

Freedom of Information request 2012-3222

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Information request

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act on child benefit claims to show the number of children being claimed for by families in Great Britain where one parent is in receipt of benefits.

More specifically, I am requesting the following:

1. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of any out of work benefit are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 children, 14 children, 15 children, 16 children, 17 children, 18 children, 19 children, 20 or more children.

2. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of Jobseekers Allowance are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 children, 14 children, 15 children, 16 children, 17 children, 18 children, 19 children, 20 or more children.

3. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 children, 14 children, 15 children, 16 children, 17 children, 18 children, 19 children, 20 or more children.

4. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of Income Support are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 children, 14 children, 15 children, 16 children, 17 children, 18 children, 19 children, 20 or more children.

5. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 children, 14 children, 15 children, 16 children, 17 children, 18 children, 19 children, 20 or more children.

6. How many families in Great Britain in receipt of Pension Credit are in receipt of child benefit for: 1 child, 2 children, 3 children, 4 children, 5 children, 6 children, 7 children, 8 children, 9 children, 10 children, 11 children, 12 children, 13 children, 14 children, 15 children, 16 children, 17 children, 18 children, 19 children, 20 or more children.

DWP response

The available information is shown in the following table:

Number of Out of Work Benefit Claimant Households in Great Britain, who also claim Child Benefit by Number of Children and Benefit Type: May 2011

Number of Children	All Out of work Benefits	JSA	IB/SDA	IS	ESA	PC
1	624,800	126,730	137,200	348,410	76,430	19,270
2	419,370	86,630	79,600	249,070	46,940	5,280
3	194,220	37,590	33,360	127,050	18,160	1,730
4	76,310	14,050	13,510	52,370	6,570	620
5	25,980	4,610	4,750	18,340	2,020	240
6	8,780	1,620	1,690	6,230	630	100
7	3,200	570	680	2,290	240	40
8	1,080	180	270	770	90	10
9	360	60	90	240	40	10
10	130	30	30	90	10	-
11	30	-	10	30	-	-
12	10	-	10	10	-	-
13	10	-	-	-	-	-
14	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: DWP WPLS 100% data and HMRC Child Benefit administrative data.

Notes:

1. Figures are rounded to the nearest ten; "-" denotes nil or negligible. Some additional disclosure controls have also been applied. Totals may not sum due to rounding.
2. Data represent a snapshot as at 31 May 2011. They are badged as Official Statistics. Background guidance on the use and interpretation of the figures is available at:

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/ben_hholds/cb_hholds_guidance.pdf

3. Benefit Type: Data represent the number of children dependent on a parent or guardian who is claiming one or a combination of the following out-of-work benefits: Income Support (IS), Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), Incapacity Benefit (IB) and Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA), and Pension Credit (PC).

There is a considerable overlap in the breakdown by benefit type, as for example, a claimant of Income Support may also be claiming Incapacity Benefit alongside. The **All Out of work Benefits** column captures children once, irrespective of the combination of benefits being claimed by parents or guardians.