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Cities, skills and the upturn

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Today's talk

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1. **Low skilled cities hard hit by recession**

   Spatial patterns of unemployment and skills

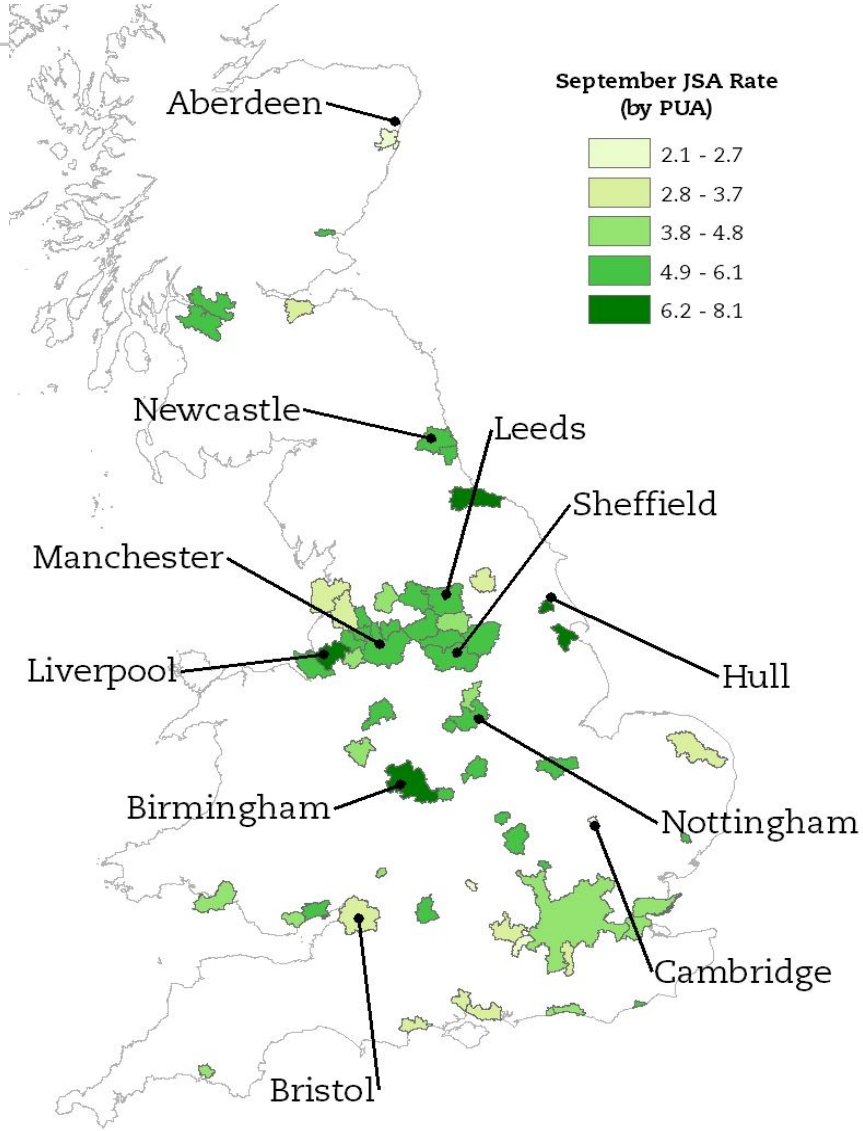
2. **Short term little cities can do on skills**

   Lack of powers

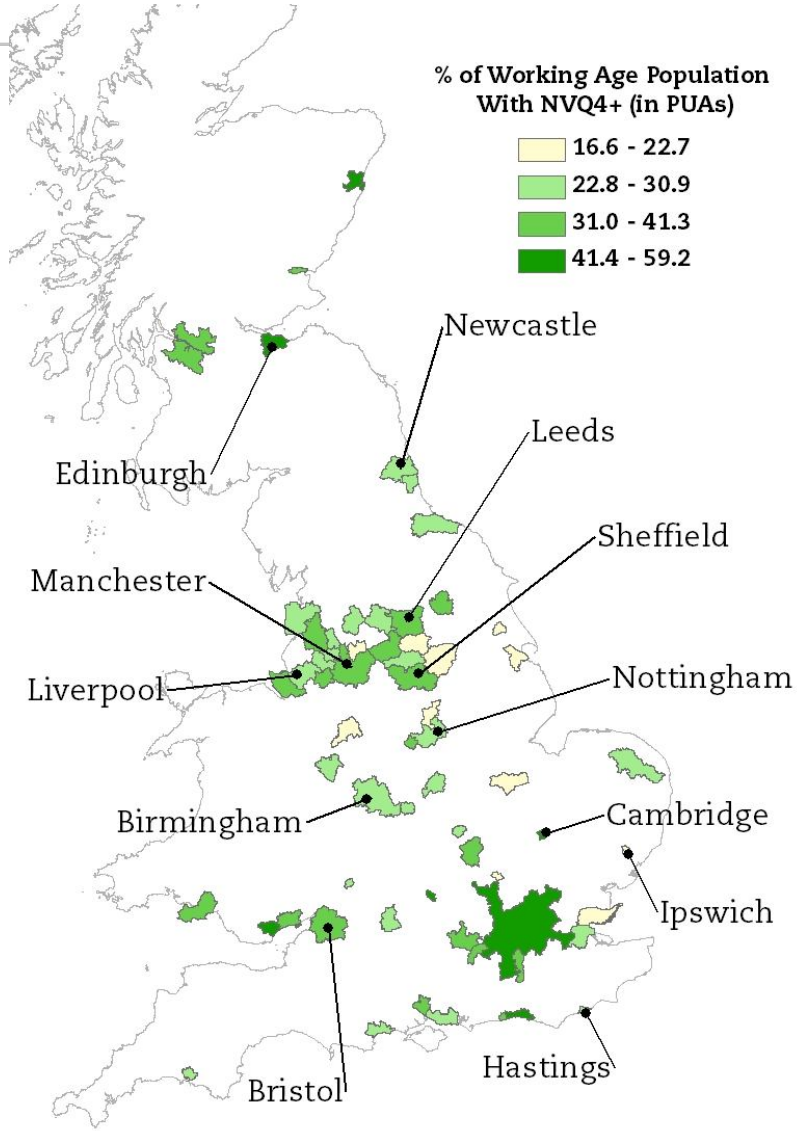
3. **Highly skilled cities will lead the upturn**

   Cities must continue to think about medium and long term skills strategies

Claimant count



Skills in Cities



No formal qualifications

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Rank	Cities	Percentage working age population with no formal qualifications 2007

Cities with lowest percentage

1	Edinburgh	7
2	Reading	8
3	Worthing	8
4	Oxford	8
5	York	9
6	Cambridge	9
7	Crawley	9
8	Brighton	9
9	Swindon	10
10	Bristol	10

Cities with highest percentage

55	Bradford	19
56	Rochdale	19
57	Blackburn	19
58	Northampton	20
59	Luton	20
60	Birmingham	21
61	Hull	21
62	Liverpool	22
63	Stoke	24
64	Belfast	24

NVQ4 qualifications

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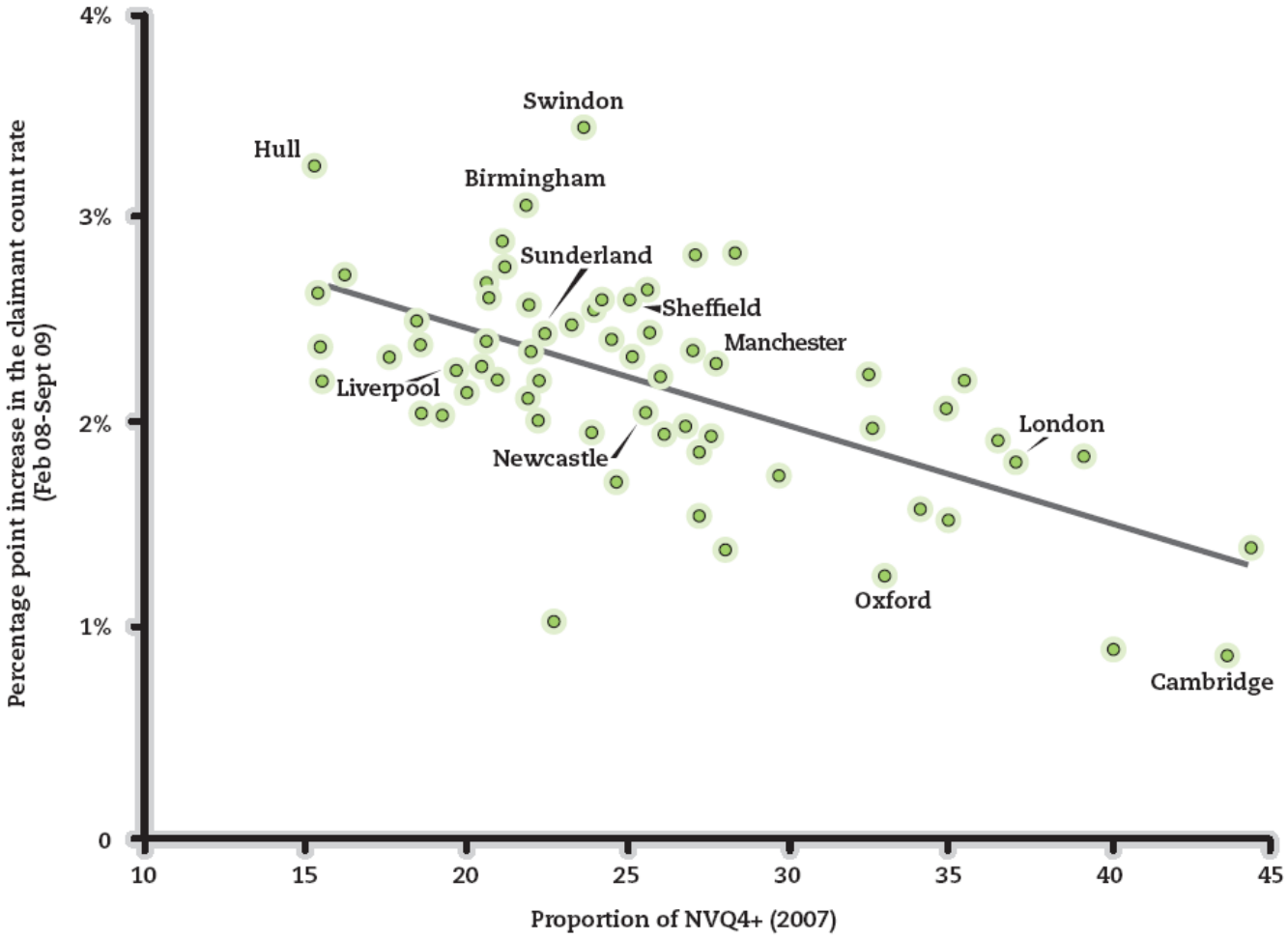
Rank	Cities	Percentage working age population with NVQ4 & above 2007
Cities with highest percentage		
1	Edinburgh	44
2	Cambridge	44
3	Aberdeen	40
4	Brighton	39
5	London	37
6	Reading	36
7	Cardiff	35
8	Glasgow	35
9	York	35
10	Dundee	34

Rank	Cities	Percentage working age population with NVQ4 & above 2007
Cities with lowest percentage		
55	Liverpool	20
56	Burnley	19
57	Hastings	19
58	Gloucester	18
59	Stoke	18
60	Wakefield	17
61	Doncaster	16
62	Mansfield	16
63	Grimsby	15
64	Hull	15

Vulnerable cities



Source: NOMIS, 2009. Claimant Count Data Feb 2008 & Sept 2009, Annual Population Survey 2007

What can cities do?

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Challenges:

- Courses take time to complete
- Difficulties in forecasting
- Powers over adult skills and employment limited

Cities can:

- Develop strong partnerships
- Keep people engaged – use FJF, WNF
- Continue to develop strategies for the medium and long term

Cities, skills and the upturn

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- Highly skilled cities more likely to bounce back and lead upturn
- Public sector jobs
- All cities must continue to work on skills and employment
- Central government must give cities more powers