



Department
for Work &
Pensions

Troubled Families

Experimental Official Statistics - July 2015

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Author(s) contact details:

Tetyana Mykhaylyk
Children, Families and Disadvantage Analysis Division, Strategy
Department for Work and Pensions
Email tetyana.mykhaylyk@dpw.gsi.gov.uk
Direct line 0114 294 3919

Summary

- At the end of July 2015 101,000 individuals on DWP's systems as having been on the original Troubled Families programme and in receipt of an out of work benefit. They may have been on an out of work benefit at any time between April 2012, when the programme started, and July 2015.
- Of those on the original Troubled Families programme whom DWP worked with 68% were women. Women were most likely to be in the 35-44 age group, and most likely to be claiming Income Support. Men are more likely to be claiming JSA. For 35 per cent of individuals, Jobseeker's Allowance was their main benefit since April 2012, for 32 per cent their first main benefit was Income Support and for 27 per cent this was either Employment Support Allowance or Incapacity Benefit.
- Since April 2012 27,000 (27 per cent) of the 101,000 individuals have started in employment (as measured by HMRC's systems), and of these, 17,000 (17 per cent) became sustained job outcomes (that is moved into work for at least 13 weeks depending on benefit). 21 per cent of employment starts came from women aged 35-44, although this group make up 27 per cent of all those identified. 20 per cent of employment starts came from men aged 18-24, although only 10 per cent of individuals identified come from this group.
- The 101,000 individuals are in approximately 86,500 households.
- Local authorities will not have been working with all Troubled Families since April 2012. DWP has assigned randomised programme start dates in line with the rate of recruitment to the programme in order to estimate the number of employment outcomes achieved whilst households were on the original Troubled Families programme.
- 92,700 individuals in 78,700 households have had a spell on out of work benefits following their randomised start date. Of the 78,700 households, 19,200 (24 per cent) have seen an individual achieve at least one P45 employment start. Of these 11,300 (14 per cent) have become sustained employment outcomes to date.
- The figures in this release are labelled as experimental which is consistent with UK Statistical Authority guidance on new statistical outputs. This helps to identify the figures as new and the particular assumptions and methods applied are explained in the Technical Annex. For more information and guidance on the use of experimental statistics, please visit the following page on the ONS website:
<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/general-methodology/guide-to-experimental-statistics/index.html>

Background

- The original Troubled Families programme was launched by the Prime Minister in December 2011 and began in April 2012. The programme is led by the Department for Communities & Local Government, and is a cross-departmental initiative to change how Government intervenes and helps families with multiple problems.
- The programme is delivered by local authorities on a payment-by-results basis. Families are eligible if they meet 3 out of 4 criteria based on:
 - crime and anti-social behaviour;
 - education and truancy;
 - worklessness; and
 - a fourth criterion at the discretion of the relevant local authority.
- On 4th March 2013, the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) and the Department for Communities & Local Government (DCLG) published a Delivery Agreement designed to boost employability and employment for Troubled Families, and DWP has 163 dedicated Troubled Family Employment Advisers seconded with local authorities to support this.
- Local authorities receive an initial attachment fee when they start working with a Troubled Family, and are able to claim a further results-based payment if they achieve either of the following outcomes:
 - Reduced school exclusions, and reduced anti-social behaviour, and reduced offending; or progress towards employment; or
 - At least one adult in the family moves off out of work benefits into continuous employment.
- Complementary to employment support received through local authorities, individuals on the original Troubled Families programme may also receive employment support through DWP provision, including Jobcentre Plus support and contracted employment programmes such as the Work Programme and European Social Fund (ESF) Support for Families with Multiple Problems.
- At the Spending Review 2013 it was announced that the original Troubled Families programme would be expanded to work with 400,000 more families from 2015 to 2020. The expanded Troubled Families programme is not covered by this release.

Context and Coverage

Context

- DWP published two ad hoc statistical releases, in November 2013 and January 2014, setting out employment starts for individuals on the original Troubled Families programme. Those releases acknowledged that further analysis was required to address caveats on the data. This analysis was completed, and the results were presented in the first two experimental official statistics on benefits and employment for individuals and households on the original Troubled Families programme released on 19th September 2014 and 20th March 2015. This is the third release in this series. This release doesn't cover the expanded Troubled Families programme announced in August 2014 ⁽¹⁾. The approach to identifying individuals on DWP's systems as having been on the original Troubled Families programme has been revised for this publication to strip out a small number of people on the expanded Troubled Families Programme (further detail is given at the Technical Annex). As a result of this improvement the employment stats figures have been revised. It is these revised statistics that are used in this publication and should take precedence over previously published results.

Coverage

- This release presents a further insight into the benefit and employment status of individuals on the original Troubled Families programme and identified as receiving an out of work benefit.
- DWP will not work with all Troubled Families or with every individual in a Troubled Family, only those who are claiming an out of work benefit. This release is therefore not based on all Troubled Families being worked with by local authorities, but the individuals who DWP has supported during the life of the programme and who are identified with a Troubled Families marker on DWP systems.
- This release sets out employment starts and outcomes for individuals who have a Troubled Families marker set on DWP systems. It does not consider what would have happened in the absence of the original Troubled Families programme.

Notes: (1) At the Spending Review 2013 it was announced that the original Troubled Families programme would be expanded to work with up to 400,000 more families from 2015 onwards.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/troubled-families-programme-expanded-to-help-younger-children>

Characteristics of individuals on out of work benefits and in Troubled Families by age, gender and main benefit

Chart 1: Individuals with a DWP Troubled Families marker, by age ⁽¹⁾ and gender

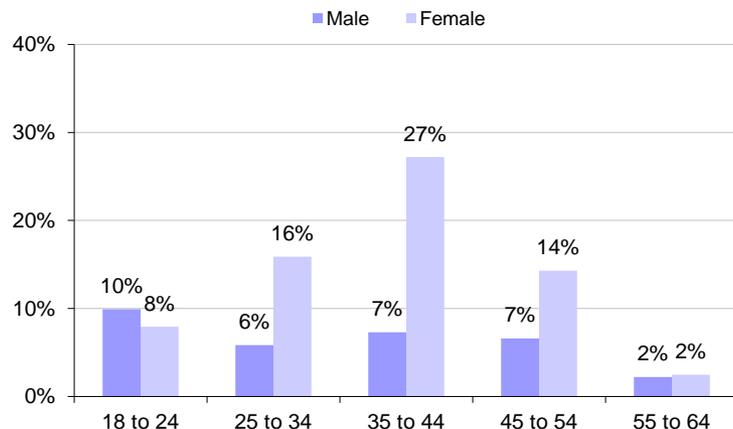
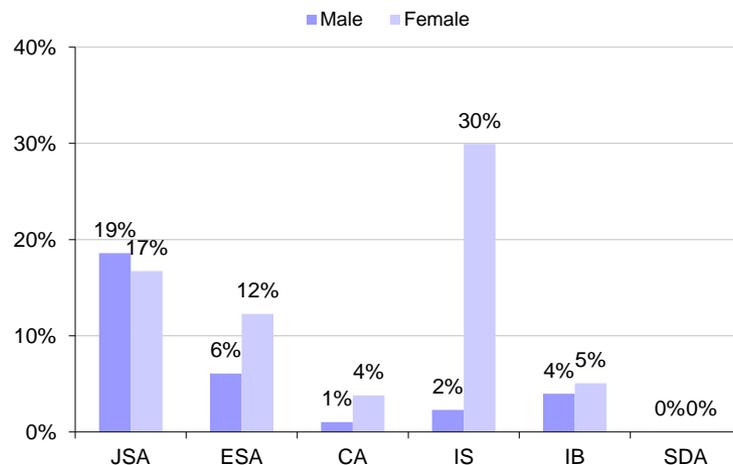


Chart 2: Individuals with a DWP Troubled Families marker, by first benefit ⁽²⁾ and gender



- At the end of July 2015, markers were set on DWP's Labour Market System for 101,000 individuals who have been in receipt of an out of work benefit since the original Troubled Families programme started in April 2012.
- Women make up 68 per cent of these individuals and men 32 per cent. This shows a marked difference from the wider working age client group population during the same timeframe where the proportion of women to men has been approximately 52 to 48 percent⁽³⁾.
- Chart 1 shows a further breakdown of gender by age group and shows that three quarters of individuals are under the age of 45. Around 3 in 10 individuals were women between the ages of 35 and 44, compared with the wider benefit population where around 1 in 9⁽³⁾ were women in this age group.
- Chart 2 shows the breakdown of the same individuals by their first out of work benefit since April 2012. It is possible for individuals to be on more than one benefit at one time, in these cases a benefit hierarchy has been used to assign main benefit (details are given in the Technical Annex page 17).
- For 35 per cent of individuals, Jobseeker's Allowance was the first main benefit since April 2012, for 32 per cent their first main benefit was Income Support and for 27 per cent this was either Employment Support Allowance or Incapacity Benefit.
- 30 per cent of the individuals identified were females whose initial main benefit was Income Support, the next largest group being males on Jobseeker's Allowance (19 per cent).

Footnotes

(1) Age is taken as at 31st March 2015. Of the 101,000 markers in place, 400 (less than 0.5 per cent) were either not of working age at that time or their gender is missing. They are not presented on the charts.

(2) JSA: Jobseeker's Allowance, ESA: Employment and Support Allowance, CA: Carer's Allowance, IS: Income Support, IB: Incapacity Benefit and SDA: Severe Disablement Allowance

(3) Data from DWP Tabulation Tool.

P45 employment starts and sustained employment outcomes since April 2012 by age, gender and main benefit

Chart 3: Breakdown of 27,000 employment starts since April 2012 by age ⁽¹⁾ and gender

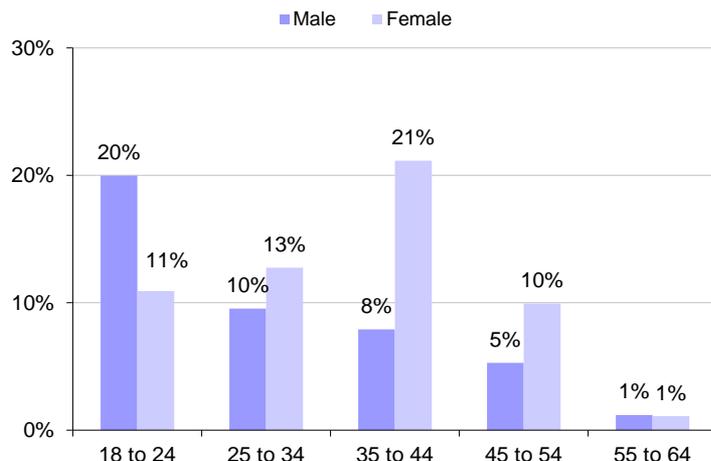
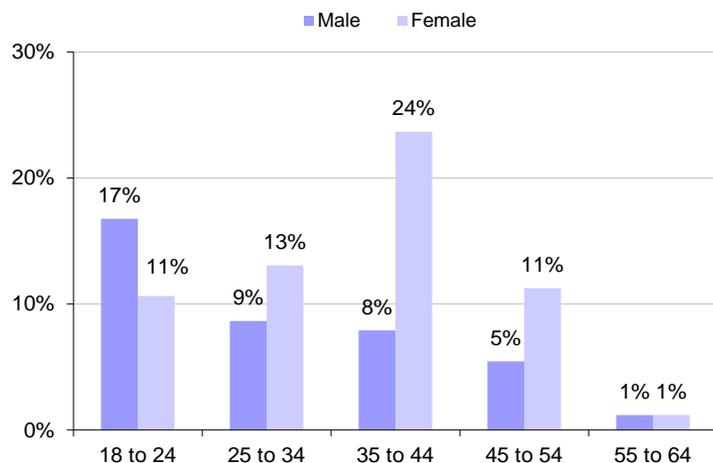


Chart 4: Breakdown of 17,000 employment outcomes since April 2012 by age ⁽¹⁾ and gender



- This slide reports on employment since April 2012 for individuals on the original Troubled Families programme. It uses P45 data from HMRC which records employment, but excludes self-employment, and some low paid work.
- DWP does not hold start dates for individuals on the original Troubled Families programme. Rather the marker shows that people were on the programme *at some stage*. The employment starts may have occurred before or after an individual was being worked with by a local authority under the original Troubled Families programme. See page 9 for estimates of the level of employment starts/outcomes achieved whilst families were working with a local authority through the original Troubled Families programme.
- Of 101,000 individuals identified as being in a Troubled Family on DWP systems 27,000 individuals have started a period of P45 employment since April 2012. This figure includes all P45 employment spells of at least one day duration which do not overlap with a spell on benefits⁽²⁾.
- Chart 3 shows the breakdown by age and gender for these individuals. 21 per cent of employment starts came from women aged 35-44, although this group make up 27 per cent of all those identified. Conversely, 20 per cent of employment starts came from men aged 18-24, whereas only 10 per cent of individuals identified come from this group.
- 17,000 individuals have achieved a sustained employment outcome which followed an out of work benefit in the period since April 2012. Chart 4 shows those employment starts in Chart 3 which have become a sustained employment outcome⁽³⁾.

Footnotes

(1) Age is taken at 31st March 2015. There are around 100 individuals with employment starts or outcomes who were not of working age at this date, or whose gender is missing. They are not presented on the chart.

(2) Out of work benefit spells and P45 employment records may legitimately overlap. To align with the Troubled Families Financial Framework, in these cases the employment start date is recorded only from the day after a benefit spell ended. More information is included in the Technical Annex.

(3) To achieve a sustained employment outcome, an individual on JSA needs to have been in employment for 26 weeks; for all other out of work benefits the period for sustainment is 13 weeks.

Aligning DWP data with DCLG's Troubled Families criteria

Individuals to Families

- DWP benefits information is generally recorded at individual level. DCLG report outcomes for families. The Troubled Families Financial Framework allows a local authority to claim a results payment for a family it is working with if an adult in that household moves off an out of work benefit and into continuous employment.
- To allow DWP to estimate outcomes at a family level, Unique Property Reference Numbers (UPRNs) have been used, with individuals at a shared UPRN assumed to be from the same household. Further detail is given at the Technical Annex.
- Using the Unique Property Reference Number has the effect of converting the 101,000 individuals identified on DWP systems into 86,500 households.

Randomised Start Dates

- DWP does not hold start dates for individuals on the original Troubled Families programme. Rather the marker shows that people were on the programme *at some stage*. Data on page 7 includes all employment starts and outcomes since the programme started in April 2012. In reality, local authorities have recruited to the programme gradually. Therefore not all employment starts and outcomes shown on page 7 will have happened since the individual started on the programme, but without a recorded start date, we cannot know whether an individual with a marker moved into employment before, during or after receiving support from a local authority under the original Troubled Families programme.
- Randomised start dates have been used to estimate the number of outcomes achieved following receipt of support through the original Troubled Families programme. Randomised start dates were assigned in line with the rate at which local authorities recruited families to the programme. Further detail is given at the Technical Annex.
- Applying randomised start dates reduces the 86,500 total households to 78,700 households which contain at least one individual who has been in receipt of an out of work benefit since their randomised start date.

Benefit information, P45 employment starts and sustained outcomes for households containing an individual on an out of work benefit since randomised start date

- 78,700 households contain at least one adult who has claimed an out of work benefit since their randomised start date.
- Of these, 19,200 households contain at least one adult who has started a spell in P45 employment.
- Of these employment starts:
 - 11,300 have become sustained employment outcomes ⁽¹⁾;
 - 3,000 were still open at time of measurement, but had not yet lasted long enough to be classed as sustained;
 - 4,900 had ended, and did not last long enough to be classed as sustained.
- Similarly to Chart 2 for individuals since April 2012, Chart 5 shows the breakdown of households by their first out of work benefit since randomised start date. Around a third of households have Income Support as their first main benefit since randomised start date, with similar proportions on Employment Support Allowance and Jobseeker's Allowance.
- There is limited overlap between Troubled Families and European Social Fund Support for Families with Multiple Problems provision. 3,600 of the 78,700 households have received ESF provision since April 2012.

Footnotes:

(1) To achieve a sustained employment outcome, an individual on JSA needs to have been in employment for 26 out of 30 weeks; for all other out of work benefit the period for sustainment is 13 weeks.

(2) Individuals may be in receipt of more than one out of work benefit, the method of assigning a benefit is set out in more detail in the Technical Annex.

(3) Less than 50 households had Severe Disablement Allowance as either their first benefit since randomisation or their benefit prior the a sustained employment outcome.

Chart 5: Breakdown of the first main benefit ⁽²⁾ for households since randomised start date



Table 1: Households, by first main benefit

First main benefit for households since randomised start date.	Number
Jobseeker's Allowance	23,500
Employment & Support Allowance	23,600
Income Support	25,300
Incapacity Benefit	3,100
Carer's Allowance	3,200
Severe Disablement Allowance ⁽³⁾	~
Total	78,700

Comparison of DWP markers and outcomes with DCLG published figures

Direct comparison between the figures in this release and those published by DCLG is hampered by differences in data collection and collation methods.

Participants

- DCLG published data shows that local authorities were working with 117,910 families at the end of December 2014. This release covers an estimated 86,500 families based on the markers set on DWP's Labour Market System.
- Not all Troubled Families will include an adult on an out of work benefit. DCLG's "Understanding Troubled Families" Report (July 2014) found that of those surveyed, 83 per cent of families were receiving an out of work benefit.
- DWP markers are set by Troubled Families Employment Advisers based on information from local authorities. This manual process means there are lags in marker application. There may be some undercounting of number of Troubled Families participants DWP has worked with.

Employment outcomes

- DCLG published figures show 11,921 employment outcomes claimed by local authorities to the end of May 2015. This release observes 11,300 employment outcomes for those with a marker applied on the Labour Market System. Two main factors explain this difference:
 - **Marker coverage:** As described above, there are likely to be individuals in Troubled Families and on out of work benefits who do not currently have a DWP marker applied. Any employment outcomes would not be captured for this group in DWP data.
 - **P45 data:** This release uses HMRC P45 data to observe employment outcomes. P45 data does not include any self-employment, and has historically underreported low-paid employment. Also P45 employment data has lag in completeness.

Tables – Data for Charts 1 and 2

Table 2: Individuals with a Troubled Families marker, by age ⁽¹⁾ and gender

Gender	Age	Number
Female	18 to 24	8,000
	25 to 34	16,000
	35 to 44	27,500
	45 to 54	14,400
	55 to 64	2,500
Male	18 to 24	10,000
	25 to 34	5,900
	35 to 44	7,400
	45 to 54	6,700
	55 to 64	2,200
Not of working age/gender missing		400
Total		101,000

Table 3: Individuals with a Troubled Families marker, by first benefit ⁽²⁾ and gender

Gender	Initial main benefit	Number
Female	JSA	16,900
	ESA	12,400
	CA	3,800
	IS	30,200
	IB	5,100
	SDA	100
Male	JSA	18,800
	ESA	6,100
	CA	1,000
	IS	2,300
	IB	4,000
	SDA ⁽³⁾	~
Gender missing		100
Total		101,000

Footnotes

(1) Age is taken as at 31st March 2015.

(2) JSA: Jobseekers Allowance, ESA: Employment and Support Allowance, CA: Carer's Allowance, IS: Income Support, IB: Incapacity Benefit and SDA: Severe Disablement Allowance

(3) Fewer than 50 individuals had Severe Disablement Allowance as their initial main benefit.

Tables – data for Charts 3 and 4

Table 4: Breakdown of 27,000 employment starts since April 2012 by age ⁽¹⁾ and gender

Gender	Age	Number
Female	18 to 24	3,000
	25 to 34	3,400
	35 to 44	5,700
	45 to 54	2,700
	55 to 64	300
Male	18 to 24	5,400
	25 to 34	2,600
	35 to 44	2,100
	45 to 54	1,400
	55 to 64	300
Not of working age/gender missing		100
Total		27,000

Table 5: Breakdown of 17,000 employment outcomes since April 2012 by age ⁽¹⁾ and gender

Gender	Age	Number
Female	18 to 24	1,800
	25 to 34	2,200
	35 to 44	4,000
	45 to 54	1,900
	55 to 64	200
Male	18 to 24	2,800
	25 to 34	1,500
	35 to 44	1,300
	45 to 54	900
	55 to 64	200
Not of working age/gender missing		0
Total		17,000

Footnotes

(1) Age is taken as at 31st March 2015.

Future Publication

The figures in this release are labelled as experimental which is consistent with UK Statistics Authority guidance on new statistical outputs. This helps to identify the figures as new, and the assumptions and methods applied are explained in the Technical Annex. For more information and guidance on the use of experimental statistics, please visit the following page on the ONS website:

<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/general-methodology/guide-to-experimental-statistics/index.html>

This is the final release of the series on the original Troubled Families programme. We are considering the future of the publication for the new, expanded Troubled Families programme.

We would welcome feedback on the content and presentation of the Troubled Families statistics, please send this to: tetyana.mykhaylyk@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Glossary of Terms

Term	Definition
Out of work benefit	An out of work benefit is defined in the Troubled Families Financial Framework as one of the following: Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Carer's Allowance, Income Support or Severe Disablement Allowance.
Household	A unit that has been compiled by matching individual DWP records with the Unique Property Reference Number (UPRN) of an address. This may not always reflect the same family unit that a local authority is working with as part of the Troubled Families programme. Further details are in the Technical Annex.
Main Benefit	When an individual is in receipt of more than one out of work benefit at any one time, a benefit hierarchy has been used to assign a main benefit to that individual. Further details are in the Technical Annex.
Labour Market System (LMS)	A DWP administrative system used by Jobcentre Plus to manage benefit claims.
Marker	To identify individuals on the original Troubled Families programme DWP has introduced a marker onto its Labour Market System which allows DWP to observe the employment and benefit status of individuals through its administrative data.
P45 Employment	The employment data used in this release is from the Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study and is derived from P45 forms sent to Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC) by employers. Historically, low-paid employment has been under-reported and this data source does not cover self-employment. The technical annex includes further detail.
Employment start	An employment start is observed from the P45 data. To be included in this release, a P45 employment start must represent a period of employment lasting at least one day, and must follow a spell on an out of work benefit without overlapping.
Sustained Employment Outcome	An employment start that has been observed to last for at least 26 weeks (for Jobseeker's Allowance) or for at least 13 weeks for all other out of work benefits.
ESF Support for Families with Multiple Problems	The European Social Fund Support for Families with Multiple Problems launched in December 2011 and is due to run until March 2015. It supports disadvantaged families, facing multiple barriers to work, to move closer towards and into sustainable employment. The programme is funded by the 2007–2013 European Social Fund (ESF) programme in England, under DWP's arrangements to act as one of the Co-Financing Organisations.

Related Publications

- On 4th March 2013, the Department for Work & Pensions (DWP) and the Department for Communities & Local Government (DCLG) published a joint Delivery Agreement designed to boost employability and employment for Troubled Families:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/136344/DWP_CLG_Troubled_Families.pdf
- Full details on eligibility and funding are available via the Troubled Families Financial Framework:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/11469/2117840.pdf
- DCLG regularly publish data on the support offered through local authorities, showing the number of families identified and worked with:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/helping-troubled-families-turn-their-lives-around/activity>
- DCLG has recently published the report setting out savings made for the public as part of the Troubled Families programme:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/410715/Final_The_Benefits_of_the_Troubled_Families_Programme_to_the_Taxpayer.pdf
- DWP has published two previous ad hoc statistical publications which presented emerging analysis of the benefit and employment status of individuals on the original Troubled Families programme and identified on DWP systems:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/job-starts-for-individuals-on-the-troubled-families-programme>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/job-starts-for-individuals-on-the-troubled-families-programme--2>
- DWP has published two Troubled Families Experimental Official Statistics providing a further insight into the benefit and employment status of individuals and households on the original Troubled Families programme.
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/356154/troubled-families-experimental-official-statistics-july-2014.pdf
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/414762/troubled-families-programme-stats-apr-12-jan-15.pdf
- DWP publish statistics relating to ESF Support for Families with Multiple Problems:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/esf-support-for-families-with-multiple-problems-statistics>

Technical Annex - General

- Data in this release is based on markers applied to records on DWP's Labour Market System up to the end of July 2015 and benefits information taken from the National Benefits database to the end of March 2015.
- P45 employment information is included to the end of July 2015, although this is subject to future revision as more information is submitted by employers.
- This release doesn't cover the expanded Troubled Families programme announced in August 2014.
- All data in this release has been rounded to the nearest 100. Figures and percentages may not sum due to rounding.
- Comparisons with the wider benefit population are taken from DWP's Tabulation Tool using the Working Age client group. Figures presented in this tabulation are drawn from more than one source. Jobseeker's Allowance data is drawn from the claimant count published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) whereas all other figures are from the Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study (WPLS) published by DWP. The tabulation tool can be found at:

<http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/tabtool.html>

Technical Annex - Benefit Hierarchy

- There are six main benefits which are included as out of work benefits in this analysis. These mirror the benefits set out in DCLG’s Financial Framework for local authorities and are: Jobseekers Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit, Carer’s Allowance, Income Support and Severe Disablement Allowance.
- Individuals in Troubled Families may be in receipt of more than one of these benefits at any one time, although many combinations are not possible concurrently (an individual cannot be in receipt of Jobseeker’s Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance at the same time, for instance).
- When benefits are claimed concurrently, a benefit hierarchy has been used to decide which benefit will be chosen as the “main benefit”, with Jobseekers’ Allowance ranked highest and Severe Disablement Allowance ranked lowest, Table 6 below sets this out in more detail.
- P45 employment is ranked after the six benefits in the hierarchy to ensure that an individual will have left all of these benefits before an employment start is counted.
- Applying this hierarchy allows a status to be assigned for every individual for each day from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2015 (the latest date for which benefit information is available for this release).

Table 6: Benefit Hierarchy

Rank	Benefit status
1	Jobseeker’s Allowance
2	Employment and Support Allowance
3	Incapacity Benefit
4	Income Support
5	Carer’s Allowance
6	Severe Disablement Allowance
7	P45 employment
8	Not known

An example of how using the hierarchy may affect the “main benefit” status

Many of those on the Troubled Families programme in receipt of out of work benefits are claiming multiple benefits. For example, at their randomised start date, there were 14,000 individuals claiming Carer’s Allowance, but 10,800 of these were also claiming at least one other benefit. Many of these will be “higher ranked” benefits, and therefore the number of participants with Carer’s Allowance as their main benefit type will be relatively low.

This will promote higher ranked benefits where individuals are on more than one benefit at the same time.

Technical Annex - P45 Employment Data

- The employment data used in this release is from the Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study and is derived from P45 forms sent to Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC) by employers.
- Prior to April 2013, HMRC only required periods of employment to be notified via a P45 form if earnings were above the Lower Earnings Limit (the level below which no National Insurance contributions are accrued). From April 2013 HMRC required employers to report PAYE information in real time, which improved the coverage of low income employment in the P45 data.
- Periods of self-employment remain outside of the scope of P45 data and self-employment is not captured in this release.
- P45 employment start and end dates are estimated by DWP/HMRC when the exact start or end date of a P45 employment spell is not known, other than the date was in a particular tax year.
- An employment start identified from P45 data does not always mean an individual has stopped claiming benefit – for example, individuals working fewer than 16 hours per week on average may still claim Jobseeker's Allowance. Within the context of this release, an individual must have moved off out-of-work benefit and into P45 employment for the employment start to be observed. In practice this means that for periods where out of work benefit spell and P45 employment records overlap, the benefit takes precedence in the benefit hierarchy outlined on page 18 and the employment start date is recorded as the day after the benefit spell ended.
- Data in this release uses HMRC P45 data available up to the end of July 2015. Figures are subject to revision as updated P45 data becomes available.

Technical Annex - Converting from Individual Records to Households

- DWP's Labour Market System and administrative datasets record information at the individual level.
- To allow DWP to estimate outcomes at a family level, Unique Property Reference Numbers (UPRNs) have been used, with individuals at a shared UPRN assumed to be from the same family.
- Unique Property Reference Numbers (UPRN) are the unique geographic identifiers used in the National Land and Property Gazetteer. The UPRN of a property identifies addresses uniquely (e.g. down to flat level in a block of flats) and has been used to aggregate individual records into household-level units. More information can be found on the NPLG website:
<http://www.nlpg.org.uk/nlpg/welcome.htm>
- There are limitations to this method; aggregating individuals on the basis of address may not always reflect the exact make-up of the families that a local authority is working with.

Technical Annex - Improved methodology for start dates

- DWP’s Troubled Families marker does not record the date on which a family started working with a local authority as part of the Troubled Families programme, nor does it distinguish if a family is on the original Troubled Families or on the expanded Troubled Families programmes.
- To estimate start dates on the programme randomised start dates have been assigned to households on the original Troubled Families Programme. It takes some time after an individual starts on the Troubled Families programme for a Labour Market System marker to be set. Based on feedback we have assumed it takes three months, so that when an area starts to roll out the expanded Troubled Families programme then three months after that all new markers are assumed to refer to the expanded programme. Before that 3 month point markers are still assumed to refer to the original programme. Different assumptions make some difference to the numbers on the original programme so we could be overestimating the numbers on the existing programme by up to 7,900. The lists of the first and the second waves of early starters can be found here:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/troubled-families-programme-expanded-to-help-younger-children>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/85000-troubled-families-have-had-their-lives-turned-around>
- DCLG has regularly published the numbers of “worked with” families for each local authority for the original programme. These numbers have been used to randomise start dates for households on the Troubled Families programme in each local authority area, using postcode matching to the ONS postcode dataset.

Table 7: DCLG published figures on number of households being worked with

Date	Total number of families being worked with by local authorities
31 Dec 2012	23,079
31 Mar 2013	35,618
30 Jun 2013	49,979
30 Sep 2013	62,527
31 Dec 2013	78,289
31 Mar 2014	97,202
30 Jun 2014	110,615
30 Sep 2014	117,267
31 Dec 2014	117,910

DCLG overall published “worked with” numbers for the original Troubled Families programme

Table 7 sets out the total number of families that local authorities were working with by date. These figures are compiled and published by DCLG at local authority level and can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/helping-troubled-families-turn-their-lives-around/activity>

The local authority level data from these published tables has been used in assigning randomised start dates. For instance, if a local authority has worked with 200 families to date, of which 62 were being worked with by December 2012, then 31 per cent of households identified for that local authority area through the Labour Market System marker would be randomly assigned a start date between the start of the programme in April 2012 and December 2012. This random date assignment will be linear across the period from April 2012 to December 2012.