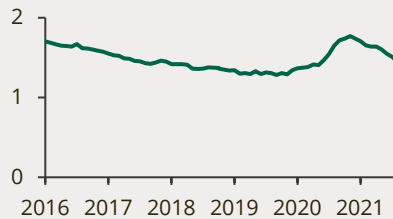


## C2: Unemployment

### Unemployment; UK

Millions, age 16+, seasonally adjusted



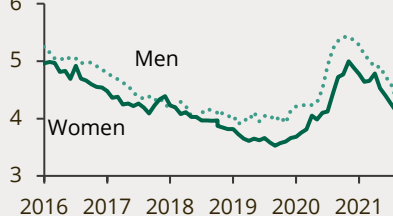
There were 1.45 million unemployed people in the UK in Jul-Sep 2021, a fall of 152,000 from the previous quarter and a fall of 200,000 from the year before.

The unemployment rate was 4.3% (the percentage of the economically active population who are unemployed), down from 4.7% from the previous quarter and down from 4.8% from the year before.

The rate reached a post-recession high of 8.5% in late 2011.

### Unemployment Rate; UK

%, age 16+, seasonally adjusted



The unemployment rate for men was 4.4% and the unemployment rate was 4.1% for women.

475,000 young people aged 16-24 were unemployed, down 54,000 from the previous quarter and down 131,000 from the year before. The unemployment rate for 16-24 year olds was 11.7%, down from 14.8% a year before.

14.8% a year before.

## Forecasts

In their October 2021 [Economic and fiscal outlook](#), the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) forecast unemployment to peak at 5.25% in Q4 2021. This is much lower than their previous forecast in March 2021, of a peak of 6.5%.

The Treasury's November 2021 [survey of independent forecasts](#) showed an average forecast of 4.8% for Q4 2021 and 4.5% for Q4 2022.

**Subject specialist**  
Harriet Clark

### Updates

ONS, [Labour Market Statistics](#)

14 December 2021

HM Treasury, [Forecasts for the UK economy](#), 15

December 2021

OBR, [Economic and fiscal outlook](#),

January 2022

### UK Unemployment

Seasonally adjusted

	Age	Total		Men		Women		Youth	
		000's 16+	% 16+	000's 16+	% 16+	000's 16+	% 16+	000's 16-24	% 16-24
Jul-Sep	2018	1,377	4.1	748	4.2	629	4.0	477	11.2
Jul-Sep	2019	1,306	3.8	731	4.1	575	3.6	500	11.9
Jul-Sep	2020	1,648	4.8	931	5.2	718	4.4	606	14.8
Apr-Jun	2021	1,600	4.7	868	4.9	732	4.5	530	13.1
Jul-Sep	2021	1,448	4.3	779	4.4	669	4.1	475	11.7
Change on qtr	Level	-152	-0.5	-90	-0.5	-62	-0.4	-54	-1.4
	%	-9.5%		-10.3%		-8.5%		-10.2%	
Change on yr	Level	-200	-0.6	-152	-0.8	-48	-0.3	-131	-3.2
	%	-12.1%		-16.3%		-6.7%		-22%	

Notes: The unemployment rate is the percentage of the economically active population who are unemployed.  
Source: ONS, Labour Market Statistics, Tables [A05](#) and [A06](#)