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(All series)
(See Notes section for details of changes to publication frequency)

DWP QUARTERLY STATISTICAL SUMMARY

The publication frequency of the DWP Statistical Summary is temporarily changing to allow development work on new, improved dissemination tools and new statistical series (e.g. Universal Credit and Personal Independence Payment). More details and the impact on users can be found in the [Notes section 9](#).

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; [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 15 August 2012 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 releases, but links to these are given throughout.

This summary also contains a 'Focus on...' article opening a consultation on the changes to Jobcentre Plus vacancies statistics.

Key Findings

- There were 5.9 million working age benefit claimants at February 2012. This is an increase of 116 thousand in the year to February 2012.
- Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) was introduced on 27th October 2008. There were around 991 thousand people claiming Employment and Support Allowance at the end of February 2012.
- The number of working age claimants of ESA and incapacity benefits totals 2.56 million in February 2012. This figure is 21 thousand less than February 2011.



- The number of lone parents claiming Income Support (IS) decreased by 30 thousand to 584 thousand in the year to February 2012.
- At May 2012, the total number of people claiming Housing Benefit was 5.03 million, with 5.92 million claiming Council Tax Benefit.
- At February 2012, there were 12.7 million claimants of State Pension (SP), a rise of 135 thousand on a year earlier. Of these 39% were male and 61% female.
- At February 2012, there were 2.62 million claimants of Pension Credit (3.20 million including partners), a fall of 29 thousand on the previous quarter.
- At the end of March 2012, the total Child Support Agency (CSA) live and assessed caseload stood at 1.13 million cases, of which 72% were current scheme cases.
- At February 2012, there were 3.24 million recipients of Disability Living Allowance (DLA), 595 thousand recipients of Carer's Allowance (CA)
- At August 2011, there were 1.60 million recipients of Attendance Allowance (AA).

Statistics on benefit flows show:

- There were 875 thousand new claims to Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits, 27 thousand new claims to Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit (BB/WB), 309 thousand to Income Support (IS) and 605 thousand new claims to State Pension (SP) in the year to February 2012.
- There were 949 thousand benefit exits for Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits, 34 thousand for Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit (BB/WB), 540 thousand for Income Support (IS) and 495 thousand benefit exits for State Pension (SP) in the year to February 2012.
- There were 197 thousand new claims to PC in the financial year 2010/2011.

[OFFICIAL STATISTICS]: Early estimates show

- At the end of June 2012, the working age Income Support lone parents (ISLP) early estimate was 565 thousand.
- At the end of June 2012, the Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) early estimate was 2.510 million.

If you have any comments or requests regarding this publication, please contact DWP via stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk.



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Focus on... *Changes to Jobcentre Plus Vacancies Statistics*

Summary

In late autumn 2012 there will be fundamental changes in Jobcentre Plus handling of employer vacancies and services in support of job search. The existing source of administrative data is being decommissioned. This means that existing National Statistics on Jobcentre Plus vacancies will cease. There will be no further releases on Nomis.

A new service will be introduced to provide job search services to all jobseekers. New internet-based statistics from this system will be available to all users. This will provide wider coverage with timely and frequent updates. However, definitions will not be consistent with the existing statistics.

User views are welcomed as part of this consultation. Responses should be submitted before 14 November 2012 to stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk

Introduction

The Jobcentre Plus vacancy series provides information about the stocks and flows of vacancies notified by employers to Jobcentre Plus, the Public Employment Service for Great Britain. The data are sourced from Jobcentre Plus' Labour Market System, an administrative computer system covering all vacancies notified to Jobcentre Plus (but only ever a share of vacancies in the wider economy). Jobcentre Plus agents are responsible for checking and entering this information. The series is available via Nomis (<http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>) with summary statistics published in this Summary.

Changes have happened a number of times before in the history of the series. Users will already be aware that interpretation of the series needs to take account of changes to Jobcentre Plus procedures for taking and handling vacancies. As a result, the figures are not fully comparable over time and may not indicate developments in the labour market.

These statistics are a by-product of the processes by which Jobcentre Plus manage vacancy taking and handling on behalf of employers who use the service. Hence, discontinuities can be introduced to the series by changes in that administrative process.

In late autumn 2012, DWP are planning a fundamental change to the services available to employers to notify vacancies and to jobseekers undertaking job search activity. This will allow users of the vacancy service (employers and potential employees) to access an enhanced internet-based service; it will also make detailed statistical reports widely available via the internet. However, the resultant statistics on vacancies will form an entirely new series. The existing series will no longer be updated and there will inevitably be a discontinuity. The two series will not be comparable.

Whilst some of the details are still to be finalised, this article explains the expected changes; the implications for statistics users; and the potential benefits of the new service.

Sources of job vacancy statistics

There are two sources of vacancy statistics:

1. The *ONS Vacancy Survey* provides comprehensive estimates of the number of job vacancies across the UK economy. This monthly survey asks employers how many job vacancies they have in total for which they are actively seeking recruits from outside their organisation, for example, by advertising or interviewing.

The survey began in April 2001 and the results became National Statistics in June 2003. The results are published in the Labour Market Statistical Bulletin (<http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/lms/labour-market-statistics/index.html>).

The headline series are seasonally adjusted three-month rolling averages. Analysis is available by industry and by size of enterprise.



2. Statistics of *Jobcentre Plus vacancies*, that is job openings notified by employers to Jobcentre Plus, are collected from the Jobcentre Plus administrative system. These provide a more detailed analysis of vacancies by local area, occupation and duration of vacancies, as well as by industry. However, they are not comprehensive since many vacancies are filled without reference to Jobcentre Plus.

The Jobcentre Plus figures can be expressed in terms of the inflow of newly-notified vacancies over a period of time or the number of unfilled vacancies on a specified date each month. A range of statistics on Jobcentre Plus vacancies, relating to the inflows of newly-notified vacancies, is available on Nomis (<http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>).

Further information about job vacancy statistics can be found at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/labour-market/job-statistics/vacancies/index.html>

These changes affect the Jobcentre Plus vacancies series only.

The existing series

Current Jobcentre Plus vacancy statistics are available via Nomis in seven data sets. A summary analysis, then two data sets each (an industrial and an occupational analysis) for notified, unfilled and outflows.

- Summary analysis: An overview of the number of notified, filled and outflows in an area.
- Notified vacancies: Monthly data on the inflow of newly notified vacancies to Jobcentre Plus.
- Unfilled vacancies: A monthly snapshot of the number of unfilled vacancies held by Jobcentre Plus. The unfilled vacancies total can be split into live unfilled vacancies and suspended unfilled vacancies. Live unfilled vacancies are those for which a jobseeker can actively apply. Suspended unfilled vacancies are those neither closed nor currently available to jobseekers.
- Vacancy outflow: The count of vacancies that have either been filled by Jobcentre Plus or withdrawn during the specified month. Historically, vacancies filled by Jobcentre Plus are those vacancies filled as a result of Jobcentre Plus actively submitting a client to that job. Many vacancies notified to Jobcentre Plus will also have been advertised by employers through other recruitment channels (such as local newspapers and private recruitment agencies) and may have been filled through these routes. These vacancy outflows will be shown as withdrawn.

Data for standard geographic areas (i.e. all except Jobcentre areas) give information on the true location of the vacancies. Jobcentre areas give information about the location of the Jobcentre Plus office that is designated as owning the vacancy.

With standard areas such as local authorities, wards, super output areas / data zones, and parliamentary constituencies, the postcode of the vacancy is used to determine its location.

Duration information is available with the unfilled and outflow data sets. For the unfilled vacancies data sets, these statistics are calculated as the number of days between the date the vacancy was notified and the stock count date specified. For the outflow dataset, these statistics are calculated as the average number of days between the date the vacancy was notified to Jobcentre Plus and the date the vacancy was closed (i.e. either filled or otherwise withdrawn).

Historical changes to the Jobcentre Plus vacancy series

The Jobcentre Plus vacancies series has never provided comprehensive measures relating to all vacancies in the economy. The proportion of vacancies which are notified by employers has varied over time, according to the occupation and industry of the vacancies and also by geographical area. Users should expect these coverage variations to continue.

Therefore, the main use of these figures is for cross-sectional analysis of vacancies as an indication of the types of jobs currently available, e.g. by occupation or local area, rather than absolute measures of the number of vacancies or of changes in these over time.

There have been a series of changes to the handing of vacancies by Jobcentre Plus over time. These have all affected the series to a greater or lesser degree. Some further information on these changes can be found on Nomis and at: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/ref/vacs/LMT%20200506-363.pdf>



Forthcoming changes

In late autumn 2012, there will be a fundamental change to the Jobcentre Plus vacancy handling process. In the main, the concept of “Jobcentre Plus vacancies” disappears. Instead, employer vacancies held on the new system will come from a wide variety of sources:

- direct input by employers and recruiters (largely self service);
- bulk upload from larger employers and recruiters; and
- gathered from other sites under agreement.

Job search will be enabled through a variety of routes including the internet, a telephone based service, mobile phone access to the internet and Jobpoints.

A key new feature will be the matching of vacancies to registered users of the site. This will be based on commercially proven algorithms and will enable the automatic notification of relevant jobs (not by job title and geography alone but a blend of skills, experience and qualification) to anyone looking for work. This service will be available to both customers on and off benefit. See <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/universal-job-match-faq.pdf> for more details.

The new system will therefore affect statistics on:

- The notification of vacancies; and
- vacancy outflow.

This will cause a substantial discontinuity in the series.

Provision of statistics

[This section details current plans. As the system is not yet complete, there may be small changes prior to release]

The new system will provide internet-based statistical information on vacancies for all users, including DWP statisticians. This will be displayed in an intuitive and logical way so users understand what is happening to the labour market nationally, regionally and locally.

The new service will display daily information on:

- the number of job vacancies currently held (up to midnight on the previous night)
- The characteristics of current job vacancies advertised by their high level occupational classification (SOC 2000 data is gathered in the background but will not be used for internet reporting purposes)
- how many job vacancies have been closed in the last rolling week,
- a duration profile for live vacancies showing how many are 1 day old, up to 1 week old up to 2 weeks old (and more than 1 week old), up to 1 month old (and more than 2 weeks old), and older than 1 month,
- the characteristics of industries recruiting based on their industrial classification
- the aggregated qualifications of people searching for work - showing the following levels: no qualifications, equivalent to 5 GCSEs, equivalent to 3 A-levels, Degree level or above.
- the qualifications needed for the jobs
- the number of job searches
- the number of new employer and jobseeker accounts created
- the number of ‘active’ employer and jobseeker accounts
- the number of matches made to jobs
- the number of searchable CVs (i.e. those available for matching)
- the number of users (number using the system at any one time);
- the number of views per posting (how many times a job has been looked at).

All these measures will be obtainable by:

- Preset Geography (Region, District, and Town/City),
- Preset time periods where not otherwise specified (last week, last month)
- Welsh language (in addition to English) for items relating to information in Wales

Trend analysis – preset monthly data reported (and refreshed each month) to show over last 12 months (or available months in the first year) to show trends within categories grouped to show:

- Changes in % of advertised jobs represented by each of the top 10 occupation types (and “other” category to show 100%). Occupational grouping based on high level SOC
- Changes in % of advertised jobs by industry recruiting using Industry classification



- The size of the company (small, medium or large)

As the new service beds-in and employers begin to use it to notify vacancies, the resulting statistics will mainly reflect this increasing use. The month on month statistics will not be indicative of underlying economic changes at least until a steady state of users and employers is reached. Instead the statistics will more usefully provide detailed cross-sectional insights into the nature of employer vacancies and of jobseekers undertaking job search activity.

National Statistics status

The current Jobcentre Plus vacancy series is designated as National Statistics. This is released monthly via the Nomis website.

The new series will be daily, with monthly releases of time series tables. Instead of being produced by the Department as a National Statistic, this new series will be more akin to management information, produced by a third party supplier. It will represent accurately the information entered to the service (much of which will be by customers self-service activity). There are considerable advantages with this approach around speed of access and the greater coverage of the new series. However, there may be duplication and errors in customer data entry.

As a result, DWP will be ceasing the current National Statistics series and replacing it with statistics via the new interactive internet-based statistical tool. This will provide a mixture of daily data and time series.

Timescales

The new service is expected to go live in late autumn 2012.

Without using the new service, it is difficult to visualise the benefits of the reporting suite. Hence, the statistical reporting suite will initially launch as a “beta” version. The “beta” period will last 6 months, during which time, the Department will collect users’ views. DWP will then formally respond to those requests and release a live version of the site. The exact timing of the “live” release will be announced in advance, but will be partly determined by the level of interest in the “beta” phase.

The existing series on Nomis will be suspended. However, the historical series will remain on Nomis.

Consultation

Clearly, this is a big change in the Jobcentre Plus vacancy series. These changes are largely driven by the need to improve the service to job search customers. However, there are substantial benefits for statistical users too, as well as some changes to the structure of the series.

DWP welcome your opinions and comments on these changes. In particular:

- Are there other breakdowns that you would like to see in the internet-based statistical information service?
- DWP appreciate that users will have some concerns regarding the break in series. What would be helpful for you as a user to bridge that gap?
- Given the likely changes to the coverage of this series across time, is there a need for time series longer than the planned twelve months?
- Given the availability of daily statistical information on notified vacancies, what value could be added by an officially compiled set of official statistics? How would you use compiled statistics if they were produced?

This consultation will run from 15 August 2012 until 14 November 2012. A report on the results from this consultation process will be published in the pages of the Statistical Summary and via Nomis. As mentioned above, further consultation will occur during the “beta” phase of the reporting tool. Those results will also be published.

Responses and/or queries should be sent to:

stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk



or by post to the following address:

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Benton Park Road
Longbenton
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE98 1YX

References:

Background information on the vacancy series on Nomis: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>

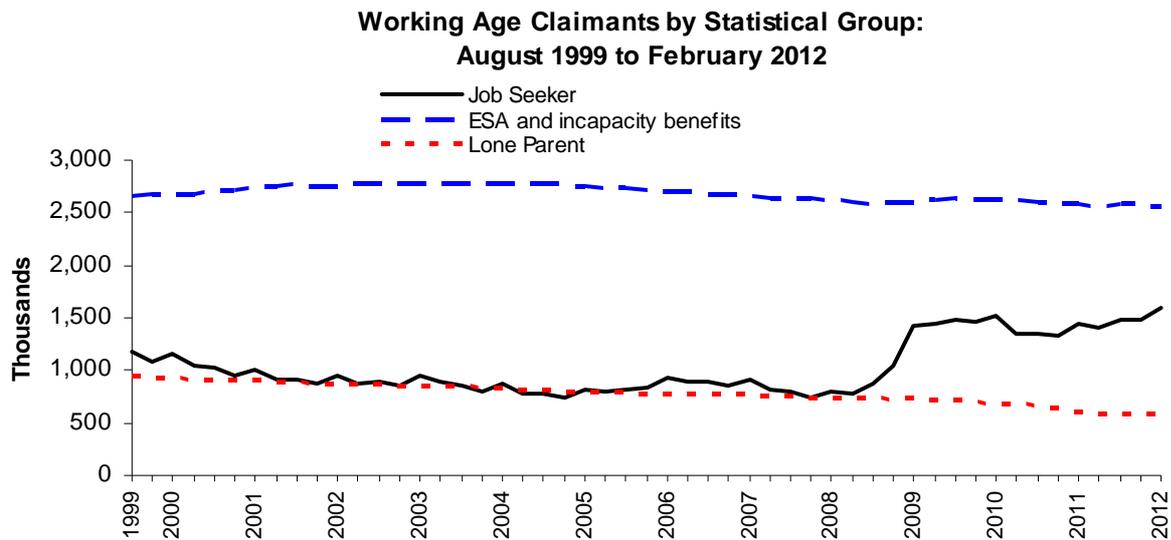
Information on recent changes to the Jobcentre Plus vacancy series: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk/articles/ref/vacs/LMT%20200506-363.pdf>

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

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).



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 2034 and 2036; 68 between 2044 and 2046. 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 at: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/espa.pdf>.

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 and were 1.59 million in February 2012. 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 584 thousand between November 1999 and February 2012.

The number of working age claimants of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and incapacity benefits totals 2.56 million in February 2012. This shows a year-on-year decrease of 21 thousand.



Table 1.1 Working Age claimants by Statistical Group: November 1999 – February 2012

	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



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. HB/CTB data are not included in the client group hierarchy but are published separately (see section 1.5).

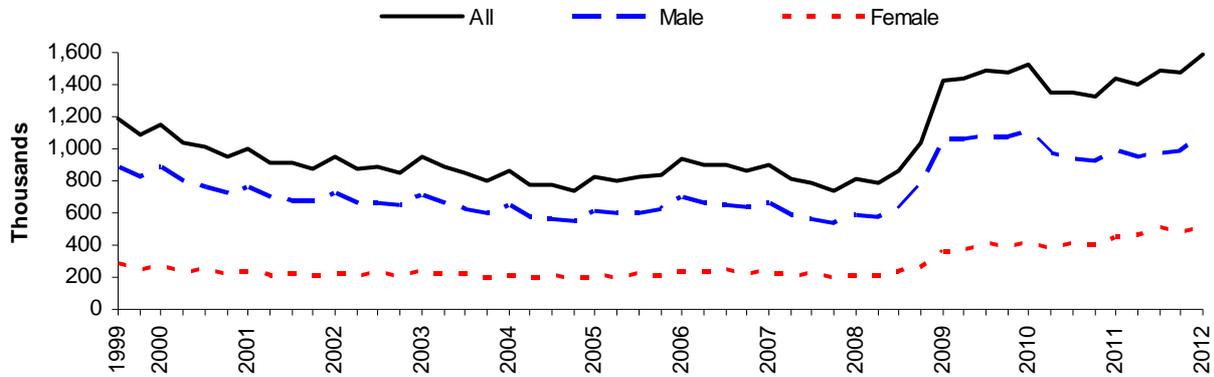
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



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 2012



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 2012 show the total number of Jobseeker's Allowance claimants was 1.59 million. Female claimants represented 32% of the JSA caseload (515 thousand), while males represented 68% (1.07 million). The total caseload has increased by 151 thousand since February 2011, with men increasing by 86 thousand and women increasing by 65 thousand.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



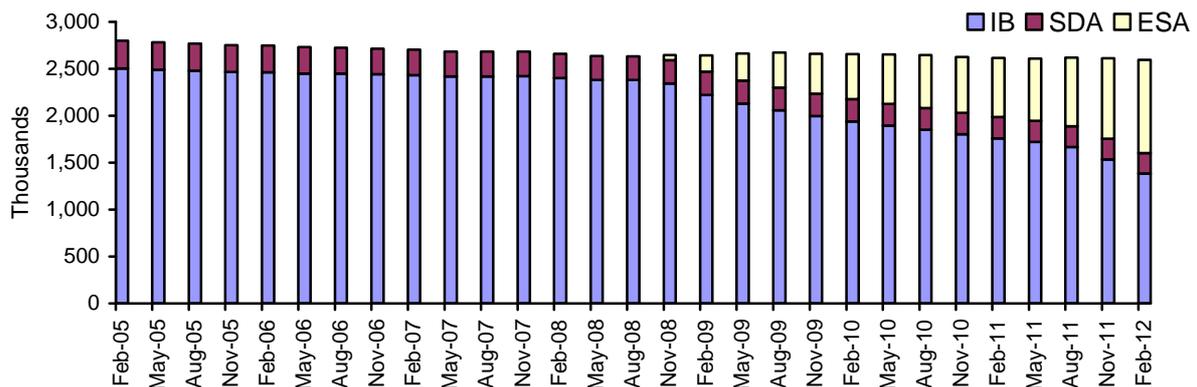
1.3 National Statistics: Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits

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.

Starting in October 2010 (in trial areas), 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. See http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/NI1/Newsroom/DG_201237

Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits



At February 2012, there were 2.59 million claimants of Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance), a decrease of 23 thousand on a year earlier. 55% of claimants were men and 45% women. The male caseload has decreased by 41 thousand and the female caseload has increased by 18 thousand in the year to February 2012.

There were 258 thousand new Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits claimants in the February 2012 quarter, which represents 10% of the February 2012 caseload. Over the same period, 283 thousand claimants left the benefits, 11% of the caseload at February 2012. These numbers includes IB claimants who have been re-assessed for ESA. More information on this process and the numbers involved can be found at:

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/workingage/index.php?page=esa_ibr

In the year to February 2012, there were a total of 875 thousand new claims for Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits and 949 thousand claims were closed.



Table 1.2 Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits claimants¹: August 1999 – February 2012

	Total	Employment and Support Allowance	Incapacity Benefits	<i>Thousands</i> Severe Disablement Allowance
Aug -99	2,732.50	.	2,355.24	377.26
Nov -99	2,738.13	.	2,361.30	376.83
Feb -00	2,724.03	.	2,348.39	375.64
May -00	2,728.09	.	2,352.52	375.56
Aug -00	2,756.51	.	2,380.31	376.20
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

Notes:

See the next page



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.

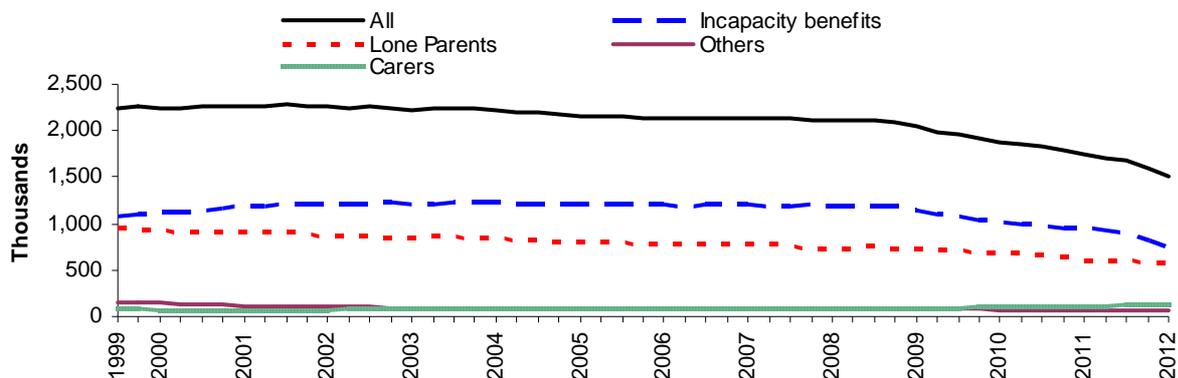
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



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 2012



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 2012, the total number of Income Support (IS) claimants was 1.51 million. Claimants of incapacity benefits represented 49% of the IS caseload (742 thousand). Lone Parents (all single claimants with dependants under 16, excluding claimants of incapacity benefits) represented 39% of the IS caseload (584 thousand), while Carers and Others represented 12% of the caseload (183 thousand).

There were 73 thousand new claimants of Income Support in the February 2012 quarter, which represents 5% of the February 2012 caseload. Over the same period, 151 thousand claimants left the benefit, 10% of the caseload at end of February 2012. In the year to February 2012, there were a total of 309 thousand new claims for Income Support and 540 thousand claims were closed.

Table 1.3 Income Support Lone Parents claimants¹: February 2012

	Thousands		
	Total	Female	Male
All Ages	584.17	567.63	16.54
Unknown Age	-	-	-
Under 18	4.41	4.40	0.01
18-24	170.26	168.69	1.56
25-34	251.28	245.26	6.02
35-44	127.91	122.28	5.63
45-54	28.06	25.22	2.85
55-64	2.25	1.78	0.47

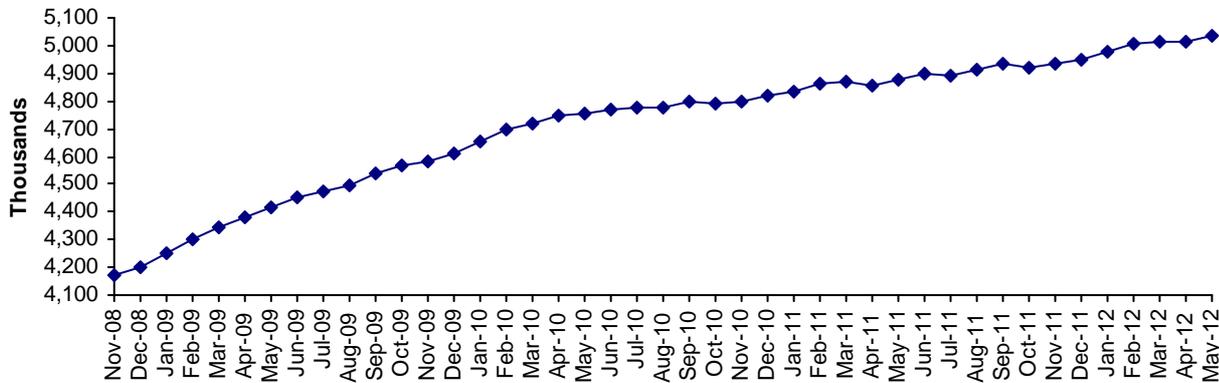
1. Lone Parents are all single claimants with dependants aged under 16, but excluding claimants of incapacity benefits.



1.5 National Statistics: Housing Benefit / Council Tax 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 2012



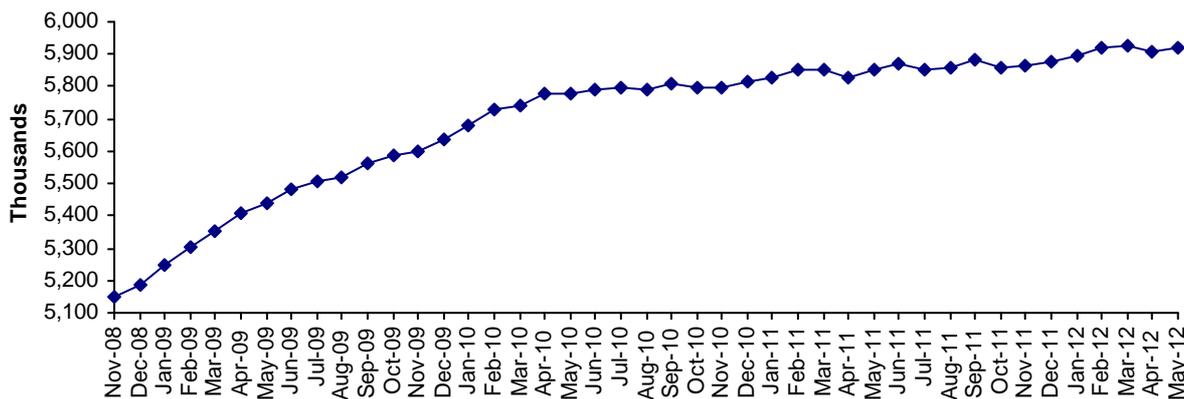
At May 2012 there were 5.03 million recipients of Housing Benefit, of whom almost three-quarters were aged under 65. The average weekly amount of Housing Benefit was £89.46.

67% of Housing Benefit recipients were tenants of Social Sector with 81% of the 1.65 million Private Sector tenants receiving the Local Housing Allowance.

65% were also in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-based Employment and Support Allowance or Pension Credit (Guarantee Credit).

Council Tax Benefit (CTB) was introduced on 1st April 1993 and is an income-related benefit, calculated in a similar way to Housing Benefit, which has been designed to help people on low incomes pay their Council Tax.

Council Tax Benefit Recipients: November 2008 to May 2012



At May 2012 there were 5.92 million recipients of Council Tax Benefit (figure excludes second adult rebates), of whom 3.72 million were aged under 65. The average weekly amount of Council Tax Benefit was £15.76.

66% of Council Tax 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).



Table 1.4 Housing Benefit (HB) / Council Tax Benefit (CTB) recipients^{1,2}: November 2008 – May 2012

Thousands

	All Housing Benefit (HB) recipients			All Council Tax Benefit (CTB) recipients		
	Total	Tenure Type		Total	Age Group ³	
		Social Rented Sector	Private Rented Sector		Aged under 65	Aged 65 or over
Nov-08	4,171.94	3,109.37	1,054.81	5,149.39	2,947.33	2,201.97
Dec-08	4,200.16	3,114.59	1,081.25	5,188.10	2,986.34	2,201.34
Jan-09	4,252.25	3,138.38	1,108.59	5,250.81	3,041.80	2,208.70
Feb-09	4,301.79	3,155.98	1,140.04	5,305.98	3,099.97	2,205.48
Mar-09	4,343.92	3,167.39	1,172.42	5,352.41	3,143.86	2,208.03
Apr-09	4,382.08	3,174.78	1,202.52	5,408.83	3,196.63	2,211.72
May-09	4,412.99	3,186.40	1,221.42	5,436.19	3,223.62	2,211.97
Jun-09	4,450.41	3,198.87	1,246.28	5,479.12	3,262.31	2,216.17
Jul-09	4,477.25	3,204.61	1,263.56	5,503.79	3,284.83	2,218.39
Aug-09	4,494.56	3,193.05	1,272.64	5,519.39	3,301.37	2,217.09
Sep-09	4,538.56	3,195.38	1,291.16	5,563.92	3,344.59	2,219.13
Oct-09	4,568.73	3,203.50	1,310.36	5,588.29	3,366.77	2,221.29
Nov-09	4,579.18	3,234.06	1,341.08	5,600.83	3,381.33	2,219.27
Dec-09	4,610.73	3,243.61	1,363.97	5,635.24	3,413.07	2,221.95
Jan-10	4,651.10	3,261.67	1,386.51	5,676.83	3,453.12	2,223.49
Feb-10	4,700.16	3,283.76	1,413.84	5,727.14	3,502.35	2,224.58
Mar-10	4,718.94	3,288.17	1,428.08	5,743.60	3,517.47	2,225.93
Apr-10	4,746.32	3,294.90	1,448.70	5,780.20	3,549.78	2,230.23
May-10	4,751.53	3,293.63	1,455.26	5,780.09	3,553.83	2,226.07
Jun-10	4,765.73	3,299.64	1,463.49	5,788.76	3,562.14	2,226.43
Jul-10	4,777.43	3,303.69	1,471.13	5,798.60	3,571.76	2,226.65
Aug-10	4,776.66	3,300.37	1,473.58	5,791.80	3,567.83	2,223.78
Sep-10	4,797.46	3,308.46	1,486.42	5,811.26	3,585.36	2,225.72
Oct-10	4,789.49	3,299.63	1,487.33	5,794.77	3,572.29	2,222.30
Nov-10	4,798.32	3,300.61	1,495.18	5,795.10	3,573.80	2,221.09
Dec-10	4,817.16	3,303.78	1,510.80	5,812.41	3,590.74	2,221.47
Jan-11	4,833.47	3,308.90	1,521.98	5,825.94	3,605.59	2,220.15
Feb-11	4,865.40	3,322.56	1,540.14	5,854.11	3,636.24	2,217.67
Mar-11	4,869.04	3,320.35	1,545.86	5,851.58	3,633.82	2,217.57
Apr-11	4,856.15	3,312.52	1,540.75	5,828.58	3,619.00	2,209.40
May-11	4,879.18	3,324.27	1,552.09	5,852.13	3,639.71	2,212.26
Jun-11	4,901.39	3,335.15	1,563.24	5,868.55	3,655.91	2,212.47
Jul-11	4,893.37	3,330.16	1,560.41	5,850.24	3,641.78	2,208.31
Aug-11	4,909.51	3,336.79	1,569.73	5,860.15	3,649.83	2,210.16
Sep-11	4,934.11	3,349.00	1,582.13	5,883.52	3,669.43	2,213.91
Oct-11	4,921.92	3,340.78	1,578.21	5,860.20	3,649.57	2,210.45
Nov-11	4,935.92	3,345.26	1,587.72	5,865.42	3,654.32	2,210.93
Dec-11	4,952.26	3,349.15	1,600.08	5,877.40	3,664.95	2,212.28
Jan-12	4,976.21	3,359.94	1,613.20	5,895.32	3,681.76	2,213.40
Feb-12	5,004.50	3,373.35	1,628.08	5,919.55	3,707.53	2,211.87
Mar-12	5,014.65	3,375.38	1,636.12	5,924.74	3,712.71	2,211.89
Apr-12	5,012.70	3,372.37	1,637.19	5,910.06	3,709.18	2,200.74
May-12	5,031.74	3,382.87	1,645.73	5,922.41	3,722.15	2,200.13

Source: Single Housing Benefit Extract (SHBE)

Notes:

- Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit recipients are individual claimants who had a live in payment claim on the second Thursday in each month. Council Tax Benefit recipients exclude Second Adult Rebate cases.
- Caseload figures are rounded to the nearest 10. Components may not sum to total due to independent rounding.
- Age groups are based on the age at count date (second Thursday in each month), of either:
 - the recipient if they are single, or
 - the elder of the recipient or partner if claiming as a couple.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=hbctb>



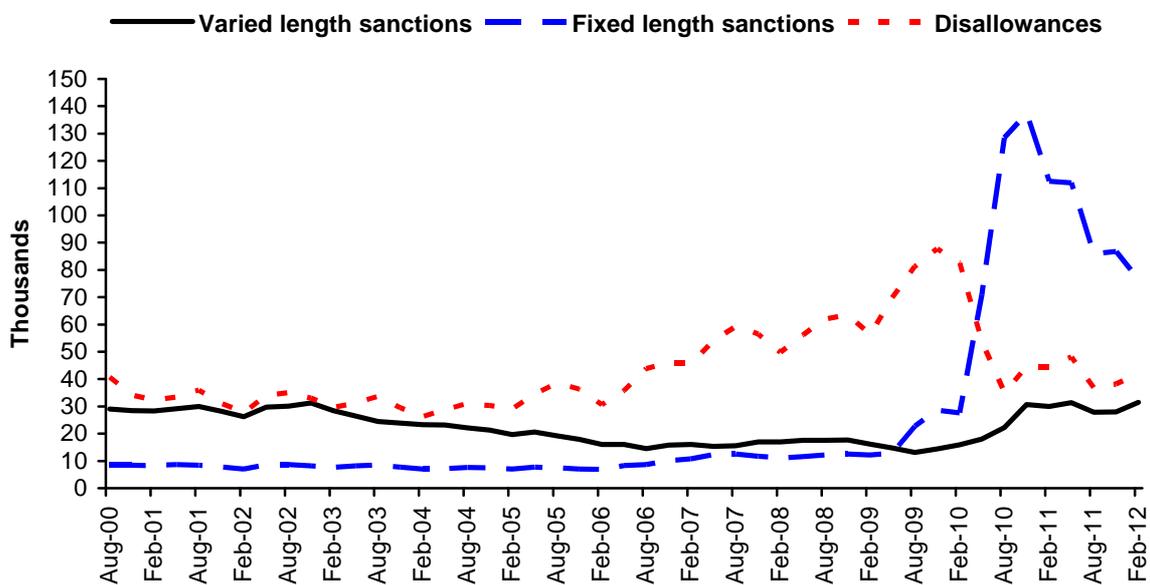
1.7 National Statistics: Jobseeker's Allowance sanction and disallowance decisions

A JSA claimant can have their claim sanctioned (payment is temporarily suspended) or disallowed (entitlement ends) if they are deemed not to have just cause for failing to fulfil the conditions of their claim. Sanctions can be 'Varied length' or 'Fixed length' and last between 1 and 26 weeks in duration. Disallowances result in the claim ending.

Draft regulations have been laid before Parliament under section 37(1)(ab) of the Jobseekers Act 1995, for approval by resolution of each House of Parliament. These regulations will make changes to the Jobseeker's Allowance sanctions rules. See:

(http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2012/9780111526149/pdfs/ukdsi_9780111526149_en.pdf). These are proposed to come in to force on 22 October 2012. These changes will be reflected in DWP statistics. Timescales for release of these statistics are uncertain. Further information will be provided in future Summaries.

Adverse decisions for JSA Labour Market questions for Sanctions and Disallowances per quarter: August 2000 to February 2012



In the quarter ending February 2012 there were 332 thousand referrals for JSA sanctions where a decision was made, of which 167 thousand were adverse (i.e. a sanction or disallowance was applied).

These statistics show 195 thousand referrals for JSA sanctions were made and completed by the end of April 12 where claimants failed to participate in the Work Programme. Of these, 73 thousand resulted in an adverse decision; 60 thousand received a favourable decision and 63 thousand were cancelled or reserved to be reviewed/ applied on a future benefit claim.

These statistics show 23 thousand referrals for JSA sanctions were made and completed by the end of April 12 where claimants failed to participate in Mandatory Work Activity. Of these, 7 thousand resulted in an adverse decision; 7 thousand received a favourable decision and 9 thousand were cancelled or reserved to be reviewed/ applied on a future benefit claim.

Please Note: This summary includes data on decisions made for sanction referrals only, not opinions.

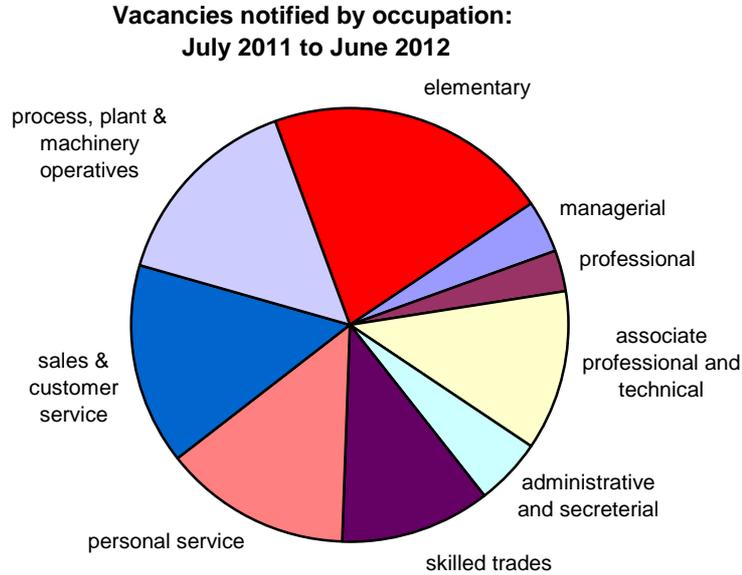
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/sanction/sanction/LIVE/tabtool.html>



1.8 National Statistics: Vacancies handled by Jobcentre Plus

As the public employment service for Great Britain, Jobcentre Plus handle a significant share of all vacancies advertised by employers, albeit that vacancies notified to Jobcentre Plus do not represent the total number of vacancies in the whole economy.

See the "Focus On" article at the beginning of this Summary for news on the future of this series.



On average, 369 thousand vacancies a month were notified to Jobcentre Plus between July 2011 and June 2012. Most commonly these are for elementary occupations (21%) and sales/customer services or process, plant and machinery operatives (both 15%). 13% of notified vacancies are in the North West and South East regions compared to 11% in London, 5% Wales and 7% Scotland.

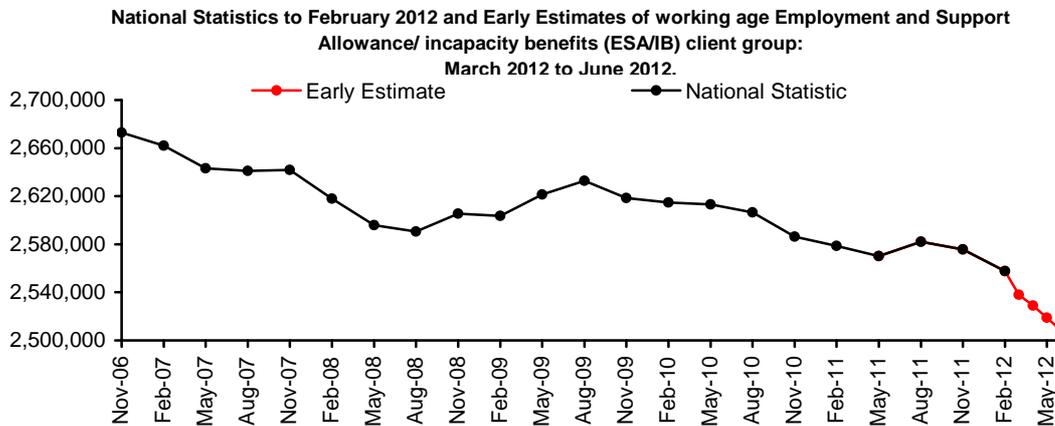
As at June 2012, the number of unfilled vacancies available to jobseekers was 329 thousand.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

2. Early Estimates for Working Age Inactive Benefit Client Group

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

The early estimates for working age inactive benefit client groups are released monthly and are designed to give indicative, timely information ahead of the publication of full National Statistics. They are not a substitute for the National Statistics and will be replaced when the final quarterly National Statistics covering the same period are published.



The working-age Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) early estimate for June 2012 is 2.510 million to the nearest 5,000. This indicates a 1.9% decrease since February 2012 (the latest National Statistic).

National Statistics are available for quarters up to the end of February 2012. Final figures for the quarters ending August 2012 and November 2012 will be released on 20th February 2013. The most recent National Statistics show 2.56 million individuals were in the ESA/IB client group at February 2012. 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 0.4%. See 'Notes' for more information.

Table 2.1 Point estimate for the Early Estimates of numbers in working age ESA/IB client group: March 2012 to June 2012

	<i>Thousands</i>	
	National Statistics	Early Estimate
	Number of Claimants	Number of Claimants
Aug-09	2,632.74	
Nov-09	2,618.38	
Feb-10	2,614.76	
May-10	2,613.10	
Aug-10	2,606.61	
Nov-10	2,586.42	
Feb-11	2,578.66	
May-11	2,570.23	
Aug-11	2,582.18	
Nov-11	2,575.60	
Feb-12	2,557.68	
Mar-12		2,540
Apr-12		2,530
May-12		2,520
Jun-12		2,510

Notes:

1. ESA/ incapacity benefits: 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 27 October 2008. Prior to this the "incapacity benefits group" referred to claimants of Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance including people claiming IS on the grounds of Incapacity.

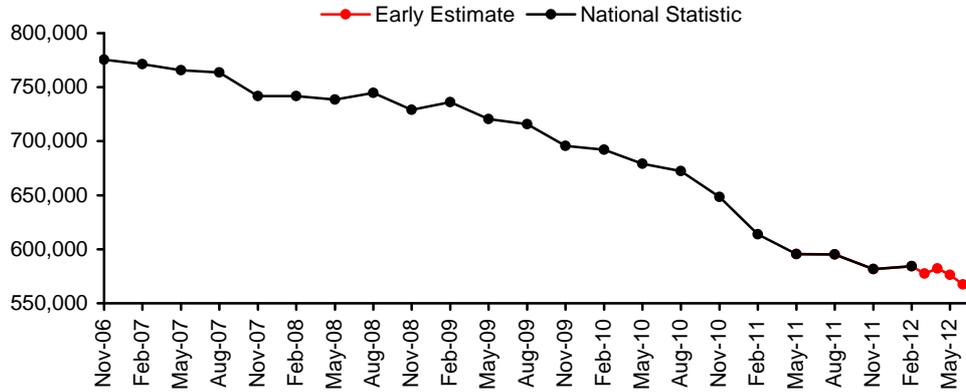
Latest statistical data available from: http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=early_ests



2.2 Official Statistics: Income Support Lone Parent (ISLP) client group

The early estimates for working age inactive benefit client groups are released monthly and are designed to give indicative, timely information ahead of the publication of full National Statistics. They are not a substitute for the National Statistics and will be replaced when the final quarterly National Statistics covering the same period are published.

National Statistics to February 2012 and Early Estimates of working age Income Support Lone Parent client group: March 2012 to June 2012.



The working-age Income Support Lone Parent (ISLP) early estimate for June 2012 is 565 thousand to the nearest 5,000. This represents a fall of 2.9% since February 2012 (the latest full National Statistic figure).

National Statistics are available for quarters up to the end of February 2012. Final figures for the quarters ending August 2012 and November 2012 will be released on 20th February 2013. The most recent National Statistics show 584 thousand individuals were in the ISLP client group at February 2012. 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 0.3%. See 'Notes' for more information.

Table 2.2 Point estimate for the Early Estimates of numbers in working age ISLP client group March 2012 to June 2012

	<i>Thousands</i>	
	National Statistics	Early Estimate
	Number of Claimants	Number of Claimants
Aug-09	715.73	
Nov-09	695.72	
Feb-10	692.02	
May-10	679.15	
Aug-10	672.35	
Nov-10	648.30	
Feb-11	613.78	
May-11	595.40	
Aug-11	595.29	
Nov-11	581.62	
Feb-12	584.17	
Mar-12		575
Apr-12		580
May-12		575
Jun-12		565

Notes:

From 24th November 2008 lone parent obligations (LPOs) were introduced and lone parents 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.

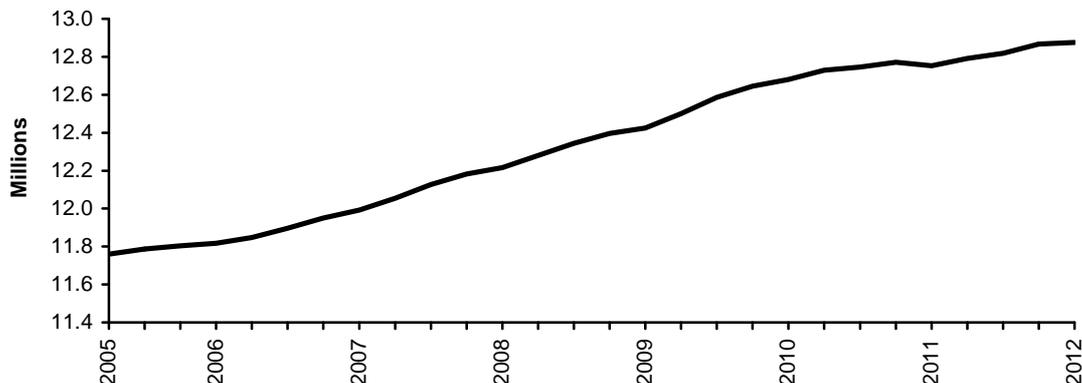
Latest statistical data available from: http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=early_ests

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.

Pensioner Client Group: May 2005 to February 2012



At February 2012 there were 12.9 million claimants in the Pensioner Client Group, an increase of 122 thousand since February 2011. Of these, 19% 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: November 2005 – February 2012

		<i>Thousands</i>							
	Total	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
Nov -05	11,804.43	1,075.10	1,278.42	1,307.14	7,929.69	75.54	75.42	39.48	23.63
Feb -06	11,817.23	1,081.17	1,277.97	1,315.46	7,934.50	73.53	73.75	37.77	23.08
May -06	11,847.97	1,088.48	1,278.31	1,322.93	7,949.50	73.76	74.05	38.06	22.88
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

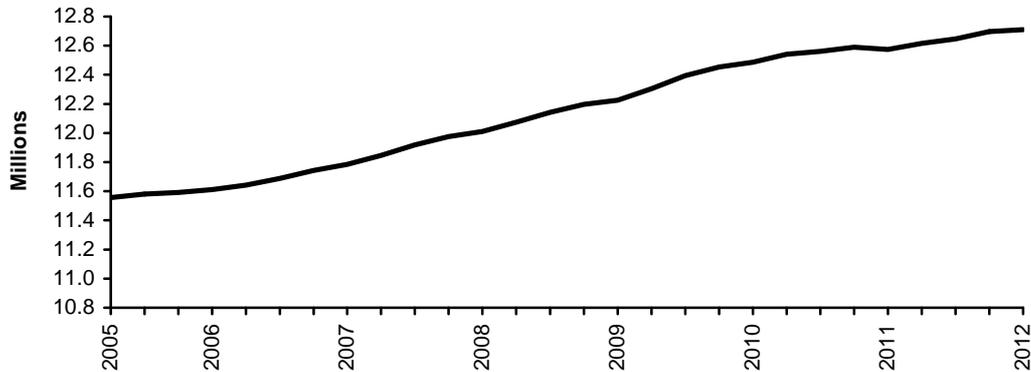
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



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 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 2034 and 2036; and 68 between 2044 and 2046.

State Pension Recipients: May 2005 to February 2012



At February 2012, there were 12.7 million claimants of State Pension, a rise of 135 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 39% were male and 61% female.

The average weekly amount in payment at February 2012 was £111.32, a rise of £5.74 since February 2011.

In quarter to February 2012, there were a total of 143 thousand new claims for State Pension which represents 1.1% of the caseload. Over the same period, 138 thousand claimants left the benefit, representing 1.1% of the caseload at February 2012.

In the year to February 2012, there were a total of 605 thousand new claims for State Pension and 495 thousand claims were closed.

Table 3.2 State Pension recipients: November 2006 – February 2012

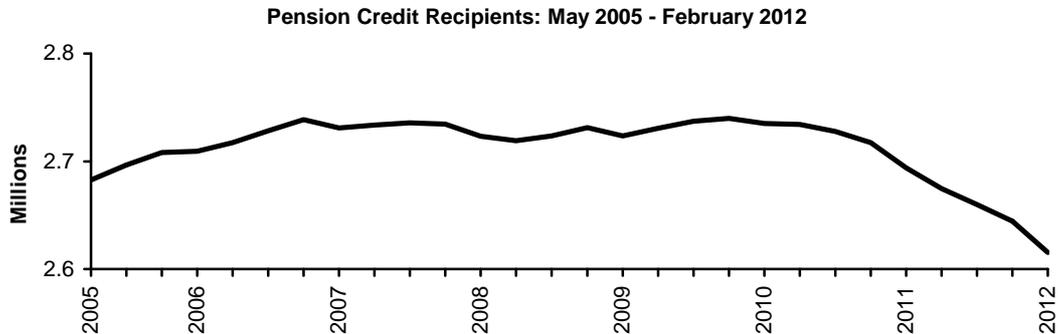
	All	Male	Female
Nov -06	11,742.01	4,408.91	7,333.10
Feb -07	11,785.67	4,418.99	7,366.68
May -07	11,846.43	4,437.99	7,408.44
Aug -07	11,919.12	4,463.09	7,456.04
Nov -07	11,976.03	4,484.97	7,491.06
Feb -08	12,011.54	4,499.53	7,512.02
May -08	12,074.99	4,526.79	7,548.20
Aug -08	12,142.20	4,555.63	7,586.57
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

Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/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 2012, there were 2.62 million claimants of Pension Credit (3.20 million including partners), a fall of 78 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, 1.04 million claimed Guarantee Credit only, 1.01 million claimed Guarantee and Savings Credit, and 559 thousand were claiming Savings Credit only. Note, certain aspects of the April 2012 uprating for Pension Credit were applied to the administrative computer system in advance, hence, the statistics in February 2012 show the Pension Credit type based on 2012/13 rates. However, claimants were still being paid based on 2011/12 rates. The average weekly amount of Pension Credit in payment at February 2012 was £57.10, a rise of £0.39 since February 2011. Statistics on benefit flows show there were 172 thousand new claims to Pension Credit in the year to February 2012. There were 197 thousand new claims to Pension Credit in the financial year 2010/2011. 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 (around 2%).

Table 3.3 Pension Credit claimants: May 2006 – February 2012

		<i>Thousands</i>			
	Total	Guarantee Credit only	Guarantee Credit & Savings Credit	Savings Credit only	Still on Minimum Income Guarantee
May -06	2,717.39	775.57	1,343.23	598.56	0.02
Aug -06	2,728.15	787.30	1,334.41	606.41	0.02
Nov -06	2,738.56	798.13	1,325.87	614.54	0.02
Feb -07	2,730.94	800.11	1,327.78	603.03	0.03
May -07	2,733.50	805.73	1,330.09	597.65	0.02
Aug -07	2,735.72	814.42	1,321.95	599.33	0.03
Nov -07	2,734.54	823.57	1,310.05	600.90	0.03
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

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

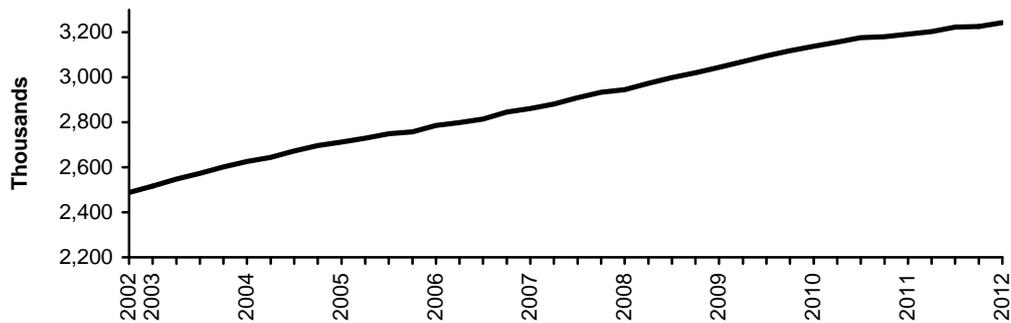
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>

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.

Disability Living Allowance Recipients: November 2002 to February 2012



At February 2012, 3.24 million people were receiving Disability Living Allowance (not including suspended cases), a rise of 51 thousand on a year earlier. Of these claimants 50% were male. Both the male and female caseloads are rising, with males rising by 27 thousand and females by 25 thousand in the year to February 2012.

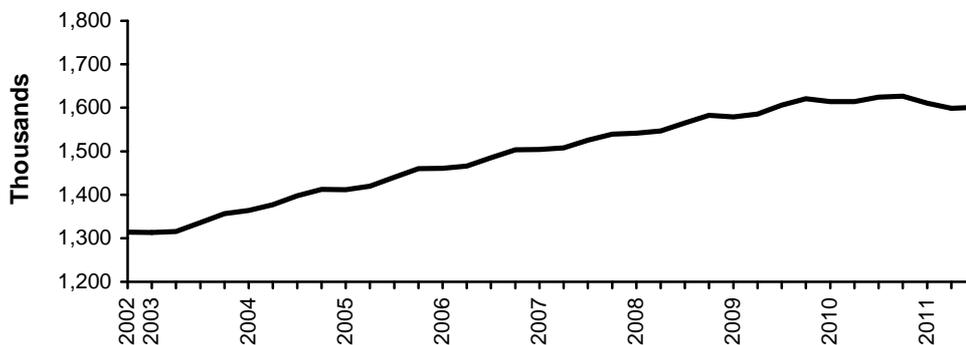
At February 2012, 11% of recipients were children, 57% were working age and 33% were pension age (a small number are an unknown age).

Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>

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.

Attendance Allowance Cases in Payment: November 2002 to August 2011

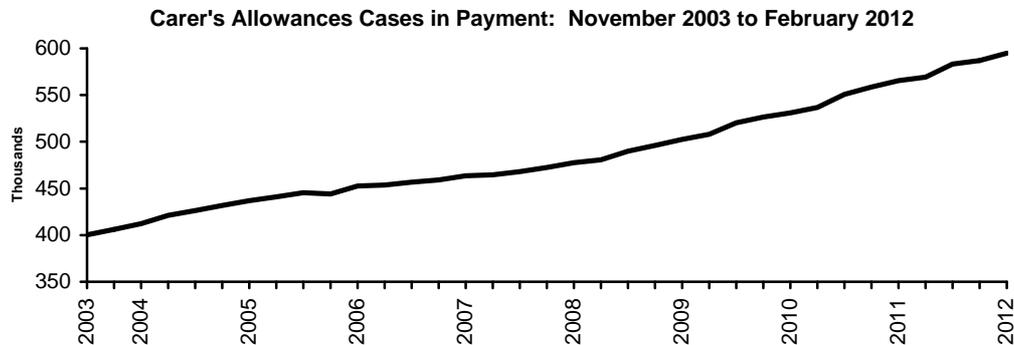


At August 2011 (see Notes, section 8. This describes why February 2012 numbers are not available) there were 1.60 million people receiving Attendance Allowance (excluding suspended cases), a fall of 24 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 33% were male and 67% female. The male caseload has decreased by 5 thousand and the female caseload has decreased by 19 thousand in the year to August 2011. At August 2011, 68% were aged 80 or over.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>

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 2012, there were 595 thousand people receiving Carer's Allowance (not including underlying entitlement cases). 27% of claimants were male, and 73% female. At February 2012, there were a further 444 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 2003 – February 2012

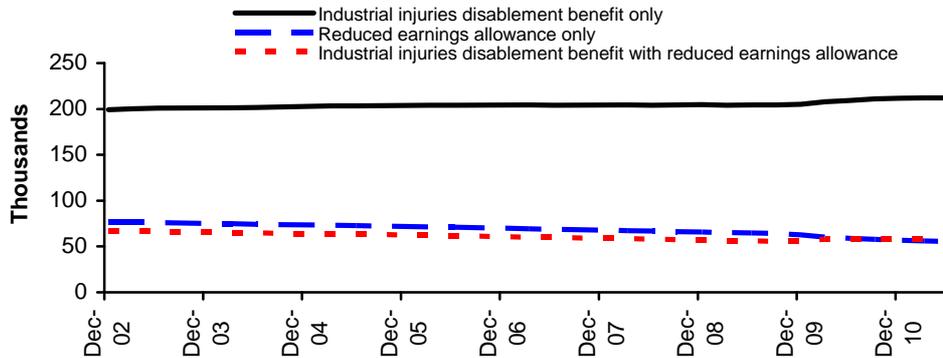
	Disability Living Allowance	Attendance Allowance	Carer's Allowance ¹
Nov -03	2,601.88	1,356.31	406.23
Feb -04	2,625.39	1,363.81	412.12
May -04	2,644.28	1,377.35	421.18
Aug -04	2,672.16	1,397.30	426.34
Nov -04	2,696.28	1,412.50	431.66
Feb -05	2,712.91	1,411.33	436.94
May -05	2,729.72	1,419.42	441.03
Aug -05	2,749.48	1,440.09	445.43
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	..	587.07
Feb-12	3,243.53	..	594.86

1. Data is not available prior to August 2003.

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.

**Industrial injuries disablement benefit and reduced earnings allowance in payment by type of assessments payable:
December 2002 - December 2011**



There were 323 thousand people claiming under the Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit scheme in December 2011, of whom 65% received Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit only, 17% received Reduced Earnings Allowance only, and 18% received both. The number of people claiming benefit was broadly the same as in December 2010. The average weekly payment was £49.52.

Latest statistical data available from: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=iidb>

5. Families & Children

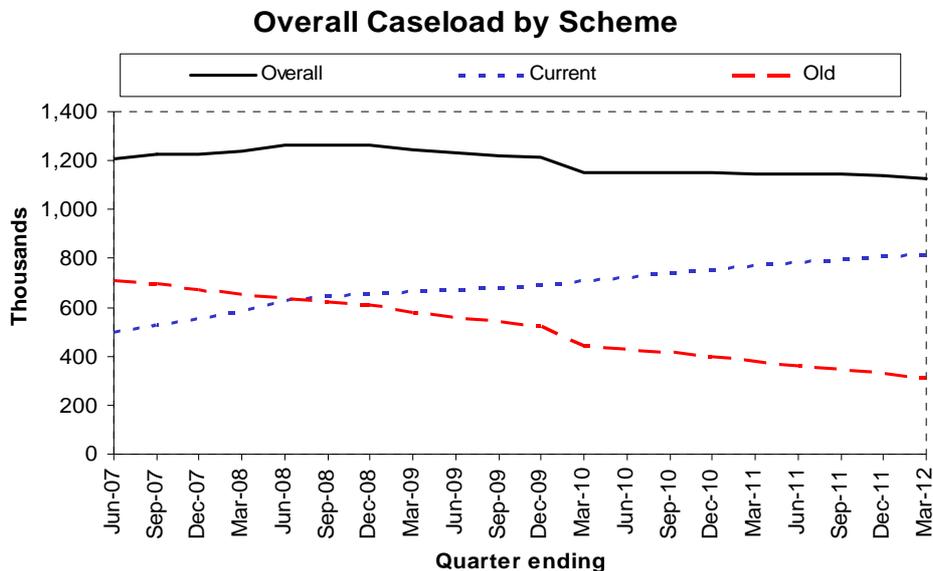
5.1 National Statistics: Child Support Agency cases

The Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission (CMEC), established as a non-departmental public body under the Child Maintenance and Other Payments Act 2008, is responsible for the child maintenance system in Great Britain. The Commission assumed responsibility for the Child Support Agency (CSA) from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) on 1 November 2008.

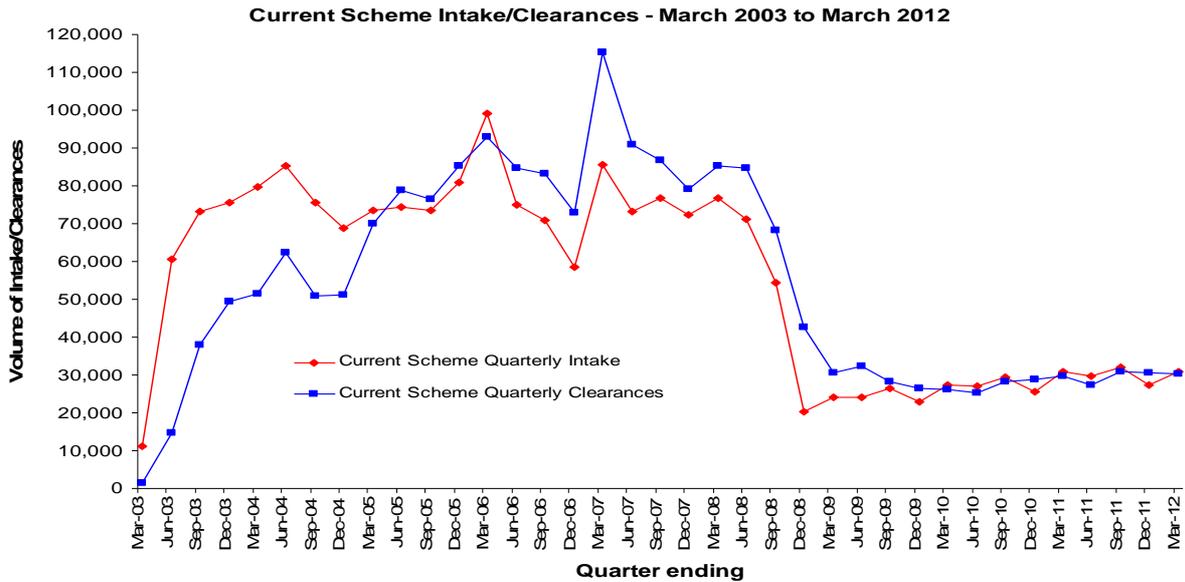
On 14 October 2010 the Government announced as part of the Public Bodies Reform that the Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission would become an executive agency of DWP.

These statistics, produced by the Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission in conjunction with the DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate, contain the most up-to-date tables and breakdowns on the CSA's two existing statutory child maintenance schemes. The CSA statistics presented here were released on 25th April 2012.

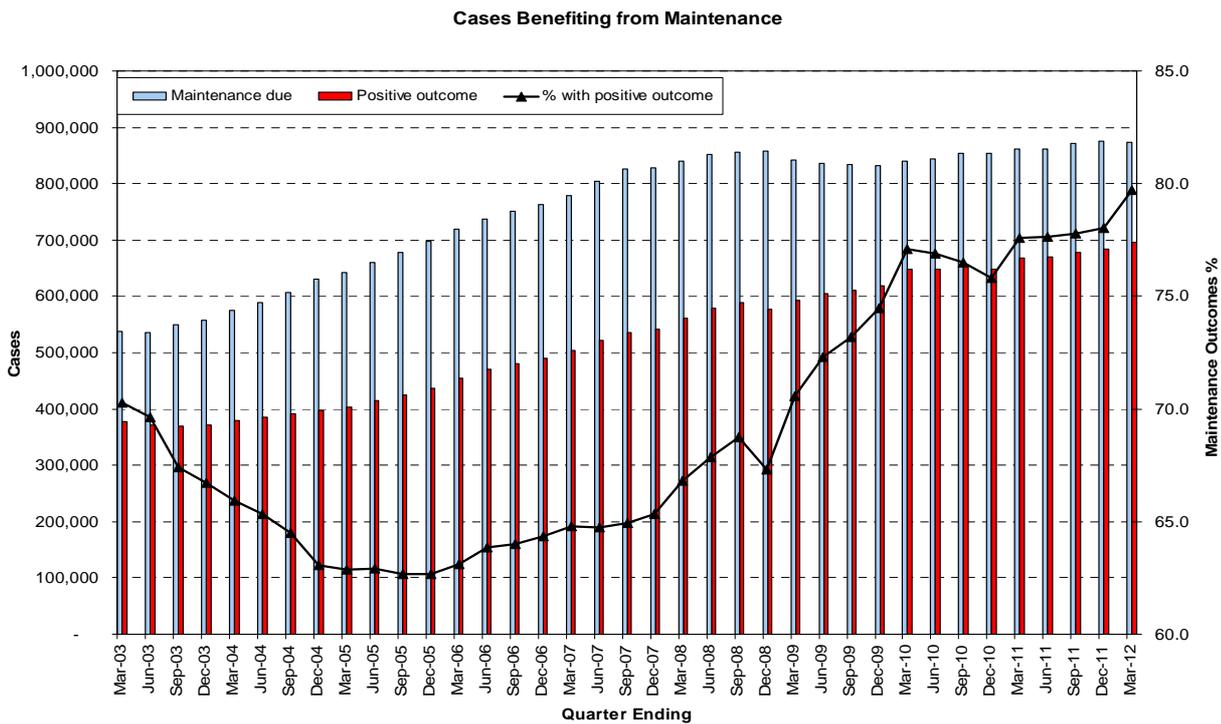
Due to processing delays, the next update of the Child Support Agency statistics will now be released on the 22nd August.



At the end of March 2012, the CSA live and assessed caseload stood at 1.13 million.



The volume of uncleared current scheme applications increased by 500 since December 2011, and is currently at 13,700. This represents an increase of 3.8% since December 2011.



In the quarter ending March 2012, 79.7% 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: <http://www.childmaintenance.org/en/publications/index.html>



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, JSA (Jobseeker's Allowance) sanctions and Jobcentre Plus vacancies. To provide a more complete picture of DWP responsibility, statistics on Housing Benefit and Council Tax 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 also contains National Statistics on Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit. Every six months, the Summary is a larger document containing the detail of DWP administered benefits, JSA sanctions, Jobcentre Plus vacancies and the Child Support Agency. These are temporary reductions in frequency, please see Notes section 9 for details.

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: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool>. 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>)
- Separate detailed tables on [Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit](#); and 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.)

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://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/stats_consultation/modstats.pdf

2. National Statistics Code of Practice

DWP complies with the National Statistics Code of Practice 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](#)
- [Ad hocs and pricing](#)

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/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. If you would like to receive occasional e-mails from DWP to directly inform you of documents seeking the views of users, please email general.statistics@dwp.gsi.gov.uk giving details of the DWP publications you use.

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:

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/statistical_summary_questionnaire.doc

The results of the recent consultation of user views can be found at:

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=news2011#ss_feedback

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

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

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://83.244.183.180/100pc/pc/tabtool_pc.html. User guidance on the flows series can be found at: http://83.244.183.180/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 0.4%, with the biggest revision being 0.68% and the smallest being 0.12%. The early estimates for ISLP have been revised by an average of 0.3%, with the biggest revision being 0.86% and the smallest being 0.04%.

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:

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/early_ests/technical_document_final.pdf

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/early_ests/QandA_Early_Estimates_final.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 will only be eligible to claim Income Support until their youngest child is five years old.

Most effected 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). Through analysis of the effected claimants over the next quarters, it can be decided if there is a requirement to change the structure of IS LP statistics. In the meantime, 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 (http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Employment/Jobseekers/programmesandservices/DG_197781). 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:
<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/pwp/index.php?page=pwp> and
<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=wp>

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 2034 and 2036; 68 between 2044 and 2046. 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://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/espa.pdf>. For general information about the change to State Pension age, please see:
http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Pensionsandretirementplanning/StatePension/DG_4017919

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

On 15th August 2012:

- The “Attendance Allowance - cases in payment” (http://83.244.183.180/100pc/aa/tabtool_aa.html) Tabulation Tool has not been updated in this release due to an issue with detecting who is receiving payment. We hope to fix the problem for the next release. This does not affect previously released numbers nor the “Attendance Allowance - all entitled cases” Tabulation Tool
- Extra flexibility has been offered in the ESA Tabulation Tool to allow users to cross tabulate duration, type of ESA (WRAG, Support, Assessment) and payment type (Income Based, Contributory etc.). This will allow some analysis of those affected by the ESA time limit (<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/policy/disability/welfare-reform-bill-2011-and-disabled/>). The Tabulation Tool now allows the use of duration as a “Subset” variable.
- The ESA off-flows Tabulation Tool (http://83.244.183.180/flows/flows_off/esa/tabtool_esa.html) includes “Phase of ESA claim (At Off Flow)” for February 2012. This will also be populated in future quarters.
- Due to processing delays, the Child Support Agency statistics due for release on the 25th July have been rescheduled to be released on the 22nd August. The Child Support Agency section has therefore not been updated.

9. Notification of future changes to the Summary

The frequency of publication of the Statistical Summary is temporarily changing to allow DWP to focus on preparation of a new, improved dissemination tool and the development of new series for the Personal Independence Payment and Universal Credit. These changes will take effect from the September 2012 Summary onwards. The publication frequencies are listed below:

- The early estimate series will continue to be published monthly, using the existing timetable.
- The Housing Benefit/ Council Tax Benefit series will be published quarterly, with the next release in November 2012. The time series tables will be updated with three months’ statistics; whilst the single month tables will show the relevant single month. For example, in November 2012, the time series tables will be updated with June – August 2012 statistics. Tables which show the latest month will be updated with August 2012 statistics.
- Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Flows will continue to be published quarterly, using the existing timetable.
- Series which are released independently in other publications will continue to be published as normal. The following series will continue using the normal publication frequency: Jobcentre Plus vacancies (although, see the [Focus On...](#) article), Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit, Maternity Allowance and Child Support Agency.
- The remaining series will be published on a six monthly schedule, with the next release occurring in February 2013. As all these series are published via the Tabulation Tool, the six monthly Tabulation Tool release will include two sets of quarterly tables. Hence, in February 2012, DWP will release Tabulation



Tools for both May 2012 and August 2012. Similar releases will be made on Nomis. However, the Statistical Summary will focus only on the most recent quarter.

- Small area (ward, Lower Super Output Area and Census Output Area) statistics will move to a six monthly schedule in line with the Tabulation Tool releases. Two sets of quarterly tables will be released together at the scheduled six-month release point.

DWP will review these changes in February 2013 and report on the future plans for publication schedules. Comments are welcome from users on these changes to stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk.

On 20 February 2013:

- Changes to Jobcentre Plus vacancy statistics will occur in late autumn 2012. Details can be found in the "Focus On..." article in this Summary.
- Draft regulations have been laid before Parliament under section 37(1)(ab) of the Jobseekers Act 1995, for approval by resolution of each House of Parliament. These regulations will make changes to the Jobseeker's Allowance sanctions rules. See: (http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2012/9780111526149/pdfs/ukdsi_9780111526149_en.pdf). These are proposed to come in to force on 22 October 2012. These changes will be reflected in DWP statistics. Timescales for release of these statistics are uncertain. Further information will be provided in future Summaries.
- The "Attendance Allowance - cases in payment" (http://83.244.183.180/100pc/aa/tabtool_aa.html) Tabulation Tool will be updated with the missing quarters.

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://83.244.183.180/5pc/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://83.244.183.180/100pc/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://83.244.183.180/100pc/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 http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd2/index.php?page=fraud_error

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: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=irb>

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 Tabulation Tools: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool>;
- An A to Z list of DWP statistics: http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=statistics_a_to_z;
- A schedule of statistical releases over the next 12 months: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=schedule>;
- And a list of the most recent releases: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=recent>.
- 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/statistics-producers/publications/index.html?newquery=*%&source-agency=Work+and+Pensions&pagetype=release-landing-page. In addition, users can find links to DWP additional statistical analyses that have not been included in our standard publications at http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=adhoc_analysis.