



# First Release

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Coverage: Great Britain (unless otherwise stated)

Theme: People and Places

## DWP QUARTERLY STATISTICAL SUMMARY

*This Statistical Summary aims to give users a structured overview of the benefit and employment programme National and Official Statistics published by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Statistics are grouped by component area of DWP and, for each statistic; links are given for users to access more detailed information.*

*Key benefit statistics and employment programme statistics from 100% sources are available on an internet-based tabulation tool. A similar tabulation tool derived from 5% sample data is also available, however wherever possible 100% data should be used in preference to 5% estimates, as they are more accurate and form DWP's headline statistics. Statistics are also released via the NOMIS website and the Neighbourhood Statistics website.*



All regular series are full National Statistics;

### EXCEPT:

The working age inactive benefit early estimates are official statistics;

The Flexible New Deal monthly statistics are official statistics.

[See: <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/national-statistician/types-of-official-statistics>]

The early estimates for working-age inactive benefit client groups are released monthly and are designed to give indicative, timely information; they are not a substitute for the National Statistics. They will be replaced by the quarterly National Statistics covering the same period when they are published. The National Statistics are the finalised figures.

The latest National Statistics on benefit claimants (and flows), employment programmes, labour market decisions and Jobcentre Plus vacancies produced by DWP were released on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2011 according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority. Not all DWP National Statistics are covered by this release. Some statistics have their own first releases, but links to these are given throughout.

This summary also contains a 'Focus on...' section informing users that the United Kingdom Statistics Authority have designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007.

### Key Findings

- There were 5.7 million working age benefit claimants at May 2011. This is a decrease of 38 thousand in the year to May 2011.
- Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) was introduced on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2008. There were around 662 thousand people claiming Employment and Support Allowance at the end of May 2011.
- The number of working age claimants of ESA and incapacity benefits totals 2.57 million in May 2011. This figure is 43 thousand less than May 2010.
- The number of lone parents claiming Income Support (IS) decreased by 84 thousand to 595 thousand in the year to May 2011.

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### Next publication:

15<sup>th</sup> February 2012  
(See Notes section)



- At August 2011, the total number of people claiming Housing Benefit was 4.91 million, with 5.86 million claiming Council Tax Benefit.
- [OFFICIAL STATISTICS] 408 thousand people had started on the Flexible New Deal Programme up to August 2011, with 75 thousand gaining a short job outcome and 50 thousand gaining a sustained job outcome.
- At May 2011, there were 12.8 million people of state pension age claiming a DWP benefit, an increase of 63 thousand since May 2010. Of these, 67% were claiming State Pension (SP) only.
- At May 2011, there were 12.6 million claimants of State Pension (SP), a rise of 75 thousand on a year earlier. Of these 39% were male and 61% female.
- At May 2011, there were 2.67 million claimants of Pension Credit (3.27 million including partners), a fall of 19 thousand on the previous quarter. Of these, 937 thousand claimed Guarantee Credit only, 1.15 million claimed Guarantee and Savings Credit, and 590 thousand were claiming Savings Credit only.
- At the end of September 2011, the total Child Support Agency (CSA) live and assessed caseload stood at 1.14 million cases, of which 70% were current scheme cases.
- At May 2011, there were 3.20 million recipients of Disability Living Allowance (DLA), 569 thousand recipients of Carer's Allowance (CA), and 1.60 million recipients of Attendance Allowance (AA).

**Statistics on benefit flows show:**

- There were 674 thousand new claims to Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits, 26 thousand new claims to Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit (BB/WB), 326 thousand to Income Support (IS) and 545 thousand new claims to State Pension (SP) in the year to May 2011.
- There were 733 thousand benefit exits for Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits, 34 thousand for Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit (BB/WB), 477 thousand for Income Support (IS) and 498 thousand benefit exits for State Pension (SP) in the year to May 2011.
- There were 197 thousand new claims to PC in the financial year 2010/2011.

**[OFFICIAL STATISTICS]: Early estimates show**

- At the end of September 2011, the working age Income Support lone parents (ISLP) early estimate was 590 thousand.
- At the end of September 2011, the Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) early estimate was 2.560 million.

*If you have any comments or requests regarding this publication, please contact DWP via [stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk).*



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## Focus on... UK Statistics Authority Assessment and Designation

*This article looks at the assessment of compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics of this publication*

### **The UK Statistics Authority**

The UK Statistics Authority is an independent body operating at arm's length from government as a non-ministerial department, directly accountable to Parliament. It was established on 1 April 2008 by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. The Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 requires all statistics currently designated as National Statistics to be assessed against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

The Authority's overall objective is to promote and safeguard the production and publication of official statistics that serve the public good. It is also required to promote and safeguard the quality and comprehensiveness of official statistics, and good practice in relation to official statistics.

The Statistics Authority has two main functions:

- oversight of the Office for National Statistics (ONS) – the executive office of the Authority;
- Independent scrutiny (monitoring and assessment) of all official statistics produced in the UK.

### **The Assessment**

The assessment and related report covered the following National Statistics produced by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP):

- DWP Monthly Statistical Summary
- DWP Quarterly Statistical Summary

The Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 gave the UK Statistics Authority a statutory power to assess sets of statistics against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. These assessments determine whether it is appropriate for the statistics to be designated as National Statistics.

Designation as National Statistics means that the statistics comply with the Code of Practice. The Code is wide-ranging. Designation can be interpreted to mean that the statistics: meet identified user needs; are produced, managed and disseminated to high standards; and are explained well.

Designation as National Statistics should not be interpreted to mean that the statistics are always correct. For example, whilst the Code requires statistics to be produced to a level of accuracy that meets users' needs, it also recognises that errors can occur – in which case it requires them to be corrected and publicised.

Assessment Reports will not normally comment further on a set of statistics, for example on their validity as social or economic measures. However, Reports may point to such questions if the Authority believes that further research would be desirable.

Assessment Reports typically provide an overview of any noteworthy features of the methods used to produce the statistics, and will highlight substantial concerns about quality. Assessment Reports also describe aspects of the ways in which the producer addresses the 'sound methods and assured quality' principle of the Code, but do not themselves constitute a review of the methods used to produce the statistics. However the Code requires producers to "seek to achieve continuous improvement in statistical processes by, for example, undertaking regular reviews".

The Authority may grant designation on condition that the producer body takes steps, within a stated timeframe, to fully meet the Code's requirements. This is to avoid public confusion and does not reduce the obligation to comply with the Code.



The Authority grants designation on the basis of three main sources of information:

- i. factual evidence and assurances by senior statisticians in the producer body;
- ii. the views of users who they contact, or who contact them, and;
- iii. their own review activity.

Should further information come to light subsequently which changes the Authority's analysis, it may withdraw the Assessment Report and revise it as necessary.

It is a statutory requirement on the producer body to ensure that it continues to produce the set of statistics designated as National Statistics in compliance with the Code of Practice

### **The Designation**

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

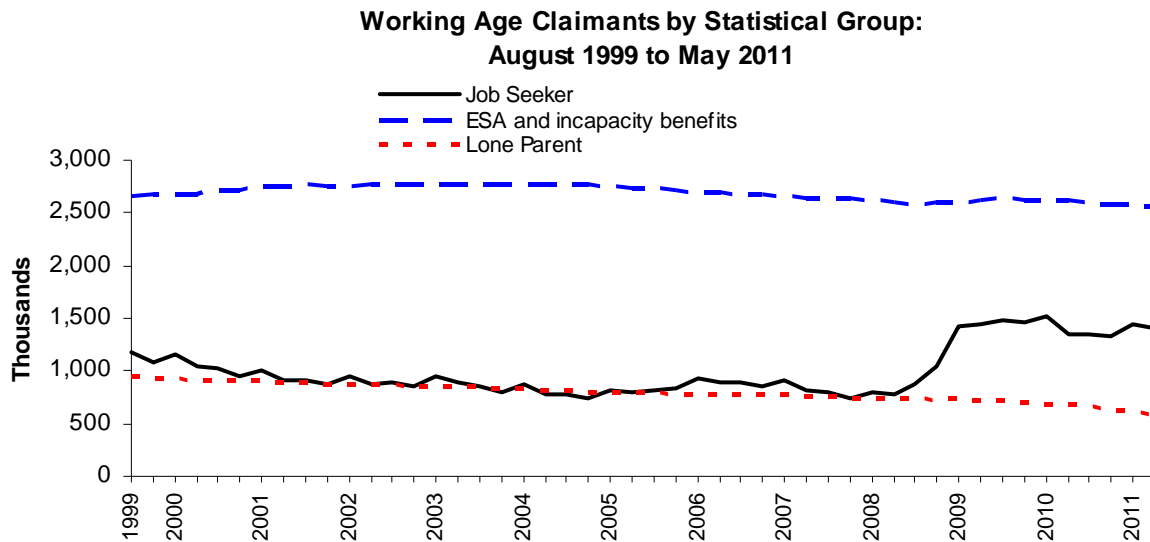
- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

## 1. Working Age

### 1.1 National Statistics: Working Age client group

Combines data collected for Jobseeker's Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Employment and Support Allowance, Severe Disablement Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Widow's Benefit, Bereavement Benefit and Income Support for working age claimants (including Pension Credit for males aged 60 to 64).



The age at which women reach State Pension age is gradually increasing from 60 to 65 between April 2010 and April 2016 to November 2018. From December 2018, the State Pension age for both men and women will start to increase to reach 66 in October 2020. The changes will introduce a small increase to the number of working age benefit recipients and a small reduction to the number of pension age recipients. There are also changes to the way we report benefit recipients as a proportion of the working population. More information can be found at: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/espa.pdf>.

Between August 1999 and February 2008, the number of jobseekers in GB fell from 1.18 million to 807 thousand. However, rose to almost 1.47 million at November 2009. Since then, numbers have fallen to 1.40 million in May 2011. The preferred source of JSA figures is the ONS claimant count measure (which is seasonally adjusted).

The lone parent caseload fell from 945 thousand to 595 thousand between August 1999 and May 2011.

The number of working age claimants of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and incapacity benefits totals 2.57 million in May 2011. This shows a year-on-year decrease of 43 thousand.



**Table 1.1 Working Age claimants by Statistical Group: August 1999 – May 2011**

	Total	Job Seeker <sup>2</sup>	Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits <sup>3</sup>	Lone Parent <sup>4</sup>	Carer <sup>5</sup>	Other Income Related <sup>6</sup>	Disabled <sup>7</sup>	Thousands Bereaved <sup>8</sup>
Aug -99	..	1,181.86	2,655.38	945.06	316.13	222.31	..	..
Nov -99	..	1,083.03	2,674.71	930.24	316.50	218.37	..	..
Feb -00	..	1,154.97	2,676.39	923.47	313.58	216.97	..	..
May -00	..	1,037.01	2,686.30	919.43	310.88	210.80	..	..
Aug -00	..	1,015.83	2,714.85	920.10	309.67	197.95	..	..
Nov -00	..	948.66	2,722.57	905.76	311.56	196.69	..	..
Feb -01	..	1,001.08	2,750.45	908.21	313.96	182.81	..	..
May -01	..	909.15	2,753.66	900.43	319.59	180.15	..	..
Aug -01	..	907.68	2,763.62	900.22	323.83	175.41	..	..
Nov -01	..	880.36	2,746.02	878.59	328.62	179.08	..	..
Feb -02	..	955.45	2,745.58	877.11	332.02	176.62	..	..
May -02	<b>5,455.75</b>	877.38	2,765.73	870.95	335.79	165.60	245.27	195.02
Aug -02	<b>5,481.48</b>	890.54	2,769.36	875.04	339.91	167.19	249.72	189.71
Nov -02	<b>5,428.63</b>	850.05	2,776.56	856.23	343.72	161.36	256.58	184.13
Feb -03	<b>5,514.28</b>	946.16	2,776.54	848.85	346.17	156.33	260.92	179.31
May -03	<b>5,459.68</b>	885.78	2,773.61	855.81	347.94	155.96	266.25	174.33
Aug -03	<b>5,425.85</b>	851.37	2,777.06	851.73	350.41	155.26	270.15	169.88
Nov -03	<b>5,363.74</b>	803.88	2,780.49	831.75	353.25	154.20	275.51	164.67
Feb -04	<b>5,426.42</b>	867.42	2,777.53	830.25	355.81	155.20	280.12	160.09
May -04	<b>5,327.35</b>	777.40	2,772.85	823.27	359.25	155.42	283.33	155.83
Aug -04	<b>5,321.26</b>	769.25	2,774.93	818.10	360.08	158.20	289.12	151.59
Nov -04	<b>5,270.77</b>	741.06	2,772.18	796.53	361.42	157.94	294.15	147.49
Feb -05	<b>5,327.77</b>	819.68	2,757.65	793.13	362.04	153.93	297.23	144.11
May -05	<b>5,289.13</b>	800.66	2,741.62	789.32	363.76	151.09	300.96	141.73
Aug -05	<b>5,302.72</b>	825.11	2,725.47	789.35	365.08	153.71	305.84	138.17
Nov -05	<b>5,287.66</b>	836.71	2,710.50	778.56	363.34	155.74	309.31	133.51
Feb -06	<b>5,384.74</b>	935.20	2,705.47	777.09	368.66	153.06	313.85	131.40
May -06	<b>5,325.77</b>	895.88	2,688.02	774.86	368.50	152.70	317.04	128.78
Aug -06	<b>5,335.22</b>	900.92	2,683.00	783.18	369.81	153.12	319.13	126.06
Nov -06	<b>5,288.34</b>	860.22	2,672.96	775.62	371.71	161.10	326.64	120.09
Feb -07	<b>5,321.68</b>	904.04	2,662.13	771.35	373.83	163.32	329.75	117.26
May -07	<b>5,207.27</b>	807.27	2,643.21	765.62	374.84	167.05	335.13	114.15
Aug -07	<b>5,187.14</b>	788.45	2,641.11	763.55	376.03	167.84	340.61	109.55
Nov -07	<b>5,124.68</b>	741.10	2,641.70	741.83	379.35	167.29	346.16	107.25
Feb -08	<b>5,174.88</b>	806.70	2,617.88	741.71	384.49	169.95	349.38	104.78
May -08	<b>5,142.63</b>	787.87	2,595.83	738.64	387.56	173.33	356.50	102.90
Aug -08	<b>5,232.88</b>	868.73	2,590.61	744.68	392.73	176.23	360.08	99.81
Nov -08	<b>5,404.12</b>	1,036.48	2,605.51	728.98	396.80	178.84	360.47	97.04
Feb -09	<b>5,802.48</b>	1,421.60	2,603.54	736.04	400.12	181.88	363.82	95.49
May -09	<b>5,836.50</b>	1,443.00	2,621.43	720.48	405.56	183.22	368.94	93.87
Aug -09	<b>5,895.65</b>	1,485.32	2,632.74	715.73	412.97	184.46	373.10	91.33
Nov -09	<b>5,857.13</b>	1,469.92	2,618.38	695.72	418.53	188.23	377.95	88.40
Feb -10	<b>5,917.56</b>	1,526.01	2,614.76	692.02	422.08	191.35	383.28	88.06
May -10	<b>5,747.83</b>	1,354.62	2,613.10	679.15	430.23	192.19	390.81	87.74
Aug -10	<b>5,744.64</b>	1,349.71	2,606.61	672.35	439.43	191.38	396.81	88.36
Nov -10	<b>5,685.60</b>	1,328.91	2,586.42	648.30	445.44	192.03	399.38	85.11
Feb -11	<b>5,765.34</b>	1,438.67	2,578.66	613.78	450.42	191.76	406.31	85.75
May -11	<b>5,709.55</b>	1,404.14	2,570.22	595.40	456.06	187.18	411.01	85.55

**Notes:**

See page 8 for notes on Table 1.1



### **Notes relating to Table 1.1**

1. Claimants have been assigned to a statistical group according to a hierarchy. The order is shown in the table, i.e. 'Job Seekers' followed by 'Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits'.
2. 'Job Seekers' are recipients of Jobseeker's Allowance.
3. 'From November 2008 the "incapacity benefits group" includes Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). ESA replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims from 27th October 2008. Prior to this the "incapacity benefits group" referred to claimants of Incapacity Benefit (including credits only) or Severe Disablement Allowance including people claiming IS on the grounds of Incapacity.
4. 'Lone Parents' are single recipients of Income Support with a child under 16.
5. 'Carers' are recipients of Carers Allowance.
6. 'Others on Income Related Benefit' are other recipients of Income Support (including Income Support Disability Premium) or Pension Credit.
7. 'Disabled' are recipients of Disability Living Allowance. Industrial Injuries benefits data is not available.
8. 'Bereaved' are recipients of Widow's Benefit or Bereavement Benefit.
9. Totals are not shown prior to May 2002 as complete data is not available for 'Disabled' and 'Bereaved' statistical groups.
10. HB/CTB data are not included in the client group hierarchy but are published separately (see section 1.5).

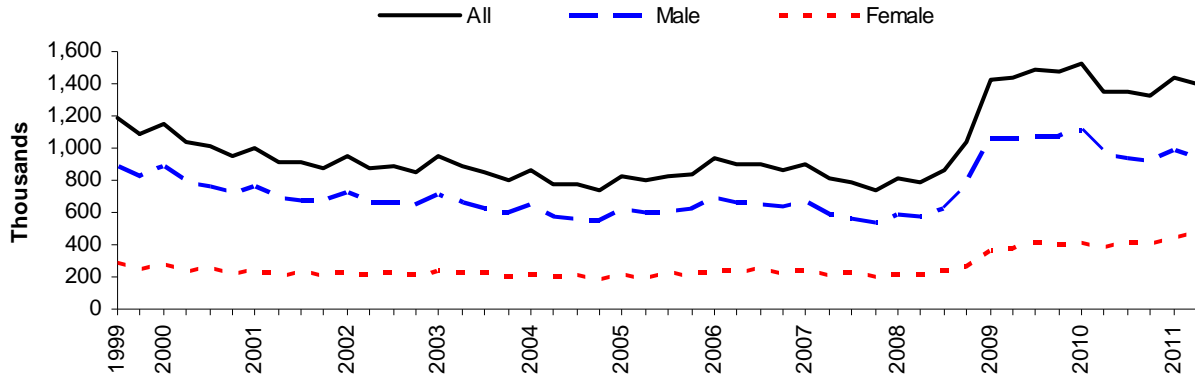
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



## 1.2 National Statistics: Jobseeker's Allowance

*Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) was introduced on 7th October 1996 and has both contributory and income-related elements. It is paid to people under state pension age who are available for and actively seeking work.*

**Jobseekers Allowance by Gender: August 1999 to May 2011**



The preferred source of JSA figures is the ONS claimant count measure (which is seasonally adjusted).

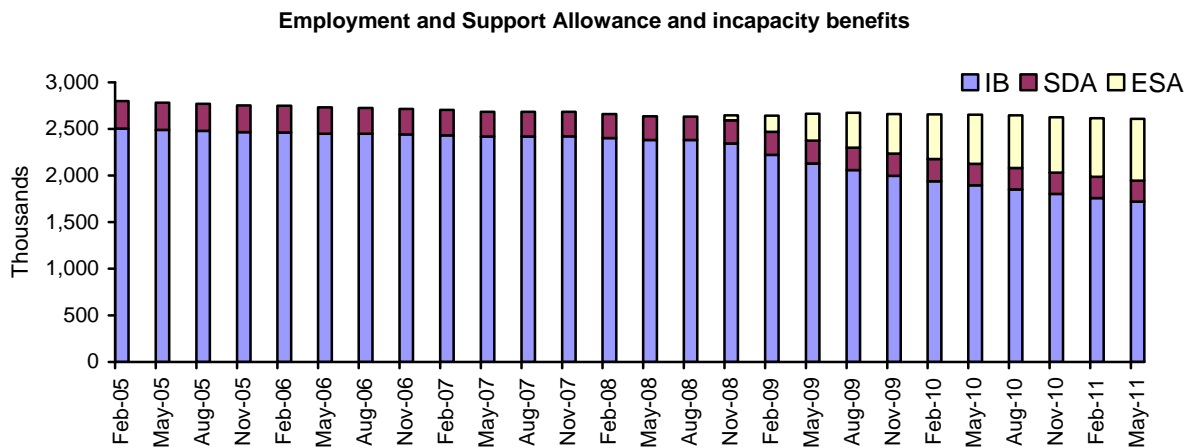
DWP produce a separate set of Jobseeker's Allowance figures to enable cross-benefit analysis and supply a wider range of breakdowns, and these are provided in this release.

The DWP figures at May 2011 show the total number of Jobseeker's Allowance claimants was 1.40 million. Female claimants represented 33% of the JSA caseload (458 thousand), while males represented 67% (946 thousand). The total caseload has increased by 50 thousand since May 2010, with men falling by 26 thousand and women increasing by 75 thousand.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>

### 1.3 National Statistics: Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits

From 27th October 2008, Employment & Support Allowance (ESA) replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims. Incapacity benefits consist of Incapacity Benefit (introduced on 13th April 1995 and paid to people who are incapable of work and who have paid sufficient contributions throughout their working life) and Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA). This section includes a small number of claimants of State Pension age; therefore figures may differ to those in Table 1.1 which refers to working age claimants only.



At May 2011, there were 2.61 million claimants of Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance), a decrease of 45 thousand on a year earlier. 56% of claimants were men and 44% women. The male caseload has decreased by 55 thousand and the female caseload has increased by 10 thousand in the year to May 2011.

There were 166 thousand new Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits claimants in the May 2011 quarter, which represents 6% of the May 2011 caseload. Over the same period, 182 thousand claimants left the benefits, 7% of the caseload at May 2011.

In the year to May 2011, there were a total of 674 thousand new claims for Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits and 733 thousand claims were closed.



**Table 1.2 Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits claimants<sup>1</sup>: August 1999 – May 2011**

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Employment and Support Allowance</b>	<b>Incapacity Benefits</b>	<i>Thousands</i> <b>Severe Disablement Allowance</b>
Aug -99	<b>2,732.50</b>	.	2,355.24	377.26
Nov -99	<b>2,738.13</b>	.	2,361.30	376.83
Feb -00	<b>2,724.03</b>	.	2,348.39	375.64
May -00	<b>2,728.09</b>	.	2,352.52	375.56
Aug -00	<b>2,756.51</b>	.	2,380.31	376.20
Nov -00	<b>2,764.14</b>	.	2,387.86	376.28
Feb -01	<b>2,792.03</b>	.	2,415.02	377.00
May -01	<b>2,795.34</b>	.	2,420.88	374.45
Aug -01	<b>2,805.45</b>	.	2,435.42	370.03
Nov -01	<b>2,787.71</b>	.	2,425.57	362.14
Feb -02	<b>2,787.22</b>	.	2,427.22	360.00
May -02	<b>2,807.63</b>	.	2,471.14	336.48
Aug -02	<b>2,811.43</b>	.	2,478.84	332.58
Nov -02	<b>2,818.48</b>	.	2,489.91	328.56
Feb -03	<b>2,818.57</b>	.	2,493.87	324.70
May -03	<b>2,815.66</b>	.	2,494.89	320.76
Aug -03	<b>2,819.05</b>	.	2,502.06	316.99
Nov -03	<b>2,822.27</b>	.	2,509.01	313.26
Feb -04	<b>2,819.16</b>	.	2,509.67	309.49
May -04	<b>2,814.71</b>	.	2,508.77	305.94
Aug -04	<b>2,817.01</b>	.	2,514.27	302.73
Nov -04	<b>2,814.41</b>	.	2,514.73	299.67
Feb -05	<b>2,799.87</b>	.	2,503.53	296.34
May -05	<b>2,783.72</b>	.	2,490.85	292.87
Aug -05	<b>2,767.74</b>	.	2,478.16	289.59
Nov -05	<b>2,752.90</b>	.	2,466.20	286.70
Feb -06	<b>2,747.49</b>	.	2,464.24	283.25
May -06	<b>2,730.00</b>	.	2,449.99	280.01
Aug -06	<b>2,724.98</b>	.	2,447.96	277.02
Nov -06	<b>2,714.95</b>	.	2,441.03	273.91
Feb -07	<b>2,704.10</b>	.	2,433.40	270.70
May -07	<b>2,685.32</b>	.	2,417.71	267.61
Aug -07	<b>2,683.16</b>	.	2,418.65	264.51
Nov -07	<b>2,683.75</b>	.	2,422.01	261.74
Feb -08	<b>2,659.65</b>	.	2,401.06	258.59
May -08	<b>2,637.56</b>	.	2,382.00	255.56
Aug -08	<b>2,632.00</b>	.	2,379.46	252.53
Nov -08	<b>2,646.78</b>	53.77	2,343.25	249.76
Feb -09	<b>2,644.43</b>	175.81	2,221.89	246.73
May -09	<b>2,662.49</b>	288.27	2,130.13	244.09
Aug -09	<b>2,674.02</b>	374.44	2,058.02	241.56
Nov -09	<b>2,659.65</b>	425.77	1,994.95	238.93
Feb -10	<b>2,655.96</b>	479.43	1,940.30	236.23
May -10	<b>2,653.81</b>	527.12	1,892.98	233.71
Aug -10	<b>2,646.54</b>	563.98	1,851.01	231.55
Nov -10	<b>2,625.86</b>	593.93	1,802.93	229.00
Feb -11	<b>2,617.27</b>	631.35	1,759.62	226.30
May -11	<b>2,608.43</b>	662.23	1,722.39	223.81

**Notes:**

See the next page



1. Claimants include those beneficiaries plus, those receiving National Insurance Credits and no monetary payment (many credits-only claimants of Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance will also receive Income Support).
2. This table replaces table 1.2 in the November 2010 Statistical Summary. This table no longer includes beneficiaries but still includes all claimants of Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance. This provides a consistent time series. Numbers of Working Age claimants of 'ESA and incapacity benefits' are shown in the Working Age Client Group section of this release. Those figures differ from this table due to the inclusion of a small number of claimants over state pension age in table 1.2 and minor methodological differences.

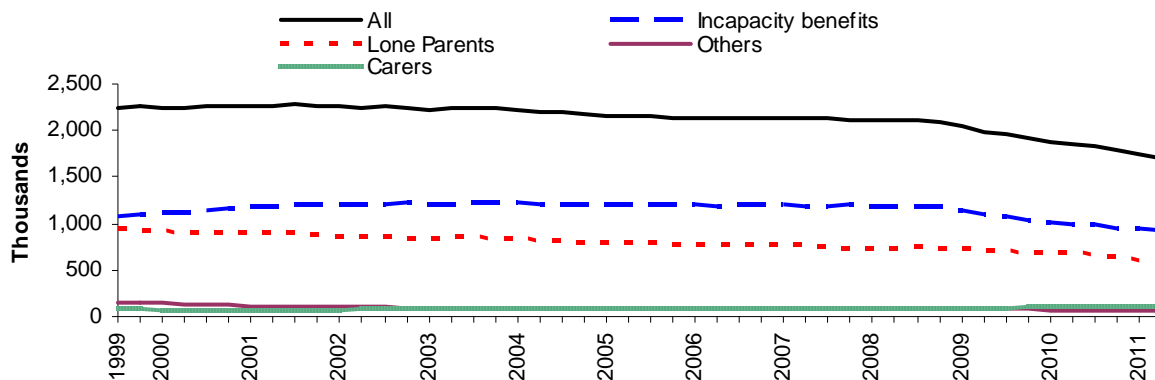
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



## 1.4 National Statistics: Income Support

Income Support (IS) was introduced on 11th April 1988 and is an income-related benefit that can be claimed by adults under state pension age that work fewer than 16 hours a week and have insufficient income to meet their needs. Prior to the introduction of Pension Credit in October 2003, IS was available to people aged 60 and over. From 27th October 2008, Employment & Support Allowance (ESA) replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims. The Lone Parent Obligation policy came into effect from 24 November 2008; Lone Parents (LPs) with a youngest child aged 12 or over were no longer able to make a new or repeat claim for Income Support (IS) solely on the basis of their parental status. Existing IS LPs with a youngest child aged 12 or over had their eligibility removed over a period of time commencing 2nd March 2009. From October 2009 this policy was extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 10 or 11 and from October 2010 the policy was extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 7 or over. Subject to the passage of the Welfare Reform Bill, lone parents will be eligible to claim Income Support until their youngest child is five years old.

**Income Support by Statistical Group:  
August 1999 to May 2011**



Pension Credit (PC) replaced Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) in Income Support on 6 October 2003. **MIG claimants have been excluded from this data prior to November 2003.**

At May 2011, the total number of Income Support (IS) claimants was 1.70 million. Claimants of incapacity benefits represented 54% of the IS caseload (925 thousand). Lone Parents (all single claimants with dependants under 16, excluding claimants of incapacity benefits) represented 35% of the IS caseload (595 thousand), while Carers and Others represented 11% of the caseload (183 thousand).

There were 76 thousand new claimants of Income Support in the May 2011 quarter, which represents 4% of the May 2011 caseload. Over the same period, 112 thousand claimants left the benefit, 7% of the caseload at end of May 2011. In the year to May 2011, there were a total of 326 thousand new claims for Income Support and 477 thousand claims were closed.

**Table 1.3 Income Support Lone Parents claimants<sup>1</sup>: May 2011**

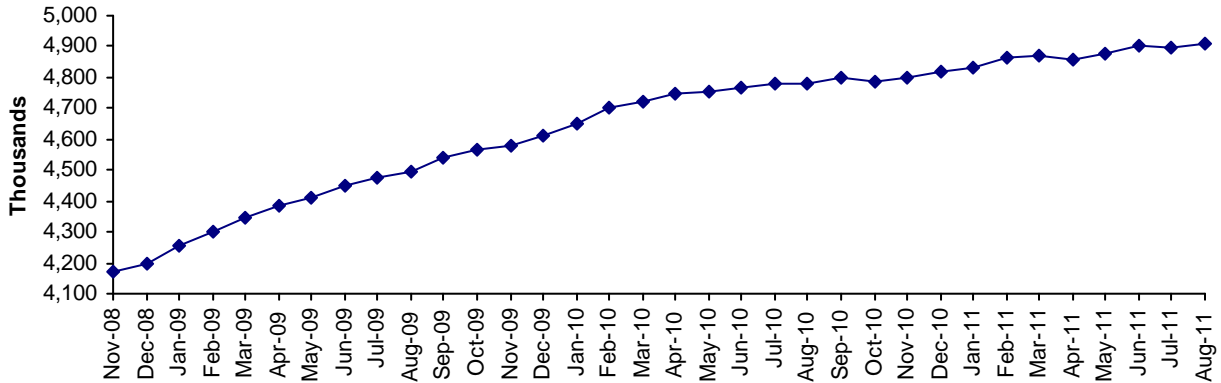
	Total	Thousands	
		Female	Male
<b>All Ages</b>	595.4	578.09	17.31
Unknown Age	-	-	-
Under 18	4.74	4.73	0.01
18-24	172.13	170.56	1.57
25-34	251.95	245.88	6.07
35-44	135.29	129.11	6.18
45-54	29.10	26.06	3.04
55-64	2.19	1.75	0.44

1. Lone Parents are all single claimants with dependants aged under 16, but excluding claimants of incapacity benefits.

## 1.5 National Statistics: Housing Benefit / Council Tax Benefit

*Housing Benefit (HB) was introduced on 1st April 1983 and is an income-related benefit designed to help people on low incomes pay for rented accommodation whether in or out-of-work.*

**Housing Benefit Recipients: November 2008 to August 2011**



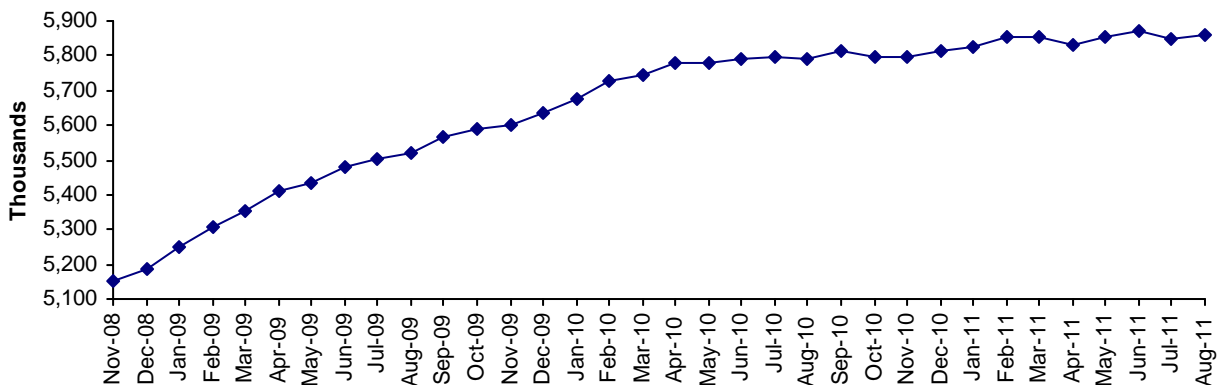
At August 2011 there were 4.91 million recipients of Housing Benefit, of whom almost three-quarters were aged under 65. The average weekly amount of Housing Benefit was £87.11.

68% of Housing Benefit recipients were tenants of Social Sector with 82% of Private Sector tenants receiving the Local Housing Allowance.

66% were also in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-based Employment and Support Allowance or Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit).

*Council Tax Benefit (CTB) was introduced on 1st April 1993 and is an income-related benefit, calculated in a similar way to Housing Benefit, which has been designed to help people on low incomes pay their Council Tax.*

**Council Tax Benefit Recipients: November 2008 to August 2011**



At August 2011 there were 5.86 million recipients of Council Tax Benefit (figure excludes second adult rebates), of whom 3.65 million were aged under 65. The average weekly amount of Council Tax Benefit was £15.75.

67% of Council Tax Benefit recipients were also in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-based Employment and Support Allowance or Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit).



**Table 1.4 Housing Benefit (HB) / Council Tax Benefit (CTB) recipients<sup>1,2</sup>: November 2008 – August 2011**  
Thousands

	All Housing Benefit (HB) recipients			All Council Tax Benefit (CTB) recipients		
	Total	Tenure Type		Total	Age Group <sup>3</sup>	
		Social Rented Sector	Private Rented Sector		Aged under 65	Aged 65 or over
Nov-08	4,171.94	3,109.37	1,054.81	5,149.39	2,947.33	2,201.97
Dec-08	4,200.16	3,114.59	1,081.25	5,188.10	2,986.34	2,201.34
Jan-09	4,252.25	3,138.38	1,108.59	5,250.81	3,041.80	2,208.70
Feb-09	4,301.79	3,155.98	1,140.04	5,305.98	3,099.97	2,205.48
Mar-09	4,343.92	3,167.39	1,172.42	5,352.41	3,143.86	2,208.03
Apr-09	4,382.08	3,174.78	1,202.52	5,408.83	3,196.63	2,211.72
May-09	4,412.99	3,186.40	1,221.42	5,436.19	3,223.62	2,211.97
Jun-09	4,450.41	3,198.87	1,246.28	5,479.12	3,262.31	2,216.17
Jul-09	4,477.25	3,204.61	1,263.56	5,503.79	3,284.83	2,218.39
Aug-09	4,494.56	3,193.05	1,272.64	5,519.39	3,301.37	2,217.09
Sep-09	4,538.56	3,195.38	1,291.16	5,563.92	3,344.59	2,219.13
Oct-09	4,568.73	3,203.50	1,310.36	5,588.29	3,366.77	2,221.29
Nov-09	4,579.18	3,234.06	1,341.08	5,600.83	3,381.33	2,219.27
Dec-09	4,610.73	3,243.61	1,363.97	5,635.24	3,413.07	2,221.95
Jan-10	4,651.10	3,261.67	1,386.51	5,676.83	3,453.12	2,223.49
Feb-10	4,700.16	3,283.76	1,413.84	5,727.14	3,502.35	2,224.58
Mar-10	4,718.94	3,288.17	1,428.08	5,743.60	3,517.47	2,225.93
Apr-10	4,746.32	3,294.90	1,448.70	5,780.20	3,549.78	2,230.23
May-10	4,751.53	3,293.63	1,455.26	5,780.09	3,553.83	2,226.07
Jun-10	4,765.73	3,299.64	1,463.49	5,788.76	3,562.14	2,226.43
Jul-10	4,777.43	3,303.69	1,471.13	5,798.60	3,571.76	2,226.65
Aug-10	4,776.66	3,300.37	1,473.58	5,791.80	3,567.83	2,223.78
Sep-10	4,797.46	3,308.46	1,486.42	5,811.26	3,585.36	2,225.72
Oct-10	4,789.49	3,299.63	1,487.33	5,794.77	3,572.29	2,222.30
Nov-10	4,798.32	3,300.61	1,495.18	5,795.10	3,573.80	2,221.09
Dec-10	4,817.16	3,303.78	1,510.80	5,812.41	3,590.74	2,221.47
Jan-11	4,833.47	3,308.90	1,521.98	5,825.94	3,605.59	2,220.15
Feb-11	4,865.40	3,322.56	1,540.14	5,854.11	3,636.24	2,217.67
Mar-11	4,869.04	3,320.35	1,545.86	5,851.58	3,633.82	2,217.57
Apr-11	4,856.15	3,312.52	1,540.75	5,828.58	3,619.00	2,209.40
May-11	4,879.18	3,324.27	1,552.09	5,852.13	3,639.71	2,212.26
Jun-11	4,901.39	3,335.15	1,563.24	5,868.55	3,655.91	2,212.47
Jul-11	4,893.37	3,330.16	1,560.41	5,850.24	3,641.78	2,208.31
Aug-11	4,909.51	3,336.79	1,569.73	5,860.15	3,649.83	2,210.16

Source: Single Housing Benefit Extract (SHBE)

**Notes:**

1. Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit recipients are individual claimants who had a live in payment claim on the second Thursday in each month. Council Tax Benefit recipients exclude Second Adult Rebate cases.
2. Caseload figures are rounded to the nearest 10. Components may not sum to total due to independent rounding.
3. Age groups are based on the age at count date (second Thursday in each month), of either:
  - a) the recipient if they are single, or
  - b) the elder of the recipient or partner if claiming as a couple.

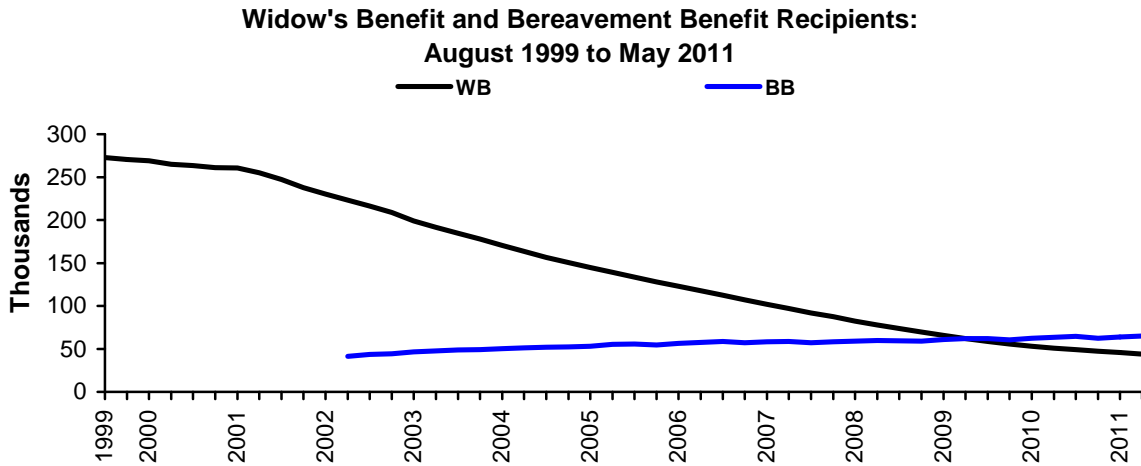
Latest statistical data available from: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=hbctb>



## 1.6 National Statistics: Widows Benefit & Bereavement Benefit

*Widow's Benefit (WB) was introduced on 6th July 1948 and is payable to women widowed between 11th April 1988 and 8th April 2001 inclusive. There are three types of WB: Widow's Payment, Widowed Mother's Allowance and Widow's Pension. Women widowed before 11th April 1988 continue to receive Widow's Benefit based on the rules that existed before that date.*

*Bereavement Benefit (BB) was introduced on 9th April 2001 as a replacement for Widow's Benefit. It is payable to both men and women widowed on or after 9th April 2001. There are three types of BB: Bereavement Payment, Widowed Parent's Allowance and Bereavement Allowance.*



At May 2011, there were 44 thousand claimants of Widow's Benefit, a fall of 7 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 38 thousand were in receipt of Widow's Pension and 6 thousand Widowed Mother's Allowance.

At May 2011, there were 65 thousand claimants of Bereavement Allowances, an increase of 1 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 20 thousand were in receipt of Bereavement Allowance and 45 thousand in receipt of Widowed Parent's Allowance.

There were 7 thousand new claimants of Bereavement Allowances/Widows Benefit in the May 2011 quarter, which represents 6% of the May 2011 caseload.

Over the same period, 8 thousand claimants left the benefits, 7% of the caseload at May 2011.

In the year to May 2011, there were a total of 26 thousand new claims for Bereavement Allowances/Widows Benefit and 34 thousand claims were closed.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>

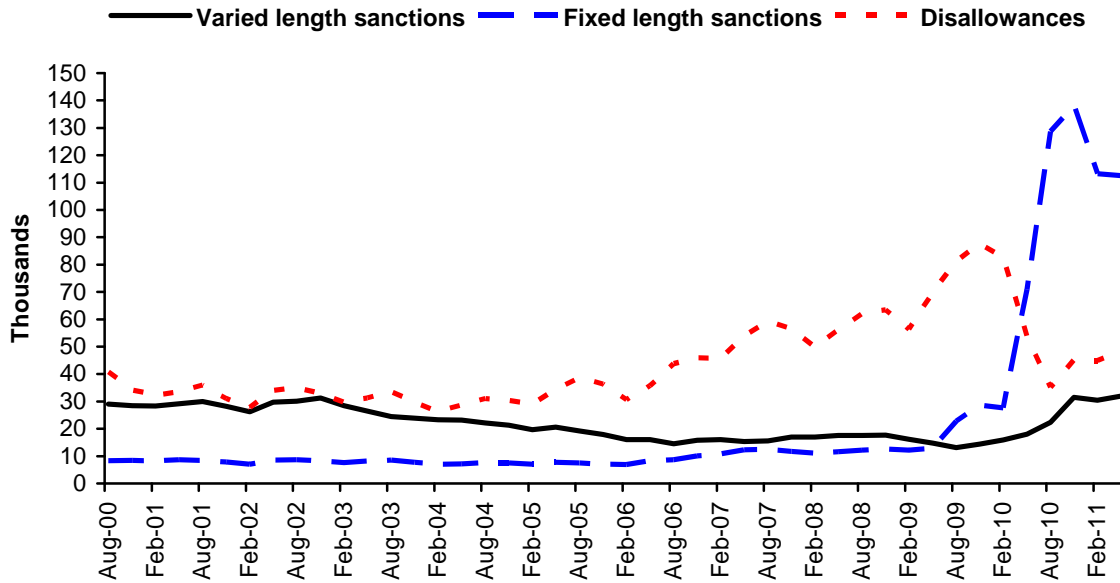




### 1.7 National Statistics: Jobseeker’s Allowance sanction and disallowance decisions

A JSA claimant can have their claim sanctioned (payment is temporarily suspended) or disallowed (entitlement ends) if they are deemed not to have just cause for failing to fulfil the conditions of their claim. Sanctions can be ‘Varied length’ or ‘Fixed length’ and last between 1 and 26 weeks in duration. Disallowances result in the claim ending.

**Adverse decisions for JSA Labour Market questions for Sanctions and Disallowances per quarter: August 2000 to May 2011**



In the quarter ending May 2011 there were 381 thousand referrals for JSA sanctions and disallowance decisions. 343 thousand decisions were made; of which 193 thousand were adverse (i.e. a sanction or disallowance was applied).

*Please Note: This summary includes data on decisions made for sanction referrals only, not opinions.*

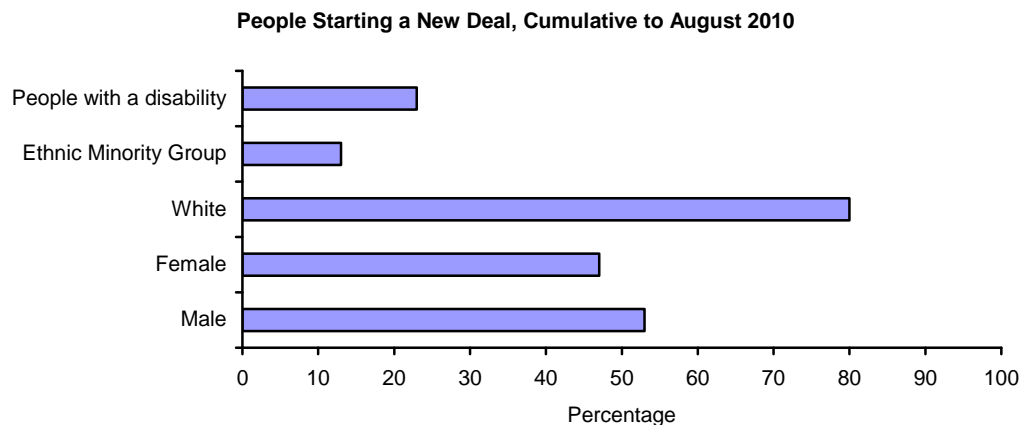
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/sanction/sanction/LIVE/tabtool.html>



## 1.8 National Statistics: New Deals & Employment Zones

New Deal for Young People was established in 1998 aimed at people aged 18 to 24 unemployed for at least 6 months. Since then a range of other mandatory and voluntary New Deal programmes have been established aimed at specific client groups. Since Flexible New Deal (FND) was introduced in October 2009 there have been no new starts on existing JSA employment programmes in FND areas. Statistics on the Flexible New Deal can be found at section 1.9.

**Referrals to the new employment programme “Work Programme” began from June 2011. In the run up to that launch, a new package of Get Britain Working support measures were introduced. In tandem with these changes, referrals to legacy employment programmes have now ceased. Hence, the statistics series will be ceasing over the next few quarters. See section 7 of the Notes section for more details.**



3.72 million individuals have started on a New Deal programme up to August 2010.

Up to November 2009, some 2.29 million people have gained a job through the New Deal programme, with an additional 123 thousand people gaining a job through Employment Zones up to October 2010.

**Table 1.4 Summary of New Deal and Employment Zones**

Thousands

	New Deal for:						Employment Zones
	Young People	25+	Lone Parents	Disabled People <sup>3</sup>	50+ <sup>4,6</sup>	Partners <sup>5</sup>	
People Starting <sup>2</sup>	1,570.51	894.08	1,111.31	372.39	117.97	24.03	255.81
Currently Participating	58.40	43.27	108.70	..	12.43	6.08	13.28
People gaining a Job	935.63	378.31	718.02	240.93	205.33	9.62	125.35

1. Latest data relates to end of August 2010 for people starting NDYP and ND25+, February 2011 for people starting NDLP and to May 2011 for people starting NDDP, ND50+ and NDP. For current participants of NDLP, latest data relates to end of November 2010 and for ND50+ and NDP, latest data relates to the end of February 2011. For those people gaining a job through NDYP and ND25+, latest data relates to end of November 2009. For those people gaining a job through NDLP, latest data relates to end of November 2010 and for those people gaining a job through NDDP, ND50+ and NDP, latest data relates to end of February 2011. Latest Employment Zone data for people starting, currently participating and gaining a job is from April 2011.

2. The sum of people starting and gaining a job for each separate New Deal will not equal the number of people starting and gaining a job through the New Deal as a whole (as indicated above) because some people will start and gain a job through more than one New Deal programme.

3. Statistics relating to current participants from NDDP have been withdrawn for quality reasons.

4. Starts for ND50+ are from January 2004 onwards. The jobs figures for ND50+ also include 98,040 individuals who had received Employment Credit up to March 2003.

5. Starts for NDP also include 7,820 individuals from starts up to March 2004 and jobs for NDP also include a further 1,860 jobs from up to March 2004.

6. For reporting purposes we are still counting starts to the in-work training grant as an ND50plus start in FND phase one areas for the period from April 2009, although the ND50plus programme has officially ended in these areas. We estimate there are 2,400 such starts up to the end of December 2010.

Latest statistical data available from: [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/tabtools/index.php?page=tabtool\\_nd](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/tabtools/index.php?page=tabtool_nd)

## 1.9 Official Statistics: Flexible New Deal

Flexible New Deal (FND) was introduced in October 2009 in half of the Jobcentre Plus districts to replace the current New Deals for Young People, 25 Plus, 50 Plus, Employment Zone programmes and private sector leads. The new employment programme policy means FND will not be rolled out nationally, and will be phased out. The new Work Programme replaced FND and existing New Deal provision across the whole country in 2011.

**As of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011 no new referrals have been made to Flexible New Deal and so this will be the last time the Flexible New Deal section will be included. This table shows the scheme total.**

A FND performance report, containing figures broken down to contract level, and an information document containing methodology and technical definitions can be found at the following link: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=ddfnd>

Up to August 2011, 408 thousand people had started on the Flexible New Deal Programme, with 75 thousand gaining a short job outcome and 50 thousand gaining a sustained job outcome.

**Table 1.10 Summary of Flexible New Deal October 2009 to August 2011**

	Starts <sup>2</sup>	Thousands Jobs	
		Short	Sustained
To Nov-09	26.27	.	.
Dec-09 to Feb-10	89.78	0.70	.
Mar-10 to May-10	96.05	4.80	0.57
Jun-10 to Aug-10	68.97	13.24	3.95
Sep-10 to Nov-10	50.62	16.25	10.85
Dec-10 to Feb-11	39.94	18.09	12.88
Mar-11 to May-11	33.32	10.39	13.53
Jun-11 to Aug-11	2.66	11.29	7.64
<b>Total</b>	<b>407.69</b>	<b>75.25</b>	<b>49.74</b>

1. Source data: Provider, Referrals and Payment (PRaP) management information system.

2. Starts figures do not include starts from second or subsequent referrals to the same provider.

3. Totals may not sum due to rounding. A dash indicates numbers less than 10 and a dot indicates not applicable.

4. Monthly figures relate to the period: day 5 of one month to day 4 of the following month to match the Flexible New Deal contractual periods.

5. Figures for starts, short job outcomes and sustained job outcomes will build up over time due to the effect of retrospection.

6. Due to the length of time needed to complete job outcomes the first short jobs outcomes are recorded in January and sustained jobs in April.

7. Please see FND information note available on the following website for further information and definitions:

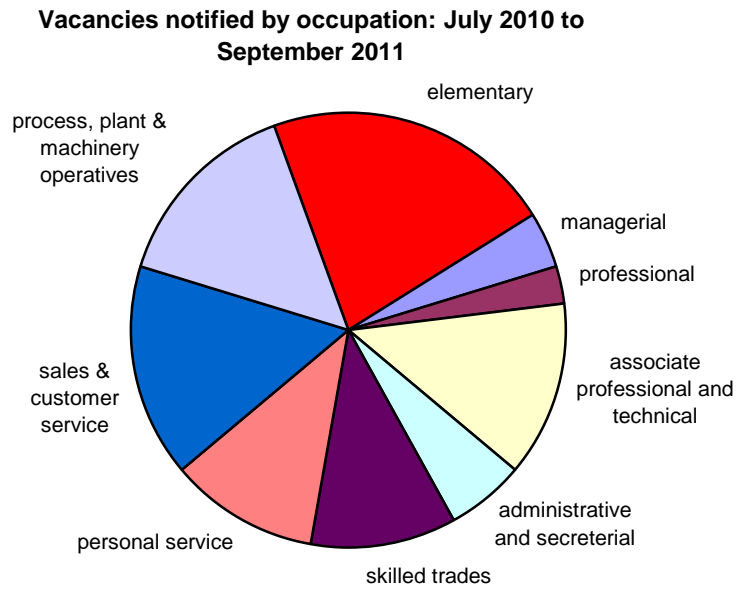
<http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=ddfnd> .

Latest statistical data available from: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=ddfnd>



### 1.10 National Statistics: Vacancies handled by Jobcentre Plus

As the public employment service for Great Britain, Jobcentre Plus handle a significant share of all vacancies advertised by employers, albeit that vacancies notified to Jobcentre Plus do not represent the total number of vacancies in the whole economy.



On average, 324 thousand vacancies a month were notified to Jobcentre Plus between October 2010 and September 2011. Most commonly these are for elementary occupations (22%) and sales/customer services (16%). 13% of notified vacancies are in the North West region compared to 10% in London, 5% Wales and 7% Scotland.

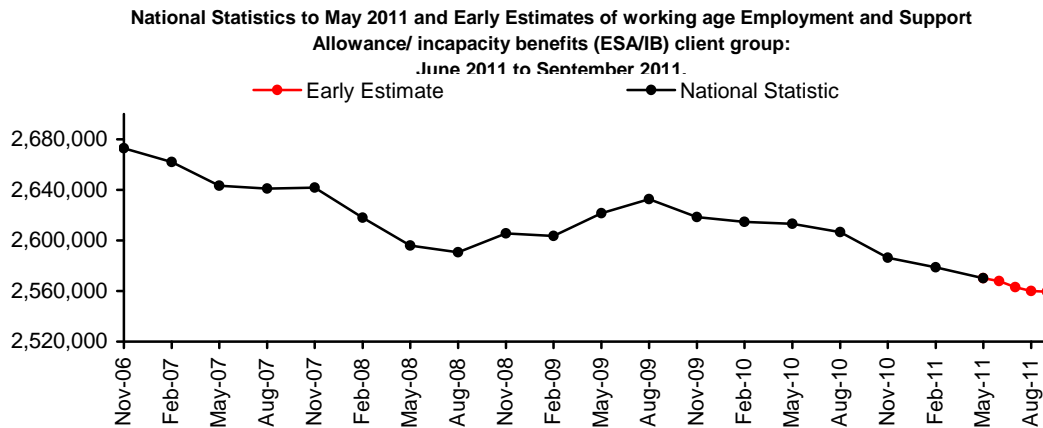
As at September 2011, the number of unfilled vacancies available to jobseekers was 291 thousand.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

## 2. Early Estimates for Working Age Inactive Benefit Client Group

### 2.1 Official Statistics: Employment and Support Allowance / incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) client group

The early estimates for working age inactive benefit client groups are released monthly and are designed to give indicative, timely information ahead of the publication of full National Statistics. They are not a substitute for the National Statistics and will be replaced when the final quarterly National Statistics covering the same period are published.



**NOTE: THESE EARLY ESTIMATES HAVE BEEN REVISED SINCE THE OCTOBER 2011 PUBLICATION. Please see Section 8 of the Notes for more information.** The working-age Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) early estimate for September 2011 is 2.560 million to the nearest 5,000. This indicates a decrease since May 2011 (the latest National Statistic).

National Statistics are available for quarters up to the end of May 2011. Final figures for the quarter ending August 2011 will be released on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2012. The most recent National Statistics show 2.57 million individuals were in the ESA/IB client group at May 2011. The figures are estimates of the final National Statistic, to give an indication of their accuracy, over the past year the early estimates have been revised by an average of 0.3%. See 'Notes' for more information.

**Table 2.1 Point estimate for the Early Estimates of numbers in working age ESA/IB client group: June 2011 to September 2011**

*Thousands*

	National Statistics Number of Claimants	Early Estimate Number of Claimants
Aug-09	2,632.74	
Nov-09	2,618.38	
Feb-10	2,614.76	
May-10	2,613.10	
Aug-10	2,606.61	
Nov-10	2,586.42	
Feb-11	2,578.66	
May-11	2,570.23	
Jun-11		2,570
Jul-11		2,565
Aug-11		2,560
Sep-11		2,560

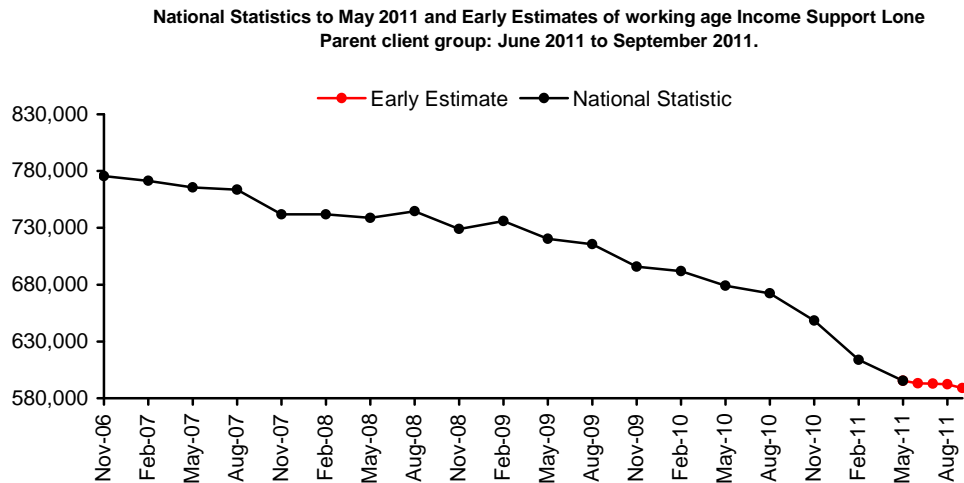
**Notes:**

1. ESA/ incapacity benefits: From November 2008 the "incapacity benefits group" includes Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). ESA replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims from 27 October 2008. Prior to this the "incapacity benefits group" referred to claimants of Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance including people claiming IS on the grounds of Incapacity.

Latest statistical data available from: [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=early\\_ests](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=early_ests)

## 2.2 Official Statistics: Income Support Lone Parent (ISLP) client group

The early estimates for working age inactive benefit client groups are released monthly and are designed to give indicative, timely information ahead of the publication of full National Statistics. They are not a substitute for the National Statistics and will be replaced when the final quarterly National Statistics covering the same period are published.



The working-age Income Support Lone Parent (ISLP) early estimate for September 2011 is 590 thousand to the nearest 5,000. This represents a fall of 1.1% since May 2011 (the latest full National Statistic figure).

National Statistics are available for quarters up to the end of May 2011. Final figures for the quarter ending August 2011 will be released on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2012. The most recent National Statistics show 595 thousand individuals were in the ISLP client group at May 2011.

The figures are estimates of the final National Statistic, to give an indication of their accuracy, over the past year the early estimates have been revised by an average of 0.3%. See 'Notes' for more information.

**Table 2.2 Point estimate for the Early Estimates of numbers in working age ISLP client group June 2011 to September 2011**

		<i>Thousands</i>	
	<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>Early Estimate</b>	
	Number of Claimants	Number of Claimants	
Aug-09	715.73		
Nov-09	695.72		
Feb-10	692.02		
May-10	679.15		
Aug-10	672.35		
Nov-10	648.30		
Feb-11	613.78		
May-11	595.40		
Jun-11		595	
Jul-11		595	
Aug-11		590	
Sep-11		590	

**Notes:**

From 24th November 2008 lone parent obligations (LPOs) were introduced and lone parents with a youngest child aged 12 or over were no longer able to make a new or repeat claim for Income Support (IS) solely on the basis of their parental status. Existing IS LPs with a youngest child aged 12 or over had their eligibility removed over a period of time commencing 2nd March 2009. From October 2009 this policy was extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 10 or 11 and from October 2010 the policy was extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 7 or over.

Latest statistical data available from: [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=early\\_ests](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=early_ests)

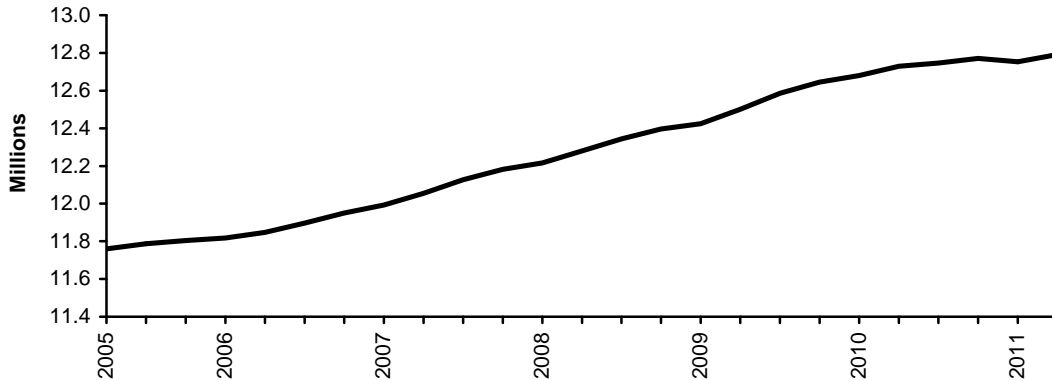


### 3. Pensioners

#### 3.1 National Statistics: Pensioner client group

The Pensioner client group covers claimants, over State Pension age (see notes section 7), of at least one of the following benefits: State Pension, Pension Credit, Attendance Allowance, Widow's Benefit, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, and Severe Disablement Allowance. They are split into statistical groups that reflect their main reason for claiming benefit.

**Pensioner Client Group: May 2005 to May 2011**



At May 2011 there were 12.8 million claimants in the Pensioner Client Group, an increase of 63 thousand since May 2010. Of these, 19% were in receipt of Pension Credit. 50% of these Pension Credit claimants were also claiming Attendance Allowance or Disability Living Allowance.

**Table 3.1 Pensioner Client Group recipients: May 2005 – May 2011**

Thousands

	Total	SP and PC: Disabled	SP and PC: Not Disabled	SP but not PC: Disabled	SP but not PC: Not Disabled	PC but not SP: Disabled	PC but not SP: Not Disabled	Neither SP nor PC: Disabled	Neither SP nor PC: Not Disabled
May -05	11,760.74	1,052.43	1,281.60	1,281.06	7,939.49	73.17	72.88	37.11	23.00
Aug -05	11,786.58	1,065.96	1,280.72	1,298.46	7,933.04	73.71	73.80	37.60	23.30
Nov -05	11,804.43	1,075.10	1,278.42	1,307.14	7,929.69	75.54	75.42	39.48	23.63
Feb -06	11,817.23	1,081.17	1,277.97	1,315.46	7,934.50	73.53	73.75	37.77	23.08
May -06	11,847.97	1,088.48	1,278.31	1,322.93	7,949.50	73.76	74.05	38.06	22.88
Aug -06	11,896.50	1,100.55	1,274.33	1,338.09	7,973.44	74.29	74.59	38.42	22.78
Nov -06	11,949.62	1,113.70	1,269.09	1,351.57	8,004.82	74.87	74.34	38.69	22.54
Feb -07	11,992.45	1,114.06	1,260.09	1,356.42	8,052.20	74.56	74.19	38.60	22.33
May -07	12,053.77	1,122.36	1,252.29	1,370.93	8,097.85	74.82	74.26	38.97	22.29
Aug -07	12,127.16	1,133.46	1,243.25	1,389.71	8,152.28	74.55	73.62	38.92	21.37
Nov -07	12,182.27	1,140.25	1,234.23	1,403.83	8,197.32	74.21	73.15	38.72	20.56
Feb -08	12,216.39	1,139.13	1,223.86	1,410.21	8,237.94	73.56	72.92	38.75	20.02
May -08	12,279.39	1,144.14	1,214.40	1,428.68	8,287.34	73.68	72.69	38.97	19.50
Aug -08	12,344.41	1,155.40	1,206.30	1,448.69	8,331.36	73.72	72.04	38.76	18.14
Nov -08	12,396.06	1,164.55	1,201.42	1,464.57	8,365.41	73.51	71.41	38.17	17.02
Feb -09	12,423.79	1,159.85	1,193.82	1,469.67	8,402.45	73.03	70.86	37.81	16.31
May -09	12,500.78	1,167.68	1,189.05	1,489.12	8,457.71	73.20	70.59	37.76	15.66
Aug -09	12,586.92	1,177.58	1,184.10	1,512.11	8,519.54	72.79	69.22	36.72	14.88
Nov -09	12,645.64	1,182.96	1,178.49	1,526.14	8,565.92	72.63	68.50	36.54	14.46
Feb -10	12,679.66	1,177.97	1,175.36	1,528.61	8,604.63	72.79	68.75	37.27	14.29
May -10	12,729.68	1,180.95	1,171.73	1,541.77	8,645.79	72.14	67.70	36.16	13.44
Aug -10	12,746.19	1,184.76	1,166.81	1,550.51	8,658.69	70.41	66.85	35.34	12.82
Nov -10	12,770.78	1,182.21	1,161.68	1,553.01	8,691.37	69.42	66.18	34.45	12.47
Feb -11	12,752.59	1,170.17	1,156.78	1,545.78	8,699.91	68.39	65.61	34.06	11.89
May -11	12,792.21	1,165.18	1,149.43	1,552.17	8,748.95	66.97	64.89	33.14	11.49

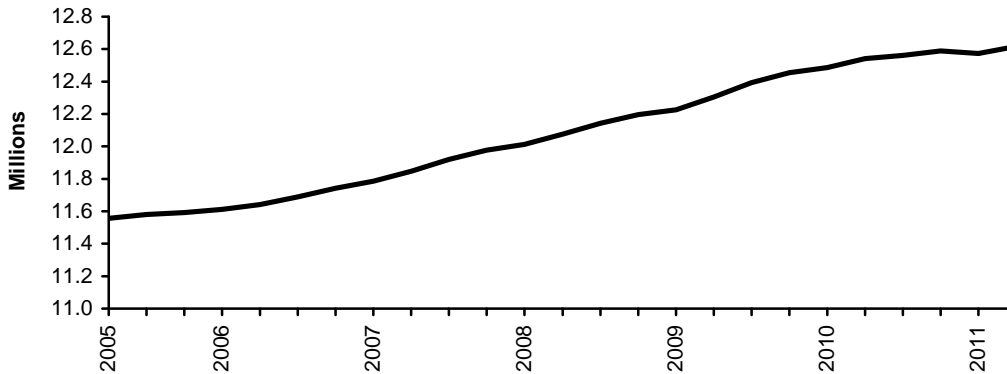
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



### 3.2 National Statistics: State Pension

State Pension (SP) was introduced on 1st January 1909 and is paid to people who have reached the state pension age and who fulfil the residency and contributions conditions. The state pension age for men is 65 whilst the age at which women reach State Pension age is gradually increasing from 60 to 65 between April 2010 and April 2016 to November 2018. From December 2018, the State Pension age for both men and women will start to increase to reach 66 in October 2020.

State Pension Recipients: May 2005 to May 2011



At May 2011, there were 12.6 million claimants of State Pension, a rise of 75 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 39% were male and 61% female.

The average weekly amount in payment at May 2011 was £110.54, a rise of £5.76 since May 2010.

In quarter to May 2011, there were a total of 161 thousand new claims for State Pension which represents 1.3% of the caseload. Over the same period, 123 thousand claimants left the benefit, representing 1.0% of the caseload at May 2011.

In the year to May 2011, there were a total of 545 thousand new claims for State Pension and 498 thousand claims were closed.

Table 3.2 State Pension recipients: May 2006 – May 2011

	All	Male	Thousands Female
May -06	11,641.83	4,379.54	7,262.29
Aug -06	11,689.12	4,393.60	7,295.52
Nov -06	11,742.01	4,408.91	7,333.10
Feb -07	11,785.67	4,418.99	7,366.68
May -07	11,846.43	4,437.99	7,408.44
Aug -07	11,919.12	4,463.09	7,456.04
Nov -07	11,976.03	4,484.97	7,491.06
Feb -08	12,011.54	4,499.53	7,512.02
May -08	12,074.99	4,526.79	7,548.20
Aug -08	12,142.20	4,555.63	7,586.57
Nov -08	12,196.44	4,578.74	7,617.70
Feb-09	12,226.26	4,594.18	7,632.08
May-09	12,304.07	4,633.62	7,670.44
Aug-09	12,393.84	4,678.30	7,715.54
Nov-09	12,453.99	4,709.50	7,744.49
Feb-10	12,487.07	4,728.18	7,758.89
May-10	12,540.75	4,759.36	7,781.39
Aug-10	12,561.26	4,791.10	7,770.16
Nov-10	12,588.75	4,814.08	7,774.67
Feb-11	12,573.11	4,832.31	7,740.80
May-11	12,616.24	4,871.26	7,744.98

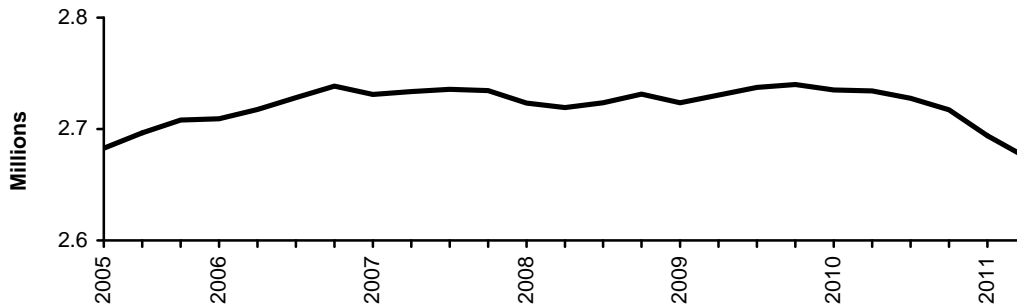




### 3.3 National Statistics: Pension Credit

*Pension Credit (PC) was introduced on 6th October 2003 and replaced Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG). For people aged over the female state pension age, the Guarantee Credit element guarantees an income at a set level. People aged 65 or over (and couples where one member is 65 or over) may also be entitled to Savings Credit if they have modest income from savings, investments or a second pension.*

**Pension Credit Recipients: May 2005 - May 2011**



At May 2011, there were 2.67 million claimants of Pension Credit (3.27 million including partners), a fall of 60 thousand on the previous year. Of these, 937 thousand claimed Guarantee Credit only, 1.15 million claimed Guarantee and Savings Credit, and 590 thousand were claiming Savings Credit only.

The average weekly amount of Pension Credit in payment at May 2011 was £57.74, a rise of £0.35 since May 2010.

Statistics on benefit flows show there were 191 thousand new claims to Pension Credit in the year to May 2011. There were 197 thousand new claims to Pension Credit in the financial year 2010/2011. A small number of claims take a long time to process and are still outstanding at the cut off point for producing these statistics. This means that the statistics undercounts the final number of claims by a small percentage (around 2%).

**Table 3.3 Pension Credit claimants: May 2006 – May 2011**

	Total	Guarantee Credit only	Guarantee Credit & Savings Credit	Savings Credit only	Thousands Still on Minimum Income Guarantee
May -06	2,717.39	775.57	1,343.23	598.56	0.02
Aug -06	2,728.15	787.30	1,334.41	606.41	0.02
Nov -06	2,738.56	798.13	1,325.87	614.54	0.02
Feb -07	2,730.94	800.11	1,327.78	603.03	0.03
May -07	2,733.50	805.73	1,330.09	597.65	0.02
Aug -07	2,735.72	814.42	1,321.95	599.33	0.03
Nov -07	2,734.54	823.57	1,310.05	600.90	0.03
Feb -08	2,723.14	865.19	1,265.43	592.50	0.02
May -08	2,719.14	882.07	1,246.24	590.80	0.03
Aug -08	2,723.53	889.74	1,241.62	592.15	0.03
Nov -08	2,731.37	901.23	1,232.25	597.86	0.03
Feb -09	2,723.61	913.40	1,214.69	595.49	0.03
May -09	2,730.56	925.71	1,205.23	599.59	0.03
Aug -09	2,737.29	935.59	1,199.61	602.05	0.03
Nov -09	2,739.86	953.04	1,209.00	577.79	0.03
Feb -10	2,735.16	955.39	1,204.66	575.08	0.03
May -10	2,734.17	954.36	1,202.41	577.37	0.03
Aug -10	2,727.56	952.16	1,195.80	579.57	0.03
Nov -10	2,717.28	951.53	1,184.88	580.84	0.03
Feb -11	2,693.96	947.51	1,162.01	584.42	0.02
May -11	2,674.67	936.96	1,148.09	589.59	0.03

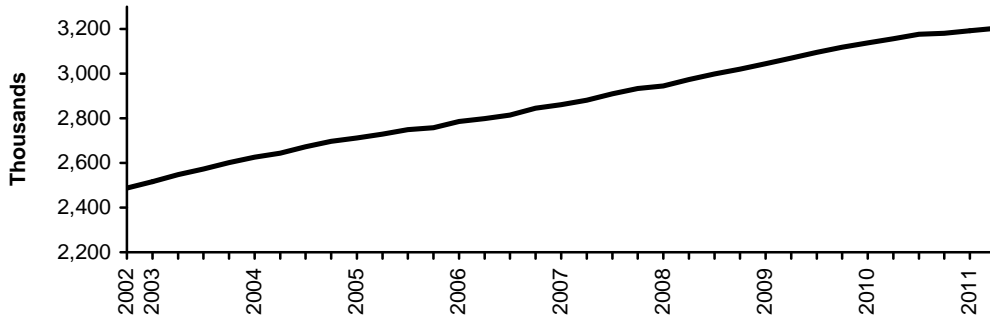
1. Pension Credit replaced MIG on the 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 2003, however a small number of residual cases remain on MIG.

## 4. Disabled and Carers

### 4.1 National Statistics: Disability Living Allowance

*Disability Living Allowance (DLA) was introduced on 1st April 1992 and is a benefit for people who have become disabled before the age of 65 and who need assistance with personal care or mobility.*

**Disability Living Allowance Recipients: November 2002 to May 2011**



At May 2011, 3.20 million people were receiving Disability Living Allowance (not including suspended cases), a rise of 46 thousand on a year earlier. Of these claimants 50% were male. Both the male and female caseloads are rising, with both males and females rising by 23 thousand in the year to May 2011.

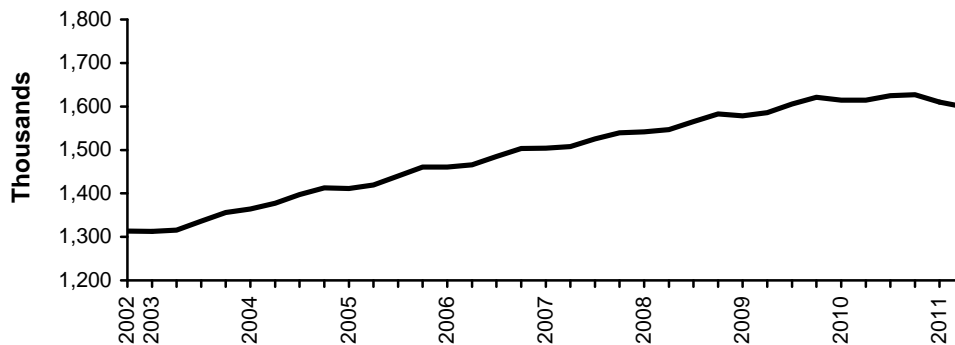
At May 2011, 10% of recipients were children, 57% were working age and 33% were pension age (a small number are an unknown age).

Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>

### 4.2 National Statistics: Attendance Allowance

*Attendance Allowance (AA) was introduced on 6th December 1971 and is a benefit for people over the age of 65 who are so severely disabled, physically or mentally, that they need a great deal of help with personal care or supervision. Those requiring constant help receive the higher rate of benefit.*

**Attendance Allowance Cases in Payment: November 2002 to May 2011**



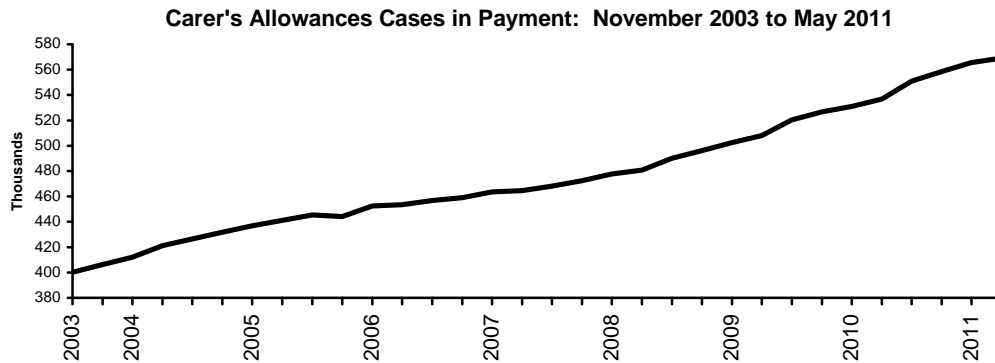
At May 2011 there were 1.60 million people receiving Attendance Allowance (excluding suspended cases), a fall of 15 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 33% were male and 67% female. The male caseload has decreased by 1 thousand and the female caseload has decreased by 14 thousand in the year to May 2011. At May 2011, 67% were aged 80 or over.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



### 4.3 National Statistics: Carer's Allowance

Carer's Allowance (CA) was introduced on 5th July 1976; it is paid to carers who look after a severely disabled person for at least 35 hours a week. The severely disabled person must be getting either higher or middle rate DLA care component or AA or maximum rate Constant Attendance Allowance with their War Pension or Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit.



At May 2011, there were 569 thousand people receiving Carer's Allowance (not including underlying entitlement cases). 27% of claimants were male, and 73% female.

At May 2011, there were a further 451 thousand people entitled to Carer's Allowance but not receiving any payment due to overlapping benefit provisions (i.e. underlying entitlement cases).

**Table 4.1 Awards currently in payment for Disability Living Allowance, Carer's Allowance and Attendance Allowance: November 2003 – May 2011**

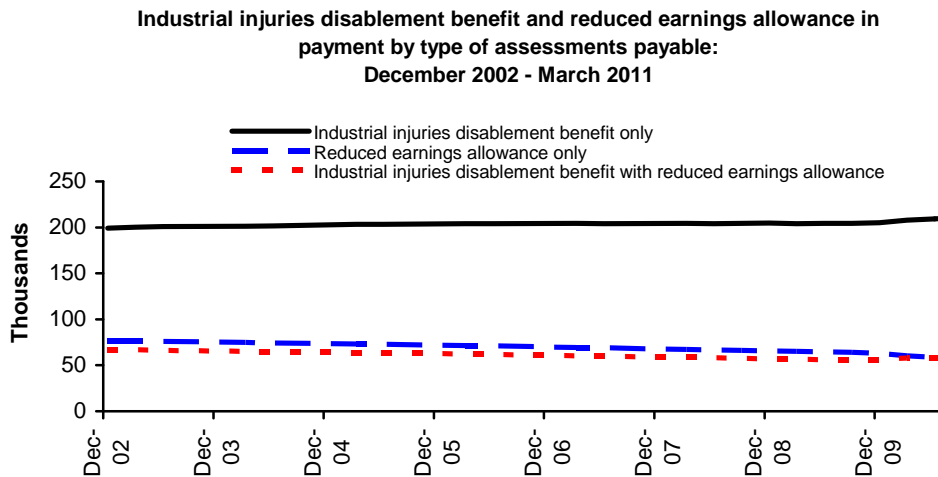
	<i>Thousands</i>		
	Disability Living Allowance	Attendance Allowance	Carer's Allowance <sup>1</sup>
Nov -03	2,601.88	1,356.31	406.23
Feb -04	2,625.39	1,363.81	412.12
May -04	2,644.28	1,377.35	421.18
Aug -04	2,672.16	1,397.30	426.34
Nov -04	2,696.28	1,412.50	431.66
Feb -05	2,712.91	1,411.33	436.94
May -05	2,729.72	1,419.42	441.03
Aug -05	2,749.48	1,440.09	445.43
Nov -05	2,757.64	1,460.25	444.09
Feb -06	2,785.68	1,460.57	452.54
May -06	2,799.16	1,465.59	453.54
Aug -06	2,814.29	1,484.58	456.70
Nov -06	2,845.75	1,503.05	458.93
Feb -07	2,860.79	1,503.85	463.50
May -07	2,881.83	1,507.50	464.67
Aug -07	2,909.98	1,525.61	468.06
Nov -07	2,934.44	1,539.32	472.42
Feb -08	2,945.57	1,541.58	477.66
May -08	2,973.54	1,546.68	480.73
Aug -08	2,999.65	1,565.00	490.03
Nov -08	3,019.70	1,582.81	496.14
Feb -09	3,043.99	1,578.64	502.50
May -09	3,070.61	1,585.79	507.97
Aug -09	3,096.30	1,605.92	520.35
Nov -09	3,119.01	1,621.03	526.62
Feb -10	3,137.73	1,614.17	530.89
May -10	3,157.31	1,614.27	536.90
Aug -10	3,176.20	1,624.66	550.86
Nov -10	3,181.08	1,626.91	558.47
Feb -11	3,192.09	1,610.29	565.50
May -11	3,202.91	1,599.12	569.24

1. Data is not available prior to August 2003.



#### 4.4 National Statistics: Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

*Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) was introduced on 5th July 1948 and is a benefit for people who are disabled because of an industrial accident or prescribed industrial disease. Since 1st October 1986 any claim resulting in an assessment of less than 14% disabled does not normally attract benefit.*



There were 326 thousand people claiming under the Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit scheme in March 2011, of whom 65% received Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit only, 17% received Reduced Earnings Allowance only, and 18% received both. The number of people claiming benefit was broadly the same as in March 2010. The average weekly payment was £48.25.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=iidb>

## 5. Families & Children

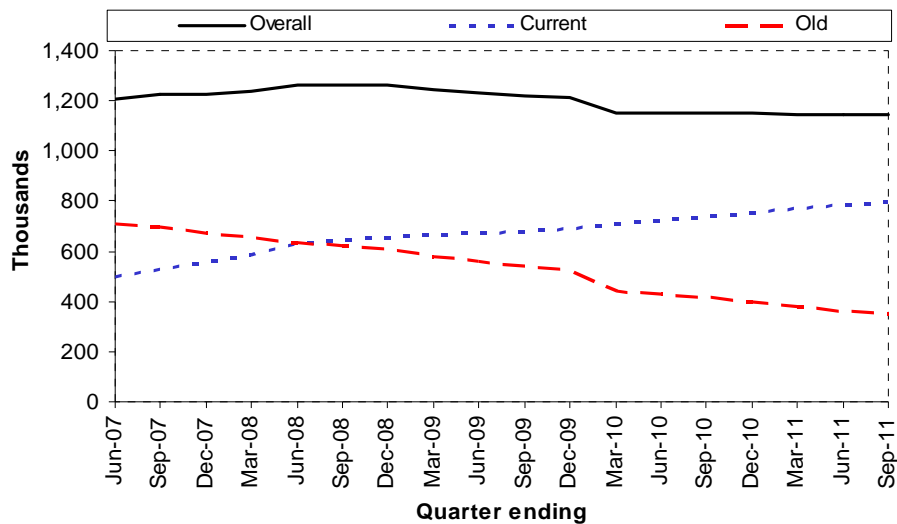
### 5.1 National Statistics: Child Support Agency cases

The Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission (CMEC), established as a non-departmental public body under the Child Maintenance and Other Payments Act 2008, is responsible for the child maintenance system in Great Britain. The Commission assumed responsibility for the Child Support Agency (CSA) from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) on 1 November 2008.

On 14 October 2010 the Government announced as part of the Public Bodies Reform that the Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission would become an executive agency of DWP.

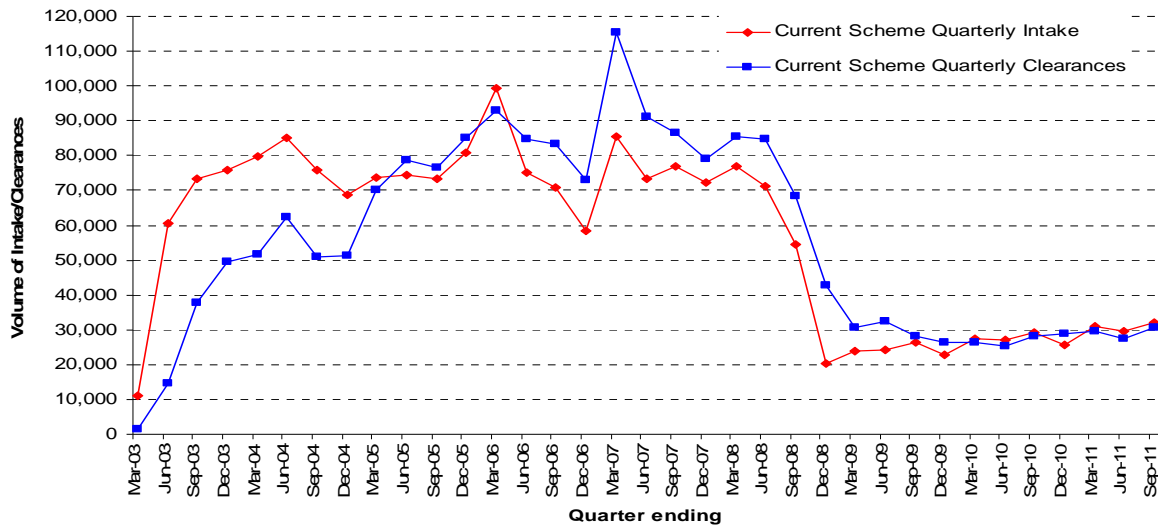
These statistics, produced by the Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission in conjunction with the DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate, contain the most up-to-date tables and breakdowns on the CSA's two existing statutory child maintenance schemes. The CSA statistics presented here were released on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

#### Overall Caseload by Scheme



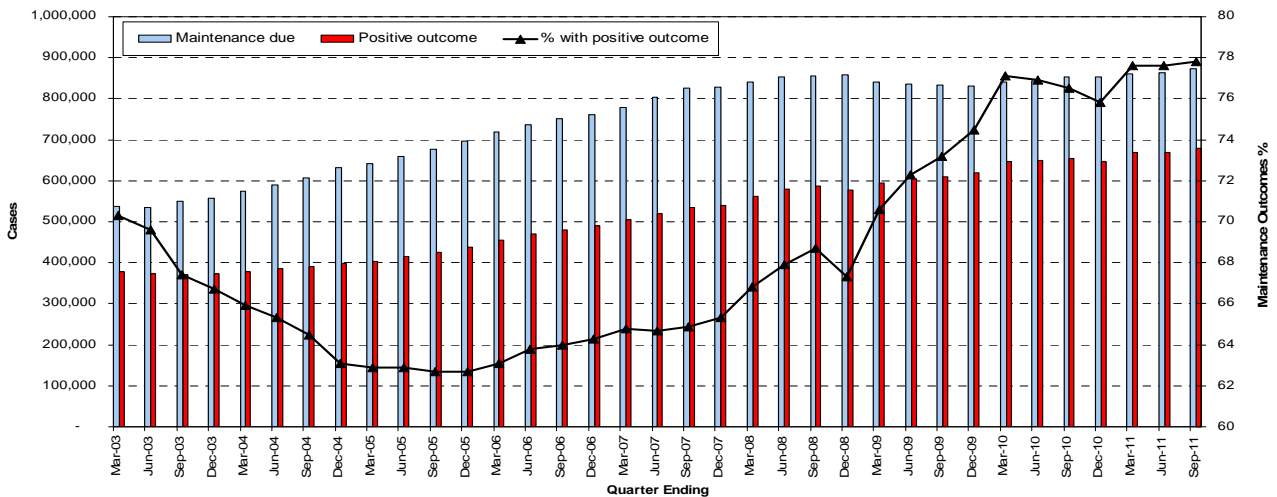
At the end of September 2011, the CSA live and assessed caseload stood at 1.14 million.

### Current Scheme Intake/Clearances - March 2003 to September 2011



The volume of uncleared current scheme applications increased by 900 since June 2011, and is currently at 17,000. This represents an increase of 5.6% since June 2011.

### Cases Benefiting from Maintenance



In the quarter ending September 2011, 77.8% of all cases in which maintenance was due had either received maintenance via the CSA collection service, or had a maintenance direct arrangement in place.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://www.childmaintenance.org/en/publications/index.html>



## NOTES

### 1. The Statistical Summary

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) publish a Statistical Summary document each month. It is used for the release of a wide range of DWP statistics

The DWP Statistical Summary brings together key National Statistics on DWP administered benefits, some employment programmes and JSA (Jobseeker's Allowance) sanctions and Jobcentre Plus vacancies. To provide a more complete picture of DWP responsibility, statistics on Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (administered by Local Authorities) and the Child Support Agency are also included.

The Summary is published monthly, containing National Statistics on Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit together with Official Statistics giving early estimates of inactive benefit caseloads. Each quarter (in May, August, November and February), a larger document also contains the detail of DWP administered benefits, some employment programmes, JSA sanctions, Jobcentre Plus vacancies and the Child Support Agency.

Alongside the Statistical Summary, there are a large number of tables which enable the user to delve in to the detail. These are provided to the user as:

- The DWP Tabulation Tool – for DWP administered benefits and employment programmes the Tabulation Tool provides the user with an interactive tool to select one of thousands of possible tabulations. This is available for caseloads and on/off flows at: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool>. A similar Tabulation Tool, derived from 5% sample data, is also available. Whenever possible, 100% data should be used in preference to 5% estimates, as these are both more accurate and form DWP's headline statistics. Some statistics remain outside the scope of the Tabulation Tool but will continue to be available via the internet as pre-defined summary tables.
- Identical numbers via Nomis (<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/Default.asp>)
- Separate detailed tables on Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit; and Claimants on out-of-work benefits
- Separate numbers regarding [Flexible New Deal](#)
- Tables broken down by [Lower Super Output Area \(LSOA\)](#)
- Other tables and background information via links on the Tabulation Tool pages (e.g. links to long time series spreadsheets; descriptions of the benefit.)

The National Statistics paper "DWP statistics transformed: the modernisation of the DWP's data sources and statistical publications" announced major changes to the National Statistics the Department publishes in 2005. Much of this content is still relevant and is available from:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats\\_consultation/modstats.pdf](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats_consultation/modstats.pdf)

### 2. National Statistics Code of Practice

DWP complies with the National Statistics Code of Practice and supporting Principles. Detailed policy statements and statement of compliance with the pre-release access to official statistics order 2008 are given below:

[DWP policy statements](#)

Detailed policy and methodology relating to the Statistical Summary can be found at:

- [Quality](#)
- [Methodology](#)
- [Uses and Users](#)
- [Ad hocs and pricing](#)

The UK Statistics Authority report on the compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics for the Statistical Summary is report number 66 at:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment/assessment-reports/index.html>

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.



Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

DWP would like to hear your views on our statistical publications. If you use any of our statistics publications, we would be interested in hearing what you use them for and how well they meet your requirements. Please email DWP at [stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk). If you would like to receive occasional e-mails from DWP to directly inform you of documents seeking the views of users, please email [general.statistics@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:general.statistics@dwp.gsi.gov.uk) giving details of the DWP publications you use.

An ongoing questionnaire, enabling DWP to target future consultations at interested users; shaping the future direction of statistics development to address user needs; and helping ensure value for money, whilst giving users a structured way of expressing their views is available at:

[http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/statistical\\_summary\\_questionnaire.doc](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/statistical_summary_questionnaire.doc)

Completed questionnaires can be returned by e-mail to [stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk) or by post to the following address:

Stuart Grant  
 Information, Governance and Security Directorate  
 Department for Work and Pensions  
 Room BP5201  
 Benton Park Road  
 Longbenton  
 NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE  
 NE98 1YX

### 3. Statistical groups

DWP has a typology to define Statistical Groups within the client group classifications. The aim of the Statistical Group typology is to present each person by the main reasons they are in contact with the Department. Like the client group classification, each client is classified just once, permitting the estimation of the total number of people claiming one or more benefits. The Statistical Group hierarchy is:

a] Jobseeker	e] Other income-related benefits
b] Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits	f] Disabled
c] Lone parents	g] Bereaved
d] Carers	h] Housing Benefit
	i] State Pension only recipients

From November 2008 the "incapacity benefits statistical group" includes Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). ESA replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims from 27th October 2008. Prior to this the "incapacity benefits group" covered people on Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance, including people claiming Income Support on the grounds of incapacity.

### 4. Jobseeker's Allowance figures at ONS

The preferred source of numbers for Jobseeker's Allowance is the ONS claimant count figure; these are more up to date and contain clerical cases. However, the reason we use the DWP JSA figures is that they are consistent with the other benefits used to produce DWP National Statistics, and permit a wider set of breakdowns. The ONS figures are available from Nomis and <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>.





## 5. Flows on and off benefit

This series has now been re-instated, with a full back series. Pension Credit information is available via a one-click table: [http://83.244.183.180/100pc/pc/tabtool\\_pc.html](http://83.244.183.180/100pc/pc/tabtool_pc.html).

## 6. Early Estimates

The DWP benefit National Statistics have a gap of around five and a half months between the publication and reference dates.

The early estimates are official statistics (see: <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/national-statistician/types-of-official-statistics>) and published monthly to give indicative, timely information ahead of the publication of full National Statistics. The Office for National Statistics publish the Jobseeker's Allowance claimant count every month, one month in arrears. Consequently, the Early Estimates focus on the economically inactive groups of "incapacity benefits and Employment and Support Allowance" and "Income Support lone parents".

The main reason for the lag in the National Statistics release is because we have to wait three months for a small but significant number of late claims to be processed. Waiting for these late claims makes the National Statistics figures more accurate than the early estimates where we simply predict the number of late claims based on historical levels.

The early estimates are not a substitute for the National Statistics and will be replaced when the final quarterly National Statistics covering the same period are published. However, the estimates are fairly close to the final National Statistics figures. To give an indication of their accuracy, over the past year the early estimates for ESA/IB have been revised by an average of 0.3%, with the biggest revision being 0.5% and the smallest being 0.01%. The early estimates for ISLP have been revised by an average of 0.3%, with the biggest revision being 0.78% and the smallest being 0.11%.

Investigations are ongoing in to an issue where some Incapacity Benefit (IB) claimants undergoing re-assessment and moving from IB to Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) disappear from the count of IB claimants for a few weeks prior to their IB payments ceasing. Whilst these people are still receiving benefit payments, they do not appear in the IB statistics which has the affect of lowering the numbers of IB claimants and the associated early estimates. This month, the early estimates have been adjusted to take account of this undercount. The last few monthly estimates have also been revised.

More detailed information can be accessed via the following links:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/early\\_ests/technical\\_document\\_final.pdf](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/early_ests/technical_document_final.pdf)

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/early\\_ests/QandA\\_Early\\_Estimates\\_final.pdf](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/early_ests/QandA_Early_Estimates_final.pdf)

## 7. Welfare Reform

The Lone Parent Obligation policy came into effect from 24 November 2008; Lone Parents (LPs) with a youngest child aged 12 or over were no longer able to make a new or repeat claim for Income Support (IS) solely on the basis of their parental status. Existing IS LPs with a youngest child aged 12 or over had their eligibility removed over a period of time commencing 2nd March 2009. From October 2009 this policy was extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 10 or 11 and from October 2010 the policy was extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 7 or over. Subject to the passage of the Welfare Reform Bill, lone parents will be eligible to claim Income Support until their youngest child is five years old.

Most effected LPs will leave IS and claim Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA). However, there are exceptions to these rules where the youngest child can legitimately be over the ages mentioned above. Similarly, some former LPs remain on IS for other reasons (e.g. they have a long term caring responsibility and claim Carer's Allowance). Through analysis of the effected claimants over the next quarters, it can be decided if there is a requirement to change the structure of IS LP statistics. In the meantime, the IS LP series will continue to be defined as 'single IS claimants with a child under 16'.

Referrals to the new employment programme "Work Programme" began from June 2011

([http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Employment/Jobseekers/programmesandservices/DG\\_197781](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Employment/Jobseekers/programmesandservices/DG_197781)). In the run up to that launch, a new package of Get Britain Working support measures were introduced. In tandem with these changes, referrals to legacy employment programmes have now ceased. Hence, most statistics series will be ceasing in



February 2012. For details of the individual programmes, see:

[http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats\\_summary/FocusOnEmploymentProgStats.pdf](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats_summary/FocusOnEmploymentProgStats.pdf). The existing Tabulation Tools will remain available for historical analysis. Statistics for Work Programme and the Get Britain Working support are planned, see [http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/work\\_programme/work\\_prog\\_note.pdf](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/work_programme/work_prog_note.pdf).

The latest Pre-Work Programme and Get Britain Working official statistics publication will be released separately from this Summary at 9:30am on Wednesday 16th November 2011 by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) under the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

These can be found at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/pwp/index.php?page=pwp>.

Pre-Work Programme employment measures were established throughout the course of 2011 to support the transition of claimants over to the Work Programme, which was launched in June 2011.

The age at which women reach State Pension age is gradually increasing from 60 to 65 between April 2010 and April 2016 to November 2018. From December 2018, the State Pension age for both men and women will start to increase to reach 66 in October 2020. The first quarterly statistical summary to be affected was the November 2010 publication and the first early estimates to be affected were released in June 2010. These changes introduce a small increase to the number of working age benefit recipients and a small reduction to the number of pension age recipients. There are also changes to the way we report benefit recipients as a proportion of the working population. More information can be found at: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/espa.pdf>. For general information about the change to State Pension age, please see:

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Pensionsandretirementplanning/StatePension/DG\\_4017919](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Pensionsandretirementplanning/StatePension/DG_4017919)

## 8. Known Issues, Changes and Revisions to the Statistical Summary

- The DWP Chief Statistician has decided to delay statistics on Jobcentre Plus JSA sanctions related to the Work Programme. Delaying the publication will enable DWP to make a coordinated release of Work Programme statistics and undertake additional quality assurance work, on JSA sanctions related to the Work Programme, as part of that release.
- Investigations are ongoing in to an issue where some Incapacity Benefit (IB) claimants undergoing re-assessment and moving from IB to Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) disappear from the count of IB claimants for a few weeks prior to their IB payments ceasing. Whilst these people are still receiving benefit payments, they do not appear in the IB statistics which has the affect of lowering the numbers of IB claimants and the associated early estimates. In May 2011, DWP estimate this undercount is around 2 thousand. This month, the early estimates have been adjusted to take account of this undercount. The last few monthly estimates have also been revised.
- Scottish Parliamentary Constituencies on May 2011 boundaries have been released as part of the Tabulation Tools. No back series will be produced.
- No legacy employment programme statistics have been produced.  
See: [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats\\_summary/FocusOnEmploymentProgStats.pdf](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats_summary/FocusOnEmploymentProgStats.pdf) for details. However, there has been a final release of Flexible New Deal statistics.
- Introduction of a DLA disabling condition breakdown on the 100% sample Tabulation Tool from May 2011 onwards.
- Reinstatement of Bereavement Benefit, Widows Benefit and State Pension 5% sample Parliamentary Constituency breakdowns.
- The continuing effect of the equalisation of male and female State Pension ages. More details can be found in section 7 of these Notes and also in <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/espa.pdf>. Similarly, the effects of other entitlement changes to State Pension. See [http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Pensionsandretirementplanning/StatePension/DG\\_069498](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Pensionsandretirementplanning/StatePension/DG_069498) for details.

## 9. Notification of future changes to the Summary

On 14th December 2011:

- No release of statistics regarding Flexible New Deal. The statistics released as part of this summary are the last. See: [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats\\_summary/FocusOnEmploymentProgStats.pdf](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats_summary/FocusOnEmploymentProgStats.pdf) for details.
- Continuous improvement to the methodology for Employment and Support Allowance/ incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) early estimates due to the impact of Incapacity Benefit re-assessment and the known undercount (see Section 8)

On 15th February 2012:



- Final legacy employment programme statistics will be produced. See: [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats\\_summary/FocusOnEmploymentProgStats.pdf](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats_summary/FocusOnEmploymentProgStats.pdf) for details.
- Following the investigation of the undercount of IB claimants explained in section 8, DWP will be looking at whether methodological improvements can be made to adjust for this issue. Further details will be provided in future Summary releases.

## 10. Northern Ireland Statistics

The statistics in this Summary cover Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) only. Comparable benefit statistics for Northern Ireland can be found at:

[http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/stats\\_and\\_research/benefit\\_publications.htm](http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/stats_and_research/benefit_publications.htm)

and

[http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/stats\\_and\\_research/geographical\\_data\\_on\\_ss\\_benefits.htm](http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/stats_and_research/geographical_data_on_ss_benefits.htm) for geographical breakdowns

Currently, the Northern Ireland statistics use extracts from the benefit systems very similar to those used to create the 5% sample numbers for Great Britain (although the Northern Ireland sample size is usually greater than 5%). The directly equivalent GB numbers can be found at: <http://83.244.183.180/5pc/tabtool.html>. However, Northern Ireland statistics are shortly due to move to extracts from the benefit systems very similar to those used to create the WPLS/100% sample numbers (<http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>) for Great Britain. However, Northern Ireland statistics will ignore the effect of retrospection.

Comparisons between the Great Britain 5% samples and 100% samples, plus the effect of retrospection can be seen in documents entitled "Differences between WPLS and 5% sample data" in the "Useful Resources and Sites" section of each single benefit 100% sample Tabtool (e.g.

[http://83.244.183.180/100pc/is/tabtool\\_is.html](http://83.244.183.180/100pc/is/tabtool_is.html))

Housing Benefit is a social security benefit paid by the Housing Executive. It helps people on a low income pay their rent and rates. In Northern Ireland, rates are paid instead of Council Tax. Limited Housing Benefit numbers are available in the summary bulletin at:

[http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/publications/summary\\_statistics\\_bulletin.htm](http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/publications/summary_statistics_bulletin.htm). For people who own their own property and need help with rates only, Land and Property Services (LPS) provide rates relief payments. Statistics on those receiving rates relief only are not available.

Employment Programmes are different in Northern Ireland. Hence, statistics are not directly comparable. However, numbers on the various schemes are available from:

<http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/statsandresearch/training-and-employment-stats.htm>.

Vacancy statistics for Northern Ireland are available at <http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats-index/stats-surveys/stats-vacancy-stats.htm> and at <http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/statsandresearch/labour-market-information-stats/vacancies.htm>.

Statistics on Jobcentre Plus Sanctions and Child Maintenance are not currently published for Northern Ireland.

## 11. Social Security and Child Support Appeals Tribunal (SSCSA)

The Independent Tribunal Service was introduced in 1984 to provide an independent appeals system. It was replaced by the Appeals Service (tAS) in April 2000. From 1st April 2006 the Appeals Service, was renamed as the Social Security and Child Support Appeals Tribunal (SSCSA) and became part of The Tribunals Service (an Executive agency within the Department for Justice).

Responsibility for publishing statistics on the appeals now resides with The Tribunals Service and they publish statistical information via their website <http://www.tribunals.gov.uk/>.

## 12. Fraud and Error statistics

National Statistics are published presenting six-monthly estimates of fraud and error in claims for Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit and Housing Benefit, along with an annual estimate of the level of fraud and error in the benefit system as a whole. One-off benefit reviews have been carried out from time to time to estimate fraud and error in claims for other benefits. Reports can be found at



[http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd2/index.php?page=fraud\\_error](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd2/index.php?page=fraud_error)

### **13. Take-Up of Income-Related Benefits**

Publications contain information on the take-up of the main income-related benefits in Great Britain: Income Support, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit, Employment and Support Allowance (income related) and Jobseeker's Allowance (income based). Take-up is measured in two ways. Expenditure take-up compares the total amount of benefit received in the course of a year with the total amount that would have been received if everyone took up their entitlement for the full period of entitlement. Caseload take-up compares the number of benefit claimants – averaged over the year – with the number who would be receiving if everyone took up their entitlement for the full period of entitlement. Data is sourced from the Family Resources Survey and administrative benefit records. Latest published figures are available at:

<http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=irb>

### **14. Other National and Official Statistics issued by the Department for Work and Pensions**

Details of other National and Official Statistics produced by the Department for Work and Pensions can be found on the DWP website at the following links:

- A list of Tabulation Tools: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool>;
- An A to Z list of DWP statistics: [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=statistics\\_a\\_to\\_z](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=statistics_a_to_z);
- A schedule of statistical releases over the next 12 months: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=schedule>;
- And a list of the most recent releases: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=recent>.
- In accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, all DWP National Statistics are also announced via the UK Statistics Authority publication hub at: [http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/statistics-producers/publications/index.html?newquery=\\*&source-agency=Work+and+Pensions&pagetype=release-landing-page](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/statistics-producers/publications/index.html?newquery=*&source-agency=Work+and+Pensions&pagetype=release-landing-page)

In addition, users can find links to DWP additional statistical analyses that have not been included in our standard publications at [http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=adhoc\\_analysis](http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=adhoc_analysis).