

# Neighbourhood Statistics

## Neighbourhood Statistics Online Training

### Data and Metadata Exercise Sheet

This exercise encourages you to explore the Find Statistics For An Area option, developing your awareness of both data and metadata (dataset information).

Note: Neighbourhood Statistics mapping uses Adobe SVG Viewer software. Many PCs have this already but if yours doesn't you will need to download it to get the maps to display. If this is the case you will be alerted at the relevant point and given a link to the SVG Viewer download page.

### Exercise

1. Start at the Neighbourhood Statistics homepage. In the Find Statistics For An Area search box (left hand side of screen), enter the name of your local authority or another local authority of interest. If you are unsure of your local authority name, simply enter your postcode. Then select 'local authority' from the list of area options, and press 'Search'.

Choose the topic 'Economic Deprivation' and then the dataset 'Jobseeker's Allowance Claimants'. Look at the resulting table to see what values are available, and how your local authority compares with your region and/or country.

Now look specifically at the row providing the *percentage* of claimants aged 16-24. Click the 'Trend data' link – this will lead to a new table and a line graph showing how the share of claimants in that age group has changed over time in your local authority, region and/or country. Has the percentage in your local authority changed in a similar way to that at the higher geographic level(s), or is the pattern different?

Go back a screen to the original, detailed table. At the top of the screen click the link saying 'Map this data'. Then use the drop-down menu at the top right of the map so that the same 'Claimants Aged 16-24 (Percentage)' variable is displayed. Look at the map to consider the geographic pattern across your region. Also experiment with the different tabs and settings on the map, to develop a full understanding of its potential.

2. Go back to the Neighbourhood Statistics homepage and start the process again, choosing an area of interest (any geography). Spend some time exploring the data available, both by looking through the different topics, and by using the search facility to find material you have a particular interest in.

Identify three datasets of particular relevance to you, and take a look at the metadata to check they are indeed appropriate. Which parts of the metadata were most helpful to you? Did you learn anything you weren't expecting about any of the datasets?

Finally, select one of the datasets and use the [Download this table](#) button to have a go at downloading the data to your own system. This will help if you wish to do further analysis of the data using your own software!

There is a huge amount of information in Neighbourhood Statistics, so please spend as much time as you wish exploring it. When you've finished, however, please go on to Module 2: Comparing different areas.

Well done on completing this first module!