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.

![Image of the UK National Statistics Publication Hub]
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.

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?

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)