

Freedom of Information request 2012-5058

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Information request

- 1.) How many claimants have been forced onto the Work Programme since it started?
- 2.) How many of these were men of 58 years and older?
- 3.) How many claimants on the Work Programme have had their benefits cut off?
- 4.) How many of these were men of 58 years and older?
- 5.) How many claimants on the Work Programme have found jobs lasting 6 months or longer IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS- NOT since the Work Programme started?
- 6.) How many of these were men of 58 years and older?
- 7.) How many unemployment benefit claimants have had their benefits cut off since May 6th 2010?

DWP response

In response to questions 1 and 2 the information is provided in the tables below:

Number of Work Programme Referrals by Referral Type: 1st June 2011 – 31st July 2012

Referral Type	Total
Mandatory	833,270

Number of Work Programme Referrals by Referral Type, Gender and Age: 1st June 2011 – 31st July 2012

Referral Type	Gender	Age	Total
Mandatory	Male	58 years and older	21,530

Source: DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate (IGS)

Notes:

1. Figures are cumulative and are rounded to the nearest ten.
2. Referrals shown are 'net' referrals which do not include rejections, cancellations or referrals to ESA information sessions.
3. Customer groups are assigned by Jobcentre Plus, on the basis of a claimant's circumstances, and benefit they receive. A small number of claimants appear in an incorrect group caused by the way information is recorded on the administrative system.
4. Mandatory referrals are classified as referrals to the following customer groups; JSA 18-24, JSA 25+, JSA NEET, JSA Claiming 22 of 24 Mths, JSA ExIB, ESA (IR) WRAG 3/6 Mth Mandatory, ESA (IR) WRAG 3/6 Mth Mandatory ExIB and JSA Ex-offender Day 1 Mandation. More detailed information can be found at: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/wp-pg-chapter-2.pdf>
5. Gender is recorded on the Jobcentre Plus administrative system at date of referral.
6. Claimant's age is derived from their date of birth and is fixed at date of referral

In response to questions 3, 4 and 7 you have already been provided with this information – see the Department's response dated 1st November 2012 with reference number 2012-3373. The figures provided in response to your previous request were produced from the latest available sanctions data and therefore we are unable to provide you with an update of this information.

Under Section 14(2) of the Freedom of Information Act a public authority is not obliged to comply with a subsequent identical or substantially similar request from the same person.

In response to questions 5 and 6 the information is provided in the table below:

Number of Work Programme Job Outcomes with *Employment Duration of 6 months or over*³ by Gender and Age: 1st August 2011 – 31st July 2012

Gender	Age	Total
Total	Total	23,530
Male	58 years and older	440

Source: DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate (IGS)

Notes:

1. Figures are cumulative and are rounded to the nearest ten.
2. Job Outcomes: The Work Programme IT payment system update went live in April 2012. All outcomes prior to this were recorded clerically and uploaded to the system during April and May 2012. The outcome date for these is based on the date the information was uploaded to the

system. For job outcomes recorded after this, outcome dates are based on the date that payments were made to providers following pre-payment validation processes to confirm job outcomes. The manual pre-payment validation checks may take time to conduct resulting in a delay between the job outcome being claimed and the date the payment is made to providers, and hence recorded in the statistics. Validation procedures continue to improve to streamline the process as issues are identified. For further details around issues and delays to job outcome payments please see the information note available on the WP landing page: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=wp>

3. Employment Duration of 6 months is identified where;
 - A Job Outcome payment has been made for a customer in Payment Group 1, 2 or 9 (at least 26 weeks in employment);
 - A Job Outcome payment and 3 sustainment payments have been made for a customer in Payment Group 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 (at least 25 weeks in employment).
4. A Job Outcome payment can be claimed when:
 - There has been a either continuous or cumulative period of employment (Job Outcome payment trigger point) of 13 weeks for Payment Groups 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 and 26 weeks for Payment Groups 1, 2 and 9.;
 - A participant has been in employment and off benefit in each week of the period (a week is defined as a 7 day period); and
 - The Job Outcome is after the Job Start date, i.e. a Job Outcome payment can only be claimed when a participant starts a Job after Attachment Activity has been recorded on DWP prescribed IT or clerical system.
5. Sustainment payments: Providers can only claim a Sustainment payment where:
 - A Job Outcome has been reported;
 - Four continuous weeks in employment have elapsed between the Job Outcome payment date and the Sustainment payment date, or between the previous Sustainment payment date and the current Sustainment payment date.
 - A participant has been in employment and off benefit each week (a week is defined as a 7 day period) in the four week period; and
 - 15 working days have passed since the last date of the period being claimed.
 - Following a break in employment after the 104 weeks Allotted Time providers will no longer be eligible to receive a Sustainment payment (a break is defined as when a participant leaves employment for 2 days or more, even if they remain off benefit).
6. Payment groups are assigned by Jobcentre Plus, on the basis of a claimant's circumstances, and benefit they receive. A small number of claimants appear in an incorrect group caused by the way information is

recorded on the administrative system. Payment group 9 – is the JSA Ex-Offender Day 1 Mandation group and a Job Outcome payment can be claimed at 26 weeks. Details of the payment groups 1-8 can be found at Annex 1 of the following document: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/wp-pg-chapter-9.pdf>

7. Gender is recorded on the Jobcentre Plus administrative system at date of referral.
8. Claimant's age is derived from their date of birth and is fixed at date of referral.

More information on the Work Programme can be found at:

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/supplying-dwp/what-we-buy/welfare-to-work-services/provider-guidance/work-programme-provider.shtml>