

Freedom of Information request 2012-4911

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Information request

Number of Black and Ethnic Minorities who got work or training through Governments Work Programme. Please specify the number of ethnic minorities in London who got either work or training through the Governments Work Programme.

DWP response

In response to your questions on the number of people who have gained work through the Work Programme the specific information requested is not held by the Department.

Work Programme providers are not required to submit job start information until they claim a job outcome; only then are they requested to input a job start date which helps secure the validity of the job outcome payment.

A Job Outcome payment can be claimed when:

- There has been a either continuous or cumulative period of employment (Job Outcome payment trigger point) as defined for each claimant group, either 13 or 26 weeks;
- 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.

You may however be interested to know that the Department publishes Official Statistics on referrals, attachments and job outcomes for the Work Programme through its Tabulation Tool, which allows you to design your own tables.

For example, to produce a table on the number of Job Outcomes achieved via the Work Programme by Region and Ethnicity, since its inception, go to the <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=wp> website and follow the instructions below.

1. Select [The DWP tabulation Tool](#) link

2. In the **Benefit/Scheme** drop down menu select **Work Programme: Cumulative figures**
3. Now select **Job Outcomes (Thousands)** from the **Analysis** option
4. From the **Row** drop down menu select **Region**
5. In **Column** option select either **Ethnicity** or **Ethnicity** summary
6. Now select from the options in the **Subset** and **Date** menus and click **Get Table**

To produce figures for **Referrals** and **Attachments** repeat the steps above replacing **Job Outcomes (Thousands)** with either **Referrals (Thousands)** or **Attachments (Thousands)** in step 3. The latest available data includes figures to the end of July 2012.

In response to your questions on the number of people who have received training through the Work Programme I can confirm that the Department does hold some information falling within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the cost of fully complying with your request 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 fully comply with your request.

However we do hold some limited information which is available within the appropriate limit and is shown in the table below.

Please note that this information is for Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) claimants who accessed the Work Programme and received an allowance payment for undertaking training of more than 30 hours per week.

This will be an undercount of the total number of people of have received training through the Work Programme because non-JSA claimants and those receiving training of 30 hours or less will not be included.

You should also be aware that these figures are derived from unpublished data and have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics publication standard. They should therefore be treated with caution.

Number of Work Programme referrals who have received a JSA Training Allowance by Area and Ethnicity: 1st June 2011 – 31st July 2012

Area	Ethnicity			
	Total	White	Black and Ethnic Minority	Unknown
Great Britain	3,550	3,140	230	180
London	20	10	10	-

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. Region: The claimant's Region (formerly Government Office Region) at the time of referral.
4. Ethnicity is self assessed and recorded on the Jobcentre Plus administrative system.

More information on Work Programme Job Outcomes and Training Allowance can be found at:

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

Specifically Chapters 15 and 17 may be of interest.