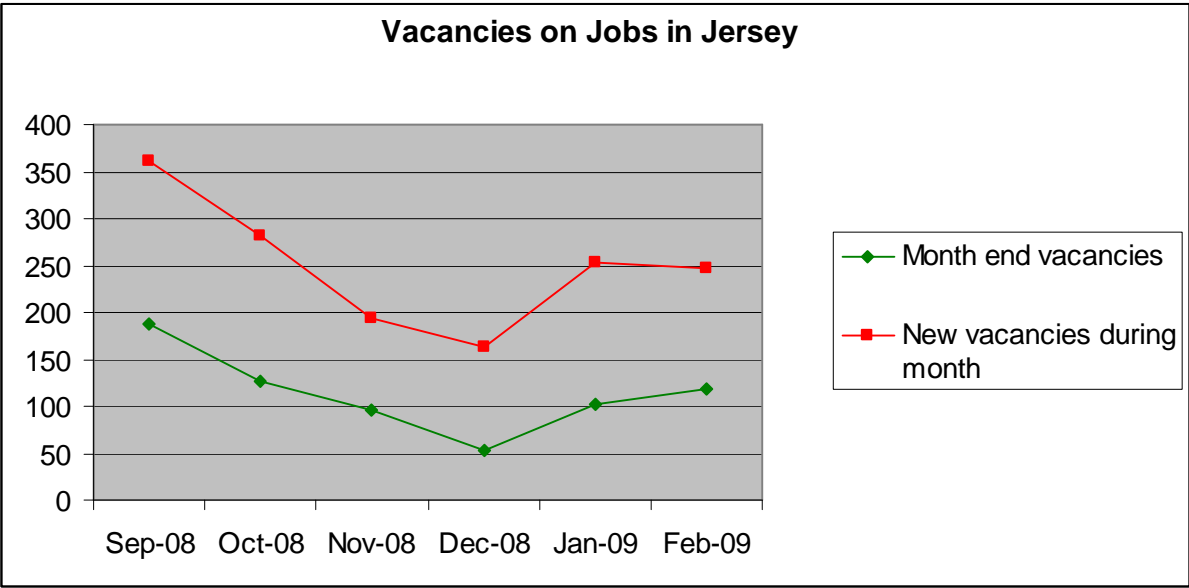


Duration as ASW

The majority of people who register as ASW with the Social Security Department find alternative employment within 13 weeks. The chart below provides information on the periods of time people are registered with the Department as at 28 February 2009.



At the end of February 2009, 118 vacancies were advertised on the Jobs in Jersey website (<http://www.gov.je/jobs/>). This compares with 203 vacancies at the end of February 2008. During the month 247 new vacancies were posted, compared to 404 in February 2008. Although vacancies are running at a much lower level than this time last year, numbers have picked up since Christmas.



General Notes

It should be remembered that there is no statutory requirement for all unemployed residents of Jersey to register as actively seeking work with the Social Security Department. As such the data above is a useful indicator of the level of unemployment in the Island but it does not attempt to measure the actual rate of unemployment. This is undertaken on an annual basis through the Jersey Annual Social Survey.