

Freedom of Information request 2012-3158

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Information request

The number of households currently claiming Mortgage Interest Payments (MIPs).

The annual cash sums paid in MIPs over the last 5 years.

The number of households currently receiving MIPs that are likely to stop within the next 6 months.

The number of households currently receiving MIPs that have been for over 2 years.

DWP response

The table below provides figures relating to your first and fourth questions.

Number of claimants in receipt of Support for Mortgage Interest (SMI) by benefit claimed and duration of SMI: February 2012.

Benefit claimed	Receiving SMI	Receiving SMI for over 2 years
Income Support	54,700	43,300
Jobseekers Allowance (Income Based)	25,000	3,400
Pension Credit	102,700	86,900

Source: DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate, 5% samples

Notes:

1. Caseloads are rounded to the nearest hundred.
2. Figures are based on 5% sample data. All figures are subject to a degree of sampling variation.
3. Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance cases will include those receiving Income-based benefit with an underlying entitlement to contribution-based benefit.
4. Caseload figures have been uprated by using 5% proportions against 100% Work & Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS) data.

The table above does not include figures for claimants of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). This information is not available on the datasets available for analysis.

We estimate that the cost of researching this piece of information would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600.

This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this further.

In response to your second question Section 21 of the Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you.

SMI benefit expenditure and caseload forecasts are available from the DWP Benefit expenditure tables webpage:

<http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd4/index.php?page=expenditure>

For your third question of the Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance and Employment Support Allowance caseload receiving housing requirements in February 2012 we estimate that 12,000 will not be in receipt of housing requirements 6 months later. These estimates are consistent with the Budget 2012 published expenditure and caseload tables. The data is not available to give the figure relating to Pension Credit.

You may be interested to know that in July 2012 the Department released an ad-hoc publication entitled Support for Mortgage Interest within Income Support and Jobseeker's Allowance: Profile of recipients, household composition and part-time employment which can be accessed via the link below.

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=adhoc_analysis

The Department also publishes a wide range of statistics on benefit claimants on its website via the Tabulation Tool at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool> and on the Nomis website <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/Default.asp>, which is the Office for National Statistics' official website of labour market statistics, both of which allow you to construct your own tables.