

C3: Unemployment: Regional

The Office for National Statistics uses the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition of unemployment as the headline measure of unemployment. The *unemployment rate* is the proportion of the economically active population who are unemployed.

- Over the period November to January 2015, the North East had the highest unemployment rate at 7.7% of the economically active population. The lowest rate was 4.5% in the South West. The UK average was 5.7%.



- Ten out of twelve regions/countries saw a decrease in the level of unemployment over the last quarter, with the largest being Yorkshire and the Humber (down 30,000) followed by the North East (down 19,000).
- The (seasonally adjusted) Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) claimant count decreased across all regions and countries between January 2015 and February 2015.

Unemployment statistics for countries and regions

Seasonally adjusted

	ILO unemployment				JSA claimant count (b)	
	Nov-Jan 2015		Change in level		2015 Feb	
	Level (000s)	Rate (%) (a)	qtr-on-qtr (000s)	year-on-year (000s)	Level (000s)	change since prev. month (000s)
North East	99	7.7	-19	-21	48	-1
North West	219	6.2	-2	-62	80	-6
Yorkshire & Humber	161	6.0	-30	-69	87	-3
East Midlands	117	5.0	-15	-46	52	-2
West Midlands	182	6.5	-5	-46	84	-3
East of England	157	5.1	2	-21	50	-2
London	283	6.2	-13	-95	119	-4
South East	209	4.5	-1	-35	62	-3
South West	122	4.5	-9	-36	38	-2
Wales	92	6.2	-13	-8	46	-1
Scotland	162	5.9	6	-28	79	-2
Northern Ireland	52	6.0	-3	-13	46	-2

Source: ONS, *Labour Market Statistics*

Note: (a) Rates are percentages of economically active population in the region.
(b) Does not include claimants of universal credit

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Update: ONS, *Labour Market Statistics*, 17 Apr 2015
This page will not be updated until after the election

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