



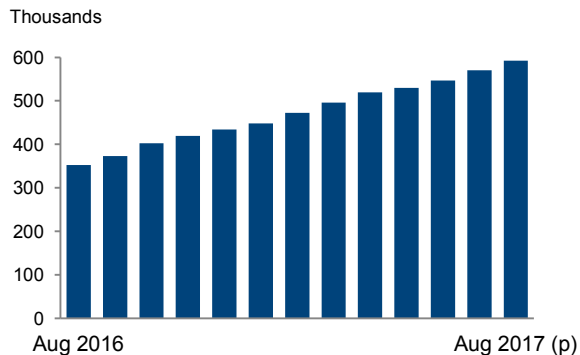
Universal Credit aims to reduce poverty, by making work pay, and to help claimants and their families to become more independent.

Universal Credit was introduced in April 2013 in certain pathfinder areas of North West England. Since October 2013, it has progressively been rolled out to other areas. It is now available in all Jobcentre Plus areas to single claimants, and is being expanded across the country to include all claimant types via the [full service](#).

Main story

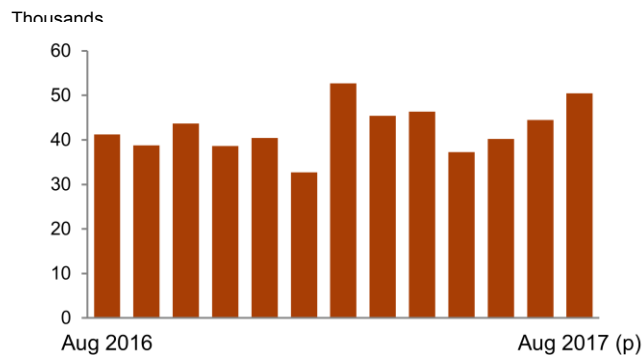
The number of people on Universal Credit as of 10 August 2017 was 590 thousand. Of these people 230 thousand (39 per cent) were in employment.

590 thousand claimants At 10 August 2017



The number of people on Universal Credit rose to 590 thousand in August 2017. This is a 4 per cent increase from last month.

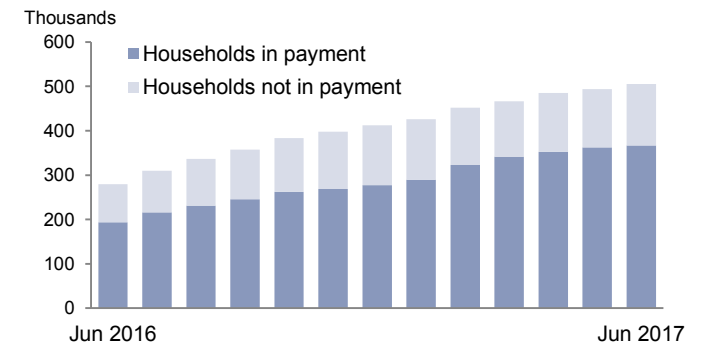
Starts at 47 thousand Month to 10 August 2017



The total number of starts that have been made since Universal Credit began is one million. The number of starts made to Universal Credit was 47 thousand in the month up to 10 August 2017.

The figures in this chart have been standardised, so may not match figures in the document. Please see the Background Information and Methodology document for more detail.

510 thousand households At 8 June 2017



In June 2017, 510 thousand households were on Universal Credit. Of these households, 370 thousand (73 per cent) were receiving a Universal Credit payment.

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Thoughts? We welcome feedback

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What you need to know

This summary contains statistics on Universal Credit covering the period to 10 August 2017. Universal Credit is available in all Jobcentre Plus areas to single claimants and is being expanded to all claimant types across the country via the full service.

Universal Credit aims to reduce poverty, by making work pay, and to help claimants and their families to become more independent. It also aims to simplify the benefits system by providing a single payment based upon the circumstances of the household. Support for housing costs, children and childcare costs are integrated into Universal Credit. It also provides additions for disabled people and carers.

The following benefits will be replaced as Universal Credit rolls out:

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Working Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Housing Benefit

The main features of Universal Credit are:

- Universal Credit is available to people who are in work and on a low income, as well as to those who are out-of-work.
- Most people will apply online and manage their claim through an online account.
- Universal Credit will be responsive – as people on low incomes move in and out of work, they will get on-going support.
- Most claimants on low incomes will still be paid Universal Credit when they first start a new job or increase their part-time hours.
- Claimants will receive a single monthly household payment, paid into a bank account in the same way as a monthly salary; support with housing costs will usually go direct to the claimant as part of their monthly payment.

This report contains four measures. **Claims** made counts the number of applications submitted for Universal Credit. Some of these people will go on to **Start** receiving Universal Credit. **People on Universal Credit** include all those who have started and are still on Universal Credit at the count date (second Thursday of the month). Some people will have their claim terminated either at the request of the individual or if their entitlement to Universal Credit ends.

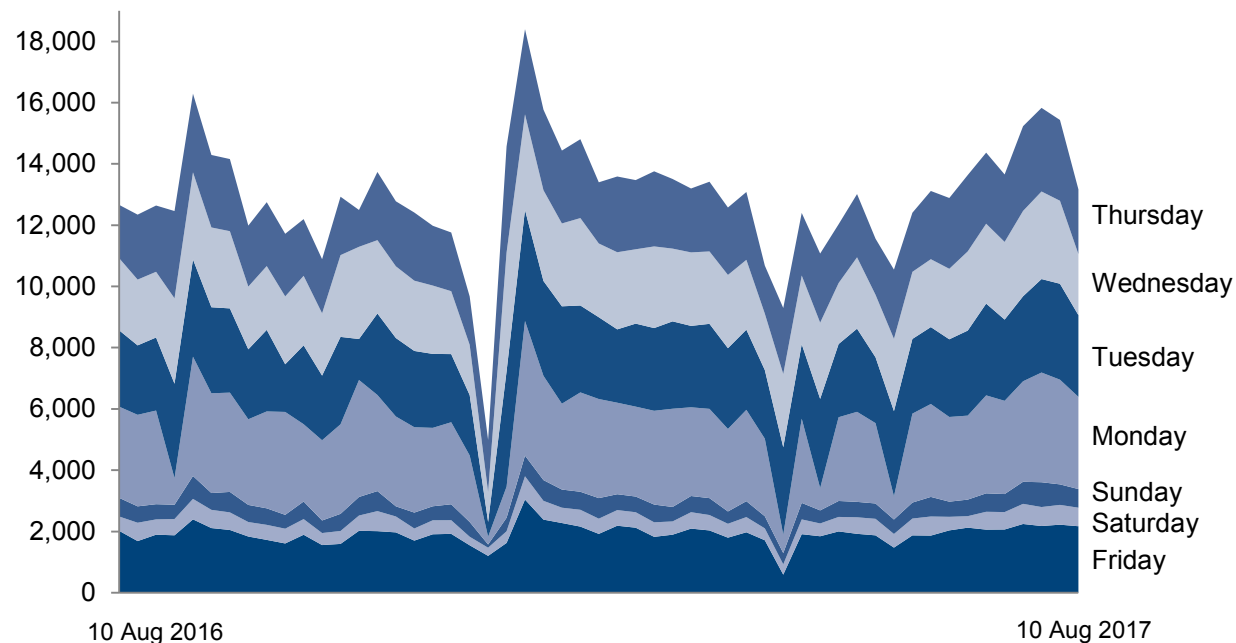
This month, information about **households on Universal Credit**, which is published bi-annually is also included. For the first time, this report contains breakdowns for households entitled to support with housing costs by Tenure, and with Managed Payments to Landlords. A household is counted as being on Universal Credit where entitlement has been calculated for an assessment period spanning the count date. It includes those who receive a payment, as well as those that don't.

See the Background Information and Methodology document for more detail on the definitions used in this publication.

Claiming Universal Credit

Total claims made have reached 1.4 million

New claims per week and day in the last year to 10 August 2017



The total number of claims made for Universal Credit in the last four weeks was 60 thousand, with an average of 15 thousand claims per week. Generally, more claims are made for Universal Credit on weekdays, compared to weekends.

Claims made for Universal Credit reached a daily peak of 4,400 on Monday 9 January 2017, and a weekly peak of 18 thousand in the week ending 12 January 2017. The number of claims per week is subject to seasonal fluctuations, for example around bank holidays.

The total number of claims made for Universal Credit has now reached 1.4 million. All Jobcentre Plus areas are now accepting claims from single claimants for Universal Credit and it is being expanded across the country to include all claimant types via the full service.

See **Table 1.1** for summary statistics and [Stat-Xplore](#) for the complete data series.

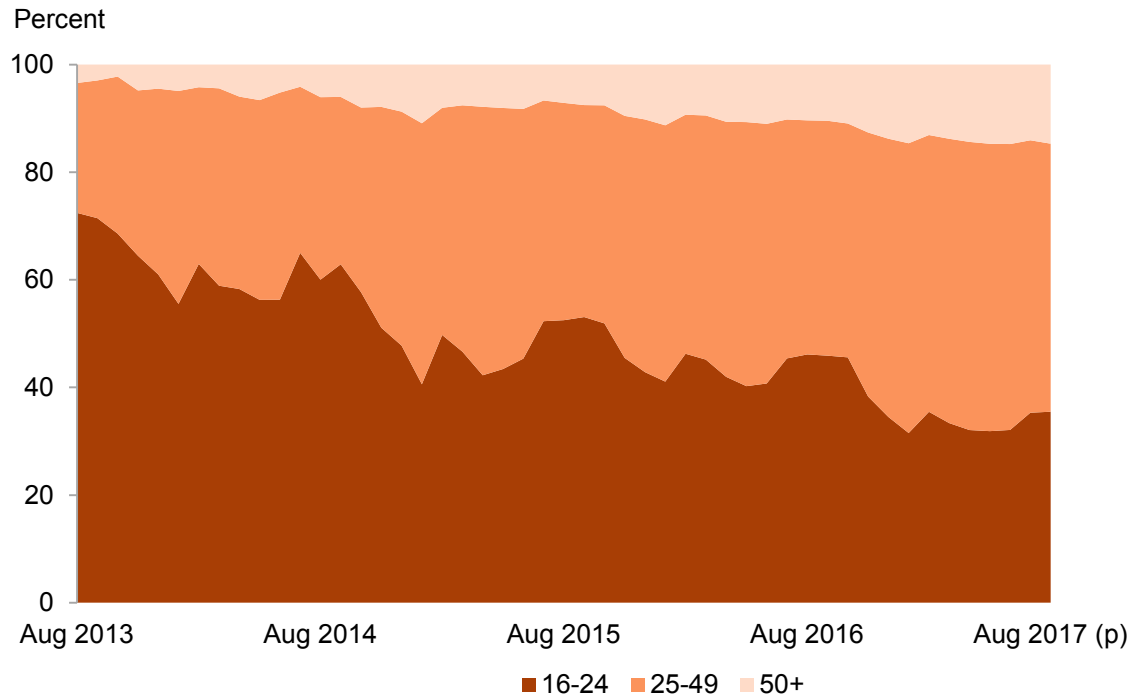
How people claim Universal Credit

People will usually make a claim for Universal Credit online, during which initial claim verification will take place. The claim date is the date that a claimant completes this process and submits their claim. After making a claim, an initial interview will take place with the claimant, where the eligibility for Universal Credit will be confirmed and the claimant will accept a [Claimant Commitment](#). At this point, a claimant will be recorded as starting Universal Credit. Not all people who make a claim for Universal Credit will go on to start, however the statistics for claims used in this publication include all claims made to Universal Credit.

Starts to Universal Credit

Half of starts to Universal Credit in August from 25-49 year olds

Starts to Universal Credit by age group, up to 10 August 2017



A total of 47 thousand starts were made to Universal Credit in the month up to 10 August 2017.

Of all starts in this period, 53 per cent were by males and 47 per cent were by females.

In August 2017, 35 per cent of starts were from 16-24 year olds, compared to 46 per cent in August 2016.

Over the intervening year there has been some fluctuation in the proportion of starters in the 16-24 age group, which appears to be due to seasonality, particularly around the Christmas period. The overall fall in the proportion of starters in this age group is consistent with Universal Credit being gradually made available to a wider range of claimant types through full service.

Over the same period, the proportion of starters aged 50 and over has increased from 10 per cent to 15 per cent.

The total number of starts that have been made since Universal Credit began is one million. The North West Jobcentre Plus group has the highest cumulative number of starts, at 240 thousand.

In the month to 10 August 2017, 21 per cent of starts were in London and the Home Counties. Oldham Jobcentre Plus office had more starts than any other, with 1,200 people starting on Universal Credit, of whom 52 per cent were female. This was followed by Southampton, with 1,100 starts.

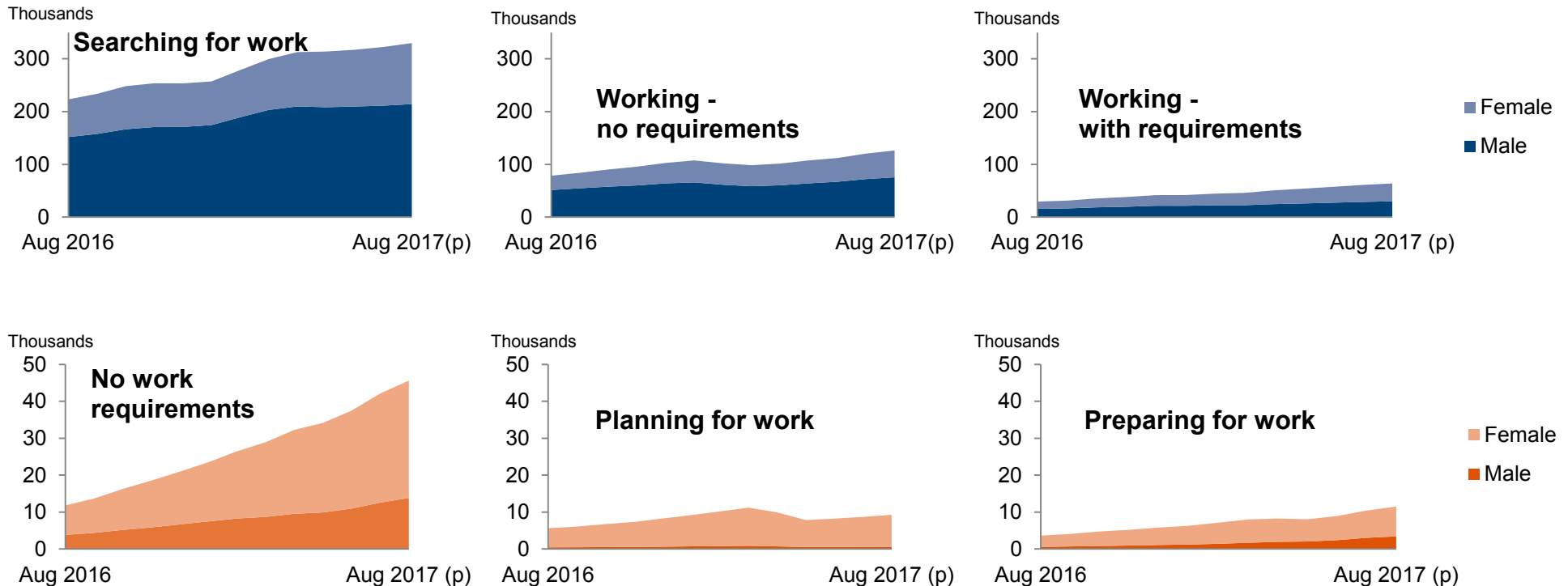
In some areas Universal Credit is available to a wider range of claimant types. The age and gender profile of claimants therefore varies from region to region.

Please note the figures for the latest month (August 2017) are provisional (p) and will be finalised in the next release. See the Background Information and Methodology document for more details. See **table 2.1** for summary statistics and [Stat-Xplore](#) for the complete data series.

People on Universal Credit

Most people on Universal Credit are in the Searching for Work conditionality regime

The number of people on Universal Credit, by conditionality regime and gender, 10 August 2017



There were 590 thousand people on Universal Credit as of 10 August 2017. This is a 4 per cent increase in the number of people on Universal Credit, compared to July 2017.

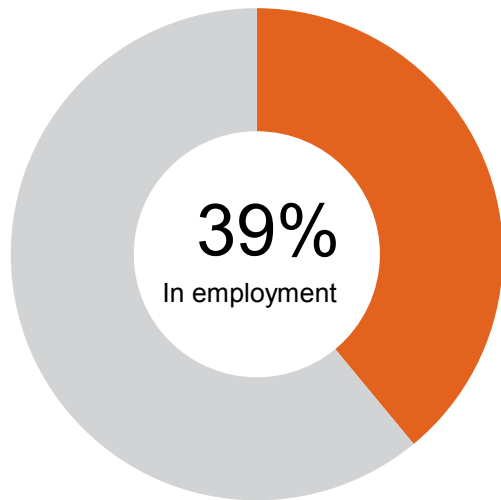
In April 2017, changes were made to conditionality for lone parents/lead carers of young children. See the Background and Methodology document for more details. The fall in the number of people, particularly females, in the planning for work conditionality regime around May is likely to be linked to this change. From June, the number of people in the planning for work conditionality regime continues to grow, in line with the number of people on Universal Credit.

Please note that the conditionality breakdown measures what regime an individual is in on the count date. This may not be representative of an individual's entire assessment period. Conditionality regime figures are not the same as the employment breakdown, which shows whether an individual has had earnings during their assessment period. The two breakdowns should only be used together with caution.

Please see the [Background Information and Methodology](#) document for more information on conditionality regimes.

Almost two-fifths of people on Universal Credit are in employment

Percentage of people on Universal Credit who are in employment, 10 August 2017

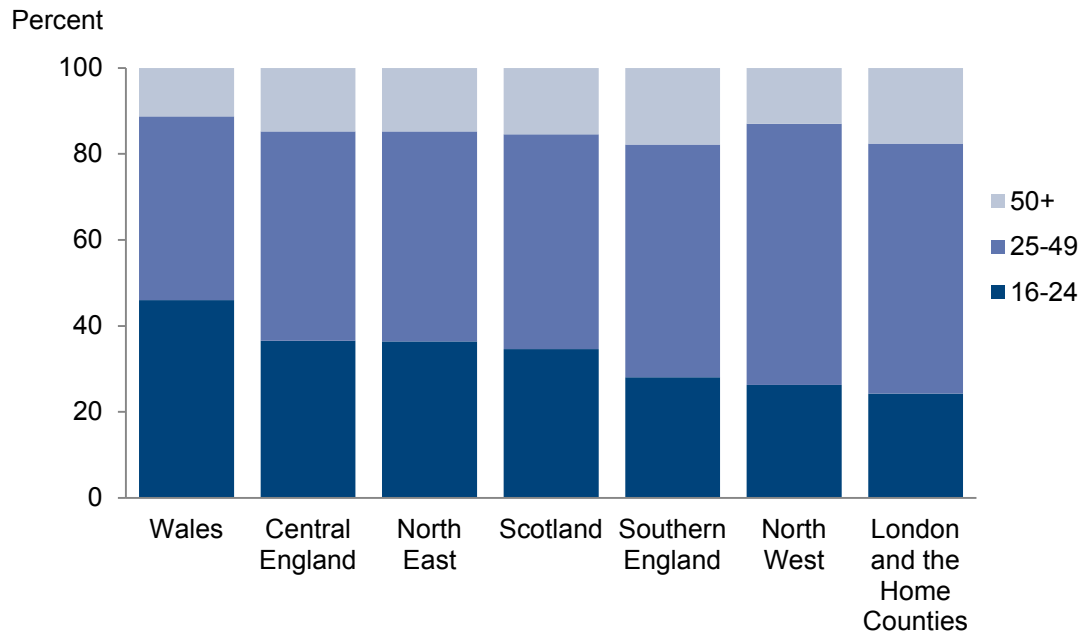


Of the people on Universal Credit as of 10 August 2017, 39 per cent (230 thousand) were in employment.

In August 2017, there were more males on Universal Credit than females (58 per cent compared to 42 per cent).

Regions where Universal Credit is more widely available to all claimant types tend to have a higher proportion of females on Universal Credit compared to other areas. For example, in the London and North West regions 49 per cent of people on Universal Credit were female.

People on Universal Credit by Jobcentre Plus group and age group, 10 August 2017



Overall, 54 per cent of people on Universal Credit were aged 25-49. Males aged 25-49 made up 31 per cent of the total figure.

The age profile of people on Universal Credit also varies between Jobcentre Plus groups. Compared to other areas, the North West and London and the Home Counties Jobcentre Plus groups have a smaller proportion of people on Universal Credit in the 16-24 age group, whilst Wales has a higher proportion in the same group.

Breakdowns of people on Universal Credit by Jobcentre Plus office, local authority and parliamentary constituency are available on [Stat-Xplore](#).

See [table 3.1](#) for summary statistics and [Stat-Xplore](#) for the complete data series.

Please note figures for the latest month (August 2017) are provisional (p) and will be finalised in the next release. See the Background Information and Methodology document for more details.

Where Universal Credit claimants live

The North West, where roll-out started, has the largest number of Universal Credit claimants

The adjacent map shows people on Universal Credit by local authority as of 10 August 2017.

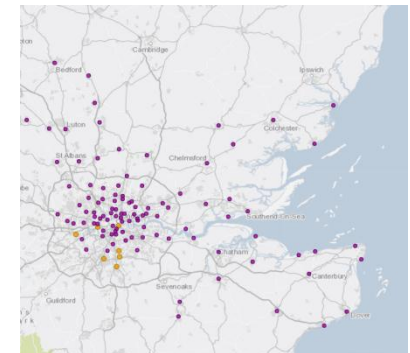
The darker areas of the map are local authorities with higher numbers of Universal Credit claimants, while the lighter areas are the local authorities with fewer Universal Credit claimants.

Where you live

Find information about your Jobcentre Plus office in our interactive map.

Please click [here](#) to access the interactive map.

The interactive map shows the number of people on Universal Credit by Jobcentre Plus office, per region, as can be seen in the adjacent example. Key statistics can be viewed by clicking on the Jobcentre Plus office.



Please note that this map will be unavailable from 3:30 p.m. on 17 October 2017 until 9:30 a.m. on 18 October 2017, ahead of the next release.

For further information on supported browsers, please visit the following website: <http://doc.arcgis.com/en/arcgis-online/reference/browsers.htm>

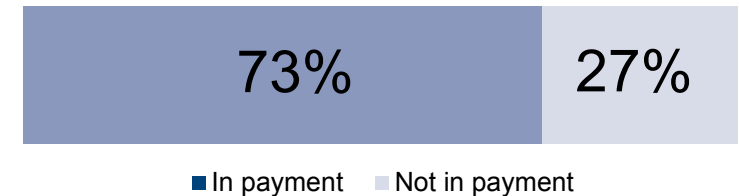
Households receiving Universal Credit

510 thousand households are on Universal Credit

In June 2017, 510 thousand households were on Universal Credit. Almost three-quarters of these households (370 thousand) were receiving a payment.

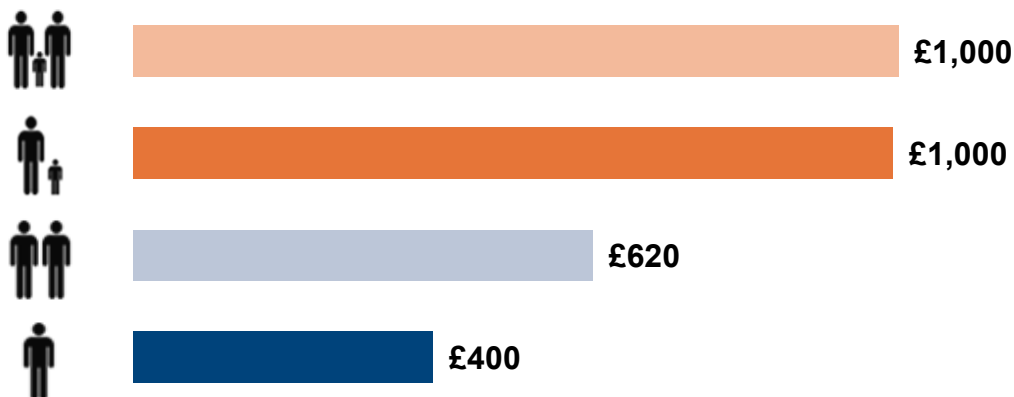
There are a number of reasons why a household may not be in receipt of a payment, one being when someone moves into work and their level of earnings means that they no longer receive a payment. Universal Credit is responsive to changing circumstances, and provides support to people both in and out of work. Universal Credit payments can easily be restarted up to six months after a household's last payment.

Percentage of Households on Universal Credit who are receiving a payment, June 2017



The average amount of Universal Credit paid to households is £550 per month

Mean monthly amount of Universal Credit paid by family type, June 2017



In June 2017, the average amount of Universal Credit paid to households on Universal Credit was £550 per month. This is the mean award for households where Universal Credit is in payment.

For households with children, higher average payments are a result of entitlement to support for one or more child, and a higher proportion with entitlement to support for housing.

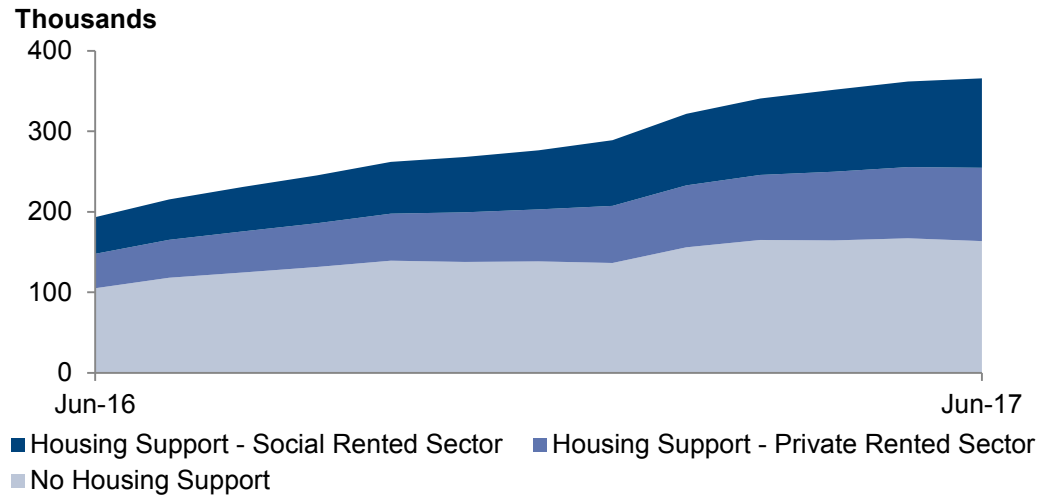
The distribution of Universal Credit awards causes the average amount based on the median to be lower (£436.77 per month). The mean is affected by a small number of households receiving relatively large payments of Universal Credit: In June 2017; 12,000 households received a monthly payment of over £1,500. This was 3 per cent of all households in payment.

75 per cent of Universal Credit awards are paid to single people without children. In June 2017, 280 thousand awards were paid to single people without children, whilst just 5,700 awards were paid to couples without children.

Over time, a growing proportion of Universal Credit awards have been paid to households with children. In June 2016, 13 per cent of awards were paid to households with children. By June 2017, this had risen to 23 per cent. This is due to the continuing roll out of Universal Credit to a wider range of claimant types, and fewer Jobcentre Plus offices only accepting claims from single people without children.

More than half of all households receiving a payment of Universal Credit are entitled to support for housing

Number of households receiving a payment of Universal Credit by Housing Support entitlement and Tenure, June 2016-June 2017



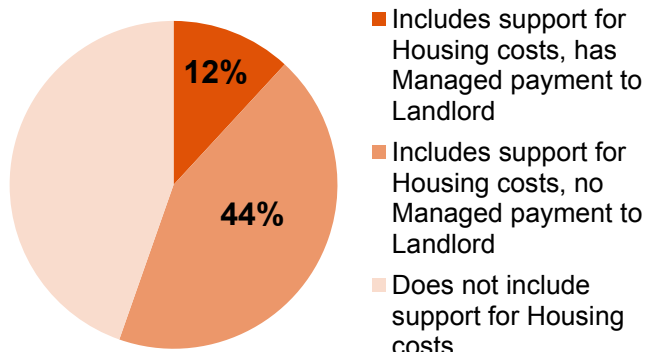
Universal Credit pays for different sorts of support required by the household, but in order to be entitled to this support certain conditions have to be met. More information can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit/what-youll-get>.

Support for housing helps households with costs such as rent or the interest charged on a mortgage. Around 200 thousand households that received a payment of Universal Credit in June 2017 were entitled to support for housing - 55 per cent of all households in payment.

On 8th June 2017, 55% of households receiving a payment of Universal Credit with entitlement to support for housing were in the Social Rented Sector, compared to 45% in the Private Rented Sector.

Less than 0.5% of households fall in to the 'other or unknown' category for tenure. This includes households in owner occupied accommodation receiving support for mortgage interest.

Number of households receiving a payment of Universal Credit with entitlement to support for housing costs and Managed Payment to Landlords, by Tenure, 8 June 2017

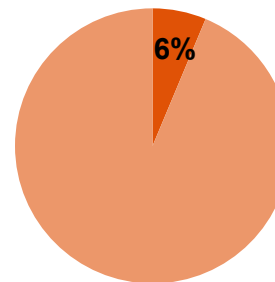


- Includes support for Housing costs, has Managed payment to Landlord
- Includes support for Housing costs, no Managed payment to Landlord
- Does not include support for Housing costs

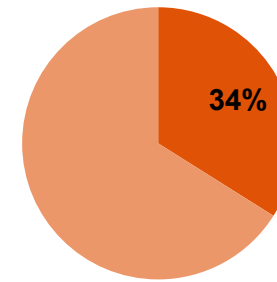
Universal Credit, including support for housing costs, is usually paid directly to the household in a single payment. Where this is not suitable, landlords and claimants can apply for housing costs to be paid directly via Managed Payment to Landlord, which is a type of Alternative Payment Arrangement.

In June 2017, 34% of households in the Social Rented Sector had housing costs paid directly to a landlord, compared to 6% in the Private Rented Sector.

Private Rented Sector



Social Rented Sector



- Managed payment to Landlord
- No Managed payment to landlord

More information about definitions and the methodology behind the statistics can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/universal-credit-statistics>. Further bespoke breakdowns of the figures can be created through [Stat-Xplore](#).

Statistics about households on Universal Credit will next be released in March 2018.

About these statistics

These official statistics have been compiled using data from systems within local offices and records of Universal Credit benefit payments made by the Department.

This and other new data sources will, in time, allow a progressively wider range of breakdowns to be published as new IT systems are introduced. The methodology used and definitions of the official statistics may be updated within subsequent releases, along with information on the impact of any changes to the time series already released. A [strategy](#) for the release of official statistics on Universal Credit was first published in September 2013 and last updated in December 2016.

These statistics have been developed using guidelines set out by the UK Statistics Authority, and are new official statistics undergoing evaluation. They have, therefore, been designated as [Experimental Statistics](#). Users are invited to [comment](#) on the development and relevance of these statistics at this stage.

Figures contained within this publication are subject to rounding unless otherwise stated. Percentages shown are calculated using figures prior to rounding. Please see the background information document for details on the level of rounding applied, which is dependent on the magnitude of the figure being quoted.

Universal Credit is now available in all Jobcentre Plus areas to single claimants and is being expanded across the country to include all claimant types via the full service. See **table 4.1** for a full list of Jobcentre Plus offices by the date they implemented Universal Credit.

Further roll out

Universal Credit was introduced in 2013 and is now available for all new claims from single jobseekers wherever they are in Great Britain.

The expansion of Universal Credit to the full range of claimants was started in May 2016, and rollout will be completed in 2018. By 2022, all existing legacy claimants will have moved on to Universal Credit.

Where to find out more

This document and the summary tables can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/universal-credit-statistics>

Build your own tables using Stat-Xplore: <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk/> which also contains data on households on Universal Credit.

See our interactive map: <http://dwp-stats.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=f90fb305d8da4eb3970812b3199cf489>

Older releases can be found here but please note that figures are subject to change. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/universal-credit-statistics>

The release strategy for the statistics can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/universal-credit-statistics-background-information>

The background information and methodology document can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/universal-credit-statistics-background-information-and-methodology>

Information on Universal Credit Sanctions is published in the DWP Quarterly Statistical Summary, which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/dwp-statistical-summaries-2017>

Contact us

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Comments? Feedback is welcome