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14th March 2012
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Coverage: Great Britain (unless otherwise stated)

Theme: People and Places

DWP QUARTERLY STATISTICAL SUMMARY

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

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



All regular series are full National Statistics;

EXCEPT:

The working age inactive benefit early estimates are official statistics; [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 14 March 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.

Key Findings

- There were 5.8 million working age benefit claimants at August 2011. This is an increase of 58 thousand in the year to August 2011.
- Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) was introduced on 27th October 2008. There were around 732 thousand people claiming Employment and Support Allowance at the end of August 2011.
- The number of working age claimants of ESA and incapacity benefits totals 2.58 million in August 2011. This figure is 24 thousand less than August 2010.
- The number of lone parents claiming Income Support (IS) decreased by 77 thousand to 595 thousand in the year to August 2011.
- At December 2011, the total number of people claiming Housing Benefit was 4.95 million, with 5.88 million claiming Council Tax Benefit.
- At August 2011, there were 12.8 million people of state pension age claiming a DWP benefit, an increase of 72 thousand since August 2010. Of these, 67% were claiming State Pension (SP) only.



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Next publication:

18th April 2012
(See Notes section)



- At August 2011, there were 12.6 million claimants of State Pension (SP), a rise of 85 thousand on a year earlier. Of these 39% were male and 61% female.
- At August 2011, there were 2.66 million claimants of Pension Credit (3.25 million including partners), a fall of 15 thousand on the previous quarter. Of these, 928 thousand claimed Guarantee Credit only, 1.14 million claimed Guarantee and Savings Credit, and 591 thousand were claiming Savings Credit only.
- At the end of December 2011, the total Child Support Agency (CSA) live and assessed caseload stood at 1.14 million cases, of which 71% were current scheme cases.
- At August 2011, there were 3.22 million recipients of Disability Living Allowance (DLA), 583 thousand recipients of Carer's Allowance (CA), and 1.60 million recipients of Attendance Allowance (AA).

Statistics on benefit flows show:

- There were 694 thousand new claims to Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits, 27 thousand new claims to Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit (BB/WB), 313 thousand to Income Support (IS) and 556 thousand new claims to State Pension (SP) in the year to August 2011.
- There were 755 thousand benefit exits for Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits, 38 thousand for Bereavement Benefit/Widows Benefit (BB/WB), 472 thousand for Income Support (IS) and 502 thousand benefit exits for State Pension (SP) in the year to August 2011.
- There were 197 thousand new claims to PC in the financial year 2010/2011.

[OFFICIAL STATISTICS]: Early estimates show

- At the end of January 2012, the working age Income Support lone parents (ISLP) early estimate was 580 thousand.
- At the end of January 2012, the Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (ESA/IB) early estimate was 2.550 million.

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

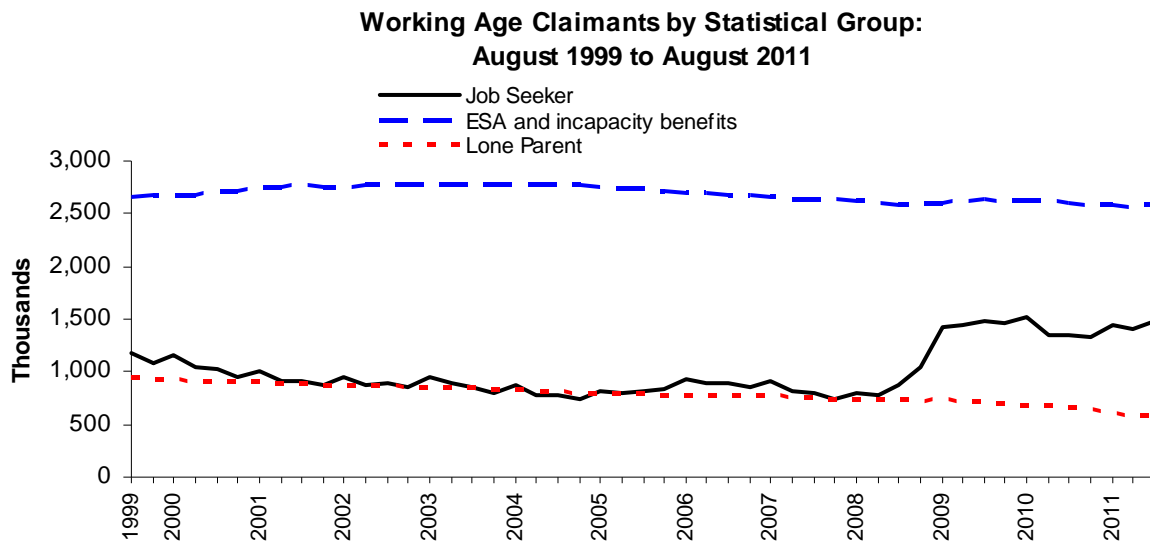


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1. Working Age

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 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>.

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 1.48 million in August 2011. The preferred source of JSA figures is the ONS claimant count measure (which is seasonally adjusted).

The lone parent caseload fell from 945 thousand to 595 thousand between August 1999 and August 2011.

The number of working age claimants of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and incapacity benefits totals 2.58 million in August 2011. This shows a year-on-year decrease of 24 thousand.



Table 1.1 Working Age claimants by Statistical Group: August 1999 – August 2011

	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
Aug -99	..	1,181.86	2,655.38	945.06	316.13	222.31	..	..
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



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).

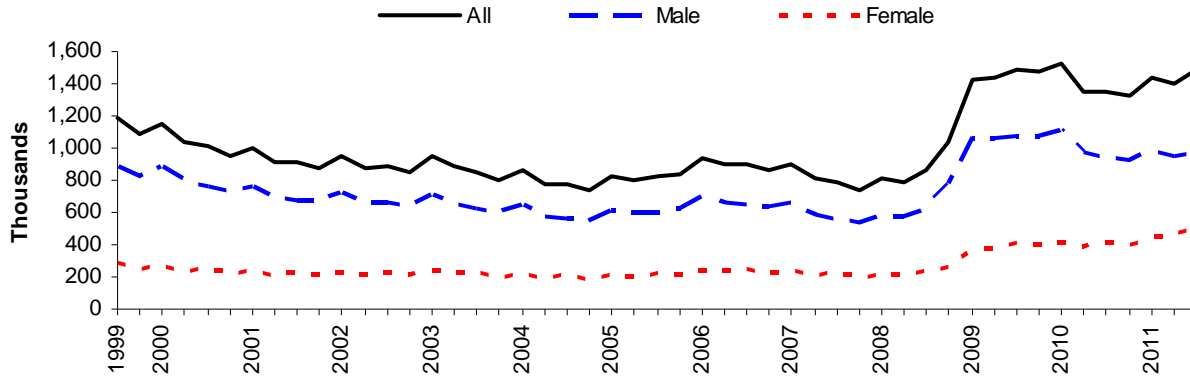
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



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 August 2011



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

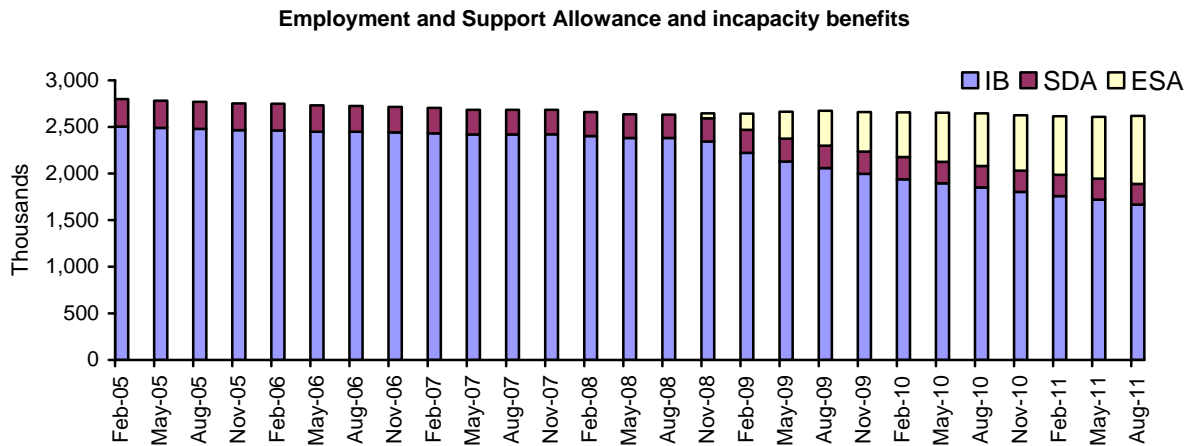
DWP produce a separate set of Jobseeker's Allowance figures to enable cross-benefit analysis and supply a wider range of breakdowns, and these are provided in this release.

The DWP figures at August 2011 show the total number of Jobseeker's Allowance claimants was 1.48 million. Female claimants represented 34% of the JSA caseload (507 thousand), while males represented 66% (976 thousand). The total caseload has increased by 133 thousand since August 2010, with men increasing by 37 thousand and women increasing by 96 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 and Income Support 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.



At August 2011, there were 2.62 million claimants of Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits (Incapacity Benefit or Severe Disablement Allowance), a decrease of 27 thousand on a year earlier. 56% of claimants were men and 44% women. The male caseload has decreased by 43 thousand and the female caseload has increased by 16 thousand in the year to August 2011.

There were 193 thousand new Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits claimants in the August 2011 quarter, which represents 7% of the August 2011 caseload. Over the same period, 206 thousand claimants left the benefits, 8% of the caseload at August 2011.

In the year to August 2011, there were a total of 694 thousand new claims for Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits and 755 thousand claims were closed.



Table 1.2 Employment and Support Allowance and incapacity benefits claimants¹: August 1999 – August 2011

	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

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.*

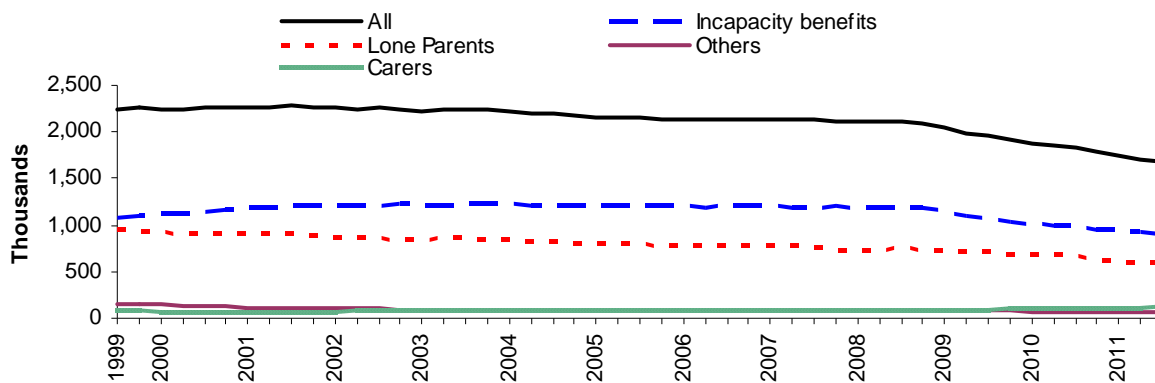
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



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. Following the implementation of the Welfare Reform Bill, lone parents will be eligible to claim Income Support until their youngest child is five years old.

**Income Support by Statistical Group:
August 1999 to August 2011**



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 August 2011, the total number of Income Support (IS) claimants was 1.68 million. Claimants of incapacity benefits represented 54% of the IS caseload (898 thousand). Lone Parents (all single claimants with dependants under 16, excluding claimants of incapacity benefits) represented 36% of the IS caseload (595 thousand), while Carers and Others represented 11% of the caseload (182 thousand).

There were 80 thousand new claimants of Income Support in the August 2011 quarter, which represents 5% of the August 2011 caseload. Over the same period, 109 thousand claimants left the benefit, 7% of the caseload at end of August 2011. In the year to August 2011, there were a total of 313 thousand new claims for Income Support and 472 thousand claims were closed.

Table 1.3 Income Support Lone Parents claimants¹: August 2011

	Thousands		
	Total	Female	Male
All Ages	595.29	578.57	16.73
Unknown Age	-	-	-
Under 18	4.43	4.42	0.01
18-24	174.25	172.73	1.52
25-34	253.69	247.74	5.95
35-44	132.37	126.47	5.90
45-54	28.34	25.45	2.89
55-64	2.20	1.75	0.45

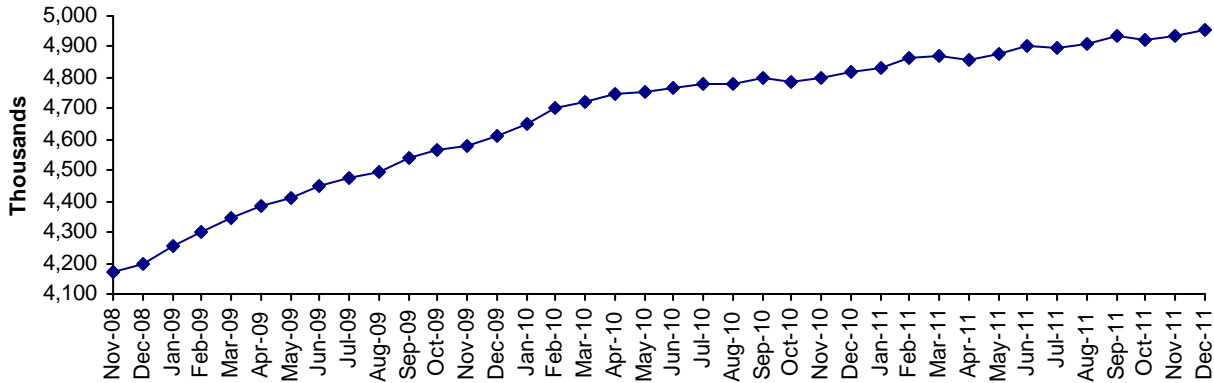
1. Lone Parents are all single claimants with dependants aged under 16, but excluding claimants of incapacity benefits.



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 December 2011



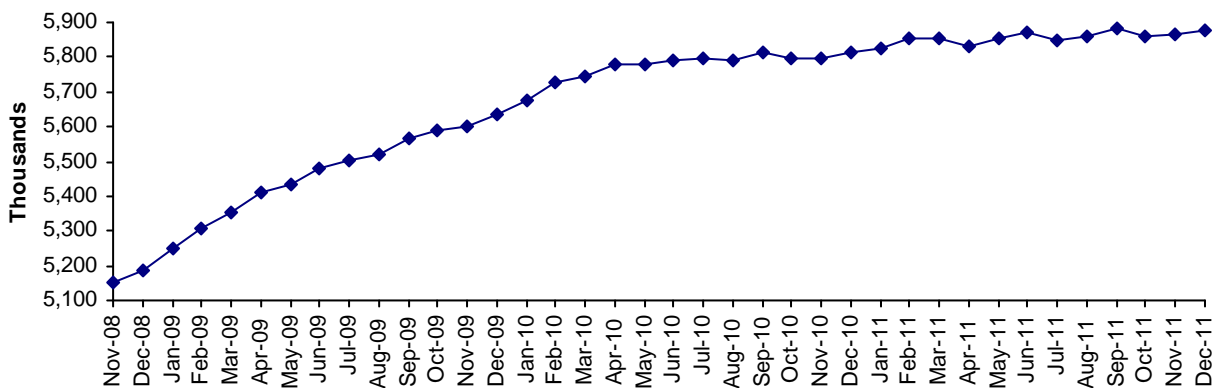
At December 2011 there were 4.95 million recipients of Housing Benefit, of whom almost three-quarters were aged under 65. The average weekly amount of Housing Benefit was £86.91.

68% of Housing Benefit recipients were tenants of Social Sector with 79% of 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 December 2011



At December 2011 there were 5.88 million recipients of Council Tax Benefit (figure excludes second adult rebates), of whom 3.66 million were aged under 65. The average weekly amount of Council Tax Benefit was £15.69.

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 – December 2011

	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

Source: Single Housing Benefit Extract (SHBE)

Notes:

1. 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.
2. Caseload figures are rounded to the nearest 10. Components may not sum to total due to independent rounding.
3. Age groups are based on the age at count date (second Thursday in each month), of either:
 - a) the recipient if they are single, or
 - b) 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>

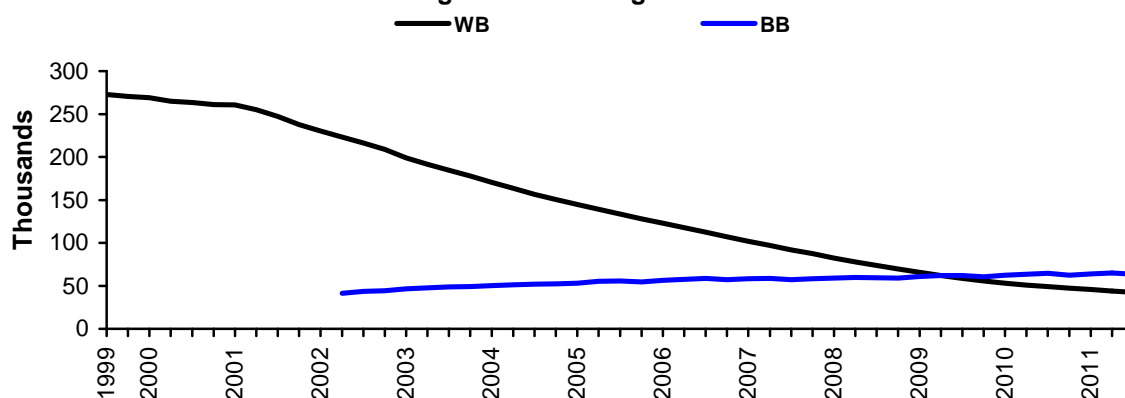


1.6 National Statistics: Widows Benefit & Bereavement Benefits

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

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

**Widow's Benefit and Bereavement Allowances Recipients:
August 1999 to August 2011**



At August 2011, there were 42 thousand claimants of Widow's Benefit, a fall of 7 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 36 thousand were in receipt of Widow's Pension and 6 thousand Widowed Mother's Allowance.

At August 2011, there were 64 thousand claimants of Bereavement Allowances, a decrease of 1 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 20 thousand were in receipt of Bereavement Allowance and 43 thousand in receipt of Widowed Parent's Allowance.

There were 7 thousand new claimants of Bereavement Allowances/Widows Benefit in the August 2011 quarter, which represents 7% of the August 2011 caseload.

Over the same period, 11 thousand claimants left the benefits, 10% of the caseload at August 2011.

In the year to August 2011, there were a total of 27 thousand new claims for Bereavement Allowances/Widows Benefit and 38 thousand claims were closed.

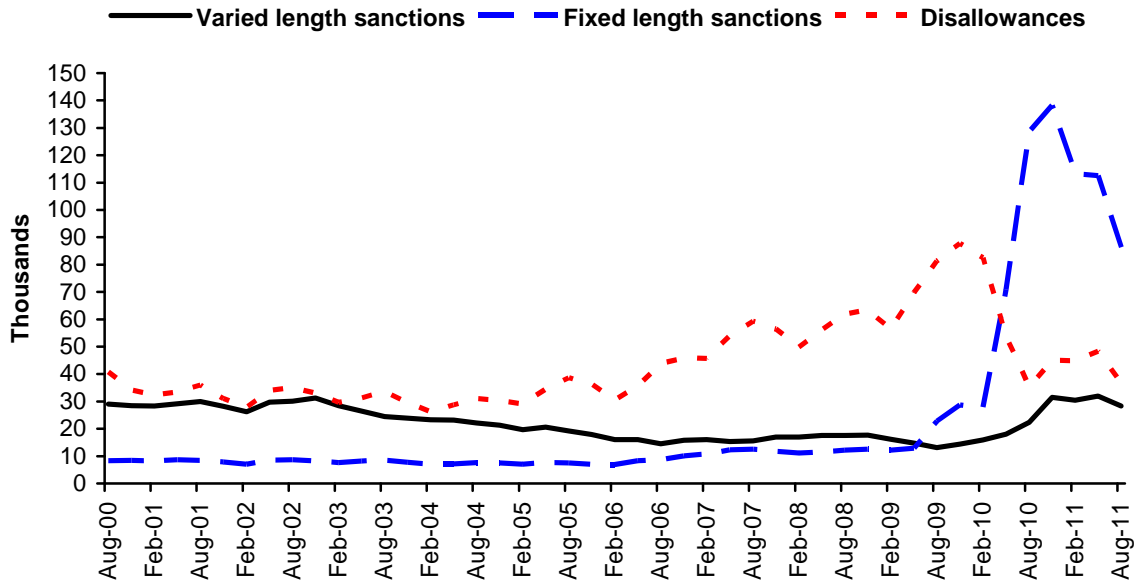
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



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.

Adverse decisions for JSA Labour Market questions for Sanctions and Disallowances per quarter: August 2000 to August 2011



These statistics have not been updated this month, but are included here to provide a quarterly Summary document complete with all the usual contents.

In the quarter ending August 2011 there were 293 thousand referrals for JSA sanctions and disallowance decisions. 265 thousand decisions were made; of which 151 thousand were adverse (i.e. a sanction or disallowance was applied).

New statistics show 28 thousand referrals for JSA sanctions were made and completed by the end of October where claimants failed to participate in the Work Programme. Of these, 10 thousand resulted in an adverse decision; 12 thousand received a favourable decision and 6 thousand were cancelled or reserved to be reviewed/applied on a future benefit claim.

New statistics show 4 thousand referrals for JSA sanctions were made and completed by the end of October where claimants failed to participate in Mandatory Work Activity. Of these, 1 thousand resulted in an adverse decision; 2 thousand received a favourable decision and 1 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.

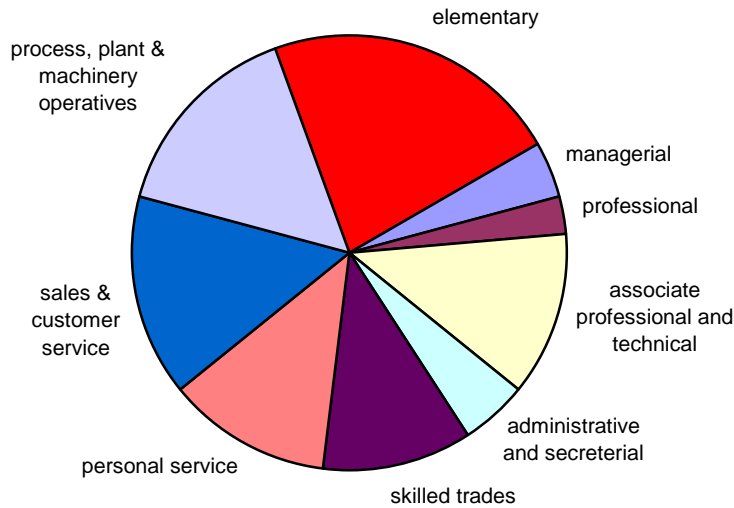
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/sanction/sanction/LIVE/tabtool.html>



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.

Vacancies notified by occupation: January 2011 to December 2011



These statistics have not been updated this month, but are included here to provide a quarterly Summary document complete with all the usual contents.

On average, 330 thousand vacancies a month were notified to Jobcentre Plus between January 2011 and December 2011. Most commonly these are for elementary occupations (22%) and sales/customer services or process, plant and machinery operatives (both 15%). 13% of notified vacancies are in the North West region compared to 10% in London, 5% Wales and 7% Scotland.

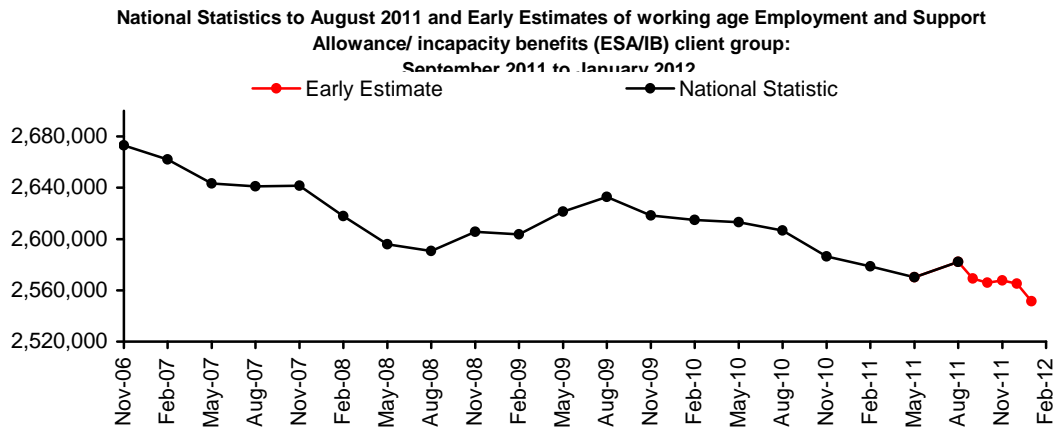
As at December 2011, the number of unfilled vacancies available to jobseekers was 269 thousand.

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 January 2012 is 2.550 million to the nearest 5,000. This indicates a 1.2% decrease since August 2011 (the latest National Statistic).

National Statistics are available for quarters up to the end of August 2011. Final figures for the quarter ending November 2011 will be released on 16th May 2012. The most recent National Statistics show 2.58 million individuals were in the ESA/IB client group at August 2011. 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 2.1 Point estimate for the Early Estimates of numbers in working age ESA/IB client group:
September 2011 to January 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	
Sep-11		2,570
Oct-11		2,565
Nov-11		2,570
Dec-11		2,565
Jan-12		2,550

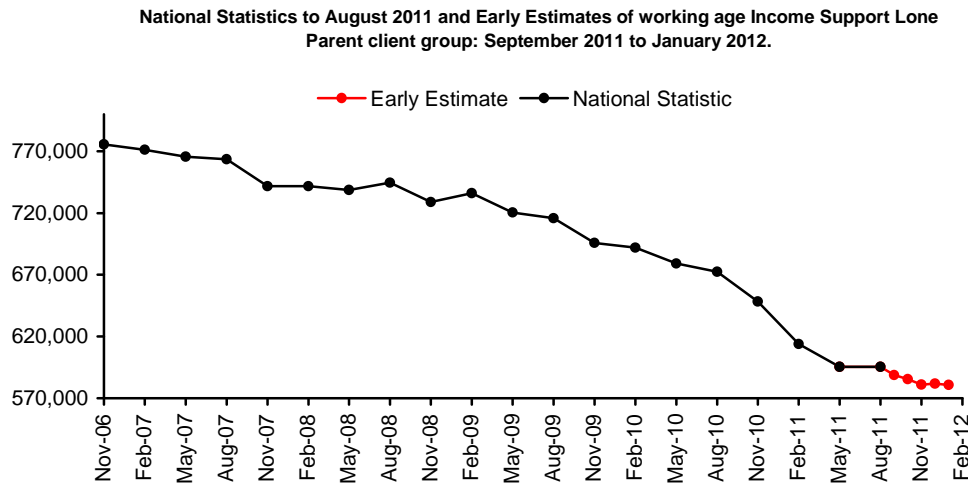
Notes:

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_est

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.



The working-age Income Support Lone Parent (ISLP) early estimate for January 2012 is 580 thousand to the nearest 5,000. This represents a fall of 2.4% since August 2011 (the latest full National Statistic figure).

National Statistics are available for quarters up to the end of August 2011. Final figures for the quarter ending November 2011 will be released on 16th May 2012. The most recent National Statistics show 595 thousand individuals were in the ISLP client group at August 2011. 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 September 2011 to January 2012

	<i>Thousands</i>	
	National Statistics Number of Claimants	Early Estimate 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	
Sep-11		590
Oct-11		585
Nov-11		580
Dec-11		580
Jan-12		580

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

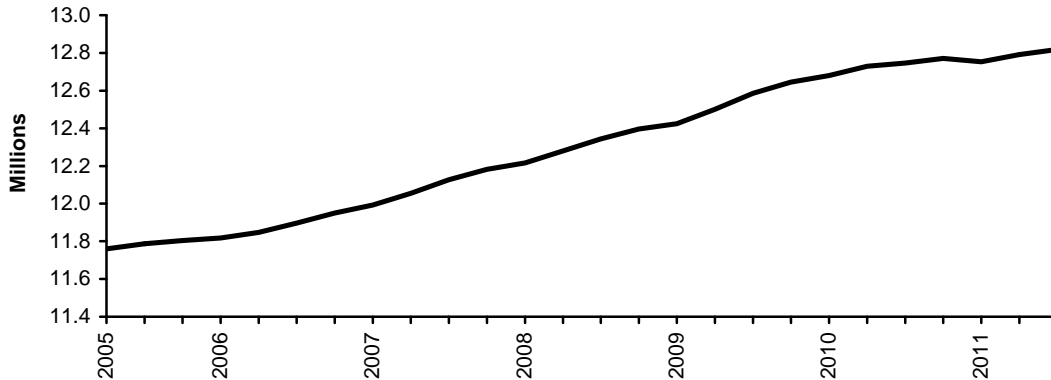


3. Pensioners

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 August 2011



At August 2011 there were 12.8 million claimants in the Pensioner Client Group, an increase of 72 thousand since August 2010. 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: August 2005 – August 2011

Thousands

	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
Aug -05	11,786.58	1,065.96	1,280.72	1,298.46	7,933.04	73.71	73.80	37.60	23.30
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

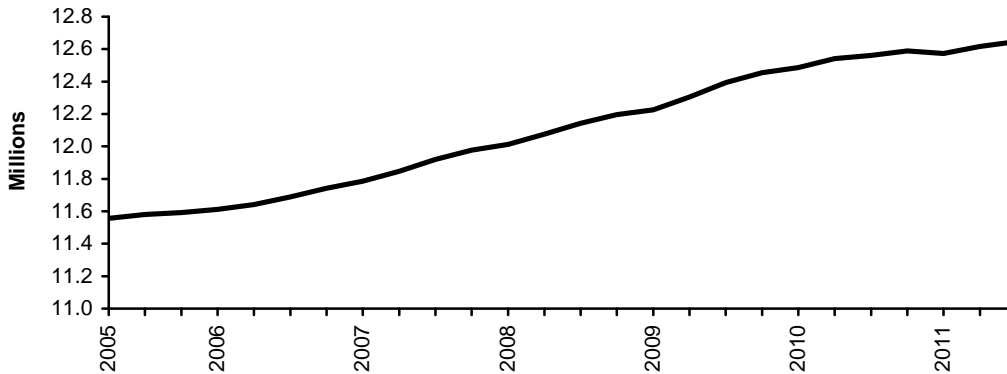
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



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 state pension age for men is 65 whilst 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. From December 2018, the State Pension age for both men and women will start to increase to reach 66 in October 2020.

State Pension Recipients: May 2005 to August 2011



At August 2011, there were 12.6 million claimants of State Pension, a rise of 85 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 39% were male and 61% female.

The average weekly amount in payment at August 2011 was £110.80, a rise of £5.78 since August 2010.

In quarter to August 2011, there were a total of 135 thousand new claims for State Pension which represents 1.1% of the caseload. Over the same period, 113 thousand claimants left the benefit, representing 0.9% of the caseload at August 2011.

In the year to August 2011, there were a total of 556 thousand new claims for State Pension and 502 thousand claims were closed.

Table 3.2 State Pension recipients: August 2006 – August 2011

	All	Male	Thousands Female
Aug -06	11,689.12	4,393.60	7,295.52
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

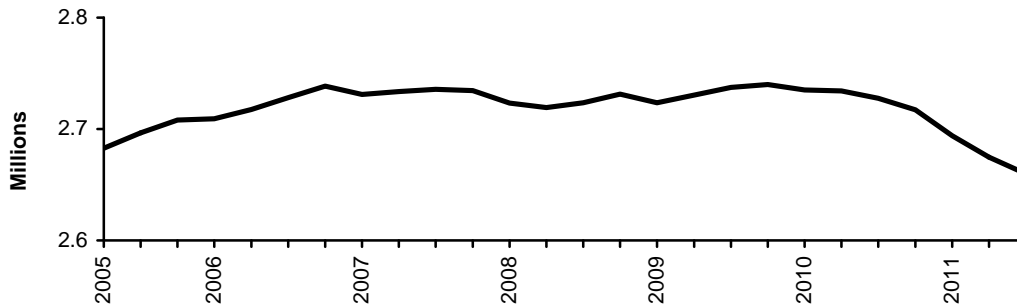
Latest statistical data available from: <http://83.244.183.180/100pc/tabtool.html>



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, 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.

Pension Credit Recipients: May 2005 - August 2011



At August 2011, there were 2.66 million claimants of Pension Credit (3.25 million including partners), a fall of 68 thousand on the previous year. Of these, 928 thousand claimed Guarantee Credit only, 1.14 million claimed Guarantee and Savings Credit, and 591 thousand were claiming Savings Credit only.

The average weekly amount of Pension Credit in payment at August 2011 was £57.47, a rise of £0.16 since August 2010.

Statistics on benefit flows show there were 183 thousand new claims to Pension Credit in the year to August 2011. 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 – August 2011

	Total	Guarantee Credit only	Guarantee Credit & Savings Credit	Savings Credit only	Thousands 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

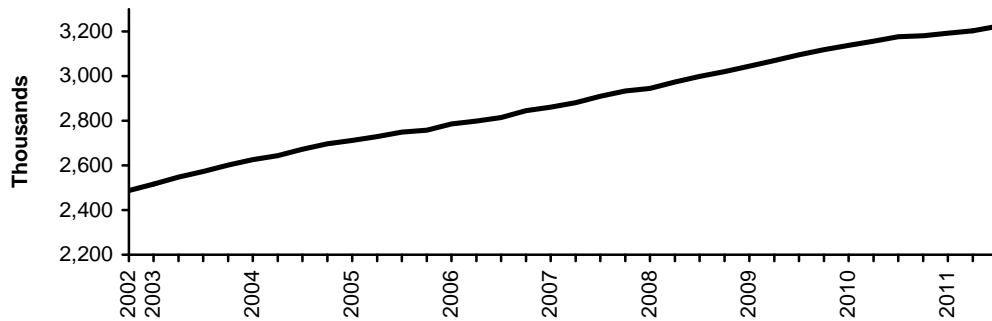
1. Pension Credit replaced MIG on the 6th Oct 2003, however a small number of residual cases remain on MIG.

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 August 2011



At August 2011, 3.22 million people were receiving Disability Living Allowance (not including suspended cases), a rise of 46 thousand on a year earlier. Of these claimants 50% were male. Both the male and female caseloads are rising, with both males and females rising by 23 thousand in the year to August 2011.

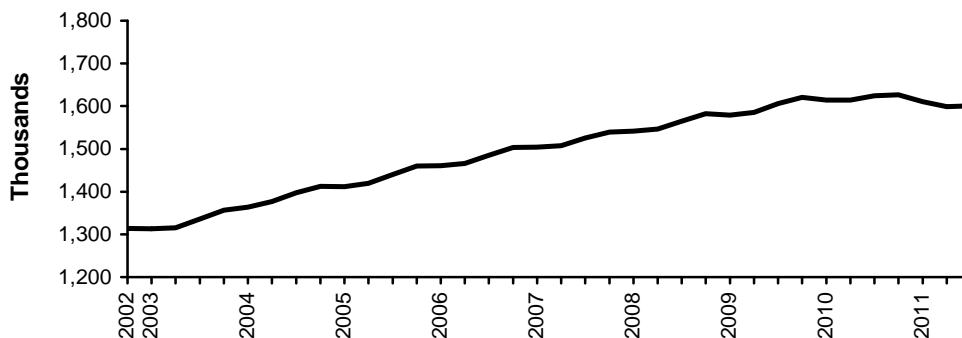
At August 2011, 10% of recipients were children, 57% were working age and 33% were pension age (a small number are an unknown age).

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



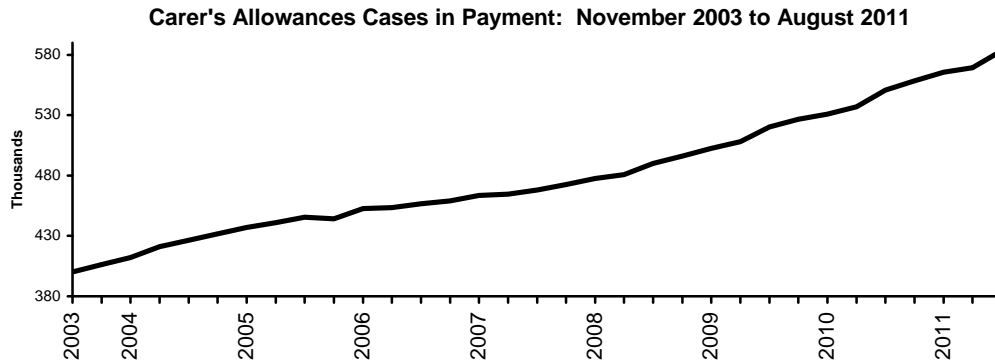
At August 2011 there were 1.60 million people receiving Attendance Allowance (excluding suspended cases), a fall of 24 thousand on a year earlier. Of these, 33% were male and 67% female. The male caseload has decreased by 5 thousand and the female caseload has decreased by 19 thousand in the year to 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 August 2011, there were 583 thousand people receiving Carer's Allowance (not including underlying entitlement cases). 27% of claimants were male, and 73% female.

At August 2011, there were a further 449 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 – August 2011

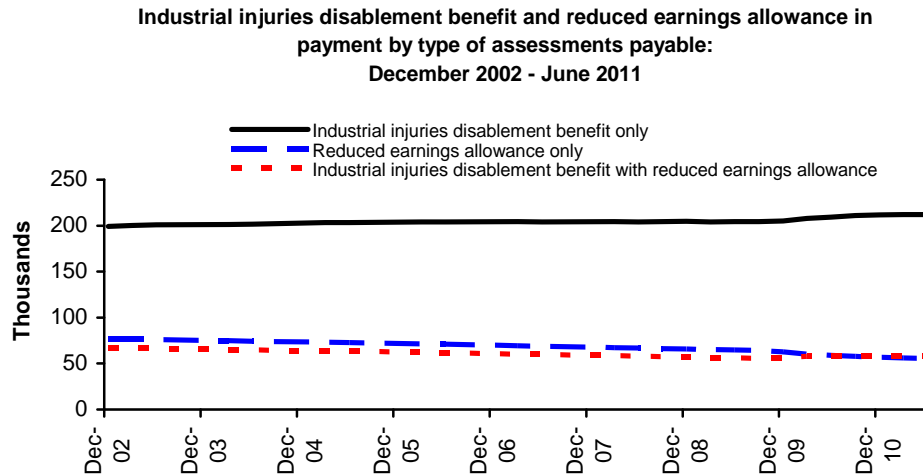
	<i>Thousands</i>		
	Disability Living Allowance	Attendance Allowance	Carer's Allowance ¹
Nov -03	2,601.88	1,356.31	406.23
Feb -04	2,625.39	1,363.81	412.12
May -04	2,644.28	1,377.35	421.18
Aug -04	2,672.16	1,397.30	426.34
Nov -04	2,696.28	1,412.50	431.66
Feb -05	2,712.91	1,411.33	436.94
May -05	2,729.72	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

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.



These statistics have not been updated this month, but are included here to provide a quarterly Summary document complete with all the usual contents.

There were 325 thousand people claiming under the Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit scheme in June 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 June 2010. The average weekly payment was £49.65.

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

5. Families & Children

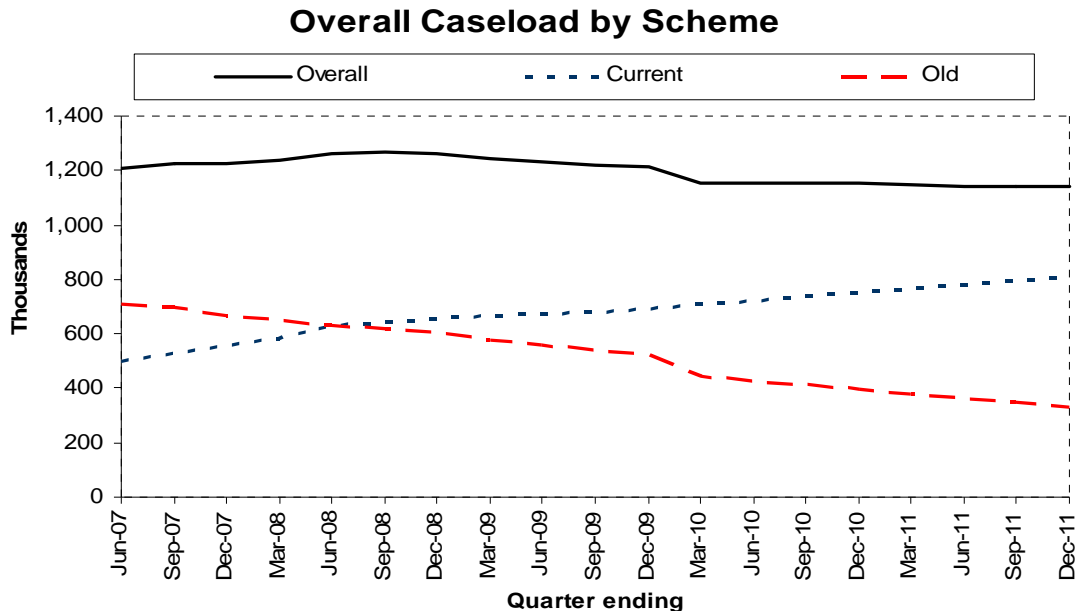
5.1 National Statistics: Child Support Agency cases

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.

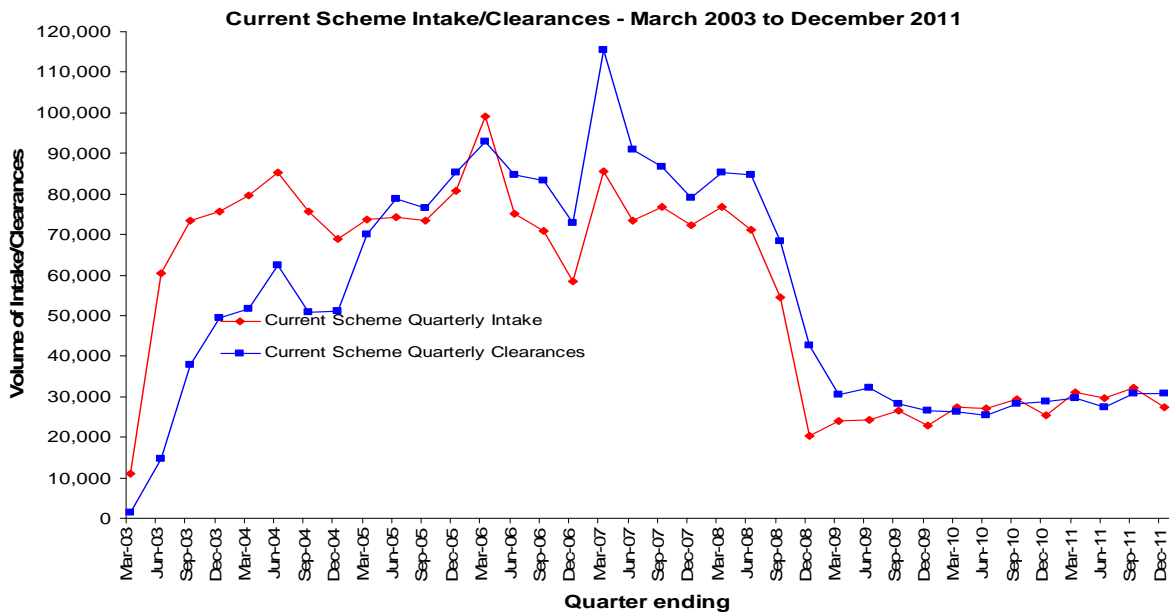
On 14 October 2010 the Government announced as part of the Public Bodies Reform that the Child Maintenance and Enforcement Commission would become an executive agency of DWP.

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 January 2012.

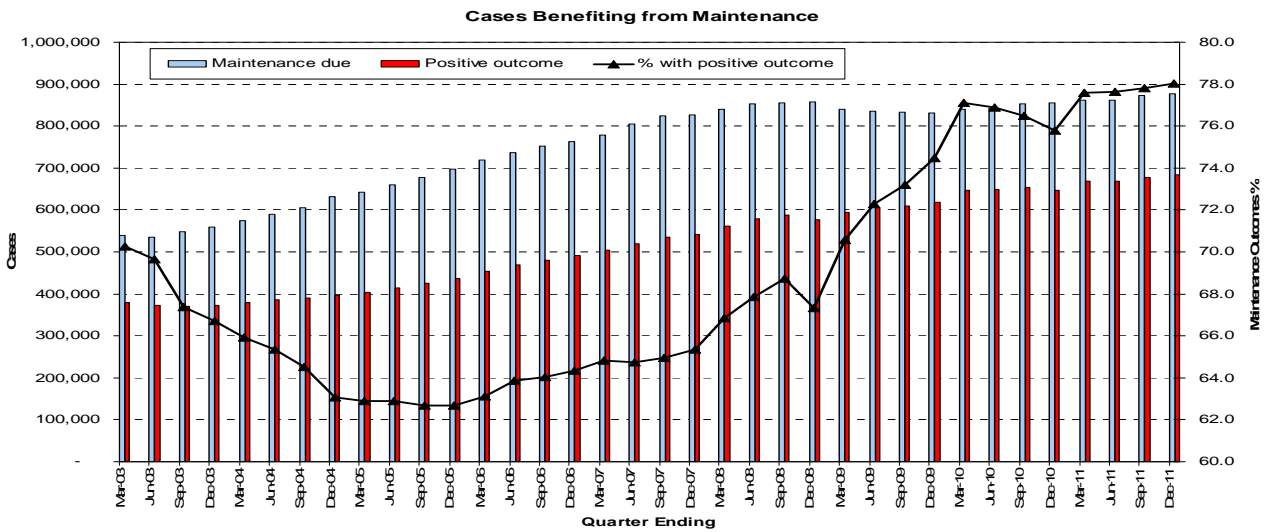
These statistics have not been updated this month, but are included here to provide a quarterly Summary document complete with all the usual contents.



At the end of December 2011, the CSA live and assessed caseload stood at 1.14 million.



The volume of uncleared current scheme applications decreased by 3,700 since September 2011, and is currently at 13,300. This represents an decrease of 21.8% since September 2011.



In the quarter ending December 2011, 78% 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 National Statistics on Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit together with Official Statistics giving early estimates of inactive benefit caseloads. Each quarter (in May, August, November and February), a larger document also contains the detail of DWP administered benefits, JSA sanctions, Jobcentre Plus vacancies and the Child Support Agency.

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

- The DWP Tabulation Tool – for DWP administered benefits and employment programmes the Tabulation Tool provides the user with an interactive tool to select one of thousands of possible tabulations. This is available for caseloads and on/off flows at: <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
- Separate numbers regarding [Flexible New Deal](#)
- Statistics on the [Work Programme](#)
- Tables broken down by [Lower Super Output Area \(LSOA\)](#)
- 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

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

This series has now been re-instated, with a full back series. Pension Credit information is available via a one-click table: http://83.244.183.180/100pc/pc/tabtool_pc.html.

6. Early Estimates

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

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

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

The early estimates are not a substitute for the National Statistics and will be replaced when the final quarterly National Statistics covering the same period are published. However, the estimates are fairly close to the final National Statistics figures. To give an indication of their accuracy, over the past year the early estimates for ESA/IB have been revised by an average of 0.3%, with the biggest revision being 0.63% and the smallest being 0.02%. 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 0.10%.

As the numbers going through Incapacity Benefit reassessment start to increase, 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. Following implementation of the Welfare Reform Bill, lone parents will 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

- Official Statistics on referrals and attachments to the Work Programme were published on 21 February 2012 via the Tabulation Tool. The following breakdowns are available on those referred to the Work Programme and attached by a provider: age, gender, disability indicator, ethnicity, primary health condition (for ESA customers), lone parent status (for JSA and IS claimants), payment group, contract and contract package area. Geography breakdowns are also available by region, Local Authority, Parliamentary Constituency and Jobcentre Plus district. Statistics on job outcomes and sustainment payments will be released from autumn 2012. See: <http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=wp>.
- The remainder of the normal February Quarterly Statistical Summary is included in this Statistical Summary:
 - The pages relating to benefits (excluding HB/CTB) within the Statistical Summary document
 - Updated Tabulation Tools relating to benefit caseloads and flows (including those tables based on a 5% sample)
 - Updates of Nomis relating to benefit caseloads
 - "One-click" tables relating to benefit caseloads (e.g. Claimants of out of work benefits, Income Support claimants by ethnicity)
 - Small area benefit caseload tables (i.e. by Lower Super Output Area, Ward and Census Output Area)

Also:

- The Benefit Caseload National Statistics Tabulation Tools for IB (http://83.244.183.180/100pc/ib/tabtool_ib.html) and IB/ SDA (http://83.244.183.180/100pc/ibsda/tabtool_ibsda.html) have not been updated to include statistics for August 2011. This is due to an issue within the publication process. These statistics will be published alongside the November 2011 statistics in May 2012.
- The Tabulation Tool has been fixed to resolve a few minor problems selecting “subset” tables.
- The ESA Tabulation Tool now includes the functionality to cross tabulate “payment type” against “phase of ESA”.

9. Notification of future changes to the Summary

- The methodology for the Pension Credit early estimates (http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/tabtools/pc_early_estimates.xls) assumes a consistent eligibility criteria. Since April 2010, the age at which people are eligible for Pension Credit has been gradually increasing (see Notes section 7). As a result of these changes, the Pension Credit estimates are no longer a good predictor of the forthcoming National Statistics. Hence, these statistics will be suspended until further notice. If you use these statistics and have opinions on how and when we should re-instate, please contact stats-consultation@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or the postal address in Notes section 2 above.



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.