

Andrew Stephenson MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

October 2014

Dear Mr Stephenson,

On behalf of the Director General for the Office for National Statistics (ONS), I have been asked to reply to your Parliamentary Question asking the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what estimate he has made of the level of youth unemployment in Pendle constituency in each of the last five years; and if he will make a statement. (211614)

The ONS compiles labour market statistics for areas smaller than the UK from the Annual Population Survey (APS) following International Labour Organisation (ILO) definitions.

Table 1 shows the number of people aged 16 to 24 who were unemployed according to survey responses from the APS for the 12 month period July 2013 to June 2014, the latest available period, and for the 12 month periods ending June from 2010 to 2013.

Table 1: Number of unemployed people
aged 16 to 24 Thousands

	Pendle constituency	
12 months ending:		
June 2010	-	
June 2011	2	
June 2012	3	
June 2013	3	
June 2014 ¹	1	****

Source: Annual Population Survey

(-) Estimate and confidence interval not available since the group sample size is zero or disclosive (0-2).

1. Coefficients of Variation have been calculated as an indication of the quality of the estimates. See Guide to Quality below.

Guide to Quality:

The Coefficient of Variation (CV) indicates the quality of an estimate, the smaller the CV value the higher the quality. The true value is likely to lie within +/- twice the CV - for example, for an estimate of 200 with a CV of 5% we would expect the population total to be within the range 180-220.

KEY	Coefficient of Variation (CV) (%)	Statistical Robustness
*	$0 \leq CV < 5$	Estimates are considered precise.
**	$5 \leq CV < 10$	Estimates are considered reasonably precise.
***	$10 \leq CV < 20$	Estimates are considered acceptable.
****	$CV \geq 20$	Estimates are considered too unreliable for practical purposes

As with any sample survey, estimates from the APS are subject to a certain level of uncertainty. A guide to the quality of the estimates of the levels is included on the tables. It should be noted that the estimates provided for Pendle constituency are considered too unreliable for practical purposes. Consequently caution should be exercised when using or drawing conclusions from the estimates.

As an alternative measure, table 2 shows the number of people aged 18 to 24 who were claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) in Pendle in September 2014, the latest available period, and for September from 2010 to 2013.

Table 2: Number¹ of people aged 18 to 24 claiming
Jobseekers Allowance

	Pendle
September 2010	610
September 2011	710
September 2012	715
September 2013	535
September 2014	320

Source: Jobcentreplus Administrative System

1. Data rounded to nearest 5.

A guide to the differences between the measures of unemployment and the Claimant Count (number of people claiming JSA) can be found at:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/labour-market/articles-and-reports/unemployment-and-the-claimant-count.pdf>

National and local area estimates for many labour market statistics, including employment, unemployment and claimant count are available on the NOMIS website at <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>.

Yours sincerely,



Joe Grice
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Office for National Statistics