





Six Month Offer Official Statistics Publication Date: 9:30am Wednesday 19th January 2011

Summary

This publication contains official statistics on the Six Month Offer up to and including October 2010. **Annex A provides provisional statistics for November 2010.** The key statistics are:

From April 2009 up to and including October 2010:

- 45,970 Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) customers have used the Recruitment Subsidy
- **34,920** JSA customers have taken up the Self Employment Credit (six month eligibility)
- **5,150** JSA customers have taken up the Self Employment Credit (three month eligibility)
- 20,800 JSA customers have taken up a Volunteering placement
- 77,420 JSA customers have taken up a Work Focused Training placement

The provisional headline figures for November 2010 are:

- 1,700 JSA customers have taken up the Self Employment Credit (six month eligibility)
- 650 JSA customers have taken up the Self Employment Credit (three month eligibility)

Introduction

- This publication contains statistics on the Six Month Offer (6MO) up to and including October 2010 with provisional figures for November 2010 (see **Annex A**). Figures for more recent months may be subject to small changes as more complete data becomes available.
- 2. This is a joint statistical publication between the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP), the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and the Scottish Government.
- 3. Every effort has been made to ensure the quality of these statistics is of the highest standard. However, it may be necessary to revise the statistics in subsequent publications when more complete data becomes available. This will be carried out in line with the Code of Practice. The format of this publication will be kept under review and any feedback or suggestions to improve this publication are welcomed.
- 4. Please note that this publication does not include statistics on Work Focused Training for Wales. The support on offer in Wales is different to that in England and

Scotland and we are not able to separately identify 6MO Work Focused Training starts in Wales.

Policy Background

- 5. The Six Month Offer was announced in January 2009 as a support package for Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) customers reaching six months unemployment. The Six Month Offer was introduced nationally from the 6th April 2009.
- 6. There are four strands to the Six Month Offer: (1) Recruitment Subsidy, (2) Self Employment, (3) Volunteering and (4) Work Focused Training. A more detailed description of each of the strands can be found in **Annex B** of this document.
- 7. In Flexible New Deal Phase 2 areas the New Deal for Young People currently delivers support similar to the Self Employment and Work Focused Training strand of the Six Month Offer. It is expected that young people will use this support where it is available. From January 2010 the New Deal employment subsidy was withdrawn and the Six Month Recruitment Subsidy was available to all customers, including young people, in Phase 1 and Phase 2 areas.
- 8. From October 2009 elements of the Young Person Guarantee were introduced, including Future Jobs Fund, Routes into Work and Work Focused Training. The Young Person Guarantee applied nationally from 25th January 2010 and could affect take up of the Six Month Offer by young people.
- 9. From the 22nd February 2010, customers in receipt of JSA for three or more months became eligible for Self Employment Credit.
- 10. The Recruitment Subsidy was withdrawn from 30th June 2010. Employers had until 30th July in which to submit a claim for any employment starts before the 30th June 2010.

Technical Overview

- 11. These statistics are derived from a range of administrative data sources some of which have not been used to produce official statistics before. The process for producing these statistics will be kept under review and refined as appropriate as more data becomes available.
- 12. Please note that figures in previous releases have been updated in this release as more complete data has become available. Similarly, statistics in this publication may be updated in future publications.

Recruitment Subsidy:

- 13. The statistics include both the number of self marketed vouchers used and the number of customers recruited via the bulk billing arrangements.
- 14. The number of self marketed vouchers is based on DWP financial payments data and is reported against the month the payment was invoiced. The data is cleaned to remove erroneous records according to agreed processes.

- 15. The number of customers recruited through bulk billing is based on administrative records of eligibility checks conducted by Jobcentre Plus. A start is recorded under the month in which they started employment as declared by the employer.
- 16. There have been difficulties matching demographic information for self marketed voucher payments made in the North East region. As a result the "unknown" categories are larger than expected. We have taken action to address this issue but changes cannot be back dated.
- 17. Some residual Recruitment Subsidy starts are present post July 10 because DWP report by the date the payment is invoiced on their financial system which is not necessarily the employment start date. These starts are grouped together and shown under July 2010.

Self-Employment Credit.

- 18. The statistics count the number of first payments made by the month in which the first payment was invoiced.
- 19. Customers starting Self Employment Credit under the three to six month eligibility criteria are reported separately in the tables below. Extra care should be taken when using the three month eligibility figures as the policy is relatively new when compared to the other strands.

Volunteering:

- 20. The number of volunteering placements is based on the individual customer level data supplied by the volunteering brokers.
- 21. Demographic breakdowns for the volunteering strand are produced by linking the data with the Labour Market System.
- 22. From October 2010, the Work Together element of Get Britain Working was introduced which could have affected take up of the Six Month Offer Volunteering. The availability of Volunteering placements as part of the Six Month Offer also ended in November 2010.

Work Focused Training:

- 23. The statistics on starts for Work Focused Training cover England and Scotland only. This publication for the first time includes statistics on the number of completions of Work Focused Training for England only. Data on Work Focused Training in England is sourced from training provider returns made through the Individualised Learner Record (ILR) database. The ILR holds data on all government-funded learners studying at a Further Education College or training provider.
- 24. Data on training in Scotland is sourced from Skills Development Scotland (Corporate Training System). This is similar to the ILR in England, in that it is a collection of data from training providers on learners and their learning participation.

- 25. Training providers may submit data on learner starts and completions some time after the actual event occurred. This means that data presented in this Release is subject to some retrospection, and figures will be revised upward in subsequent releases.
- 26. The numbers of Work Focused Training starts for Scotland are included in this publication, but the demographic breakdown of those starts and statistics on the number of completions are not included. This decision has been taken jointly by the Scottish Government and Skills Development Scotland in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics in relation to Principle 6: Proportionate Burden. Demographic breakdowns for Work Focused Training in Scotland were included in previous publications and can be found at: http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/jsa/6month_offer/index.php?page=6month_offer_arc

Job Outcomes

27. Recruitment Subsidy and Self Employment Credit starts are by definition employment starts. As the final publication in this series is due in July 2011, we will not be reporting on job outcomes for the Volunteering and Work Focused Training strands.

Rounding Policy

28. To reduce the risk of inferring the identity of a customer from these statistics and other statistics, values less than ten, including zeros, are suppressed and marked with a dash. Values above ten are rounded to the nearest ten. Therefore totals may not equal the sum of the individual cells.

Official Statistics

Table 1a: Take up of the Six Month Offer

	Recruitment Subsidy ¹ (GB)	Self Employment Credit (6 Month Eligibility) ² (GB)	Self Employment Credit (3 to 6 Month Eligibility) ² (GB)	Volunteering Placement Starts ³ (GB)	Work Focused Training Starts ⁴ (England and Scotland)
Total	45,970	34,920	5,150	20,800	77,420
Apr-09	460	30		10	640
May-09	1,510	190		140	250
Jun-09	2,650	460		370	740
Jul-09	2,770	790		720	1,290
Aug-09	3,000	980		990	3,080
Sep-09	4,180	1,380		1,330	4,640
Oct-09	3,370	1,590		1,420	4,690
Nov-09	3,470	1,720		1,600	6,360
Dec-09	1,620	1,100		1,180	2,620
Jan-10	3,080	1,600		1,380	6,250
Feb-10	3,490	2,220	10	1,740	6,310
Mar-10	4,530	3,050	220	1,700	7,170
Apr-10	4,010	3,180	530	1,330	5,580
May-10	3,520	2,930	630	1,240	5,660
Jun-10	3,880	3,410	670	1,340	5,790
Jul-10	420	2,820	760	1,280	4,390
Aug-10		2,670	730	1,100	3,970
Sep-10		2,550	780	1,060	4,540
Oct-10		2,240	820	890	3,450

Notes: Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash and any figures above 10 are rounded to the nearest 10. Therefore totals may not be the sum of the individual cells. Months are calendar months.

^{1:} Source - DWP Financial Systems (Resource Management) using payments made up to the end of November 2010. Includes Initial payments for Self Marketed Vouchers and payments made under the Bulk Billing arrangement. The date recorded is the date the voucher was invoiced (Self Marketed Vouchers) or the date the customer is recorded has having started employment (Bulk Billing). 2: Source - DWP Financial Systems (Resource Management) using payments made up to the end of November 2010. Reports the number of initial payments against the date the first payment was invoiced. The three and six month eligibility starts are recorded against separate account codes on Resource Management.

^{3:} Source – Placement starts as recorded by the Volunteering Brokers based on individual customer level data

^{4:} Source – BIS Individual Learner Record system and Skill Development Scotland's Corporate Training System. Does not include starts in Wales

Table 1b: Work Focused Training Starts and Completions by Country

Work Focused Training Starts	Sta	Completions ¹	
	England	Scotland	England
Total	73,540	3,880	65,260
Apr-09	470	170	
May-09	120	130	
Jun-09	590	150	
Jul-09	1,180	110	730
Aug-09	2,900	180	1,480
Sep-09	4,430	220	2,100
Oct-09	4,540	160	3,460
Nov-09	6,080	270	3,960
Dec-09	2,540	90	4,000
Jan-10	6,040	210	3,750
Feb-10	6,010	300	5,290
Mar-10	6,850	310	6,920
Apr-10	5,410	170	5,210
May-10	5,370	300	5,210
Jun-10	5,520	270	5,670
Jul-10	4,180	210	8,010
Aug-10	3,650	320	3,580
Sep-10	4,340	200	2,860
Oct-10	3,340	110	3,040

Notes: Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash and any figures above 10 are rounded to the nearest 10. Therefore totals may not be the sum of the individual cells. Months are calendar months.

1: Completions information is only available for England.

Table 2: Demographics for Starts for the period April 2009 to October 2010

		Recruitment Subsidy ^{1,2} (GB)	Self Employment Credit (Six Month Eligibility) ¹ (GB)	Volunteering (GB)	Work Focused Training Starts ^{3,4} (England only)
	Total	45,970	34,920	20,800	73,540
	Male	29,250	28,460	12,340	56,140
Gender	Female	10,040	5,880	7,600	17,400
	Unknown	6,700	580	850	-
	18-24	8,430	2,250	2,980	10,490
Age	25-49	24,080	24,160	12,560	50,060
Group	50+	6,770	7,920	4,400	12,980
•	Unknown	6,710	590	860	-
	19+	38,610	34,250	19,550	73,260
	Yes	6,800	5,520	5,890	7,820
Disability	No	32,480	28,820	14,050	62,190
	Unknown	6,700	580	860	3,530
	White	33,600	30,190	15,320	58,680
	Black or Black British	1,100	920	1,500	6,000
Ethnicity	Asian or Asian British	1,570	880	1,090	3,640
Lumony	Mixed	380	320	330	1,640
	Other/ Chinese	510	330	390	1,580
	Unknown	8,810	2,290	2,180	2,000
	East Midlands	3,470	3,270	3,600	7,740
	East of England	2,500	2,580	1,020	6,080
	London	3,040	2,830	2,910	10,560
	North East	n/a²	1,450	670	5,060
	North West	5,350	4,680	1,500	10,850
	Scotland	3,970	2,360	590	n/a ⁴
Region	South East	3,160	3,250	900	10,790
	South West	3,240	3,780	1,560	6,190
	Wales	2,820	2,270	780	n/a ⁴
	West Midlands	5,150	3,640	3,390	7,300
	Yorkshire & Humberside	4,870	3,850	2,810	8,610
	Unknown	7,310	960	1,070	340

Notes: Values less than 10 are suppressed and marked with a dash and any figures above 10 are rounded to the nearest 10. Therefore totals may not be the sum of the individual cells. Recruitment Subsidy, Self Employment Credit and Volunteering demographics are taken from Jobcentre Plus' Labour Market System (LMS). n/a ="not available".

^{1:} Disability status is declared by the customer during a Jobcentre Plus interview. Customers recording their ethnicity status as "prefer not to say" are categorised as unknown. Some regions have greater NDYP coverage than others and therefore may appear to have proportionately fewer starts.

^{2:} Most Recruitment Subsidy payments in the North East region do not contain a personal identifier to allow the payment to be linked with the Labour Market System to obtain demographics. Therefore most of the North East records appear under "unknown". 3: Disability status is according to the learners own assessment if a learner has a disability or disabilities. Customers recording their ethnicity as "prefer not to say" are categorised as unknown

^{4:} Demographic breakdowns of figures for training starts in Scotland and Wales are not available.

Publication Timetable

Publication	Date	Notes
1 st	Wednesday 14 th October 2009	First Publication
2 nd	Wednesday 20 th January 2010	Work Focused Training statistics published in February as an annex
	Wednesday 17 th February 2010	to the January publication.
3 rd	Wednesday 21 st April 2010	The first full publication to include all four strands.
4 th	Wednesday 14 th July 2010	Volunteering statistics based on Individual customer level data returned by the brokers.
5 th	Wednesday 13 th October 2010	
6 th	Wednesday 19 th January 2011	The first publication to include Work Focused Training completion statistics.
7 th	Wednesday 13 th April 2011	Provisional Date.
8 th	Wednesday 13 th July 2011.	Provisional Date. Final publication in the official statistics series.

Publication dates will be confirmed on the UK Statistics Authority's Publication Hub (www.statistics.gov.uk/hub) at least 4 weeks before publication date.

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Annex A: Provisional DWP Figures for November 2010

- In addition to the main statistics, provisional statistics for November 2010 are included below. These statistics are expected to increase in the next publication due to the time it takes for further starts to be recorded on the systems.
- 2. The latest data shows **1,700** JSA customers took up the Self Employment Credit (six month eligibility) in November 2010. The Recruitment Subsidy ended in June so no provisional figures for Recruitment Subsidy are reported in this publication.
- 3. The table below shows how the provisional figures for August 2010 given in the previous publication (October 2010) compare to the figures in this publication (January 2011).

	Provisional August 2010 figures given in October 2010 publication	August 2010 figures given in January 2011 publication	Absolute Increase	Percentage Increase
Self Employment Credit	2,600	2,670	70	2.7%

Annex B: Further Details on the Strands

Recruitment Subsidy:

- The recruitment subsidy is a payment to employers for recruiting customers who
 have been claiming Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) for six months, where the job is for
 at least 16 hours per week and is expected to last at least 26 weeks. It is delivered in
 two ways;
 - Self Marketed Voucher: Individual customers are given a voucher when they reach six months unemployed to present to employers at interviews. If the employer recruits the customer, the employer submits the voucher to DWP and receives a £500 payment. If the customer does not return to claim benefit within 26 weeks the employer will receive a further £500 payment.
 - Bulk Billing: Involves working directly with employers who recruit in bulk.
 Under this arrangement the employer receives a £1000 subsidy for every six month plus unemployed customer they recruit.

Self Employment.

- 2. Eligible Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) customers can receive a Self-Employment Credit (SEC) worth £50 per week for up 16 weeks once they leave benefit to help with start-up costs. Jobcentre Plus direct customers to expert enterprise help from Business Link (England), Business Gateway and Training for Work (Scotland) and Flexible Support for Business (Wales) who provide tailored information, advice and practical support to customers interested in becoming self-employed or starting a business.
- 3. Eligibility for SEC is not dependent upon the customer having engaged with the 'expert partner" and all claims have to be submitted within five weeks of their JSA claim ending.
- 4. From 22nd February 2010 the eligibility for the Self Employment support was extended to include customers with JSA claims over three months.

Volunteering:

5. Customers with an interest in volunteering to develop their work skills are directed to a broker to find and arrange a suitable volunteering placement.

Work Focused Training

- 6. The Work Focused Training strand of the Six Month Offer is led and funded by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills in England, the Scottish Government in Scotland and the Welsh Assembly Government in Wales. It offers training to Jobseeker's Allowance customers who would benefit from significant up-skilling or re-skilling in order to re-enter the local job market.
- 7. In England, as part of this package of enhanced support, there are 75,000 new training places on offer to jobseekers who reach the six month point on Jobseeker's Allowance who would benefit from significant up-skilling or re-skilling in order to re-

enter the local job market. Training, commissioned by the Skills Funding Agency and delivered through the Further Education sector, is focused to meet both the individual's work aspirations and employer demand, taking into account the needs of the local job market. Training will be at a range of levels, from Skills for Life to level 3 depending on need. Training can be part-time or up to eight weeks full-time provision. It must be relevant to the local labour market, be a significant uplift in skills, and allow people to progress to a full qualification. Full-time provision is supported by a Training Allowance.

- 8. In Scotland, the training for the Six Month Offer is provided through Training for Work, the national vocational training programme for the unemployed. Training is demand led, aimed at specific job opportunities and can vary in length from a week to a year. Support for those wishing to be self employed is also available through this programme. Training for Work can be accessed by all people seeking work who have been unemployed for three months or more. Day one access is available to those who are disadvantaged in the labour market, such as lone parents, or those with disabilities.
- 9. The support offered in Wales is different from both England and Scotland. The training element of the Six Month Offer is delivered by the Welsh Assembly Government's existing Skill Build programme, which continues to offer preemployment training to Jobseeker's Allowance customers from their first day of unemployment, with additional funding for 2009-10 to meet rising demand. It has not been possible to separately identify 6MO Work Focused Training starts joining the Skill Build programme from overall Skill Build starts.