

Growth? What growth?

Published: January 13, 2026, 1:28 am

As [The Guardian reports](#) this morning:

Unemployment in the UK rose in April to the highest level in almost four years, official figures showed, as tax increases introduced by Rachel Reeves added to a broader slowdown in the jobs market.

In a blow for the chancellor before Wednesday's spending review, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) said the jobless rate increased to 4.6% in the three months to the end of April, up from 4.5% on the previous three-month period to hit the highest level since summer 2021.

Growth? What growth, you might reasonably ask.

Reeves has done her best to destroy it.

Trump is doing exactly the same thing.

The extreme centrists and the far right are combining to destroy the hopes of billions of people around the world that they might, and then only might, have sufficient income to live on.

What a mess.

If only we could have governments that put caring for people at the epicentre of their concern.