

National Statistics

What is the National Statistics?

National Statistics is the website maintained by the state-run Office of National Statistics (ONS), a gateway to free-to-access statistics about the UK. The ONS produces a range of statistics, providing an insight into the state of the UK's economy and society.

When should I use the National Statistics website?

Use the *National Statistics* website when you want to find social and economic statistics for the UK.

Accessing National Statistics

National Statistics is accessed via the **E-resources Guide**. To open the E-resources Guide:

1. Access it directly at this address: <http://subjectguides.york.ac.uk/e-resources>
2. When the E-resources Guide has opened select **Datasets and Statistics** from the **E-resources by Category** drop-down menu. A list of resources in this area is then displayed.
3. Click on **National Statistics**. You may be asked to log in with your IT Services username and password. The resource will now open in a new window.

Complete the following task to familiarise yourself with the structure and content of the National Statistics website:



What is the latest available figure for the unemployment rate for young people (18-24) in the UK? How does this compare to the previous year?

1. Start from the E-resources guide's list of **Datasets and Statistics**, and follow the link to **National Statistics**. Log in when prompted.
2. **Search** for data on the topic **unemployment young people**.

The screenshot shows the UK National Statistics Publication Hub website. At the top right, there are links for 'Office for National Statistics' and 'UK Statistics Authority', along with accessibility icons (A, A, A) and a search bar containing the text 'unemployment young people'. Below the search bar is the 'Government Statistical Service' logo. The main navigation area includes tabs for 'Home', 'Release calendar', 'Statistics producers', 'Browse by theme', and 'Regional statistics'. A sidebar on the left lists various 'THEMES' such as 'Agriculture and Environment', 'Business and Energy', 'Children, Education and Skills', 'Crime and Justice', 'Economy', 'Government', and 'Health and Social Care'. The main content area displays 'National Statistics releases for 06 June 2013' and a featured article titled 'Poultry and Poultry Meat Statistics Notice - Data to April 2013' with a release time of 9:30am and a brief description of the data.

3. Your results should include the publication **Young People in the Labour Market 2011**. Read the summary to confirm that this collection contains the data you need.
4. Follow the links to the report, until you reach the link to the **Reference tables**. Open the table as an **Excel** spreadsheet.
5. Select the appropriate tab for the age group you require, and identify the figures to answer the question above.

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6. Is the percentage of the 18-24 population which is 'economically inactive' greater or lower than the percentage unemployed, according to the latest data?

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Note you can **save** or **print** any Excel spreadsheet from the National Statistics website for your own use.



Be aware that the National Statistics website does not provide any guidance about how to cite data obtained from this source. Adapt the following Harvard-style template according to your department's recommendations:

In text: (Great Britain. Office for National Statistics. 2011)

Bibliography: Great Britain. Office for National Statistics. Young People in the Labour Market, 2011. Available at <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lmac/young-people-in-the-labour-market/2011/index.html>

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