

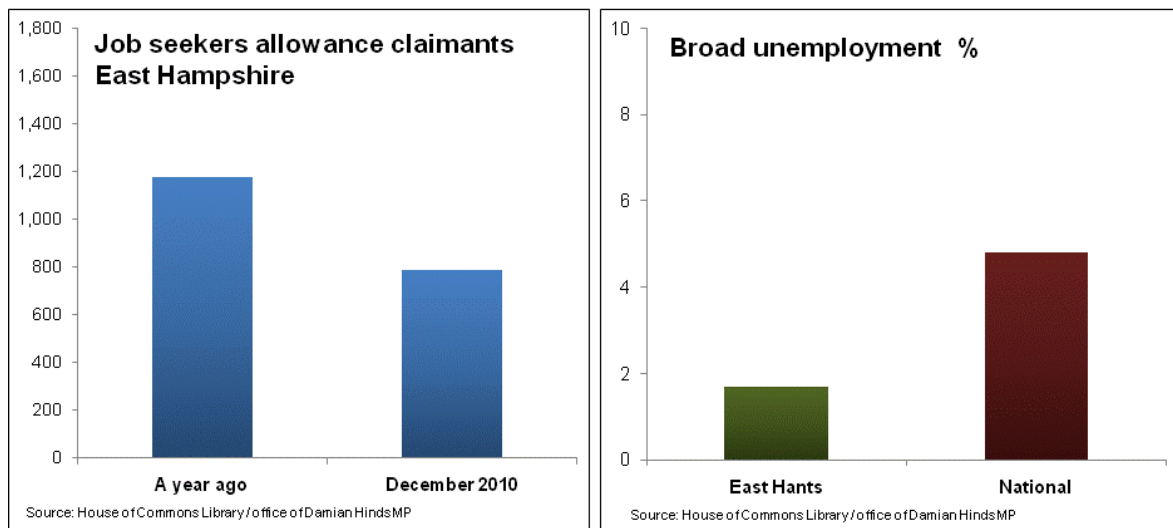


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MP for East Hampshire

News release

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For immediate release

EAST HANTS UNEMPLOYMENT STATS – DECEMBER 2010



The number of Jobseekers' Allowance claimants in East Hampshire for last month was down year on year, standing at 788 people, as against 1,174 in December 2009. Overall unemployment in East Hampshire stood at less than half the national rate. And was in the lowest tenth of UK areas for unemployment.

ENDS

Notes to editors:

Graphs to follow separately by email

The JSA claimant count is an administrative count of those claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA). It has the benefit of being timely, accurate, available since 2004 and for local areas. The main problem with the claimant count is that some of those looking for work and 'unemployed' do not, or cannot, claim JSA. The JSA claimant count is therefore an indicator of unemployment rather than a perfect measure of unemployment.

The 'Library' rate is calculated by the House of Commons Library and shows the number of JSA claimants as a proportion of the estimated economically active population aged 16 to 64 resident in each constituency in 2008. This calculation attempts to capture the effect of differences in economic activity in constituencies and is not an 'official' unemployment rate, but it is useful for comparison purposes.

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