

Analysis of Disability Living Allowance: durations of over 5 years

January 2011

Background

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is a tax-free benefit for disabled children and adults who need someone to help look after them, or have walking difficulties.

Further information on DLA is available at :

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/FinancialSupport/DisabilityLivingAllowance/DG_10011731

The Department publishes a range of statistical information on DLA claimants at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool>, including information on the length of time claimants have been receiving the benefit. The published analysis by duration shows that at May 2010, 70% of the cases in payment had been receiving DLA for five years or over.

The analysis on the following page provides a further breakdown of the numbers of cases where DLA has been in payment for five years or over.

Expressed as percentages, it shows that 61% of cases ($100 * (447,620 + 491,790 + 974,610) / 3,157,310$) have been receiving DLA for seven years or more, 46% for ten years or more, and 31% for fourteen years or more. Wales and the North East have the highest proportions of claims with a duration of over 7 years, and London and the South East the lowest.

Helen Ganson (helen.ganson@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)
Department for Work and Pensions

January 2011

RESULTS

The number of Disability Living Allowance cases in payment by Government Office Region and Duration - May 2010

	All	Up to 3 months	3 months up to 6 months	6 months up to 1 year	1 year and up to 2 years	2 years and up to 5 years	5 years and up to 7 years	7 years and up to 10 years	10 years and up to 14 years	14 years and over
Great Britain and Abroad	3,157,310	47,800	49,500	110,200	214,970	513,740	307,070	447,620	491,790	974,610
North East	176,190	2,280	2,200	5,140	10,830	26,130	12,850	21,490	29,890	65,390
North West	473,460	6,570	6,630	15,630	28,650	74,640	44,760	65,300	71,810	159,470
Yorkshire and The Humber	295,170	4,010	4,190	9,430	19,390	43,900	27,310	43,950	47,290	95,700
East Midlands	230,910	3,260	3,500	7,720	15,560	38,750	22,260	31,790	37,930	70,140
West Midlands	303,150	4,190	4,450	10,020	20,170	49,870	29,280	41,970	49,300	93,900
East of England	226,890	3,970	4,070	8,550	16,200	36,560	22,430	33,920	35,440	65,740
London	315,650	5,350	5,810	12,410	24,160	56,140	34,610	49,510	49,070	78,590
South East	311,780	6,170	6,470	14,070	25,850	56,390	32,840	42,810	42,080	85,090
South West	236,360	4,020	4,280	9,460	17,620	42,970	23,940	32,070	34,570	67,430
Wales	242,010	2,660	2,760	6,340	13,320	33,510	22,630	35,100	41,170	84,520
Scotland	342,360	5,310	5,130	11,380	23,070	54,430	33,910	49,300	52,820	107,020
Claimants living abroad/ Unknown	3,380	10	20	60	150	450	250	440	400	1,610

SOURCE: DWP Information Directorate: Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study.

Notes:

- 1) Data is rounded to the nearest 10. Some additional disclosure controls have also been applied
- 2) Totals show the number of people in receipt of an allowance, and exclude people with entitlement where the payment has been suspended, for example if they are in hospital.