



BRIEFING PAPER

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Youth Unemployment Statistics

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Youth Unemployment Statistics

A photograph of a bright green sign with the words 'job centre plus' written in a bold, sans-serif font. The sign is mounted on a brick wall. The word 'job' is in white, 'centre' is in yellow, and 'plus' is in white. The sign is slightly tilted and has a dark shadow underneath.

*job
centre
plus*

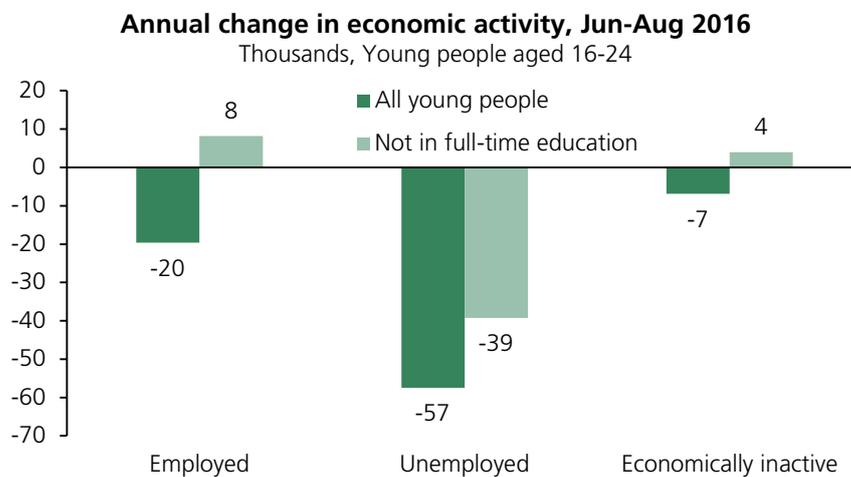
Youth Unemployment Statistics

624,000 young people aged 16-24 were unemployed in Jun-Aug 2016, up slightly from the previous quarter and down 57,000 compared to a year ago.¹

The unemployment rate (the proportion of the economically active population who are unemployed) for 16-24 year olds was 13.7%, down from 14.7% a year ago.

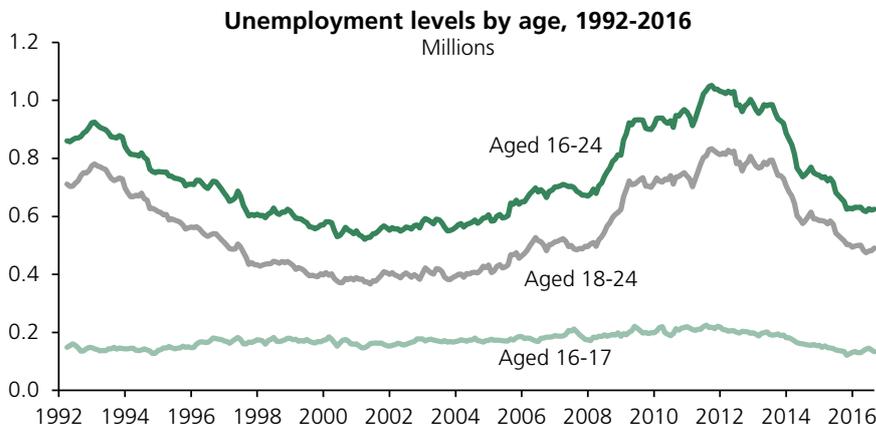
Excluding young people in full-time education, 414,000 people aged 16-24 were unemployed in Jun-Aug 2016, up 11,000 from the previous quarter and down 39,000 from the previous year.

The unemployment rate for 16-24 year olds not in full-time education was 12.1%, compared to 13.1% a year ago.



Unemployment by age

The unemployment rate for people aged 18-24 was 12.1% in Jun-Aug 2016, down from 13.2% the year before. 491,000 18-24 year olds were unemployed, while 1.67 million were economically inactive (not in work and not looking or available for work).



¹ All data are taken from ONS, [Labour Market Statistics, October 2016](#)

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133,000 16-17 year olds were unemployed, compared to 971,000 who were economically inactive. The unemployment rate for 16-17 year olds was estimated at 27.7%, up slightly from 27.6% in the previous year. The unemployment rate for 16-17 year olds in 2016 is higher than it was in the early 2000s. This is explained by increasing numbers staying in full-time education so that fewer 16-17 year olds are economically active (the unemployment rate is calculated as a proportion of the economically active population).

These figures for 16-17 year olds are more volatile than the estimates for 18-24 year olds, since they are based on a smaller number of survey responses.

Long term youth unemployment

107,000 people aged 16-24 had been unemployed for over 12 months at Jun-Aug 2016, up slightly from the previous quarter and down 32,000 on the previous year.

17.1% of unemployed 16-24 year olds had been unemployed for over 12 months.

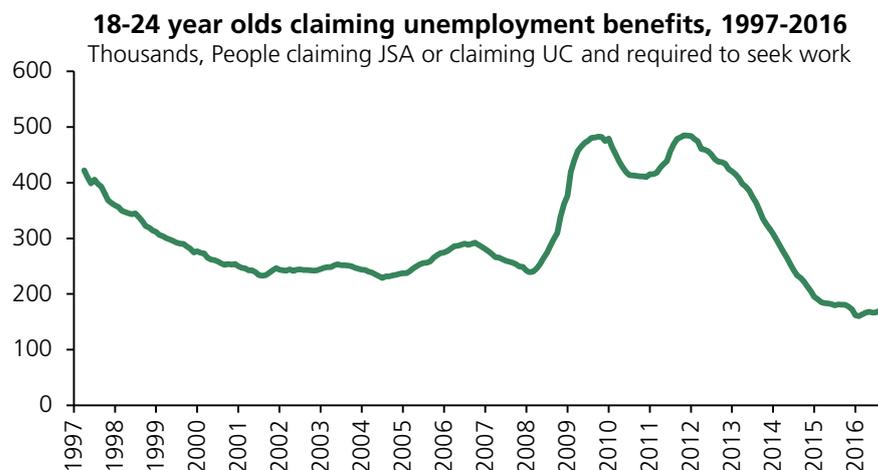
Men and women

365,000 men aged 16-24 were unemployed in Jun-Aug 2016, down 30,000 compared to a year earlier. The unemployment rate for men in this age group was 15.6%, compared to 16.4% a year ago.

260,000 women aged 16-24 were unemployed, down 28,000 compared to a year earlier. The unemployment rate for women aged 16-24 was 11.7%, compared to 12.9% on a year ago.

People claiming unemployment benefits

171,200 people aged 18-24 were claiming Jobseeker's Allowance or were claiming Universal Credit and were required to seek work in September 2016. This was up 1,500 from the previous month and 9,400 lower than the year before.



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