

Table 5 Regional claimant unemployment rates at first quarter in year

Percentages

Region/country	1970	1975	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
North East	-	3.7	6.9	15.4	9.1	11.0	6.5	3.6	3.8	4.1	3.7	6.0	6.8	6.6	7.5	7.5	5.7	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.5	5.4	5.9
Yorkshire & The Humber	2.7	2.2	3.9	11.2	6.2	8.3	4.6	2.7	3.2	3.2	2.8	4.9	5.8	5.4	6.1	6.0	4.7	3.2	2.7	2.6	2.7	3.3	4.0
North West	-	3.0	4.9	12.6	7.0	8.4	4.3	2.7	3.2	3.2	2.9	4.8	5.4	5.0	5.7	5.4	4.1	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.0	3.7	4.3
West Midlands	1.8	2.0	3.9	12.1	5.4	8.0	4.1	3.1	3.7	3.8	3.3	5.5	6.4	5.7	6.0	5.7	4.4	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.7	4.6
East Midlands	2.1	1.9	3.2	9.3	4.6	7.3	3.4	2.3	2.7	2.7	2.3	4.3	4.9	4.2	4.8	4.6	3.4	2.3	1.9	1.8	2.0	2.6	3.3
East	-	1.6	2.5	7.5	2.9	6.4	2.6	2.0	2.1	2.2	1.8	3.5	4.0	3.6	3.9	3.7	2.6	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.6	2.1	2.7
London	-	1.4	2.5	8.2	4.4	9.1	3.9	3.3	3.4	3.2	2.5	3.6	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.1	2.9	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.5	3.0
South East	-	1.4	2.1	6.7	2.4	5.8	2.0	1.5	1.8	1.7	1.4	2.8	3.4	2.8	3.0	2.8	2.0	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.9	2.4
South West	2.7	2.4	3.5	8.5	3.6	6.7	2.7	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.3	2.9	3.2	2.9	3.2	3.0	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.6	2.1	2.4
England	-	2.1	3.5	9.7	4.8	7.7	3.6	2.5	2.8	2.7	2.3	4.0	4.7	4.3	4.6	4.4	3.3	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.8	3.4
Wales	3.9	3.0	5.1	13.0	6.3	8.2	4.5	2.7	3.0	2.9	2.6	4.8	5.4	4.9	5.5	5.4	4.3	3.2	2.9	2.7	2.6	3.3	3.9
Scotland	3.8	2.9	5.7	12.0	8.0	7.8	4.7	3.1	3.1	2.9	2.4	4.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.0	3.8	2.9	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.7	4.0
Great Britain	2.4	2.2	3.8	10.1	5.1	7.8	3.7	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.3	4.1	4.7	4.4	4.7	4.5	3.4	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.9	3.4
Northern Ireland	6.5	4.6	8.0	15.3	13.0	11.6	5.5	3.3	3.2	2.9	2.6	4.7	6.1	6.5	6.9	7.2	6.4	5.2	4.2	3.5	3.1	3.1	3.2
United Kingdom	-	2.2	3.9	10.2	5.3	7.9	3.7	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.3	4.1	4.8	4.4	4.8	4.6	3.4	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.9	3.4

Source: Office for National Statistics, claimant count and vacancies dataset.

Notes: 1. Figures are seasonally adjusted. Figures from 1997 are affected by the introduction of the jobseeker's allowance and from 2013 by universal credit.

2. Figures for government office regions are unavailable for the years prior to 1975, except where they coincide with standard regions.

3. ONS caution that whilst the claimant count unemployment series does not provide a wholly reliable representation of the UK labour market (see table 4 notes), it provides a useful indication of variations in unemployment between areas and over time.