

Freedom of Information request 2015-105

Date received 11 January 2015

Date of response 13 February 2015

Information request

Please could you provide me with the number of incapacity benefit/severe disability allowance (IB/SDA) or equivalent benefit claimants who were recorded as claiming benefit because of (a) Alcoholism, (b) reaction to severe stress, (c) obesity and (d) drug addiction for each year since May 2010.

Using the most up-to-date data you have please provide me with the 20 local authority areas that have the largest percentage of claimants in each of the categories above – stating the area, the number and the percentage of claimants for each of the four categories.

DWP response

The information requested for Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) and Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) claimants is shown in the following tables.

Number of IB/SDA claimants with a primary medical condition of Obesity, Alcohol Misuse, Drug Misuse and Reaction to Severe Stress in Great Britain, May 2010 to 2014

	IB/SDA caseload	Main Disabling Condition				
		Obesity	Alcohol Misuse	Drug Misuse	Reaction to Severe stress	Other Diagnosis
May-10	2,126,690	1,870	43,510	38,580	36,860	2,005,870
May-11	1,946,200	1,740	38,910	34,080	32,940	1,838,520
May-12	1,429,680	1,250	26,000	21,820	21,760	1,358,850
May-13	742,320	600	10,930	8,310	9,300	713,200
May-14	355,770	240	4,020	3,140	3,230	345,140

Number of ESA claimants with a primary medical condition of Obesity, Alcohol Misuse, Drug Misuse and Reaction to Severe Stress in Great Britain, May 2010 to 2014

	ESA caseload	Main Disabling Condition				
		Obesity	Alcohol Misuse	Drug Misuse	Reaction to Severe stress	Other Diagnosis
May-10	527,120	210	13,430	9,590	14,640	489,250
May-11	662,230	280	16,990	10,140	16,270	618,570
May-12	1,134,290	680	29,060	18,120	25,600	1,060,840
May-13	1,747,610	1,230	42,600	26,650	36,150	1,640,980
May-14	2,145,710	1,540	51,980	30,510	44,760	2,016,920

Local Authorities with the highest percentage of IB/SDA claimants with a primary medical condition (PMC) of Obesity, Alcohol Misuse, Drug Misuse and Reaction to Severe Stress: May 2014

Rank	Local Authority	PMC: Obesity	
		No.	%
1	Rochford	-	1%
2	Purbeck	-	1%
3	Cherwell	-	-
4	Basingstoke and Deane	-	-
5	Rushmoor	-	-
6	Cannock Chase	-	-
7	Newark and Sherwood	-	-
8	Broadland	-	-
9	Peterborough	-	-
10	East Cambridgeshire	-	-
11	Babergh	-	-
12	Bassetlaw	-	-
13	Thanet	-	-
14	Walsall	10	-
15	Winchester	-	-
16	Dudley	10	-
17	Haringey	10	-
18	Windsor and Maidenhead	-	-
19	South Holland	-	-
20	North West Leicestershire	-	-

Rank	Local Authority	PMC: Alcohol Misuse	
		No.	%
1	City of London	-	7%
2	Camden	70	3%
3	Cambridge	10	3%
4	Lambeth	70	3%
5	Manchester	110	3%
6	Hammersmith and Fulham	40	3%
7	Inverclyde	20	3%
8	City of Edinburgh	70	3%
9	Highland	30	3%
10	Watford	10	2%
11	City of Bristol	100	2%
12	Southwark	60	2%
13	West Dunbartonshire	20	2%
14	Orkney Islands	-	2%
15	Aberdeen City	20	2%
16	Glasgow City	120	2%
17	Hackney	50	2%
18	Torbay	30	2%
19	Richmondshire	-	2%
20	Shetland Isles	-	2%

Rank	Local Authority	PMC: Drug Misuse	
		No.	%
1	Bournemouth	60	5%
2	City of Bristol	160	4%
3	Aberdeen City	30	3%
4	City of Edinburgh	90	3%
5	Camden	70	3%
6	Plymouth	80	3%
7	Cambridge	10	3%
8	North Somerset	30	3%
9	Lambeth	60	3%
10	Islington	50	3%
11	Surrey Heath	-	2%
12	East Lothian	10	2%
13	Winchester	10	2%
14	Southwark	60	2%
15	Kensington and Chelsea	20	2%
16	Bath and North East Somerset	20	2%
17	Stroud	10	2%
18	Tower Hamlets	40	2%
19	Tewkesbury	10	2%
20	Brighton and Hove	30	2%

Rank	Local Authority	PMC: Reaction to Severe Stress	
		No.	%
1	Orkney Islands	-	5%
2	Selby	10	3%
3	West Dorset	10	2%
4	South Hams	10	2%
5	East Dorset	10	2%
6	Three Rivers	10	2%
7	York	10	2%
8	Bath and North East Somerset	20	2%
9	Worthing	10	2%
10	Horsham	10	2%
11	Castle Point	10	2%
12	Guildford	10	2%
13	Swindon	20	2%
14	City of Bristol	80	2%
15	Derbyshire Dales	-	2%
16	Rochford	10	2%
17	Abroad/Unknown	30	2%
18	Mid Devon	10	2%
19	North Hertfordshire	10	2%
20	Lambeth	40	2%

Local Authorities with the highest percentage of ESA claimants with a primary medical condition of Obesity, Alcohol Misuse, Drug Misuse and Reaction to Severe Stress: May 2014

Rank	Local Authority	PMC: Obesity	
		No.	%
1	Sevenoaks	10	-
2	East Lindsey	20	-
3	Tonbridge and Malling	10	-
4	South Oxfordshire	10	-

Rank	Local Authority	PMC: Alcohol Misuse	
		No.	%
1	Bournemouth	390	5%
2	City of London	10	5%
3	City of Edinburgh	880	5%
4	Glasgow City	2,280	5%

5	Windsor and Maidenhead	10	-
6	Ceredigion	10	-
7	Spelthorne	-	-
8	Ryedale	-	-
9	Newark and Sherwood	10	-
10	Moray	10	-
11	Boston	-	-
12	Chichester	-	-
13	Epsom and Ewell	-	-
14	Shetland Isles	-	-
15	Hammersmith and Fulham	10	-
16	Newham	20	-
17	Lambeth	20	-
18	New Forest	10	-
19	Cambridge	10	-
20	Stirling	10	-

Rank	Local Authority	PMC: Drug Misuse	
		No.	%
1	Bournemouth	490	7%
2	Aberdeen City	470	6%
3	City of Edinburgh	990	6%
4	City of Bristol	920	6%
5	North Somerset	260	4%
6	East Lothian	120	4%
7	Plymouth	370	3%
8	Tower Hamlets	350	3%
9	Oxford	130	3%
10	Bath and North East Somerset	110	3%
11	Inverclyde	160	3%
12	Portsmouth	210	3%
13	Lambeth	320	3%
14	West Lothian	230	3%
15	Aberdeenshire	160	3%

5	Aberdeen City	350	5%
6	Portsmouth	330	5%
7	Blackpool	430	4%
8	North Somerset	280	4%
9	City of Bristol	670	4%
10	Manchester	1,130	4%
11	Inverclyde	210	4%
12	Oxford	160	4%
13	Lancaster	200	4%
14	Renfrewshire	340	4%
15	Blackburn with Darwen	320	4%
16	West Dunbartonshire	210	4%
17	Burnley	190	4%
18	Highland	290	4%
19	Argyll & Bute	120	4%
20	Dundee City	310	4%

Rank	Local Authority	PMC: Reaction to Severe Stress	
		No.	%
1	South Hams	70	4%
2	Tamworth	80	3%
3	Richmondshire	30	3%
4	Taunton Deane	90	3%
5	Halton	210	3%
6	West Devon	40	3%
7	Sedgemoor	110	3%
8	West Lothian	240	3%
9	South Gloucestershire	150	3%
10	Neath Port Talbot	270	3%
11	West Lancashire	110	3%
12	Stirling	90	3%
13	North Warwickshire	50	3%
14	Cornwall	520	3%
15	City of Bristol	480	3%

16	Southwark	290	3%
17	Kensington and Chelsea	140	3%
18	Islington	280	3%
19	Westminster	220	3%
20	Cambridge	80	3%

16	North Devon	80	3%
17	Mendip	80	3%
18	Isle of Anglesey	70	3%
19	Rossendale	90	3%
20	Tameside	310	3%

Source: DWP Information Directorate 100% WPLS

Notes:

1. Caseload figures are rounded to the nearest 10. Totals may not sum due to rounding. " - " denotes nil or negligible. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.
2. Causes of incapacity are based on the International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, published by the World Health Organisation.
3. The medical condition recorded on the claim form does not itself confer entitlement to Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Benefit (IB/SDA) or Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). So, for example, a decision on entitlement for a customer claiming on the basis of drug abuse would be based on their ability to carry out the range of activities related to physical and mental function, assessed by the Personal/Work Capability Assessment.
4. Medical condition is based on evidence provided at the start of the claim and may not represent a claimant's most recent medical condition. Where someone has more than one diagnosis or disabling condition only the predominant one is used.
5. ESA replaced IB/SDA for new claims from 27 October 2008.