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## UNEMPLOYMENT

Monthly Bulletin

19 January 1983

### MONTHLY STATISTICS ON REGISTERED UNEMPLOYED IN THE COMMUNITY - December 1982 -

EUROSTAT estimates that there were approximately 12 million registered unemployed in the Community of the Nine at the end of December 1982 (1). This represented 10.8% of the total civilian working population.

The problem of rising unemployment exists not only in the Member States of the European Community but also, in particular, in North America. Labour force surveys show that there are 12 million unemployed in the USA and 1.4 million unemployed in Canada, representing unemployment rates of 10.8% and 12.7% respectively.

A comparison with December 1981 illustrates how serious the problem of rising unemployment in the Community has become. Since that date, the number of unemployed persons in the Community of the Nine has increased by 16.7%. These increases differ widely from country to country, the largest rises occurring in the Netherlands (+ 36%), the FR of Germany (+ 30.5%) and Ireland (+ 27.5%), the smallest in Denmark (+ 2.6%) and France (+ 5.8%). In the latter two countries, unemployment would appear to be stabilizing albeit at a high level.

Even in Greece, which is not comparable with the other Member States owing to its different employment structure, unemployment went up by 34.4% over the same period.

Young people are particularly affected by rising unemployment; in September 1982, they accounted for 40% of all unemployed persons.

(1) The precise total can no longer be determined as in the past in view of a change in the make-up of the unemployment total in the United Kingdom. See enclosed document containing an extract from the press notice issued by the Department of Employment on 18 November 1982 on changes in the count of unemployment in the United Kingdom.



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**NOTE** More detailed information on unemployment is contained in the yearly publication 'EUROSTAT — Employment and Unemployment'.  
This monthly bulletin was prepared by the division 'Population, employment, education and general social statistics'.

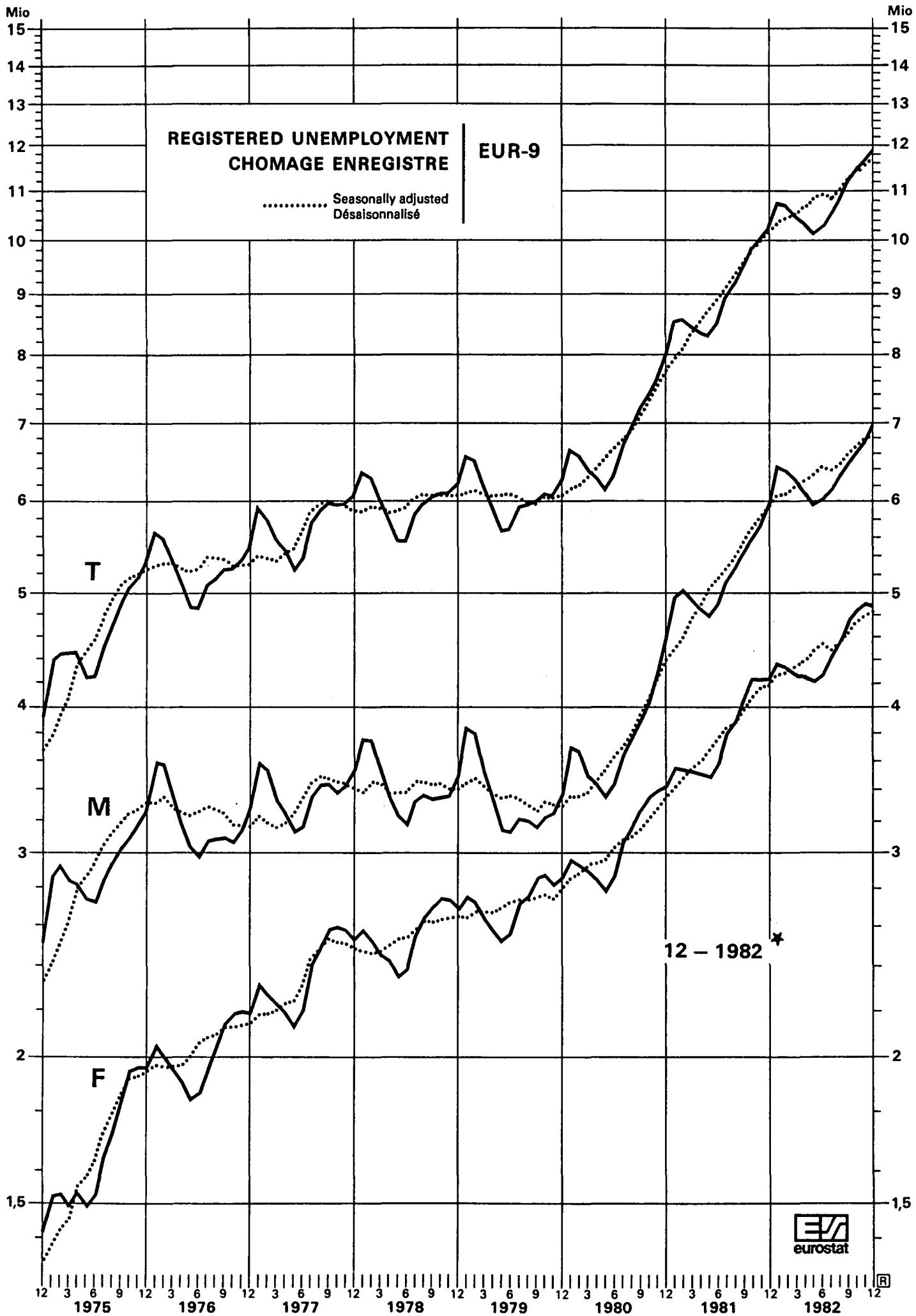
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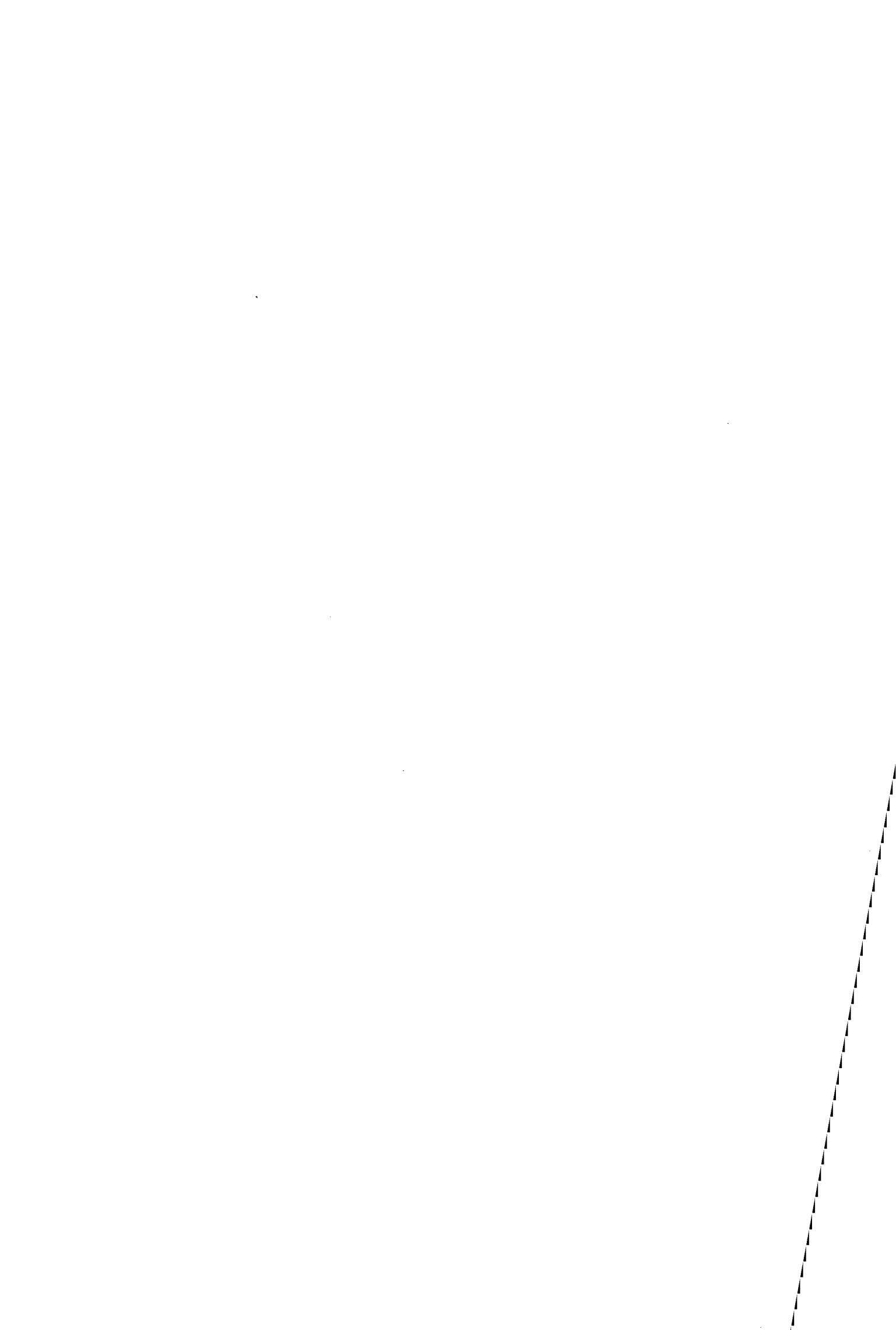
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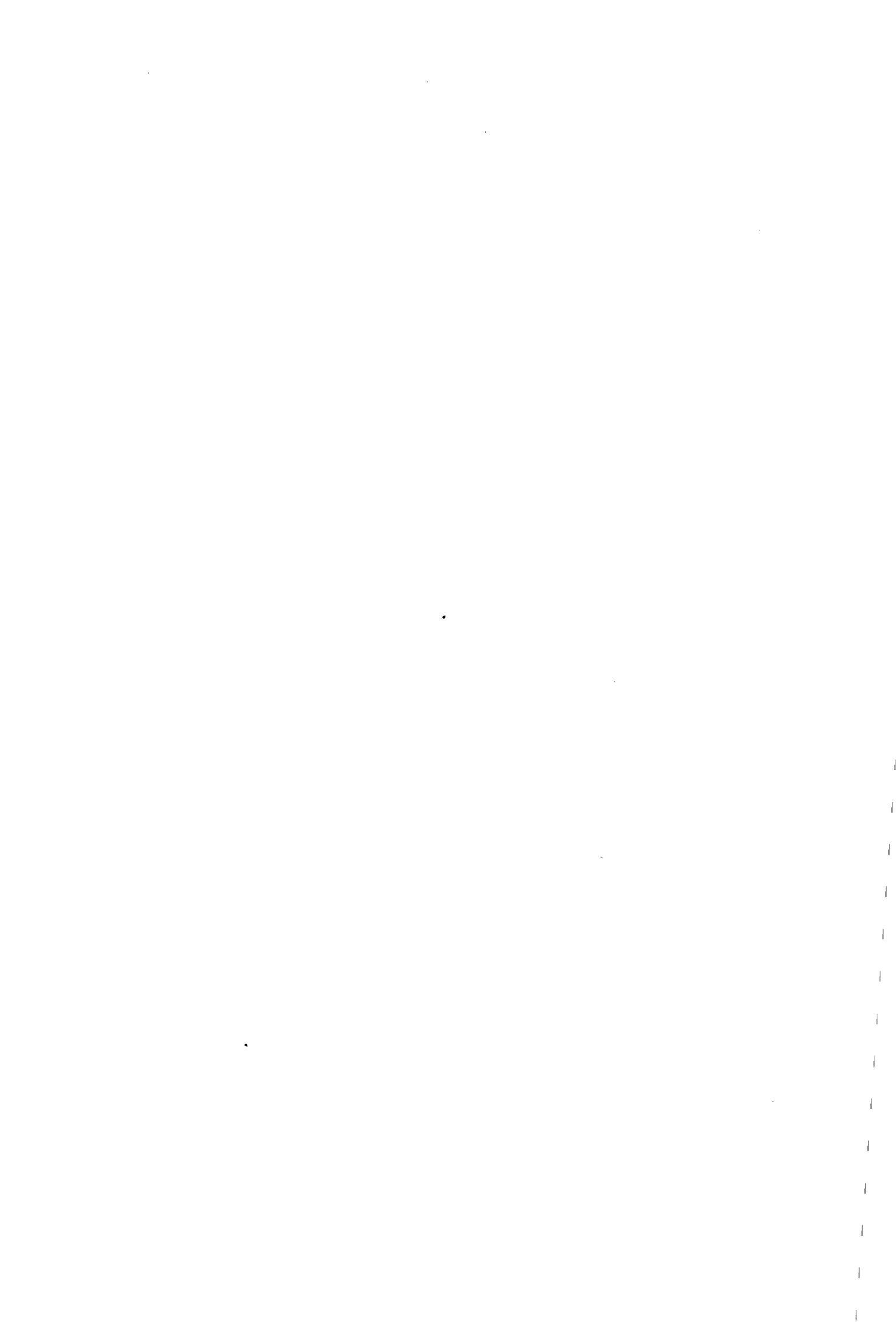
















A N N E X

ABSTRACT OF PRESSNOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT

18 November 1982

UNEMPLOYMENT - CHANGE IN THE COUNT

A new series of unemployment figures produced from computerised records of claimants at Unemployment Benefit Offices is published today in preparation for the November count which will be conducted on this new basis.

Following the change to voluntary registration unemployed adult claimants do not have to register at Jobcenters, so a count of registrants from that source would now be less complete. As a result the count has been transferred to Benefit Offices.

The new figures are more accurate, partly because they are based on a computer rather than a manual count, and partly because they give a more up to date picture of unemployment on the day of the count.

Under the new count, the trend in unemployment is similar to that in the old but the level is lower. October was the last month for which figures will be published on the old basis.

In the summer, when the new count excludes new school leavers who are not entitled to benefit, a separate count of these will be made in June, July and August and published in the press notice.

The change in the basis of the unemployment count is an unavoidable consequence of the introduction of voluntary registration on October 18. This followed a recommendation in a "Rayner" scrutiny on the payment of benefit to unemployed people that registering for work was not an effective test of availability for work. The removal of that requirement brings advantages to the employment service and jobseekers.

The new count is affected by three factors:

- The exclusion of unemployed people not claiming benefit who can no longer be counted; these account for 161,000 of the difference in October.
- The changed method of counting, a main effect of which is less delay between a person finding a job and this being reflected in the figures. In October this factor made the new count 108,000 lower.
- The inclusion in the computer count of severely disabled unemployed people not previously counted; these added 23,000 in October.

The total difference, which was 246,000 in October, varies from one month to another.

As a result of the various changes in procedures and systems it will not be possible to continue to publish figures on the old basis.

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