



First Release

13th August 2014
IGS130814SSAUG14

Coverage: Great Britain (unless otherwise stated)

Theme: People and Places



**Department
for Work &
Pensions**

Issued by:
Information, Governance and
Security Directorate
Department for Work and
Pensions

Telephone:
Press Office: 0203 267 5144

Website:
<https://www.gov.uk/dwp>

Statistician:

Katie Dodd
Information, Governance and
Security Directorate
Department for Work and
Pensions
Room BP5201
Benton Park Road
Longbenton
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE98 1YX

Telephone: 0191 216 6263
Email:
katie.dodd@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Next publication:
12th November 2014

DWP QUARTERLY STATISTICAL SUMMARY

This Statistical Summary aims to give users a structured overview of the benefit National and Official Statistics published by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). Statistics are grouped by component area of DWP and, for each statistic; links are given for users to access more detailed information.

Key benefit statistics from 100% sources are available on an internet-based tabulation tool. A similar tabulation tool derived from 5% sample data is also available, however wherever possible 100% data should be used in preference to 5% estimates, as they are more accurate and form DWP's headline statistics. Statistics are also released via the NOMIS website and the Neighbourhood Statistics website.



All regular series are full National Statistics;

EXCEPT:

The working age inactive benefit early estimates are official statistics and Universal Credit statistics are experimental See:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/national-statistician/types-of-official-statistics>

The early estimates for working age inactive benefit client groups are released monthly and are designed to give indicative, timely information; they are not a substitute for the National Statistics. They will be replaced by the quarterly National Statistics covering the same period when they are published. The National Statistics are the finalised figures.

These statistics were released on 13th August 2014 according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority. Not all DWP National Statistics are covered by this release. Some statistics have their own first release, but links to these are given throughout.

Key Findings

- There were 5.3 million working age benefit claimants at February 2014. This is a decrease of 386 thousand in the year to February 2014.
- Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) was introduced on 27th October 2008. There were around 2.08 million people claiming Employment and Support Allowance at the end of February 2014.
- The number of working age claimants of ESA and incapacity benefits totals 2.46 million in February 2014. This figure is 16 thousand less than in February 2013.
- The number of lone parents claiming Income Support (IS) decreased by 25 thousand to 480 thousand in the year to February 2014.
- At February 2014, there were 12.9 million claimants of State Pension (SP), a rise of 76 thousand on a year earlier. Of these 41% were male and 59% were female.
- At February 2014, there were 2.34 million claimants of Pension Credit (2.83 million including partners) a fall of 31 thousand on the previous quarter.



- At the end of March 2014, the CSA live caseload stood at 1.39 million. In the quarter ending March 2014, 85.6% of all cases in which maintenance was due had either received maintenance via the CSA collection service, or had a maintenance direct arrangement in place.
- At February 2014, there were 3.25 million recipients of Disability Living Allowance (DLA), 1.47 million recipients of Attendance Allowance and 665 thousand recipients of Carer's Allowance (CA).
- There were a total of 16 thousand Maternity Allowance spells commencing in the period 1st December 2013 to 28th February 2014. The average paid weekly amount of Maternity Allowance relating to these cases was £136.78. At February 2014, there were a total of 56 thousand current Maternity Allowance spells.
- At May 2014, the total number of people claiming Housing Benefit was 4.99 million, a decrease of 1.7 per cent on the previous year.
- There were a total of 6.10 million decisions to apply a JSA sanction (i.e. an adverse sanction decision) between April 2000 and March 2014, including 1.28 million under the new sanctions regime, introduced in October 2012.
- There were a total of 105 thousand decisions to apply an ESA sanction (i.e. an adverse sanction decision) between October 2008 and March 2014, including 41 thousand under the new sanctions regime, introduced in December 2012.

Statistics on benefit flows show:

- There were 1.11 million new claims to Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and incapacity benefits, this includes people moving to ESA through Incapacity Benefit re-assessment; 28 thousand new claims to Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit (BB/WB); 266 thousand to Income Support (IS); 561 thousand new claims to State Pension (SP); and 132 thousand new claims to PC in the year to February 2014.
- There were 1.11 million benefit exits for Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (625 thousand for ESA, 487 thousand for IB), this includes people leaving IB through Incapacity Benefit re-assessment; 34 thousand for Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit (BB/WB); 505 thousand for Income Support (IS); 511 thousand benefit exits for State Pension (SP); and 257 thousand benefit exits for Pension Credit (PC) in the year to February 2014.

[OFFICIAL STATISTICS]: Early estimates show:

- At the end of June 2014, the working age Income Support lone parents (ISLP) early estimate was 470 thousand.
- The Employment and Support Allowance / incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) early estimate for June 2014 is 2.49 million. Of these, approximately 92.1% were in receipt of benefit payments from IB, SDA, ESA or Income Support/ Pension Credit. The remaining 7.9% percent received National Insurance credits only.

If you have any comments or requests regarding this publication, please contact DWP via stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk, or join the "Welfare and Benefit Statistics" community at www.statsusernet.org.uk.



Contents	Page
1. Working Age	
1.1 Working age Client Group	4
Individual Benefits	
1.2 Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)	7
1.3 Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and incapacity benefits	8
1.4 Income Support (IS)	11
1.5 Widow's Benefit & Bereavement Benefits (WB & BB)	12
1.6 Jobseekers Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance Sanction Decisions	13
1.7 Universal Credit (UC)	15
2. Early Estimates for Working Age Inactive Benefit Client Group	
2.1 Employment and Support Allowance / incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) client group	16
2.2 Income Support Lone Parent (ISLP) client group	18
3. Pensioners	
3.1 Pensioner Client Group	19
Individual Benefits	
3.2 State Pension	20
3.3 Pension Credit	21
4. Disabled and Carers	
4.1 Disability Living Allowance	22
4.2 Attendance Allowance	22
4.3 Carer's Allowance	23
4.4 Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit	24
5. Families & Children	
5.1 Child Support Agency cases	25
5.2 Maternity Allowance	27
6. Housing Benefit	
6.1 Housing Benefit	28
Notes	29

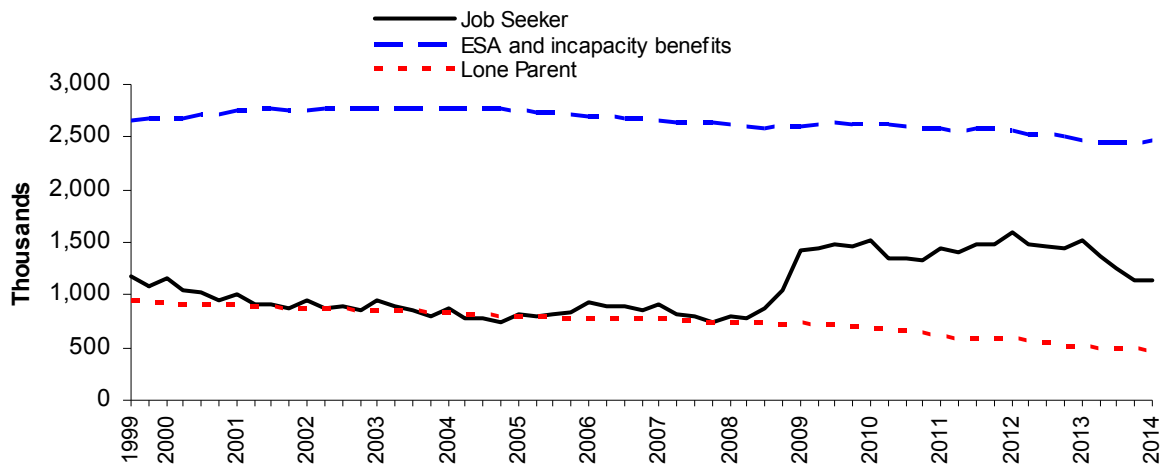
1. Working Age

1.1 National Statistics: Working Age client group

Combines data collected for Jobseeker's Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Employment and Support Allowance, Severe Disablement Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Carer's Allowance, Widow's Benefit, Bereavement Allowance and Income Support for working age claimants (including Pension Credit for males under State Pension age).

See Notes, section 7 for information on Welfare Reform, including the introduction of Universal Credit and Personal Independence Payment which is replacing Disability Living Allowance for eligible working age people aged 16 to 64.

**Working Age Claimants by Statistical Group:
August 1999 to February 2014**



The age at which men and women reach State Pension age is gradually increasing. Under current legislation, State Pension age for women will equalise with State Pension age for men at 65 in 2018. Both men's and women's State Pension age will increase from 65 to 66 between December 2018 and October 2020. The Pensions Bill 2013-14 contains provision for a State Pension age of 67 to be reached by 2028. The changes will introduce a small increase to the number of working age benefit recipients and a small reduction to the number of pension age recipients. There are also changes to the way users can analyse benefit recipients as a proportion of the working population. More information can be found in the [State Pension age methodological note](#)

Between August 1999 and February 2008, the number of jobseekers in GB fell from 1.18 million to 807 thousand. However, rose to almost 1.53 million at February 2010. Since then, numbers have remained broadly steady with a recent fall in the last year of 369 thousand to almost 1.15 million in February 2014. The preferred source of JSA figures is the ONS claimant count measure (which is seasonally adjusted). This can be found at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/index.html>.

The lone parent caseload fell from 930 thousand to 480 thousand between November 1999 and February 2014.

The number of working age claimants of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and incapacity benefits totals 2.46 million at February 2014. This shows a recent yearly decrease of 16 thousand.



Table 1.1 Working Age claimants by Statistical Group: November 1999 – February 2014

	Total	Job Seeker ²	Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits ³	Lone Parent ⁴	Carer ⁵	Other Income Related ⁶	Disabled ⁷	Thousands Bereaved ⁸
Nov -99	..	1,083.03	2,674.71	930.24	316.50	218.37	..	..
Feb -00	..	1,154.97	2,676.39	923.47	313.58	216.97	..	..
May -00	..	1,037.01	2,686.30	919.43	310.88	210.80	..	..
Aug -00	..	1,015.83	2,714.85	920.10	309.67	197.95	..	..
Nov -00	..	948.66	2,722.57	905.76	311.56	196.69	..	..
Feb -01	..	1,001.08	2,750.45	908.21	313.96	182.81	..	..
May -01	..	909.15	2,753.66	900.43	319.59	180.15	..	..
Aug -01	..	907.68	2,763.62	900.22	323.83	175.41	..	..
Nov -01	..	880.36	2,746.02	878.59	328.62	179.08	..	..
Feb -02	..	955.45	2,745.58	877.11	332.02	176.62	..	..
May -02	5,455.75	877.38	2,765.73	870.95	335.79	165.60	245.27	195.02
Aug -02	5,481.48	890.54	2,769.36	875.04	339.91	167.19	249.72	189.71
Nov -02	5,428.63	850.05	2,776.56	856.23	343.72	161.36	256.58	184.13
Feb -03	5,514.28	946.16	2,776.54	848.85	346.17	156.33	260.92	179.31
May -03	5,459.68	885.78	2,773.61	855.81	347.94	155.96	266.25	174.33
Aug -03	5,425.85	851.37	2,777.06	851.73	350.41	155.26	270.15	169.88
Nov -03	5,363.74	803.88	2,780.49	831.75	353.25	154.20	275.51	164.67
Feb -04	5,426.42	867.42	2,777.53	830.25	355.81	155.20	280.12	160.09
May -04	5,327.35	777.40	2,772.85	823.27	359.25	155.42	283.33	155.83
Aug -04	5,321.26	769.25	2,774.93	818.10	360.08	158.20	289.12	151.59
Nov -04	5,270.77	741.06	2,772.18	796.53	361.42	157.94	294.15	147.49
Feb -05	5,327.77	819.68	2,757.65	793.13	362.04	153.93	297.23	144.11
May -05	5,289.13	800.66	2,741.62	789.32	363.76	151.09	300.96	141.73
Aug -05	5,302.72	825.11	2,725.47	789.35	365.08	153.71	305.84	138.17
Nov -05	5,287.66	836.71	2,710.50	778.56	363.34	155.74	309.31	133.51
Feb -06	5,384.74	935.20	2,705.47	777.09	368.66	153.06	313.85	131.40
May -06	5,325.77	895.88	2,688.02	774.86	368.50	152.70	317.04	128.78
Aug -06	5,335.22	900.92	2,683.00	783.18	369.81	153.12	319.13	126.06
Nov -06	5,288.34	860.22	2,672.96	775.62	371.71	161.10	326.64	120.09
Feb -07	5,321.68	904.04	2,662.13	771.35	373.83	163.32	329.75	117.26
May -07	5,207.27	807.27	2,643.21	765.62	374.84	167.05	335.13	114.15
Aug -07	5,187.14	788.45	2,641.11	763.55	376.03	167.84	340.61	109.55
Nov -07	5,124.68	741.10	2,641.70	741.83	379.35	167.29	346.16	107.25
Feb -08	5,174.88	806.70	2,617.88	741.71	384.49	169.95	349.38	104.78
May -08	5,142.63	787.87	2,595.83	738.64	387.56	173.33	356.50	102.90
Aug -08	5,232.88	868.73	2,590.61	744.68	392.73	176.23	360.08	99.81
Nov -08	5,404.12	1,036.48	2,605.51	728.98	396.80	178.84	360.47	97.04
Feb -09	5,802.48	1,421.60	2,603.54	736.04	400.12	181.88	363.82	95.49
May -09	5,836.50	1,443.00	2,621.43	720.48	405.56	183.22	368.94	93.87
Aug -09	5,895.65	1,485.32	2,632.74	715.73	412.97	184.46	373.10	91.33
Nov -09	5,857.13	1,469.92	2,618.38	695.72	418.53	188.23	377.95	88.40
Feb -10	5,917.56	1,526.01	2,614.76	692.02	422.08	191.35	383.28	88.06
May -10	5,747.83	1,354.62	2,613.10	679.15	430.23	192.19	390.81	87.74
Aug -10	5,744.64	1,349.71	2,606.61	672.35	439.43	191.38	396.81	88.36
Nov -10	5,685.60	1,328.91	2,586.42	648.30	445.44	192.03	399.38	85.11
Feb -11	5,765.34	1,438.67	2,578.66	613.78	450.42	191.76	406.31	85.75
May -11	5,709.55	1,404.14	2,570.22	595.40	456.06	187.18	411.01	85.55
Aug -11	5,802.82	1,482.86	2,582.18	595.29	465.99	180.08	413.11	83.30
Nov -11	5,778.16	1,478.43	2,575.60	581.62	470.96	174.91	413.84	82.79
Feb -12	5,881.70	1,589.64	2,557.68	584.17	477.15	169.11	420.70	83.25
May -12	5,753.88	1,484.07	2,528.14	577.08	486.94	164.96	429.51	83.17
Aug -12	5,708.22	1,471.07	2,517.07	545.24	495.71	159.90	437.17	82.06
Nov -12	5,636.79	1,443.54	2,499.96	510.06	504.13	156.01	442.20	80.89
Feb -13	5,695.38	1,514.37	2,475.67	504.89	513.61	151.26	454.31	81.26
May -13	5,541.49	1,371.62	2,456.47	499.73	523.64	147.79	460.53	81.70
Aug -13	5,423.68	1,262.53	2,440.80	497.54	532.94	144.39	464.97	80.51
Nov -13	5,293.46	1,132.78	2,456.36	485.00	537.97	142.24	460.21	78.89
Feb -14	5,309.58	1,145.63	2,459.30	480.09	544.93	138.72	461.53	79.37



Notes relating to Table 1.1

1. Claimants have been assigned to a statistical group according to a hierarchy. The order is shown in the table, i.e. 'Job Seekers' followed by 'Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits'.
2. 'Job Seekers' are recipients of Jobseeker's Allowance.
3. 'From November 2008 the "incapacity benefits group" includes Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). ESA replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims from 27th October 2008. Prior to this the "incapacity benefits group" referred to claimants of Incapacity Benefit (including credits only) or Severe Disablement Allowance including people claiming IS on the grounds of Incapacity.
4. 'Lone Parents' are single recipients of Income Support with a child under 16.
5. 'Carers' are recipients of Carers Allowance.
6. 'Others on Income Related Benefit' are other recipients of Income Support (including Income Support Disability Premium) or Pension Credit.
7. 'Disabled' are recipients of Disability Living Allowance. Industrial Injuries benefits data is not available.
8. 'Bereaved' are recipients of Widow's Benefit or Bereavement Benefit.
9. Totals are not shown prior to May 2002 as complete data is not available for 'Disabled' and 'Bereaved' statistical groups.
10. Housing Benefit data is not included in the client group hierarchy but is published separately (see section 1.5).
11. See Notes, section 7 for information on Welfare Reform, including the introduction of Universal Credit and Personal Independence Payment which is replacing Disability Living Allowance for eligible working age people aged 16 to 64.

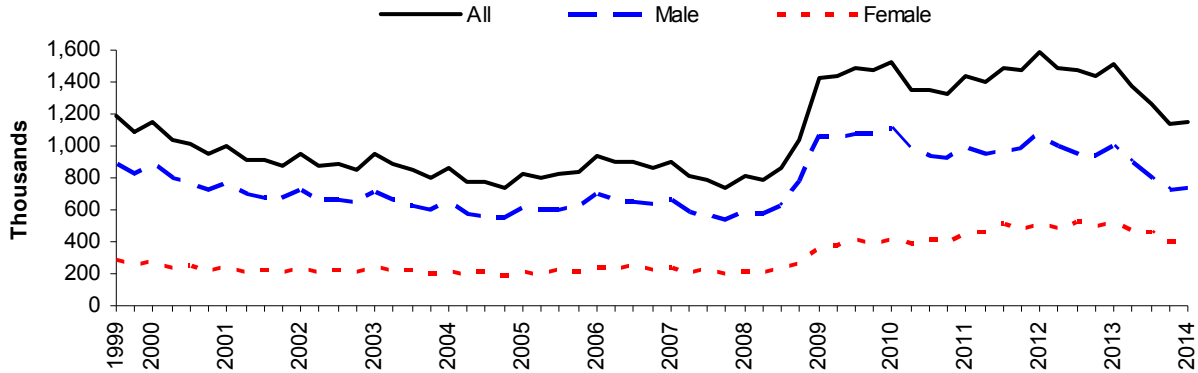
Latest statistical data available from: <http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/tabtool.html>



1.2 National Statistics: Jobseeker's Allowance

Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) was introduced on 7th October 1996 and has both contributory and income-related elements. It is paid to people under state pension age who are available for and actively seeking work.

Jobseekers Allowance by Gender: August 1999 to February 2014



The preferred source of JSA figures is the ONS claimant count measure (which is seasonally adjusted).

DWP produce a separate set of Jobseeker's Allowance figures to enable cross-benefit analysis and supply a wider range of breakdowns, and these are provided in this release.

The DWP figures at February 2014 show the total number of Jobseeker's Allowance claimants was almost 1.15 million. Female claimants represented 35% of the JSA caseload (402 thousand), while males represented 65% (743 thousand). The total caseload has decreased by 369 thousand since February 2013, with men decreasing by 252 thousand and women decreasing by 117 thousand.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/tabtool.html>

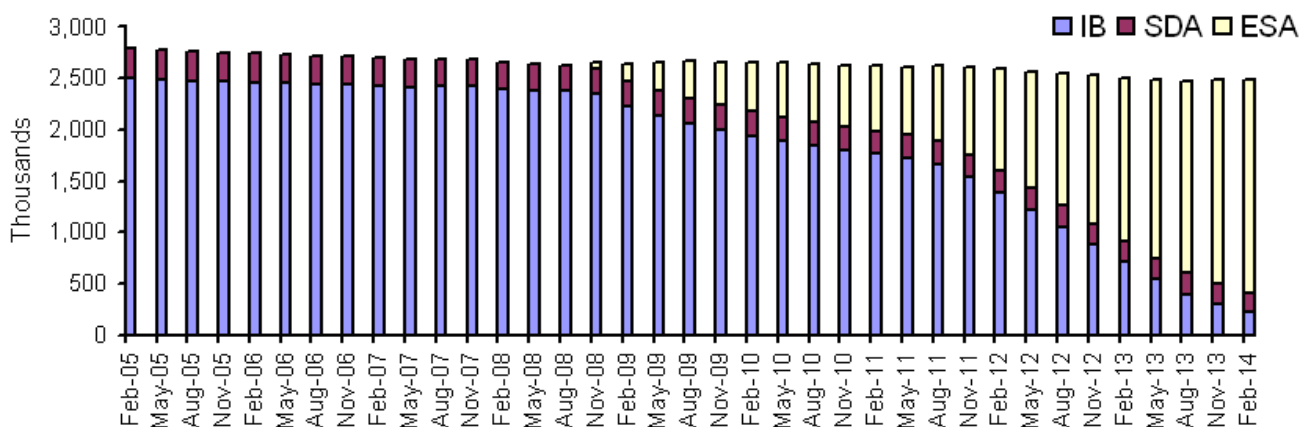
1.3 National Statistics: Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits

From 27th October 2008, Employment & Support Allowance (ESA) replaced Incapacity Benefit (IB) and Income Support (IS) paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims. Incapacity benefits consist of Incapacity Benefit (introduced on 13th April 1995 and paid to people who are incapable of work and who have paid sufficient contributions throughout their working life) and Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA). This section includes a small number of claimants over State Pension age; therefore figures may differ to those in Table 1.1 which refers to working age claimants only.

Between October 2010 and Spring 2014 most claimants who receive IB, SDA and IS paid on the grounds of illness or disability will be assessed to see if they qualify for ESA. If they qualify for ESA their IB, SDA or IS claim is converted into an ESA claim. For claimants who were previously in receipt of IB or SDA, their benefit will be converted to contributory ESA; if they were previously in receipt of IS their benefit will be converted to income-related ESA. In the same way as with IB, contributory ESA can be paid with an income-related top up and a transitional addition if appropriate.

The government has limited the period for which contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) can be paid in some circumstances. These changes came into effect on 1 May 2012. Claimants who have already received 365 days of contribution-based ESA saw their entitlement end on 30 April 2012.

Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits



At February 2014, there were 2.46 million claimants of Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance), a decrease of 16 thousand on a year earlier. 54% of claimants were men and 46% women. The male caseload has decreased by 28 thousand and the female caseload has increased by 12 thousand in the year to February 2014.

There were 244 thousand new Employment and Support Allowance claimants in the February 2014 quarter, which represents 11.7% of the February 2014 caseload. Over the same period, 153 thousand claimants left the benefit, 7.4% of the caseload at February 2014. These numbers include IB claimants who have been re-assessed for ESA. More information on this process and the numbers involved can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/employment-and-support-allowance-outcomes-of-work-capability-assessment>

In the year to February 2014, there were a total of 1.11 million new claims for Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits and 1.11 million claims were closed.

Table 1.2a shows the payment status of all working age Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits claimants. In February 2014 approximately 92.1% were in receipt of benefit payments from Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Pension Credit. The remaining 7.9% percent received National Insurance credits only (i.e. no payment of IB, SDA, ESA, IS or PC). This compares to 5.8% receiving no benefit payments in February 2012. This change is because the government has limited the period for which contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) can be paid in some circumstances. These changes came into effect on 1 May 2012. Claimants who had already received 365 days of contribution-based ESA saw their entitlement end on 30 April 2012.



Table 1.2 Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits claimants¹: November 2000 – February 2014

	Total	Employment and Support Allowance	Incapacity Benefits	Severe Disablement Allowance
Nov-00	2,764.14	.	2,387.86	376.28
Feb-01	2,792.03	.	2,415.02	377.00
May-01	2,795.34	.	2,420.88	374.45
Aug-01	2,805.45	.	2,435.42	370.03
Nov-01	2,787.71	.	2,425.57	362.14
Feb-02	2,787.22	.	2,427.22	360.00
May-02	2,807.63	.	2,471.14	336.48
Aug-02	2,811.43	.	2,478.84	332.58
Nov-02	2,818.48	.	2,489.91	328.56
Feb-03	2,818.57	.	2,493.87	324.70
May-03	2,815.66	.	2,494.89	320.76
Aug-03	2,819.05	.	2,502.06	316.99
Nov-03	2,822.27	.	2,509.01	313.26
Feb-04	2,819.16	.	2,509.67	309.49
May-04	2,814.71	.	2,508.77	305.94
Aug-04	2,817.01	.	2,514.27	302.73
Nov-04	2,814.41	.	2,514.73	299.67
Feb-05	2,799.87	.	2,503.53	296.34
May-05	2,783.72	.	2,490.85	292.87
Aug-05	2,767.74	.	2,478.16	289.59
Nov-05	2,752.90	.	2,466.20	286.70
Feb-06	2,747.49	.	2,464.24	283.25
May-06	2,730.00	.	2,449.99	280.01
Aug-06	2,724.98	.	2,447.96	277.02
Nov-06	2,714.95	.	2,441.03	273.91
Feb-07	2,704.10	.	2,433.40	270.70
May-07	2,685.32	.	2,417.71	267.61
Aug-07	2,683.16	.	2,418.65	264.51
Nov-07	2,683.75	.	2,422.01	261.74
Feb-08	2,659.65	.	2,401.06	258.59
May-08	2,637.56	.	2,382.00	255.56
Aug-08	2,632.00	.	2,379.46	252.53
Nov-08	2,646.78	53.77	2,343.25	249.76
Feb-09	2,644.43	175.81	2,221.89	246.73
May-09	2,662.49	288.27	2,130.13	244.09
Aug-09	2,674.02	374.44	2,058.02	241.56
Nov-09	2,659.65	425.77	1,994.95	238.93
Feb-10	2,655.96	479.43	1,940.30	236.23
May-10	2,653.81	527.12	1,892.98	233.71
Aug-10	2,646.54	563.98	1,851.01	231.55
Nov-10	2,625.86	593.93	1,802.93	229.00
Feb-11	2,617.27	631.35	1,759.62	226.30
May-11	2,608.43	662.23	1,722.39	223.81
Aug-11	2,619.67	731.95	1,666.21	221.52
Nov-11	2,612.52	857.89	1,535.38	219.25
Feb-12	2,593.86	991.19	1,385.64	217.03
May-12	2,563.96	1,134.29	1,215.30	214.38
Aug-12	2,552.34	1,286.41	1,053.87	212.06
Nov-12	2,534.80	1,447.98	877.26	209.56
Feb-13	2,509.60	1,591.04	711.71	206.85
May-13	2,489.93	1,747.61	537.94	204.38
Aug-13	2,473.42	1,871.07	400.80	201.55
Nov-13	2,488.38	1,986.94	303.81	197.63
Feb-14	2,490.58	2,079.74	220.91	189.93

Notes:

1. Claimants include those beneficiaries plus, those receiving National Insurance Credits and no monetary payment (many credits-only claimants of Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance will also receive Income Support).

2. This table replaces table 1.2 in the November 2010 Statistical Summary. This table no longer includes beneficiaries but still includes all claimants of Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance. This provides a consistent time series. Numbers of Working Age claimants of 'ESA and incapacity benefits' are shown in the Working Age Client Group section of this release. Those figures differ from this table due to the inclusion of a small number of claimants over state pension age in table 1.2 and minor methodological differences.

Table 1.2a: Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits claimants aged under State Pension age: 2000 - 2014

	Claiming ESA, IB or SDA			Claiming ESA			Claiming IB			Claiming SDA		
	Receiving contributory based benefit or SDA only with income based benefit (2)	Receiving contributory based benefit or SDA, income based benefit (2)	Receiving National Insurance credits only (2)	Receiving contributory based benefit only (3)	Receiving contributory and income based benefit (3)	Receiving income based credits only (3)	Receiving contributory based benefit only (3)	Receiving contributory and income based benefit (3)	Receiving income based credits only (3)	Receiving National Insurance credits only (3)	Receiving SDA only	Receiving SDA and IS/PC
Total	2,686.31	2,753.66	2,765.73	2,773.61	2,772.85	2,741.65	2,688.13	2,643.29	2,595.83	2,621.43	2,632.74	2,618.38
May-00	1,365.48	1,351.79	1,333.96	1,306.80	1,301.01	1,275.63	1,237.69	1,193.65	1,151.25	1,133.55	1,121.56	1,105.35
May-01	534.29	561.70	550.15	548.32	517.19	492.38	471.42	457.06	442.02	431.20	429.81	427.59
May-02	677.69	725.55	759.42	790.78	815.58	832.12	839.10	855.29	866.41	918.94	933.33	937.54
May-03	108.85	114.62	122.19	127.71	139.08	141.52	139.92	137.29	136.15	137.74	148.04	147.89
May-04	114.62	122.19	127.71	139.08	141.52	139.92	137.29	136.15	137.74	148.04	147.89	147.89
May-05	122.19	127.71	139.08	141.52	139.92	137.29	136.15	137.74	148.04	147.89	147.89	147.89
May-06	127.71	139.08	141.52	139.92	137.29	136.15	137.74	148.04	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
May-07	139.08	141.52	139.92	137.29	136.15	137.74	148.04	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
May-08	139.92	137.29	136.15	137.74	148.04	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
May-09	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Aug-09	148.04	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Nov-09	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Feb-10	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
May-10	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Aug-10	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Nov-10	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Feb-11	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
May-11	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Aug-11	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Nov-11	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Feb-12	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
May-12	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Aug-12	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Nov-12	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Feb-13	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
May-13	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Aug-13	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Nov-13	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89
Feb-14	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89	147.89

1. Claimants include those beneficiaries plus, those receiving National Insurance Credits and no monetary payment (many credits-only claimants of Incapacity Benefit (IB) or Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) will also receive Income Support (IS)/ Pension Credit (PC)).

2. This table focuses on the following out-of-work benefits: Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA), Income Support (IS) and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). Claimants are classified as follows:

- ESA (Contributory), SDA or IB/SDA payments, without IS/PC = "Receiving contributory based benefit or SDA only"
- ESA (Contributory and Income based), or SDA or IB/SDA payments, with IS/PC = "Receiving contributory based benefit or SDA, with income based benefit"
- ESA (Income Based) or IB/SDA credits only with IS/PC = "Receiving income based benefit"
- ESA (Credits only) or IB/SDA credits only without IS/PC = "National Insurance credits only"

3. This table focuses on the following out-of-work benefits: Incapacity Benefit (IB), Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA), Income Support (IS) and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). Claimants are classified as follows:

- ESA (Contributory), or IB/SDA payments, without IS/PC = "Receiving contributory based benefit only"
- ESA (Contributory and Income Based) or IB/SDA payments with IS/PC = "Receiving contributory and income based benefit"
- ESA (Income Based) or IB/SDA credits only with IS/PC = "Receiving income based benefit"
- ESA (Credits only) or IB/SDA credits only without IS/PC = "National Insurance credits only"

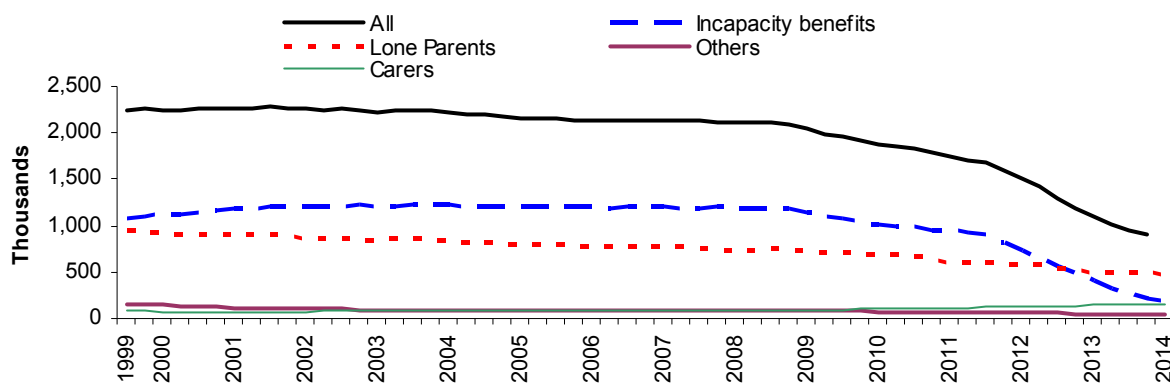
4. Some claimants (including those receiving "National Insurance credits only") are receiving payments from other benefits, such as Housing Benefit or Disability Living Allowance.

5. This table includes claimants under State Pension age. The age at which women reach State Pension age is gradually increasing from 60 to 65 between April 2010 and April 2016 to November 2018. Under current legislation, State Pension age for men and women is planned to increase to 66 between November 2018 and October 2020; 67 between 2020 and 2036; 68 between 2036 and 2044 and 2046. These changes introduce a small increase to the number of working age benefit recipients and a small reduction to the number of pension age recipients.

1.4 National Statistics: Income Support

Income Support (IS) was introduced on 11th April 1988 and is an income-related benefit that can be claimed by adults under state pension age that work fewer than 16 hours a week and have insufficient income to meet their needs. Prior to the introduction of Pension Credit in October 2003, IS was available to people aged 60 and over. From 27th October 2008, Employment & Support Allowance (ESA) replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims. The Lone Parent Obligation policy came into effect from 24 November 2008; Lone Parents (LPs) with a youngest child aged 12 or over were no longer able to make a new or repeat claim for Income Support (IS) solely on the basis of their parental status. Existing IS LPs with a youngest child aged 12 or over had their eligibility removed over a period of time commencing 2nd March 2009. From October 2009 this policy was extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 10 or 11 and from October 2010 the policy was extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 7 or over. The Welfare Reform Act 2012 introduced further changes and from 21 May 2012 lone parents are eligible to claim Income Support until their youngest child is five years old.

**Income Support by Statistical Group:
August 1999 to February 2014**



Pension Credit (PC) replaced Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG) in Income Support on 6 October 2003. **MIG claimants have been excluded from this data prior to November 2003.**

At February 2014, the total number of Income Support (IS) claimants was 868 thousand. Claimants of incapacity benefits represented 22% of the IS caseload (190 thousand). Lone Parents (all single claimants with dependants under 16, excluding claimants of incapacity benefits) represented 55% of the IS caseload (480 thousand), while Carers and Others represented 23% of the caseload (199 thousand).

There were 61 thousand new claimants of Income Support in the February 2014 quarter, which represents 7% of the February 2014 caseload. Over the same period, 101 thousand claimants left the benefit, 12% of the caseload at end of February 2014. In the year to February 2014 there were a total of 266 thousand new claims for Income Support and 505 thousand claims were closed.

Table 1.3 Income Support Lone Parents claimants¹: February 2014

	Thousands		
	Total	Female	Male
All Ages	480.09	467.94	12.15
Unknown Age	-	-	-
Under 18	3.32	3.32	0.01
18-24	143.20	141.97	1.22
25-34	211.13	206.83	4.30
35-44	95.32	91.49	3.83
45-54	24.48	22.14	2.34
55-64	2.64	2.19	0.44

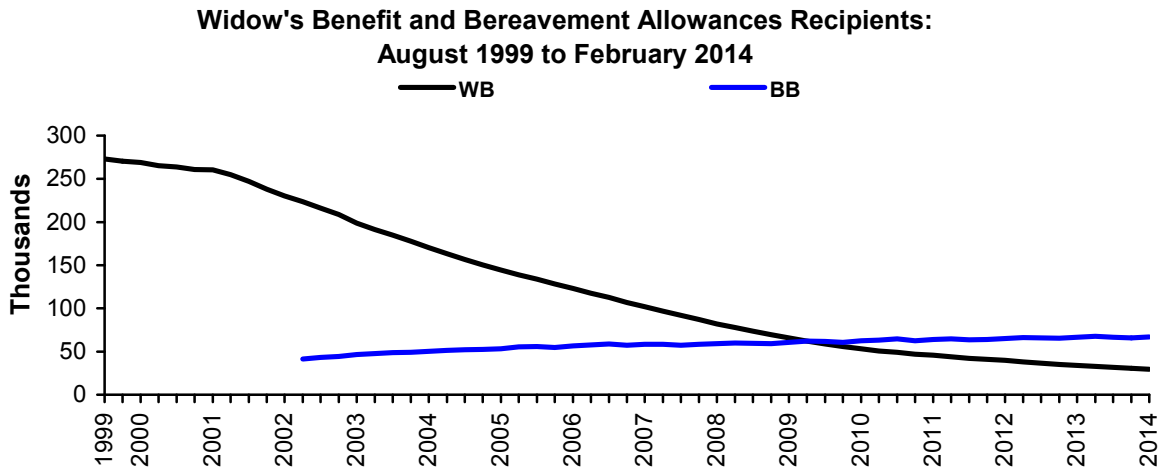
1. Lone Parents are all single claimants with dependants aged under 16, but excluding claimants of incapacity benefits. Totals may not sum due to rounding.



1.5 National Statistics: Widows Benefit & Bereavement Benefits

Widow's Benefit (WB) was introduced on 6th July 1948 and is payable to women widowed between 11th April 1988 and 8th April 2001 inclusive. There are three types of WB: Widow's Payment, Widowed Mother's Allowance and Widow's Pension. Women widowed before 11th April 1988 continue to receive Widow's Benefit based on the rules that existed before that date.

Bereavement Benefits (BB) was introduced on 9th April 2001 as a replacement for Widow's Benefit. It is payable to both men and women widowed on or after 9th April 2001. There are three types of BB: Bereavement Payment, Widowed Parent's Allowance and Bereavement Allowance.



At February 2014, there were 30 thousand claimants of Widow's Benefit, a fall of 4 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 27 thousand were in receipt of Widow's Pension and 3 thousand Widowed Mother's Allowance.

At February 2014, there were 67 thousand claimants of Bereavement Allowances, an increase of less than 1 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 22 thousand were in receipt of Bereavement Allowance and 45 thousand in receipt of Widowed Parent's Allowance.

There were 7 thousand new claimants of Bereavement Allowances/Widows Benefit in the February 2014 quarter, which represents 11% of the February 2014 caseload.

Over the same period, 8 thousand claimants left the benefits, 11% of the caseload at February 2014.

In the year to February 2014, there were a total of 28 thousand new claims for Bereavement Allowances/Widows Benefit and 34 thousand claims were closed.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/tabtool.html>



1.6 National Statistics: Jobseekers Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance Sanction Decisions

Since December 2012, some decisions for failing to attend a JSA adviser interview have been made by Independent Decision Makers at a local office.

These decisions are not recorded on the Decision Making and Appeal System (DMAS), which is the data source for the official statistics on JSA and ESA sanction decisions. Therefore, data on these JSA decisions have not been incorporated into the official statistics within previous releases.

Development work to match data on these decisions (as recorded on the Labour Market System (LMS)) with data from DMAS has been carried out. The release of this set of official statistics incorporates this additional data for the first time.

The effect on previous published official statistics is that:

- just under 1 per cent additional decisions to apply a JSA sanction for the whole period between April 2000 and December 2013 are included.*
- for the period between December 2012 and December 2013, just over 6 per cent additional decisions to apply a JSA sanction are included.*

Mandatory reconsiderations

Please note that these official statistics do not contain data on mandatory reconsiderations, which must occur before a claimant can appeal to Her Majesty's Court and Tribunal Service (HMCTS).

Mandatory reconsiderations are recorded on a separate administrative system and work is underway to incorporate data from this system into these official statistics.

In the meantime, it is recommended that users do not calculate a 'rate' of decisions to apply a sanction (from overall decisions made) for the final four months (Dec13 to Mar14) of this statistical series.

For Jobseeker's Allowance:

There were a total of 6.10 million decisions to apply a sanction¹ between April 2000 and March 2014.

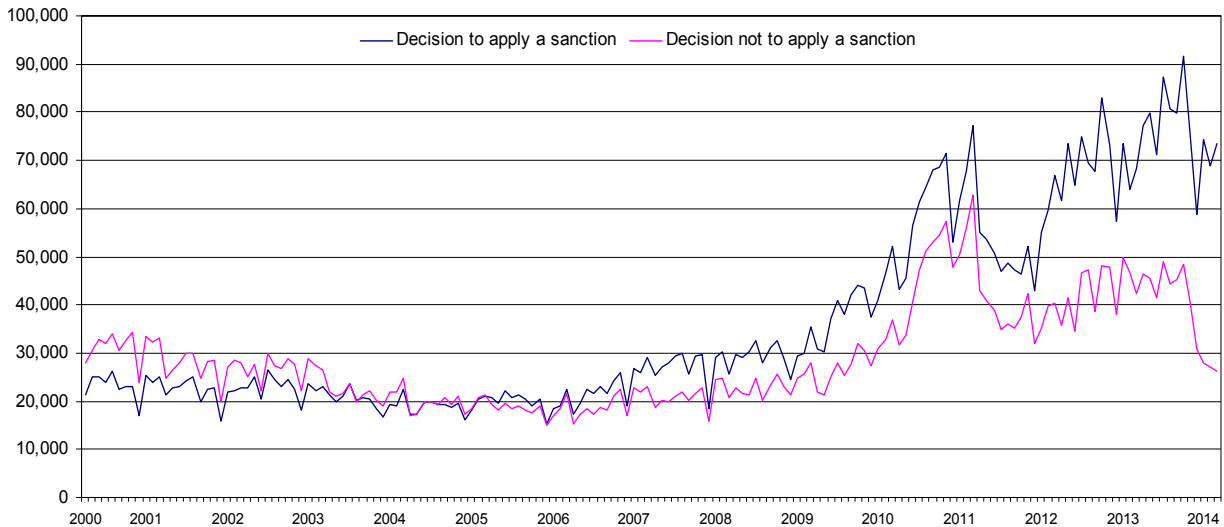
Under the new sanctions regime, introduced on 22nd October 2012:

- there were a total of 1.28 million decisions to apply a sanction.
- over half (56 per cent) of all decisions to apply a sanction were in the lower level group, and just under one in ten (8 per cent) in the higher group.
- just under one third (28 per cent) of all decisions to apply a sanction was because of a failure to participate in the Work Programme, and 22 per cent because of a failure to attend an adviser interview.
- over one third (36 per cent) of all decisions were to close the JSA claim because the claimant was not entitled to claim JSA, mainly because the claimant was not actively seeking employment (these are recorded as intermediate level decisions).
- a total of 1.53 million decisions resulted in no reduction or withdrawal of JSA. In just under half of these (47 per cent) there was a decision not to apply a sanction; 44 per cent as a result of the referral being cancelled (results in no sanction decision being made); and just under one in ten (9 per cent) where it was decided that a sanction would be appropriate but the claimant was no longer claiming JSA (reserved decision).
- a total of 172 thousand decisions following a review resulted in no sanction being applied. This represented under half (47 per cent) of all cases that went to a decision review stage, and less than one in ten (6 per cent) of all decisions to in which a sanction decision was made.

¹ Includes a decision to end a claim because of a failure to comply with benefit entitlement conditions.

- a total of 7 thousand decisions following an appeal resulted in no sanction being applied. This represented under one in five (19 per cent) of all cases that went to the appeal stage, and less than half of one per cent (0.3 per cent) of all decisions to in which a sanction decision was made.
- a total of 760 thousand individuals had received a decision to apply a sanction.

JSA Sanction Decisions Applied



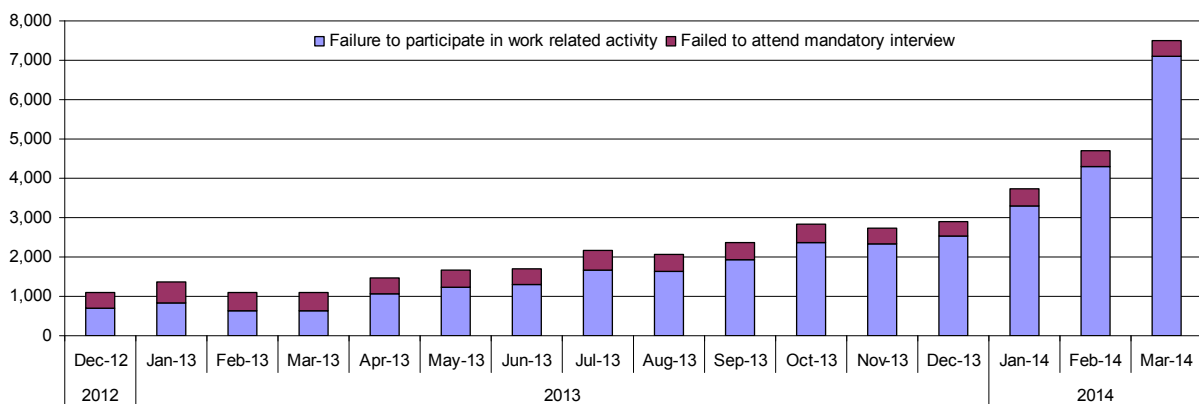
For Employment and Support Allowance:

There were a total of 105 thousand decisions to apply a sanction (previously labelled as an adverse sanction decision) between April 2008 and March 2014.

Under the new sanctions regime, introduced on 3rd December 2012:

- just under 41 thousand decisions to apply a sanction.
- Over three-quarters (83 per cent) decisions to apply a sanction were made because of a failure to participate in work related activity (this includes failure to participate in the Work Programme), with the remaining due to a failure to attend a mandatory interview.

Referral Reason for Decisions to Apply an ESA Sanction



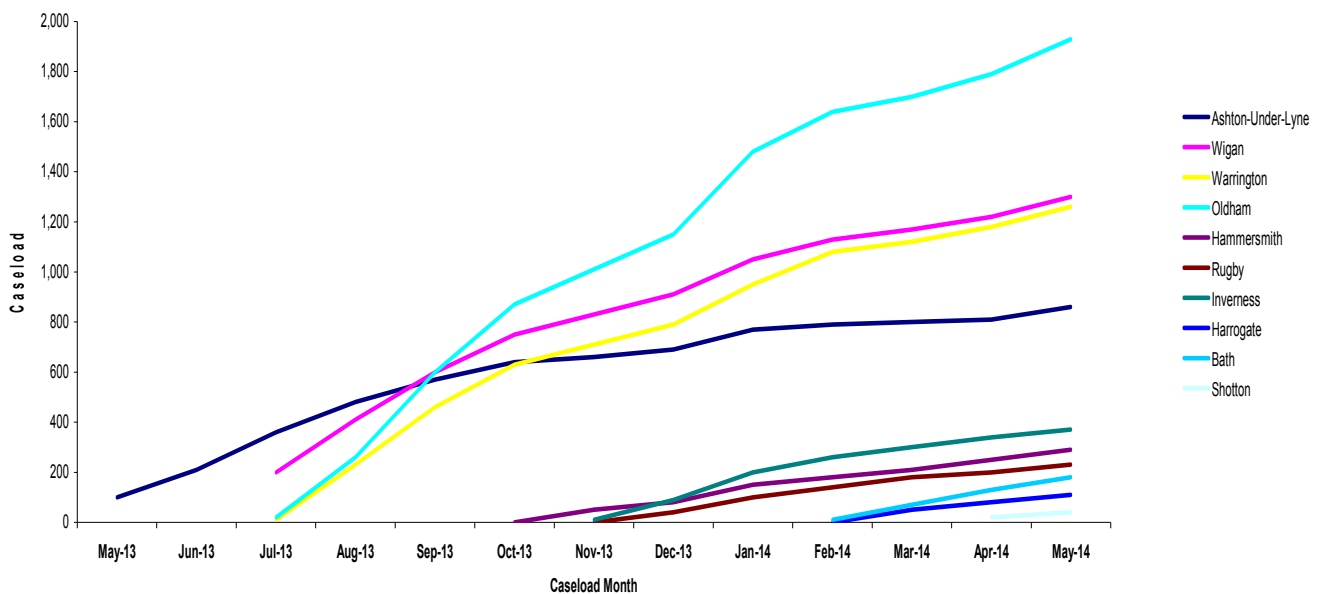
More detailed figures can be accessed through Stat-Xplore at: <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk> or via gov.uk at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/jobseekers-allowance-sanctions>

1.7 Official Experimental Statistics: Universal Credit (UC)

Universal Credit is a new benefit that has started to replace six existing benefits and tax credits with a single monthly payment. Universal Credit will eventually replace:

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Housing Benefit

Universal Credit caseload, as at end of month, by Jobcentre Plus office



Starters

- Between April 2013 and 31st May 2014, a total of 8,500 people have started on Universal Credit.
- Gender breakdowns of starters to Universal Credit show that the majority are males, with a male to female ratio around 7:3.
- The majority of new claims are for unemployed people aged under 25.

Caseload

- On the 31st May 2014, a total of 6,570 people were on the Universal Credit caseload.
- Over 6 in 10 of the Universal Credit caseload on 31st May 2014 are younger people, under the age of 25.

Universal Credit statistics currently include all people claiming this benefit, both those people in work and out-of-work. People on Universal Credit who are in employment may or may not be receiving a Universal Credit payment. As new claims for Universal Credit were restricted to single (in the period covered by these statistics), unemployed people without children then most claimants will be unemployed.

Latest statistical data available from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/universal-credit-statistics>

2. Early Estimates for Working Age Inactive Benefit Client Group

2.1 Employment and Support Allowance / incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) client group

Table 2.1: Working-age ESA/IB client group February 2011 to June 2014

Time Series	National Statistic	Early Estimate
	Number of Claimants (thousands)	Number of Claimants (thousands)
May-11	2,570.22	
Aug-11	2,582.18	
Nov-11	2,575.60	
Feb-12	2,557.68	
May-12	2,528.14	
Aug-12	2,517.07	
Nov-12	2,499.96	
Feb-13	2,475.67	
May-13	2,456.47	
Aug-13	2,440.80	
Nov-13	2,456.36	
Feb-14	2,459.30	
Mar-14		2,470
Apr-14		2,485
May-14		2,480
Jun-14		2,495

Table 2.2: Working-age ESA/IB client group claiming NI credits only February 2011 to June 2014

Time Series	National Statistics Source Data	Early Estimate
	National Insurance Credits only (percentage)	National Insurance Credits only (percentage)
May-11	5.6%	
Aug-11	5.5%	
Nov-11	5.5%	
Feb-12	5.8%	
May-12	7.3%	
Aug-12	7.1%	
Nov-12	7.4%	
Feb-13	7.7%	
May-13	7.8%	
Aug-13	7.6%	
Nov-13	7.7%	
Feb-14	7.9%	
Mar-14		7.8%
Apr-14		7.8%
May-14		7.9%
Jun-14		7.9%

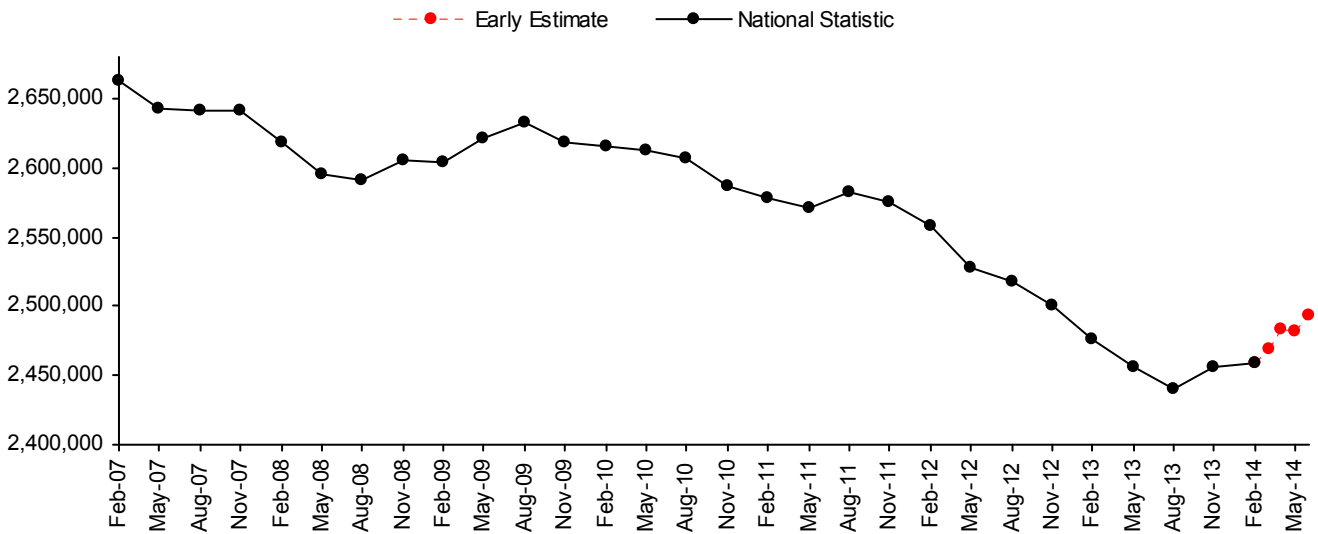
The working-age **ESA/IB** early estimate for June 2014 is **2.495 million** to the nearest 5,000. This represents an increase of 1.5 per cent since February 2014 (the latest National Statistic). As the Incapacity Benefit reassessment continues, users should be aware that there may be increased uncertainty around these early estimates.

In June 2014 approximately 92.1% were in receipt of benefit payments from Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, Pension Credit. The remaining 7.9% percent received National Insurance credits only (i.e. no payment of IB, SDA, ESA, IS or PC). A noticeable rise in the proportion of claimants receiving National Insurance credits was seen in May 2012. This is due to the introduction of a 365 day limit on receipt of contribution based ESA for those in the Work Related Activity Group on 1 May 2012.

These figures are estimates of the final National Statistic, to give an indication of their accuracy, over the past year the early estimates in Table 2.1 have been revised by an average of 0.3 per cent. See notes section for more information. Further details on the accuracy of the early estimates in Table 2.2 can also be found there.

The age at which men and women reach State Pension age is gradually increasing. Under current legislation, State Pension age for women will equalise with State Pension age for men at 65 in 2018. Both men's and women's State Pension age will increase from 65 to 66 between December 2018 and October 2020. The Pensions Bill 2013-14 contains provision for a State Pension age of 67 to be reached by 2028. Please see the Welfare Reform section of the notes for further information.

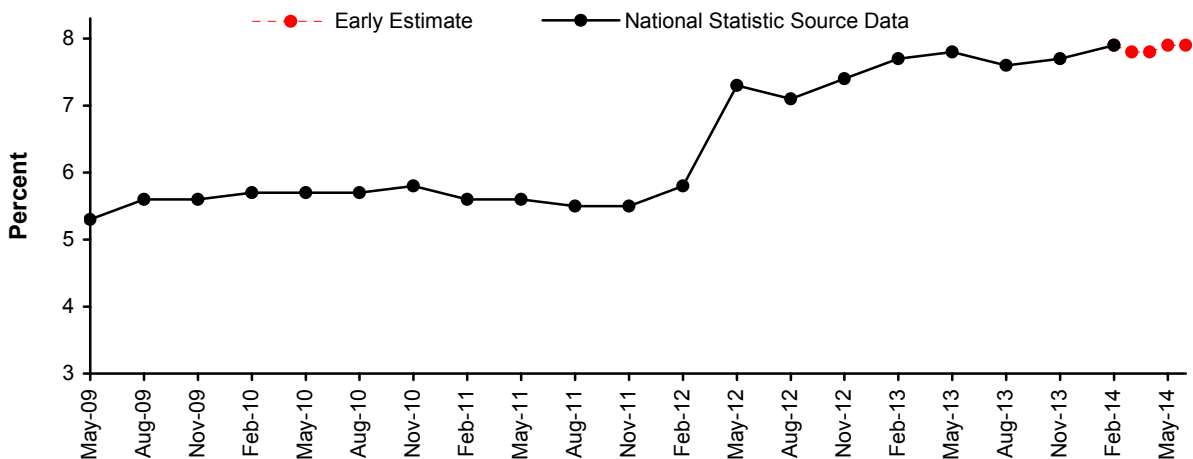
Figure 2.1: National Statistics to November 2013 and early estimates of numbers in working age ESA/IB client group: December 2013 to June 2014



Notes relating to figure 2.1 and table 2.1:

1. ESA/IB: From November 2008 ESA replaced Incapacity Benefit (IB) and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims from 27 October 2008. Prior to this the "incapacity benefits group" referred to claimants of IB or Severe Disablement Allowance including people claiming Income Support on the grounds of incapacity.
2. The red dotted line in the chart above emphasises that the figures are estimates and official statistics.
3. Source data: *DWP Information, Governance and Security: Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study*
4. When the next quarterly National Statistics are published they will be included as a National Statistic in Table 2.1, and the monthly early estimates for this quarter will be removed from Table 2.1.

Figure 2.2: National Statistics and Early estimates of the proportion of working age inactive benefit claimants in the ESA/IB client group claiming NI credits only: December 2013 to June 2014



Notes relating to figure 2.2 and table 2.2:

1. ESA/IB: From November 2008 ESA replaced Incapacity Benefit (IB) and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims from 27 October 2008. Prior to this the "incapacity benefits group" referred to claimants of IB or Severe Disablement Allowance including people claiming Income Support on the grounds of incapacity.
2. On 1 May 2012, a 365 day limit on the receipt of contribution based ESA for those in the Work Related Activity Group was introduced.
3. Source data: *DWP Information, Governance and Security: Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study*
4. When the next quarterly National Statistics figure is available they will be included in Table 2.2, and the monthly early estimates for this quarter will be removed from Table 2.2. This indicator has formed a new National Statistics table at table 1.3.

2.2 Income Support lone parent (ISLP) client group

Table 2.3 ISLP client group November 2011 to June 2014

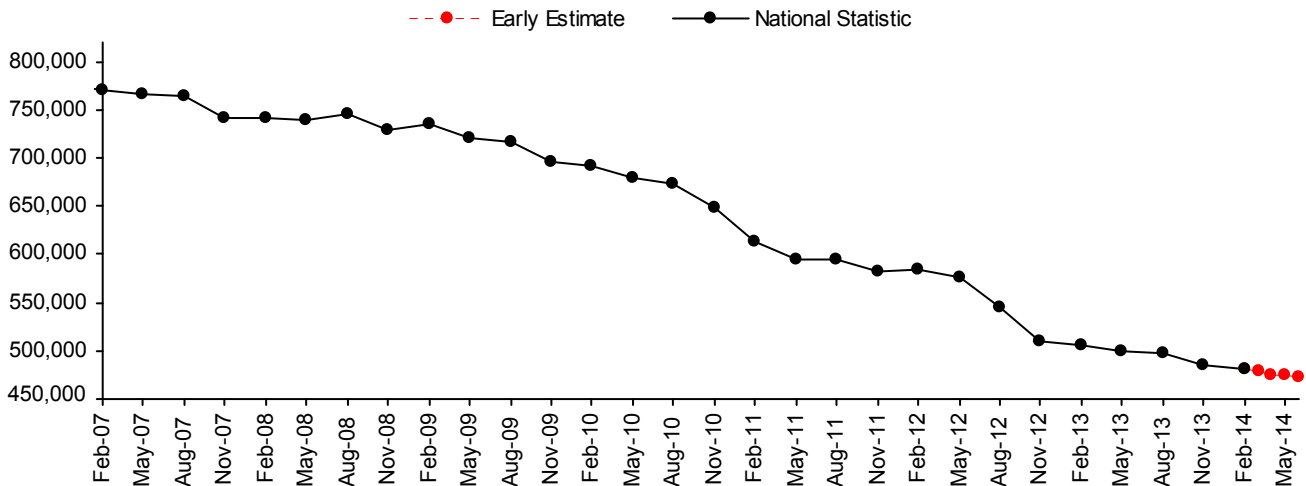
Time Series	Thousands	
	National Statistics Number of Claimants	Early Estimate Number of Claimants
Nov-11	581.62	
Feb-12	584.17	
May-12	577.08	
Aug-12	545.24	
Nov-12	510.06	
Feb-13	504.89	
May-13	499.73	
Aug-13	497.54	
Nov-13	485.00	
Feb-14	480.09	
Mar-14		480
Apr-14		475
May-14		475
Jun-14		470

The working-age ISLP early estimate for June 2014 is **470 thousand** to the nearest 5,000. This represents a fall of 1.7 per cent since February 2014 (the latest National Statistic).

The number of lone parents claiming Income Support has been affected by the Lone Parent Obligations policy changes which came into effect from 24 November 2008. For more information see the notes section. The figures are estimates of the final National Statistic, to give an indication of their accuracy, over the past year the early estimates have been revised by an average of 0.2 per cent. See the notes section for more information.

The age at which men and women reach State Pension age is gradually increasing. Under current legislation, State Pension age for women will equalise with State Pension age for men at 65 in 2018. Both men's and women's State Pension age will increase from 65 to 66 between December 2018 and October 2020. The Pensions Bill 2013-14 contains provision for a State Pension age of 67 to be reached by 2028. This will introduce a small increase to the number of working age benefit recipients and a small reduction to the number of pension age recipients. Please see the Welfare Reform section of the Notes for further information.

Figure 2.3: National Statistics to November 2013 and early estimates of numbers in working age ISLP client group: December 2013 to June 2014



2.3 and table 2.3:

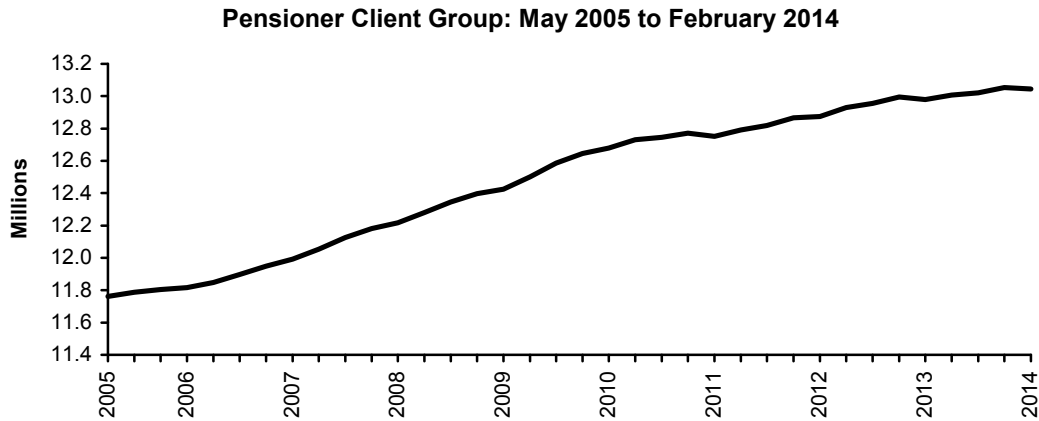
- ISLP: claimants on IS with child under 16 and no partner.
New and repeat customers with the following conditions will no longer be entitled to Income Support:
 - A youngest child aged 12 or over from November 2008;
 - A youngest child aged 10 or over from October 2009;
 - A youngest child aged 7 or over from October 2010.
The Welfare Reform Act 2012 introduced further changes and from May 2012 lone parents are only eligible to claim Income Support until their youngest child is five years old.
- The red dotted line in the chart above emphasises that the figures are estimates and official statistics.
- Source data: *DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate: Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study*
- When the next quarterly National Statistics are published they will be included as a quarterly National Statistic in Table 2.2, and the monthly early estimates for this quarter will be removed from Table 2.2.

Latest statistical data available from:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/early-estimates-for-working-age-inactive-benefit-client-groups>

3. Pensioners

3.1 National Statistics: Pensioner client group

The Pensioner client group covers claimants, over State Pension age (see notes section 7), of at least one of the following benefits: State Pension, Pension Credit, Attendance Allowance, Widow's Benefit, Disability Living Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, and Severe Disablement Allowance. They are split into statistical groups that reflect their main reason for claiming benefit.



At February 2014 there were 13.04 million claimants in the Pensioner Client Group, an increase of 65 thousand since February 2013. Of these, 17% were in receipt of Pension Credit. 50% of these Pension Credit claimants were also claiming Attendance Allowance or Disability Living Allowance.

Table 3.1 Pensioner Client Group recipients: August 2006 – February 2014

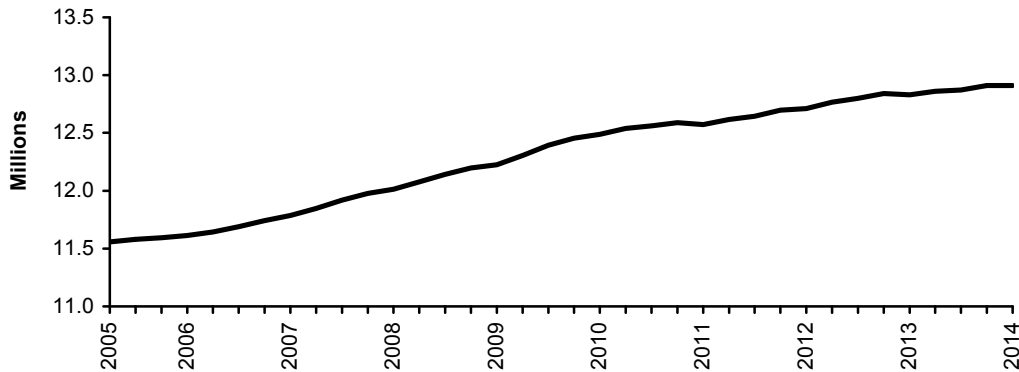
	<i>Thousands</i>								
	SP and PC: Disabled	SP and PC: Not Disabled	SP but not PC: Disabled	SP but not PC: Not Disabled	PC but not SP: Disabled	PC but not SP: Not Disabled	Neither SP nor PC: Disabled	Neither SP nor PC: Not Disabled	
Total									
Aug-06	11,896.50	1,100.55	1,274.33	1,338.09	7,973.44	74.29	74.59	38.42	22.78
Nov-06	11,949.62	1,113.70	1,269.09	1,351.57	8,004.82	74.87	74.34	38.69	22.54
Feb-07	11,992.45	1,114.06	1,260.09	1,356.42	8,052.20	74.56	74.19	38.60	22.33
May-07	12,053.77	1,122.36	1,252.29	1,370.93	8,097.85	74.82	74.26	38.97	22.29
Aug-07	12,127.16	1,133.46	1,243.25	1,389.71	8,152.28	74.55	73.62	38.92	21.37
Nov-07	12,182.27	1,140.25	1,234.23	1,403.83	8,197.32	74.21	73.15	38.72	20.56
Feb-08	12,216.39	1,139.13	1,223.86	1,410.21	8,237.94	73.56	72.92	38.75	20.02
May-08	12,279.39	1,144.14	1,214.40	1,428.68	8,287.34	73.68	72.69	38.97	19.50
Aug-08	12,344.41	1,155.40	1,206.30	1,448.69	8,331.36	73.72	72.04	38.76	18.14
Nov-08	12,396.06	1,164.55	1,201.42	1,464.57	8,365.41	73.51	71.41	38.17	17.02
Feb-09	12,423.79	1,159.85	1,193.82	1,469.67	8,402.45	73.03	70.86	37.81	16.31
May-09	12,500.78	1,167.68	1,189.05	1,489.12	8,457.71	73.20	70.59	37.76	15.66
Aug-09	12,586.92	1,177.58	1,184.10	1,512.11	8,519.54	72.79	69.22	36.72	14.88
Nov-09	12,645.64	1,182.96	1,178.49	1,526.14	8,565.92	72.63	68.50	36.54	14.46
Feb-10	12,679.66	1,177.97	1,175.36	1,528.61	8,604.63	72.79	68.75	37.27	14.29
May-10	12,729.68	1,180.95	1,171.73	1,541.77	8,645.79	72.14	67.70	36.16	13.44
Aug-10	12,746.19	1,184.76	1,166.81	1,550.51	8,658.69	70.41	66.85	35.34	12.82
Nov-10	12,770.78	1,182.21	1,161.68	1,553.01	8,691.37	69.42	66.18	34.45	12.47
Feb-11	12,752.59	1,170.17	1,156.78	1,545.78	8,699.91	68.39	65.61	34.06	11.89
May-11	12,792.21	1,165.18	1,149.43	1,552.17	8,748.95	66.97	64.89	33.14	11.49
Aug-11	12,818.47	1,164.34	1,144.77	1,561.19	8,775.04	66.04	63.85	32.42	10.82
Nov-11	12,867.40	1,159.36	1,141.73	1,568.53	8,827.17	64.99	63.10	32.06	10.47
Feb-12	12,875.02	1,146.95	1,136.04	1,566.70	8,857.40	64.08	62.63	31.32	9.89
May-12	12,930.13	1,123.25	1,096.63	1,587.22	8,959.39	62.41	61.29	30.56	9.39
Aug-12	12,955.72	1,116.76	1,093.83	1,590.65	8,996.69	60.13	59.06	29.80	8.80
Nov-12	12,995.34	1,108.65	1,090.09	1,592.67	9,050.82	58.27	57.38	29.16	8.30
Feb-13	12,979.39	1,090.87	1,084.54	1,580.33	9,073.45	56.86	56.57	28.88	7.89
May-13	13,006.99	1,070.26	1,065.13	1,581.31	9,143.74	55.56	55.51	28.02	7.46
Aug-13	13,020.68	1,060.02	1,060.25	1,577.95	9,171.76	57.04	55.39	31.17	7.10
Nov-13	13,053.77	1,053.65	1,056.15	1,583.44	9,219.09	53.47	54.45	26.66	6.86
Feb-14	13,044.11	1,038.93	1,049.88	1,578.83	9,237.24	52.70	53.90	26.09	6.54



3.2 National Statistics: State Pension

State Pension (SP) was introduced on 1st January 1909 and is paid to people who have reached the state pension age and who fulfil the residency and contributions conditions. The age at which men and women reach State Pension age is gradually increasing. Under current legislation, State Pension age for women will equalise with State Pension age for men at 65 in 2018. Both men's and women's State Pension age will increase from 65 to 66 between December 2018 and October 2020. The Pensions Bill 2013-14 contains provision for a State Pension age of 67 to be reached by 2028.

State Pension Recipients: May 2005 to February 2014



At February 2014, there were 12.9 million claimants of State Pension, a rise of 76 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 41% were male and 59% were female.

The average weekly amount in payment at February 2014 was £122.75, a rise of £4.07 since February 2013.

In the quarter to February 2014, there were a total of 121 thousand new claims for State Pension which represents 0.9% of the caseload. Over the same period, 136 thousand claimants left the benefit, representing 1.1% of the caseload at February 2014. In the year to February 2014 there were a total of 561 thousand new claims for State Pension and 511 thousand claims were closed.

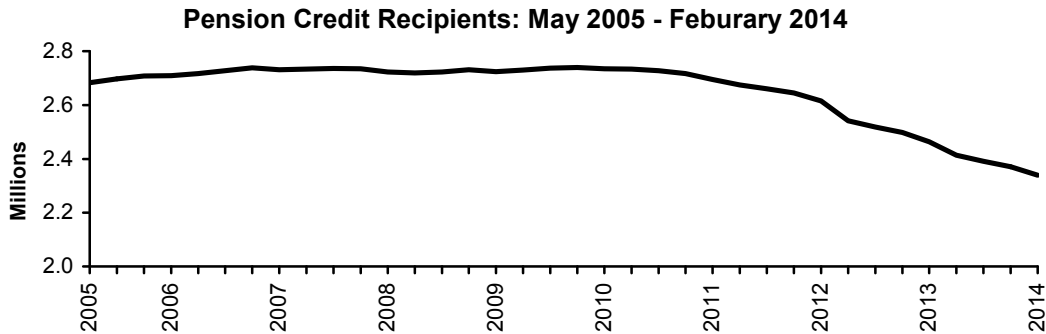
Table 3.2 State Pension recipients: November 2007 – February 2014

	All	Male	Female
	Thousands		
Nov-07	11,976.03	4,484.97	7,491.06
Feb-08	12,011.54	4,499.53	7,512.02
May-08	12,074.99	4,526.79	7,548.20
Aug-08	12,142.20	4,555.63	7,586.57
Nov-08	12,196.44	4,578.74	7,617.70
Feb-09	12,226.26	4,594.18	7,632.08
May-09	12,304.07	4,633.62	7,670.44
Aug-09	12,393.84	4,678.30	7,715.54
Nov-09	12,453.99	4,709.50	7,744.49
Feb-10	12,487.07	4,728.18	7,758.89
May-10	12,540.75	4,759.36	7,781.39
Aug-10	12,561.26	4,791.10	7,770.16
Nov-10	12,588.75	4,814.08	7,774.67
Feb-11	12,573.11	4,832.31	7,740.80
May-11	12,616.24	4,871.26	7,744.98
Aug-11	12,645.85	4,919.06	7,726.79
Nov-11	12,697.31	4,966.20	7,731.11
Feb-12	12,707.64	5,012.17	7,695.46
May-12	12,767.07	5,068.96	7,698.12
Aug-12	12,798.53	5,121.54	7,676.99
Nov-12	12,842.82	5,162.65	7,680.17
Feb-13	12,829.80	5,191.31	7,638.49
May-13	12,861.09	5,233.15	7,627.94
Aug-13	12,870.65	5,272.65	7,597.99
Nov-13	12,913.00	5,309.82	7,603.18
Feb-14	12,905.55	5,337.61	7,567.95

Latest statistical data available from: <http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/tabtool.html>

3.3 National Statistics: Pension Credit

Pension Credit (PC) was introduced on 6th October 2003 and replaced Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG). For people aged over the female state pension age (see Notes, section 7), the Guarantee Credit element guarantees an income at a set level. People aged 65 or over (and couples where one member is 65 or over) may also be entitled to Savings Credit if they have modest income from savings, investments or a second pension.



At February 2014, there were 2.34 million claimants of Pension Credit (2.83 million including partners), a fall of 124 thousand on the previous year. This fall is due to the increase in the female State Pension age, which is also the age at which people become eligible for Pension Credit, see Notes, section 7 for details. Of these Pension Credit claimants, 994 thousand claimed Guarantee Credit only, 845 thousand claimed Guarantee and Savings Credit, and 500 thousand were claiming Savings Credit only. The average weekly amount of Pension Credit in payment at February 2014 was £56.45, a fall of £0.28 since February 2013.

Statistics on benefit flows show there were 132 thousand new claims to Pension Credit in the year to February 2014. A small number of claims take a long time to process and are still outstanding at the cut off point for producing these statistics. This means that the statistics undercounts the final number of claims by a small percentage. There were 257 thousand claims closed in the year to February 2014.

Table 3.3 Pension Credit claimants: February 2008 – February 2014

		<i>Thousands</i>			
	Total	Guarantee Credit only	Guarantee Credit & Savings Credit	Savings Credit only	Still on Minimum Income Guarantee
Feb-08	2,723.14	865.19	1,265.43	592.50	0.02
May-08	2,719.14	882.07	1,246.24	590.80	0.03
Aug-08	2,723.53	889.74	1,241.62	592.15	0.03
Nov-08	2,731.37	901.23	1,232.25	597.86	0.03
Feb-09	2,723.61	913.40	1,214.69	595.49	0.03
May-09	2,730.56	925.71	1,205.23	599.59	0.03
Aug-09	2,737.29	935.59	1,199.61	602.05	0.03
Nov-09	2,739.86	953.04	1,209.00	577.79	0.03
Feb-10	2,735.16	955.39	1,204.66	575.08	0.03
May-10	2,734.17	954.36	1,202.41	577.37	0.03
Aug-10	2,727.56	952.16	1,195.80	579.57	0.03
Nov-10	2,717.28	951.53	1,184.88	580.84	0.03
Feb-11	2,693.96	947.51	1,162.01	584.42	0.02
May-11	2,674.67	936.96	1,148.09	589.59	0.03
Aug-11	2,659.82	927.74	1,140.70	591.35	0.02
Nov-11	2,644.45	923.37	1,130.93	590.13	0.02
Feb-12	2,615.54	1,042.38	1,013.68	559.46	0.02
May-12	2,541.54	1,015.90	964.26	561.36	0.02
Aug-12	2,518.47	1,000.68	957.62	560.14	0.02
Nov-12	2,497.45	990.63	948.74	558.06	0.02
Feb-13	2,463.75	1,000.32	922.97	540.44	0.02
May-13	2,413.87	968.42	906.60	538.83	0.02
Aug-13	2,391.26	957.03	897.68	536.53	0.02
Nov-13	2,370.77	947.47	888.83	534.45	0.02
Feb-14	2,339.52	994.27	845.49	499.74	0.02

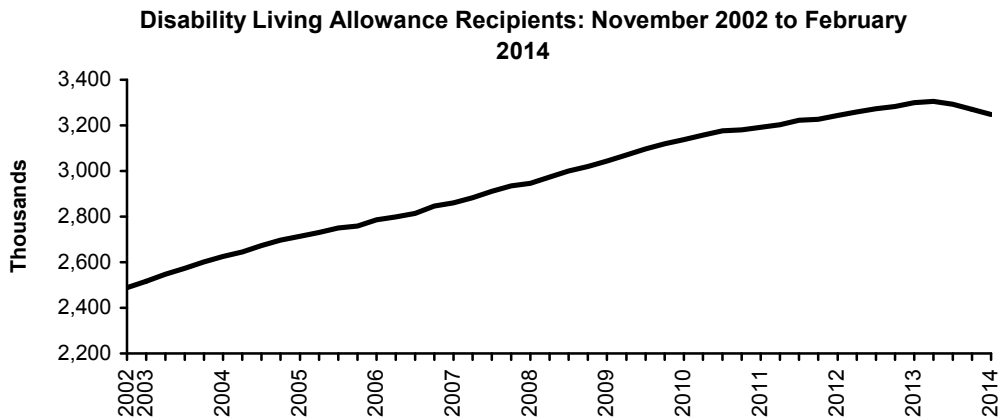
1. Pension Credit replaced MIG on the 6th Oct 2003, however a small number of residual cases remain on MIG.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/tabtool.html>

4. Disabled and Carers

4.1 National Statistics: Disability Living Allowance

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) was introduced on 1st April 1992 and is a benefit for people who have become disabled before the age of 65 and who need assistance with personal care or mobility. From 8 April 2013, Disability Living Allowance for people aged 16-64 was replaced by Personal Independence payment (PIP) for new claims. PIP will also gradually replace existing DLA claims for people aged 16-64 (see Notes, section 7).

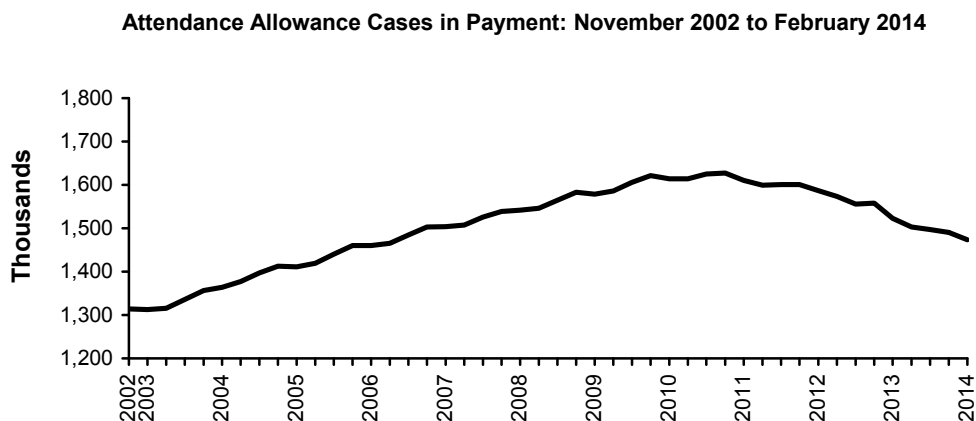


At February 2014, 3.25 million people were receiving Disability Living Allowance (not including suspended cases), a fall of 22 thousand on the previous quarter. Of these claimants 50% were male. The fall in the caseload in recent quarters is due to the introduction of Personal Independence Payments (PIP) (see Notes, section 7).

At February 2014, 11% of recipients were children, 56% were working age and 33% were pension age (a small number are an unknown age).

4.2 National Statistics: Attendance Allowance

Attendance Allowance (AA) was introduced on 6th December 1971 and is a benefit for people over the age of 65 who are so severely disabled, physically or mentally, that they need a great deal of help with personal care or supervision. Those requiring constant help receive the higher rate of benefit.

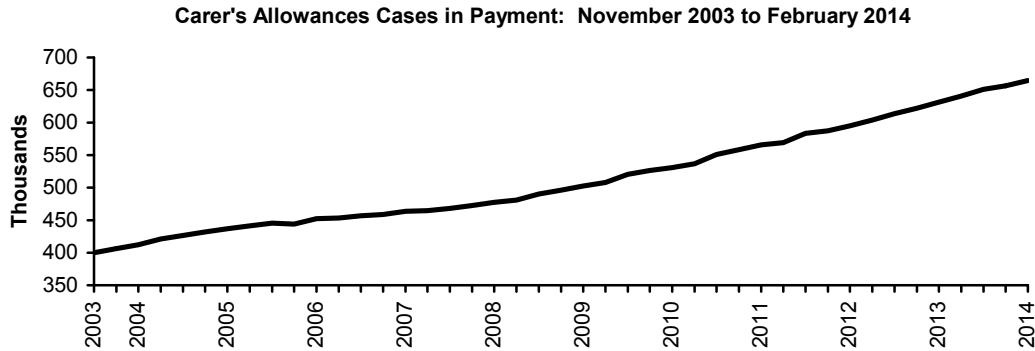


At February 2014 there were 1.47 million people receiving Attendance Allowance (excluding suspended cases), a fall of 49 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 34% were male and 66% were female. The male caseload has decreased by 14 thousand and the female caseload has decreased by 35 thousand in the year to February 2014. At February 2014, 69% of recipients were aged 80 or over.



4.3 National Statistics: Carer's Allowance

Carer's Allowance (CA) was introduced on 5th July 1976; it is paid to carers who look after a severely disabled person for at least 35 hours a week. The severely disabled person must be getting either higher or middle rate DLA care component or AA or maximum rate Constant Attendance Allowance with their War Pension or Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit.



At February 2014, there were 665 thousand people receiving Carer's Allowance (not including underlying entitlement cases). 28% of claimants were male, and 72% female. At February 2014, there were a further 410 thousand people entitled to Carer's Allowance but not receiving any payment due to overlapping benefit provisions (i.e. underlying entitlement cases).

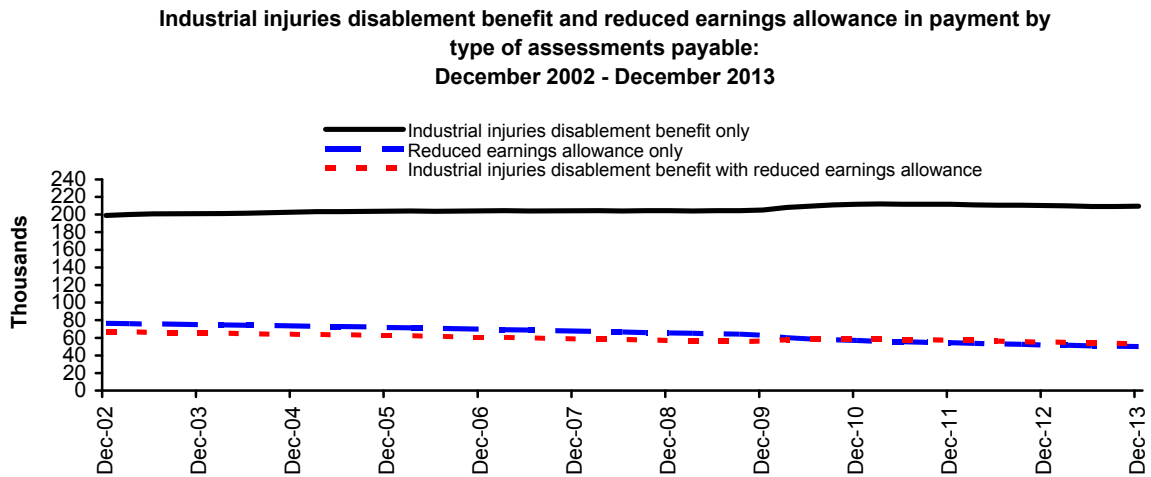
Table 4.1 Awards currently in payment for Disability Living Allowance, Carer's Allowance and Attendance Allowance: November 2005 – February 2014

	Disability Living Allowance	Attendance Allowance	Carer's Allowance ¹
Nov-05	2,757.64	1,460.25	444.09
Feb-06	2,785.68	1,460.57	452.54
May-06	2,799.16	1,465.59	453.54
Aug-06	2,814.29	1,484.58	456.70
Nov-06	2,845.75	1,503.05	458.93
Feb-07	2,860.79	1,503.85	463.50
May-07	2,881.83	1,507.50	464.67
Aug-07	2,909.98	1,525.61	468.06
Nov-07	2,934.44	1,539.32	472.42
Feb-08	2,945.57	1,541.58	477.66
May-08	2,973.54	1,546.68	480.73
Aug-08	2,999.65	1,565.00	490.03
Nov-08	3,019.70	1,582.81	496.14
Feb-09	3,043.99	1,578.64	502.50
May-09	3,070.61	1,585.79	507.97
Aug-09	3,096.30	1,605.92	520.35
Nov-09	3,119.01	1,621.03	526.62
Feb-10	3,137.73	1,614.17	530.89
May-10	3,157.31	1,614.27	536.90
Aug-10	3,176.20	1,624.66	550.86
Nov-10	3,181.08	1,626.91	558.47
Feb-11	3,192.09	1,610.29	565.50
May-11	3,202.91	1,599.12	569.24
Aug-11	3,222.69	1,600.67	583.33
Nov-11	3,226.79	1,601.09	587.07
Feb-12	3,243.53	1,586.55	594.86
May-12	3,258.44	1,573.63	603.77
Aug-12	3,272.12	1,556.00	613.65
Nov-12	3,282.64	1,557.79	621.86
Feb-13	3,298.85	1,552.68	631.47
May-13	3,305.20	1,502.77	640.52
Aug-13	3,292.36	1,497.27	651.15
Nov-13	3,269.99	1,490.77	656.48
Feb-14	3,248.11	1,473.56	664.61

Latest statistical data available from: <http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/tabtool.html>

4.4 National Statistics: Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit

Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) was introduced on 5th July 1948 and is a benefit for people who are disabled because of an industrial accident or prescribed industrial disease. Since 1st October 1986 any claim resulting in an assessment of less than 14% disabled does not normally attract benefit.



There were almost 313 thousand people claiming under the Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit scheme in December 2013, of whom 67% received Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit only, 16% received Reduced Earnings Allowance only, and 17% received both. The number of people claiming benefit has dropped slightly (by almost 1.5%) since December 2012. The average weekly payment at December 2013 was £52.45.

Latest statistical data available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/industrial-injuries-disablement-benefit-quarterly-statistics>

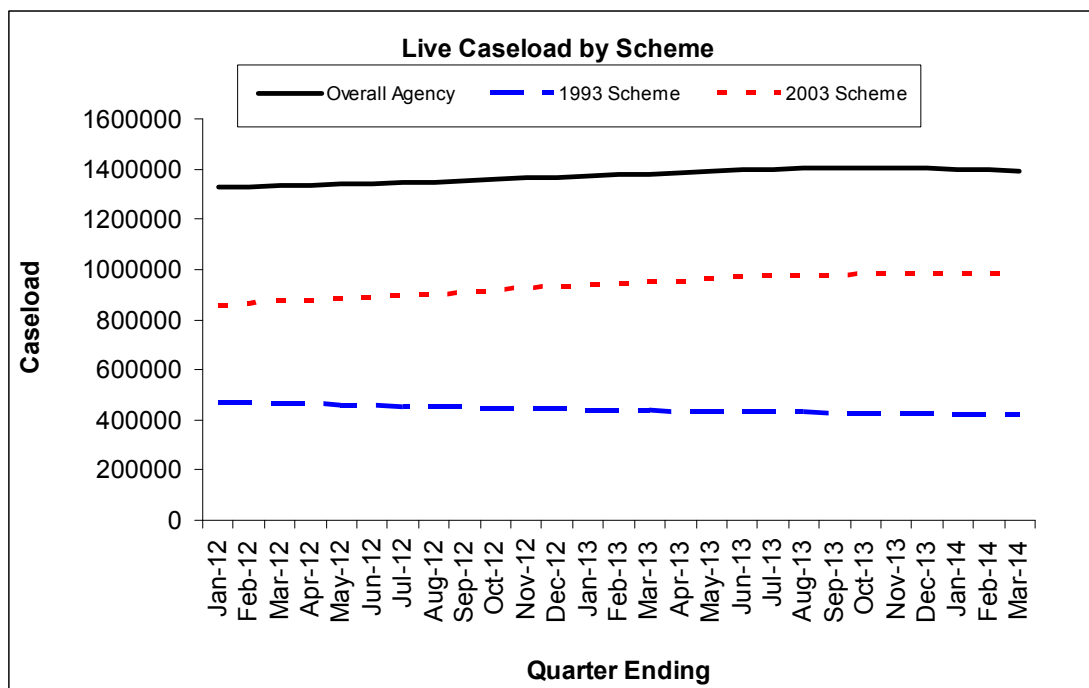
5. Families & Children

5.1 National Statistics: Child Support Agency cases

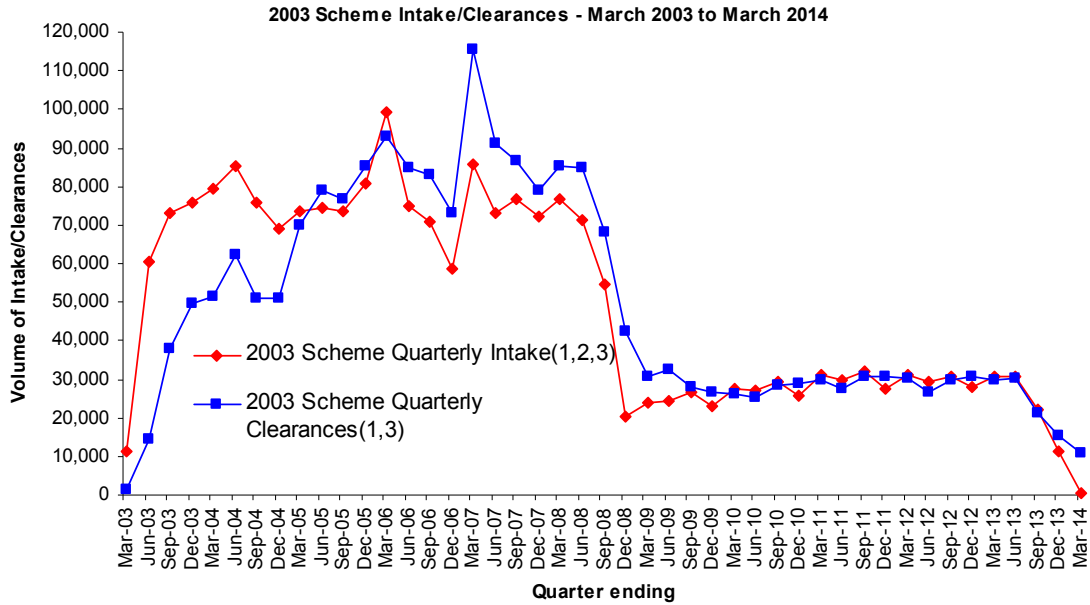
The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) is responsible for the child maintenance system in Great Britain. It funds information and support for separating parents and runs the statutory child maintenance schemes, currently operated through the Child Support Agency (CSA).

DWP assumed responsibility for the CSA from the Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission on the 1 August 2012, following an announcement on 14 October 2010 that the Commission would become an executive agency of DWP as part of the Public Bodies Reform. The Commission had responsibility for the CSA between the 1 November 2008 and the 31 July 2012, prior to that DWP had responsibility for the CSA.

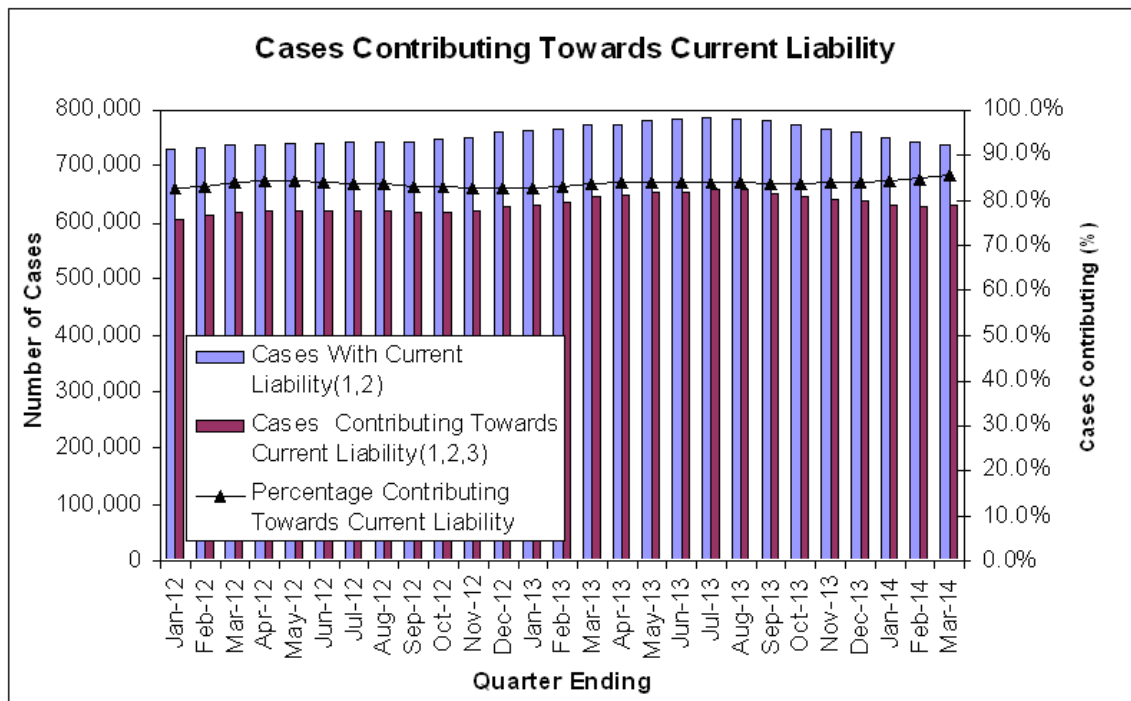
On the 10 December 2012 a new Child Maintenance Scheme was launched. The scheme was introduced on a pathfinder approach. All new applications are now being accepted onto the 2012 scheme. The CSA Quarterly Statistical Summary excludes cases on the 2012 scheme.



At the end of March 2014, the CSA live caseload stood at 1.39 million.



At March 2014, uncleared work has decreased by 10,100 to 500. This represents a decrease of 95.3% since December 2013. The reduction is due to all applications being processed on the 2012 Scheme since December 2013. The scheme went live with a pathfinder approach on 10 December 2012 with all new applications with four or more children relating to the same parent with care and non resident parent being accepted onto the 2012 scheme. From 29 July 2013 the 2012 scheme was opened up to cases with two or more children, where at least two of the children relate to the same non resident parent. As of 25 November 2013 all applications are being accepted onto the 2012 Scheme.



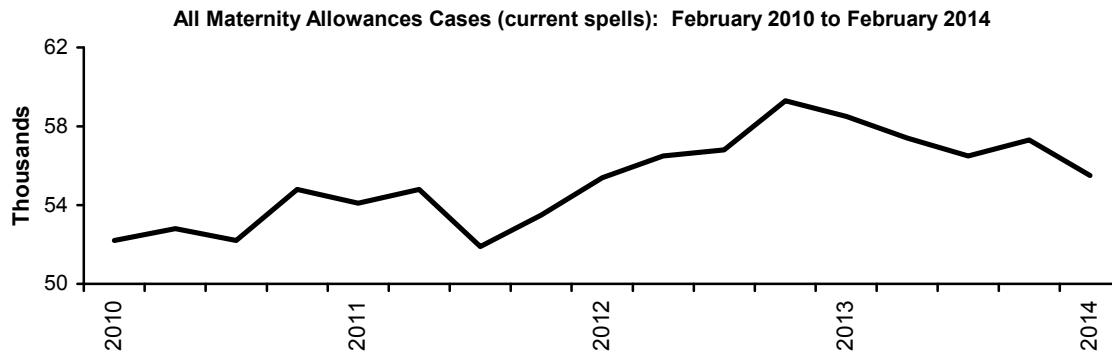
In the quarter ending March 2014, 85.6% of all cases in which maintenance was due had either received maintenance via the CSA collection service, or had a maintenance direct arrangement in place.

Latest statistical data available from:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/child-support-agency-quarterly-summary-statistics--2>



5.2: National Statistics: Maternity Allowance cases

Maternity Allowance (MA) is usually paid to women who have worked and paid full National Insurance (NI) contributions in the relevant test period, and who don't qualify for Statutory Maternity Pay. Maternity Allowance is paid for 39 weeks, at the earliest starting 11 weeks before the baby is due. If the woman does any paid work during this period, she cannot get the allowance for that time. It is payable at various rates, dependent on circumstances.



At February 2014, there were a total of 55.5 thousand current spells of Maternity Allowance across all areas (including Overseas) of whom 2% of claimants were aged under 20, 17% were aged 20-24, 29% were aged 25-29, 31% were aged 30-34, 17% were aged 35-39 and 5% were aged 40 or over.

The average weekly payment in February 2014 for those spells (across All rates) commencing in the period 1 December 2013 to 28 February 2014 was £136.78.

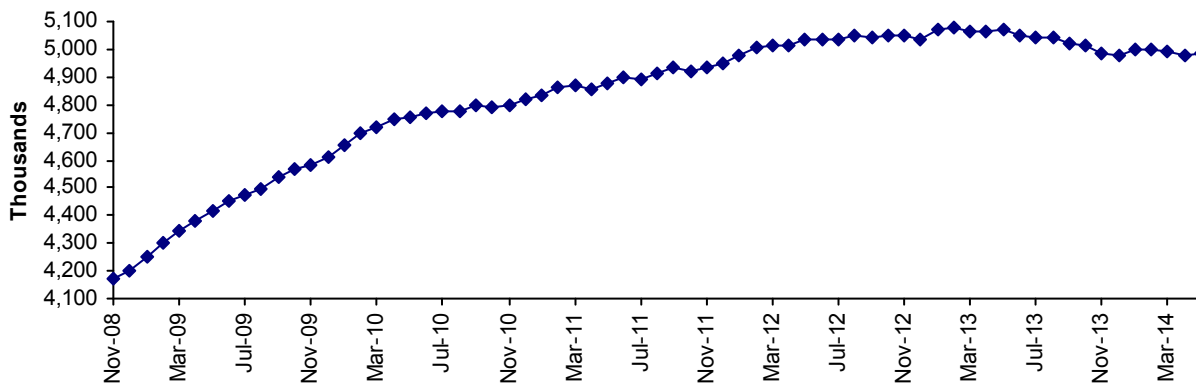
Further information, breakdowns and latest statistical data is available from:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/maternity-allowance-quarterly-statistics>

6. Housing Benefit

6.1 National Statistics: Housing Benefit

Housing Benefit (HB) was introduced on 1st April 1983 and is an income-related benefit designed to help people on low incomes pay for rented accommodation whether in or out-of-work.

Housing Benefit Recipients: November 2008 to May 2014



At May 2014 there were 4.99 million recipients of Housing Benefit, of whom almost three-quarters were aged under 65. The average weekly amount of Housing Benefit was £92.69.

67% of Housing Benefit recipients were tenants in the Social Sector. 85% of the 1.65 million Private Sector Housing Benefit recipients were receiving the Local Housing Allowance.

Around 63% of Housing Benefit recipients were also in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-based Employment and Support Allowance or Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit).

As at May 2014, 482 thousand Housing Benefit claimants (of working age) had a reduction to their Housing Benefit weekly award amount as a result of the removal of the spare room subsidy. This represents just under 10 per cent of the total Housing Benefit caseload.

Further information on Housing Benefit can be found via [Stat-Xplore](#), which provides users with an interactive visualisation tool to produce charts, graphs and tables, downloadable in a number of different formats. A set of summary tables on Housing Benefit claimants can also be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/housing-benefit-and-council-tax-benefit-caseload-statistics--2>

Latest statistical data available from: <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/>



NOTES

1. The Statistical Summary

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) publish a Statistical Summary document each month. It is used for the release of a wide range of DWP statistics.

The DWP Statistical Summary brings together key National Statistics on DWP administered benefits and JSA (Jobseeker's Allowance) sanctions. To provide a more complete picture of DWP responsibility, statistics on Housing Benefit (administered by Local Authorities) and the Child Support Agency are also included.

The Summary is published monthly, containing Official Statistics giving early estimates of inactive benefit caseloads. Each quarter (in May, August, November and February), the Summary is a larger document containing the detail of DWP administered benefits, Housing Benefit, JSA sanctions and the Child Support Agency.

Alongside the Statistical Summary, there are a large number of tables which enable the user to delve in to the detail. These are provided to the user as:

- The DWP Tabulation Tool – for DWP administered benefits and employment programmes the Tabulation Tool provides the user with an interactive tool to select one of thousands of possible tabulations. This is available for caseloads and on/off flows at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/dwp-statistics-tabulation-tool>. A similar Tabulation Tool, derived from 5% sample data, is also available. Whenever possible, 100% data should be used in preference to 5% estimates, as these are both more accurate and form DWP's headline statistics. Some statistics remain outside the scope of the Tabulation Tool but will continue to be available via the internet as pre-defined summary tables.
- Identical numbers via Nomis (<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/Default.asp>)
- Stat-Xplore – Stat-Xplore provides a guided way to explore DWP benefit statistics, currently holding data relating to Housing Benefit claimants and in future will include data on a wider set of DWP benefits and programmes. Using Stat-Xplore you can: create customised tabulations; view results in interactive charts; share outputs via social networking tools; or download into common file formats. The tool contains data on Housing Benefit claimants, JSA and ESA Sanctions, National Insurance number allocations to adult overseas nationals entering the UK, Personal Independence Payment (PIP) and Benefit Cap statistics. (<https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/>)
- Separate detailed tables on Claimants on out-of-work benefits (via the [Working Age Client Group Tabulation Tool](#), use first "Useful Resources and Sites" link)
- Tables broken down by [Lower Super Output Area \(LSOA\)](#) and [Census Output Area \(COA\)](#).
- Other tables and background information via links on the Tabulation Tool pages (e.g. links to long time series spreadsheets; descriptions of the benefit.)
- Universal Credit tables with breakdowns by Jobcentre Plus office, local authority and parliamentary constituency. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/universal-credit-statistics>)
- Separate detailed tables on Maternity Allowance spells (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/maternity-allowance-quarterly-statistics>)

The National Statistics paper "DWP statistics transformed: the modernisation of the DWP's data sources and statistical publications" announced major changes to the National Statistics the Department publishes in 2005. Much of this content is still relevant and is available from:

http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130107093842/http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats_consultation/modstats.pdf

On 23 January 2013, DWP opened a consultation on "People and households claiming Universal Credit, Personal Independence Payment and other benefits: Plans for 2013-2017". The outcome of this consultation will shape the content and format of the Statistical Summary through to 2017 and beyond. The full consultation can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/183265/dwp_stats2013_17.pdf.pdf. This consultation is now closed.



2. National Statistics Code of Practice

DWP complies with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and supporting Principles. Detailed policy statements and statement of compliance with the pre-release access to official statistics order 2008 are given below:

[DWP policy statements](#)

Detailed policy and methodology relating to the Statistical Summary can be found at:

- [Quality](#)
- [Methodology](#)
- [Uses and Users](#)

The UK Statistics Authority report on the compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics for the Statistical Summary is report number 66 at:

<http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/assessment-reports/index.html>

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

DWP would like to hear your views on our statistical publications. If you use any of our statistics publications, we would be interested in hearing what you use them for and how well they meet your requirements. Please email DWP at stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk.

An ongoing questionnaire, enabling DWP to target future consultations at interested users; shaping the future direction of statistics development to address user needs; and helping ensure value for money, whilst giving users a structured way of expressing their views is available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/205190/statistical_summary_questionnaire.doc

Completed questionnaires can be returned by e-mail to stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or by post to the following address:

Katie Dodd
Information, Governance and Security Directorate
Department for Work and Pensions
Room BP5201
Benton Park Road
Longbenton
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
NE98 1YX

Users can also join the “Welfare and Benefit Statistics” community at: <http://www.statsusernet.org.uk>. DWP announce items of interest to users in this forum, as well as reply to users’ questions.

3. Statistical groups

DWP has a typology to define Statistical Groups within the client group classifications. The aim of the Statistical Group typology is to present each person by the main reasons they are in contact with the Department. Like the client group classification, each client is classified just once, permitting the estimation of the total number of people claiming one or more benefits. The Statistical Group hierarchy is:



a] Jobseeker	e] Other income-related benefits
b] Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits	f] Disabled
c] Lone parents	g] Bereaved
d] Carers	h] Housing Benefit
	i] State Pension only recipients

From November 2008 the "incapacity benefits statistical group" includes Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). ESA replaced Incapacity Benefit and Income Support paid on the grounds of incapacity for new claims from 27th October 2008. Prior to this the "incapacity benefits group" covered people on Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance, including people claiming Income Support on the grounds of incapacity.

4. Jobseeker's Allowance figures at ONS

The preferred source of numbers for Jobseeker's Allowance is the ONS claimant count figure; these are more up to date and contain clerical cases. However, the reason we use the DWP JSA figures is that they are consistent with the other benefits used to produce DWP National Statistics, and permit a wider set of breakdowns. The ONS figures are available from Nomis and <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>.

5. Flows on and off benefit

The flows Tabulation Tools show a full back series for on-flow and off-flow. Pension Credit information is available via a one-click table: http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/pc/tabtool_pc.html. User guidance on the flows series can be found at: http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/flows/flows_on/Guidance%20for%20Users.pdf

6. Early Estimates

The DWP benefit National Statistics have a gap of around five and a half months between the publication and reference dates.

The early estimates are official statistics (see: <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/national-statistician/types-of-official-statistics>) and published monthly to give indicative, timely information ahead of the publication of full National Statistics. The Office for National Statistics publish the Jobseeker's Allowance claimant count every month, one month in arrears. Consequently, the Early Estimates focus on the economically inactive groups of "incapacity benefits and Employment and Support Allowance" and "Income Support lone parents".

The main reason for the lag in the National Statistics release is because we have to wait three months for a small but significant number of late claims to be processed. Waiting for these late claims makes the National Statistics figures more accurate than the early estimates where we simply predict the number of late claims based on historical levels.

The early estimates are not a substitute for the National Statistics and will be replaced when the final quarterly National Statistics covering the same period are published. However, the estimates are fairly close to the final National Statistics figures. To give an indication of their accuracy, over the past year the early estimates for ESA/IB have been revised by an average of 0.3%, with the biggest revision being 0.90% and the smallest being 0.01%. The early estimates for ISLP have been revised by an average of 0.2%, with the biggest revision being 0.51% and the smallest being 0.03%.

During the re-assessment of Incapacity Benefit claimants for Employment and Support Allowance, users should be aware that there may also be increased uncertainty around these early estimates. As level of late claims is estimated using historical data, any change in the structure of the flows on and off benefit can affect the accuracy of the methodology. DWP plan to review the methodology each month to ensure that the estimates are as good as possible.

More detailed information can be accessed via the following links:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/204838/tech-doc-early-estimates-working-age-inactive.pdf

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/204837/QandA_Early_Estimates_fin_al.pdf



7. Welfare Reform

The Lone Parent Obligation policy came into effect from 24 November 2008; Lone Parents (LPs) with a youngest child aged 12 or over were no longer able to make a new or repeat claim for Income Support (IS) solely on the basis of their parental status. Existing IS LPs with a youngest child aged 12 or over had their eligibility removed over a period of time commencing 2nd March 2009. From October 2009 this policy was extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 10 or 11 and from October 2010 the policy was extended to LPs with a youngest child aged 7 or over. The Welfare Reform Act 2012 introduced further changes and from 21 May 2012 lone parents have been eligible to claim Income Support until their youngest child is five years old.

Most affected LPs will leave IS and claim Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA). However, there are exceptions to these rules where the youngest child can legitimately be over the ages mentioned above. Similarly, some former LPs remain on IS for other reasons (e.g. they have a long term caring responsibility and claim Carer's Allowance). The IS LP series will continue to be defined as 'single IS claimants with a child under 16'.

Referrals to the new employment programme "Work Programme" began from June 2011

(<https://www.gov.uk/moving-from-benefits-to-work/job-search-programmes>). In the run up to that launch, a new package of Get Britain Working support measures were introduced. In tandem with these changes, referrals to legacy employment programmes ceased. Final statistics for these programmes have now been released. The existing Tabulation Tools will remain available for historical analysis. For statistics relating to these new programmes see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pre-work-programme-support> and

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/work-programme-statistics--2>

The age at which men and women reach State Pension age is gradually increasing. Under current legislation, State Pension age for women will equalise with State Pension age for men at 65 in 2018. Both men's and women's State Pension age will increase from 65 to 66 between December 2018 and October 2020. The Pensions Bill 2013-14 contains provision for a State Pension age of 67 to be reached by 2028. The first quarterly statistical summary to be affected was the November 2010 publication and the first early estimates to be affected were released in June 2010. These changes introduce a small increase to the number of working age benefit recipients and a small reduction to the number of pension age recipients. There are also changes to the way we report benefit recipients as a proportion of the working population. More information can be found at:

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130513082300/http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/espa.pdf>. For general information about the change to State Pension age, please see: <https://www.gov.uk/browse/working/state-pension>.

Universal Credit (UC) is a new benefit that has started to replace six existing benefits and tax credits with a single monthly payment and will eventually replace:

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Housing Benefit

UC was launched as a Pathfinder in four areas of the North West commencing in April 2013 and is now available in 10 areas across England, Scotland and Wales. Universal Credit will continue to roll out across the North West of England from June 2014 until the whole region is covered. In total 90 Jobcentres, or 1 in 8 Jobcentres in Britain, will offer the service once the North West expansion has been completed:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/universal-credit-statistics>.

A new three tier sanctions regime was introduced and came into force in October 2012 for JSA and December 2012 for ESA which seeks to broadly align the JSA & ESA sanctions regimes with the model to be introduced under UC. In the new regime the consequences of failure will be clearer for claimants. The new system will be more robust, particularly for claimants who repeatedly fail to meet their most important responsibilities. Sanctions will also be applied more quickly – specifically by the next payment date. For more details see:

JSA: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/adviser/updates/jsa-sanction-changes/>

ESA: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/adviser/updates/esa-sanction-changes/>

From 8 April 2013, the government introduced a new benefit called Personal Independence Payment to replace Disability Living Allowance for eligible working age people aged 16 to 64. Further information on statistics relating to PIP can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/personal-independence-payment-statistics>



8. Known Issues, Changes and Revisions to the Statistical Summary

JSA sanction decisions

Local decisions

Since December 2012, some decisions for failing to attend a JSA adviser interview have been made by Independent Decision Makers at a local office.

These decisions are not recorded on the Decision Making and Appeal System (DMAS), which is the data source for the official statistics on JSA and ESA sanction decisions. Therefore, data on these JSA decisions have not been incorporated into the official statistics within previous releases.

Development work to match data on these decisions (as recorded on the Labour Market System (LMS)) with data from DMAS has been carried out. The release of this set of official statistics incorporates this additional data for the first time.

The effect on previous published official statistics is that:

- just under 1 per cent additional decisions to apply a JSA sanction for the whole period between April 2000 and December 2013 are included.
- for the period between December 2012 and December 2013, just over 6 per cent additional decisions to apply a JSA sanction are included.

Mandatory reconsiderations

Please note that these official statistics do not contain data on mandatory reconsiderations, which must occur before a claimant can appeal to Her Majesty's Court and Tribunal Service (HMCTS).

Mandatory reconsiderations are recorded on a separate administrative system and work is underway to incorporate data from this system into these official statistics.

Maternity Allowance

This edition included additional links and information on Maternity Allowance statistics that have historically been published alongside this quarterly statistical summary at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/maternity-allowance-quarterly-statistics>

9. Notification of future changes to the Summary

There are no changes planned for the September 2014 release.

We intend to change the 'Age of Youngest Child Dependant' breakdown in the tabulation tool for claimants of Income Support. After receiving feedback, we have revised the new breakdown: we propose to split the 'Under 3 years' breakdown to 'Under 1 year' and '1 – 2 years'. The new proposed breakdown is:

- Unknown/No children
- Under 1 year
- 1 – 2 years
- 3 years
- 4 years
- 5 – 6 years
- 7 – 9 years
- 10 – 11 years
- 12 – 15 years
- 16 years and over

We plan to implement the change for the November release. If you have any comments or questions about this proposed breakdown, please email stats-consultation@dwp.gpn.gov.uk

No other changes are planned for the November 2014 release.



Current consultations

Universal Jobmatch launched on 19 November 2012. This is DWP's new, free online job posting and matching service. Universal Jobmatch replaces the current vacancy management services, Employer Direct and Employer Direct Online for companies, and it replaces the Jobcentre Plus jobs and skills search facility for jobseekers. As a result, there have been fundamental changes in the associated statistical series. User comments have been received as part of a consultation, which can be found on page 4 of:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/206444/stats_summary_jun13.pdf.

The consultation is now closed. Results are available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-jobcentre-plus-vacancies-statistics> The Department continues to receive a regular stream of user concerns about the limitations of the new Universal Jobmatch vacancy data. These are currently under consideration by the project team.

On 23 January 2013, DWP opened a consultation on **People and households claiming Universal Credit, Personal Independence Payment and other benefits: Plans for 2013-2017**. The outcome of this consultation will shape the content and format of the Statistical Summary through to 2017 and beyond. This consultation can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/183265/dwp_stats2013_17.pdf.pdf.

This consultation is now closed. Results will be published in due course.

10. Northern Ireland Statistics

The statistics in this Summary cover Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) only. Comparable benefit statistics for Northern Ireland can be found at:

http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/stats_and_research/benefit_publications.htm

and

http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/stats_and_research/geographical_data_on_ss_benefits.htm for geographical breakdowns

Currently, the Northern Ireland statistics use extracts from the benefit systems very similar to those used to create the 5% sample numbers for Great Britain (although the Northern Ireland sample size is usually greater than 5%). The directly equivalent GB numbers can be found at: <http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/5pc/tabtool.html>. However, Northern Ireland statistics are shortly due to move to extracts from the benefit systems very similar to those used to create the WPLS/100% sample numbers (<http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/tabtool.html>) for Great Britain. However, Northern Ireland statistics will ignore the effect of retrospection.

Comparisons between the Great Britain 5% samples and 100% samples, plus the effect of retrospection can be seen in documents entitled "Differences between WPLS and 5% sample data" in the "Useful Resources and Sites" section of each single benefit 100% sample Tabtool (e.g. http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/is/tabtool_is.html) Housing Benefit is a social security benefit paid by the Housing Executive. It helps people on a low income pay their rent and rates. In Northern Ireland, rates are paid instead of Council Tax. Limited Housing Benefit numbers are available in the summary bulletin at:

http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/publications/summary_statistics_bulletin.htm. For people who own their own property and need help with rates only, Land and Property Services (LPS) provide rates relief payments. Statistics on those receiving rates relief only are not available.

Employment Programmes are different in Northern Ireland. Hence, statistics are not directly comparable. However, numbers on the various schemes are available from:

<http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/statsandresearch/training-and-employment-stats.htm>.

Vacancy statistics for Northern Ireland are available at <http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats-index/stats-surveys/stats-vacancy-stats.htm> and at <http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/statsandresearch/labour-market-information-stats/vacancies.htm>. Statistics on Jobcentre Plus Sanctions and Child Maintenance are not currently published for Northern Ireland.

11. Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service

Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service was created on 1 April 2011. It brings together Her Majesty's Courts Service and the Tribunals Service into one integrated agency providing support for the administration of justice in courts and tribunals.



Responsibility for publishing statistics on the appeals now resides with Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service and they publish statistical information via their website <http://www.justice.gov.uk/about/hmcts>

12. Fraud and Error statistics

National Statistics are published presenting six-monthly estimates of fraud and error in claims for Income Support, Jobseeker's Allowance, Pension Credit and Housing Benefit, along with an annual estimate of the level of fraud and error in the benefit system as a whole. One-off benefit reviews have been carried out from time to time to estimate fraud and error in claims for other benefits. Reports can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/fraud-and-error-in-the-benefit-system>

13. Take-Up of Income-Related Benefits

Publications contain information on the take-up of the main income-related benefits in Great Britain: Income Support, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit, Employment and Support Allowance (income related) and Jobseeker's Allowance (income based). Take-up is measured in two ways. Expenditure take-up compares the total amount of benefit received in the course of a year with the total amount that would have been received if everyone took up their entitlement for the full period of entitlement. Caseload take-up compares the number of benefit claimants – averaged over the year – with the number who would be receiving if everyone took up their entitlement for the full period of entitlement. Data is sourced from the Family Resources Survey and administrative benefit records. Latest published figures are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/series/income-related-benefits-estimates-of-take-up--2>

14. Other National and Official Statistics issued by the Department for Work and Pensions

Details of other National and Official Statistics produced by the Department for Work and Pensions can be found on the DWP website at the following links:

- A list of DWP statistics: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/about/statistics> ;
- A schedule of statistical releases over the next 12 months: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/about/statistics> ;
- And a list of the most recent releases: [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications?keywords=&publication_filter_option=statistics&topics\[\]=all&departments\[\]=department-for-work-pensions&world_locations\[\]=all](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications?keywords=&publication_filter_option=statistics&topics[]=all&departments[]=department-for-work-pensions&world_locations[]=all).
- In accordance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics, all DWP National Statistics are also announced via the UK Statistics Authority publication hub at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/release-calendar>. In addition, users can find links to DWP additional statistical analyses that have not been included in our standard publications at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/ad-hoc-statistical-publications-list>.