

# Number of Jobseeker's Allowance customers who have spent X of the previous Y years on Jobseeker's Allowance.

June 2011

**DWP** Department for  
Work and Pensions

# Background

Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) is the main benefit for people of working age who are unemployed and looking and available for employment.

Further information on JSA is available at:

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/MoneyTaxAndBenefits/BenefitsTaxCreditsAndOtherSupport/Employedorlookingforwork/DG\\_10018757](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/MoneyTaxAndBenefits/BenefitsTaxCreditsAndOtherSupport/Employedorlookingforwork/DG_10018757)

The Department publishes a range of statistical information on benefit caseloads at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool>.

This analysis calculates the numbers of JSA customers in November 2010 who have been on JSA for 3 or more years of the previous 5 years, 5 or more years of the last previous 7 years and 7 or more years of the previous 9 years.

The data source for this analysis is the DWP national benefits database. This is a different data source to the Office for National Statistics Claimant Count, published monthly via NOMIS<sup>1</sup>. As a consequence, the caseload numbers produced by the two sources are slightly different<sup>2</sup>.

In addition, the National Statistics Claimant Count presents duration of claims in terms of **single** JSA claims. A breakdown of single claim durations cannot be compared with this analysis because in this paper the duration on JSA is presented in a different way by looking across **multiple** JSA spells over a set period.

## Methodology

The analysis used the caseload of JSA claims on 30 November 2010 and sums up the durations of all Jobseeker's Allowance claims that each customer in the caseload has made in the previous 'Y' years. The table below tabulates the number of customers who spent 'X' years or more of the previous 'Y' years on JSA, for example the number of customers who spent 3 or more years of the previous 5 years on JSA.

## Results

November 2010 Caseload Total	1,340,000
3 or more years of the previous 5 Years on JSA	193,000
4 or more years of the previous 5 Years on JSA	80,000
5 or more years of the previous 7 Years on JSA	81,000
6 or more years of the previous 7 Years on JSA	30,000
7 or more years of the previous 9 Years on JSA	56,000
8 or more years of the previous 9 Years on JSA	30,000

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

<sup>2</sup> [http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/improvements\\_to\\_JSA.pdf](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/improvements_to_JSA.pdf)

**Notes**

1. Source – DWP National Benefits Database version NBD\_1012
2. The published National Statistics Claimant Count is calculated using a different data source and is slightly different to the one provided in this table.
3. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1000.

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