

Executive summary

This publication contains information on the take-up of the main income-related benefits in Great Britain for the financial year 2009-10: Income Support and Employment and Support Allowance (Income-Related), Pension Credit, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit and Jobseeker's Allowance (Income-Based).

The last edition covered take-up in 2007-08 and 2008-09 and was published in June 2010¹. The approach to modelling income related benefit entitlement for Family Resources Survey (FRS) respondents has been improved for this publication. Figures for the financial years 2007-08 and 2008-09 have been revised using the new approach and should take precedence over previously published results, full details can be found in Chapter 7.

Taking all six income-related benefits together, there was between £7.52 billion and £12.31 billion left unclaimed in 2009-10; this compared to £40.56 billion that was claimed and represents take-up by expenditure of between about 77 per cent and 84 per cent.

In 2008-09, there was between £6.44 billion and £11.77 billion left unclaimed; this compared to £37.77 billion that was claimed and represented take-up by expenditure of between about 76 per cent and 85 per cent.

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¹ *Income Related Benefits Estimates of Take-Up in 2008-09*, (2010) DWP The report can be found at: http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/income_analysis/index.php?page=publications

Key results for 2009-10

Income Support & Employment and Support Allowance

Take-up between 77 per cent and 89 per cent by caseload, compared with between 80 per cent and 91 per cent in 2008-09.

Take-up between 82 per cent and 92 per cent by expenditure, compared with between 85 per cent and 94 per cent in 2008-09.

Pension Credit

Take-up between 62 per cent and 68 per cent by caseload, compared with between 63 per cent and 74 per cent in 2008-09.

Take-up between 73 per cent and 80 per cent by expenditure, compared with between 72 per cent and 82 per cent in 2008-09.

Housing Benefit

Take-up between 78 per cent and 84 per cent by caseload, compared with between 77 per cent and 85 per cent in 2008-09.

Take-up between 84 per cent and 90 per cent by expenditure, compared with between 83 per cent and 90 per cent in 2008-09.

Council Tax Benefit

Take-up between 62 per cent and 69 per cent by caseload, compared with between 64 per cent and 71 per cent in 2008-09.

Take-up between 64 per cent and 71 per cent by expenditure, compared with between 66 per cent and 74 per cent in 2008-09.

Jobseeker's Allowance (Income-Based)

Take-up between 60 per cent and 67 per cent by caseload, compared with between 49 per cent and 59 per cent in 2008-09.

Take-up between 61 per cent and 70 per cent by expenditure, compared with between 49 per cent and 62 per cent in 2008-09.