

**Text of email from Dr Eoin Barry Clarke, 13 December 2013**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to make a formal complaint about the improper use of National Statistics. On 14 October 2013, speaking in the House of Commons, the Minister of State for Employment claimed, I quote, "Employment is up by 1 million since the election and unemployment is down by 400,000".

You can confirm these words here:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm131014/debtext/131014-0001.htm#1310143001092>

The Office for National Statistics records in its most recent publications, as of 13 December 2013, that unemployment is 2.47 million:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/november-2013/index.html>

The Office for National Statistics recorded on 16 October that unemployment was 2.49 million

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/october-2013/index.html>

The Office for National Statistics recorded on 11 September 2013 that unemployment was 2.49 million:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/september-2013/statistical-bulletin.html>

All three of these ONS releases show that unemployment has been recorded at 2.47-9 million for the last number of months specified.

To May 2010 - unemployment has been recorded at 2.47 million (or 2.468 million) in a ONS release (update on previous estimate) published on the 14 July 2010 and available for confirmation here:

[https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=ONS+14+July+2010&rlz=1C1GPCK\\_enGB382GB382&oq=ONS+14+July+2010&aqs=chrome..69i57.4250j0j7&sourceid=chrome&espv=210&es\\_sm=122&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.co.uk/search?q=ONS+14+July+2010&rlz=1C1GPCK_enGB382GB382&oq=ONS+14+July+2010&aqs=chrome..69i57.4250j0j7&sourceid=chrome&espv=210&es_sm=122&ie=UTF-8)

The ONS reference tables also confirm unemployment for May 2010 at circa 2.49 million here:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/september-2013/table-a01.xls>

May I simply ask that you confirm that indeed unemployment has not, as the Minister stated declined 400,000 since the General Election, and in fact at the time her words were uttered unemployment was more or less the same as it had been in May 2010?

Warmest regards & best wishes

Dr Eoin Barry Clarke  
Founder of Labour Left  
Editor of The Green Benches