

Freedom of Information request 2012-3715

Received 26th September 2012

Published 23rd October 2012

Information request

Please can you provide me with:

- 1) The annual number of people claiming DWP working age benefits who were non-UK nationals when they first registered for a National Insurance Number for each of the last 5 years, including the last financial year. Please provide a breakdown for non-EEA and EEA nationals if possible.
- 2) The annual number of people claiming DWP working age benefits in London who were non-UK nationals when they first registered for a National Insurance Number for each of the last 5 years, including the last financial year. Please provide a breakdown for non-EEA and EEA nationals if possible.

DWP response

A time series for each of the last 5 years on the number of people claiming DWP working age benefits who were non-UK nationals when they first registered for a National Insurance Number (NINo) is not readily available.

In order to assess whether this information exists would require us to check each individual record which would take the cost of collation above 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.

However the Department recently published an ad-hoc analysis on the number of Non-UK nationals at National Insurance number (NINo) registration claiming DWP working age benefits as at February 2011 which can be accessed via the following link:

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/adhoc_analysis/2012/nat_nino_regs.pdf

The attached document (FOI 2012-3715 Response.xls), created as part of this analysis, shows the number of Non-UK nationals at NINo registration

claiming DWP working age benefits as at February 2011 broken down by World Area, Region and Local Authority.

You may also be interested to know that the Department also regularly publishes statistics on the NINo Allocations to Adult Overseas Nationals entering the UK on its website via the Tabulation Tool at: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool>, which allows you to construct your own tables.

One table that may be of particular interest can be found by accessing the following link at:

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/niall/index.php?page=nino_allocation,

If you scroll down to the bottom of the page and select **Summary Tables** and then select the **Benefit** tab this gives a time series, beginning in 2002/03, for NINo registrations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK and claiming an out-of-work benefit within 6 months of registration.