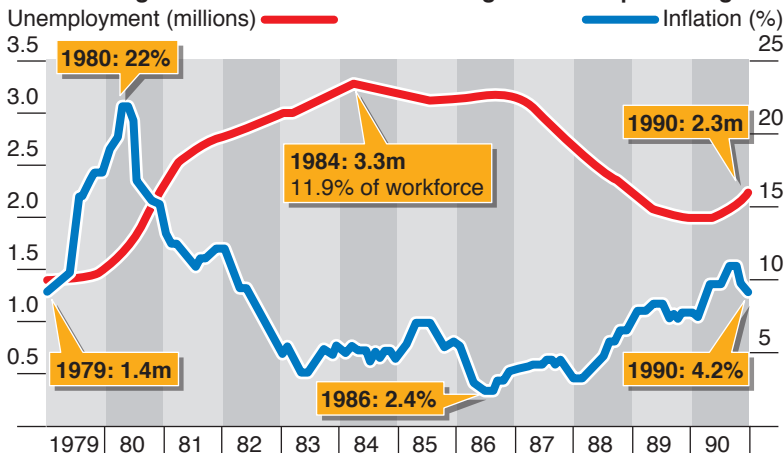


The Thatcher years in numbers

Conservative leader Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first female prime minister in May 1979. After being re-elected in 1983 and 1987 she resigned in November 1990 following a leadership challenge



| | | | | |
|------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------|------|
| 1979 | 83% | Top rate of income tax | 40% | 1990 |
| | 33% | Basic rate of income tax | 25% | |
| | 12% | Interest rate | 13.8% | |
| | 8% | Value Added Tax | 15% | |
| | £5,427 | Average salary | £15,252 | |
| | £19,300 | Average house price | £70,200 | |
| | 29.5 million | Days lost in strikes | 1.9 million | |
| | £0.20 | Cost of medical prescription | £3.05 | |