

Average (mean) duration of unemployment in weeks, seasonally adjusted, May 2011
A comparison of new (5-year) and previous (2-year) topcodes

	New topcode (5 years)	Previous topcode (2 years)	Difference (New - previous)
Total, 16 years and over	39.7	36.8	2.9

NOTE: The difference is calculated using unrounded estimates and may differ slightly from calculations using the rounded average durations displayed in this table. With the release of data for January 2011, the Current Population Survey (CPS) was modified to allow respondents to report durations of unemployment of up to 5 years. Previously, the

CPS accepted unemployment durations of up to 2 years; any response of unemployment duration greater than this was entered as 2 years. With the release of data for January 2011, the official estimates of unemployment duration use the new 5-year topcode. This table presents research estimates using the previous 2-year topcode.