**Increasing frequency and improving timeliness of unemployment estimates from the UK Labour Force Survey**

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Unemployment is estimated from data collected in the Labour Force Survey (LFS). While data is collected continuously the survey design is structured in such a way as to provide quarterly estimates. These quarterly estimates are published each month as *rolling quarterly* estimates and have been assessed to be of sufficient quality to be designated as *National Statistics*. ONS also publish monthly estimates of unemployment, but these are designated *Experimental Statistics* due to concerns over the quality of these data. Due to the sample design of the LFS, monthly estimates of change are volatile as there is no sample overlap. A state space model can be used to develop improved estimates of monthly change, accounting for aspects of the survey design, and so providing increased frequency and a slight improvement in timeliness. Additional sources of information related to unemployment could be used within such a framework to help improve timeliness further. In this paper an overview of the modelling approach is provided and issues associated with regular publication of results are discussed.

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