

**Proposals for a new statistical series to count the number of unemployed claimants: Consultation Document**

*A consultation on plans for regular release of official statistics.*

Email Contact:
STATS.CONSULTATION-2018@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK

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# 1. Introduction

The Department for Work and Pensions publishes regular official statistics on a wide range of benefits including Universal Credit, Jobseeker’s Allowance and many others[[1]](#footnote-1).

We would like you to tell us whether the new statistics proposed in the research options paper would be useful, and invite your comment on the timing and frequency of release of any future release. This will help us to develop and publish statistics which offer value to users, subject to the availability and quality assurance of the data.

**Issued:** 21st May 2018

This consultation runs from 21st May to 21st July 2018.

# 2. How to tell us who you are

When responding please say whether you use, or would expect to use, these statistics yourself, or as part of your role within an organisation. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please tell us what sort of organisation it is. There is a list of interest groups on the questionnaire for you to pick from.

# 3. Confidentiality & Data Protection

Information provided in response to this statistical notice, including personal information, may be subject to publication or release to other parties or to disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000(FOIA) and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). If you want information, including personal data that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence.

It would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances.

# 4. Tell us what would be useful

The questionnaire below asks for your feedback on the construction of a new statistical series, the scope of the statistics and how they are released (frequency and timeliness), and the statistical products we publish.

Please rank each of these (from 1 to 4) based on how desirable or necessary you think they are:

* **1** – essential, and top priority
* **2** – highly desirable
* **3** – might be useful, but a lower priority
* **4** – not useful

And, if appropriate, tell us why this additional information would be useful for you.

Please send us your responses in an email to STATS.CONSULTATION-2018@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK

or by post to:

Russ Bentley

Statistics Services Division

Data & Analytics

Department for Work and Pensions

Level 2, Kings Court

80, Hanover Way, Sheffield, S37UF

# Questions

The Code of Practice on Access to Government Information means we would have to make available individual responses if we are asked to.

The closing date for completing this questionnaire is 21st July 2018.

**You and Your Organisation**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
|  |  |
| Organisation (if applicable): |  |
|  |  |
| Job Title (if applicable): |  |
|  |  |
| Address: |  |
|  |  |
| E-mail: |  |
|  |  |
| Telephone Number: |  |

**Please tell us which of the following best describes you as a respondent:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Academic |  |
|  |  |
| Business representative organisation/trade body |  |
|  |  |
| Central Government |  |
|  |  |
| Charity or social enterprise |  |
|  |  |
| Individual |  |
|  |  |
| Legal representative |  |
|  |  |
| Local Government |  |
|  |  |
| Large business (over 250 staff) |  |
|  |  |
| Medium business (50 to 250 staff) |  |
|  |  |
| Small business (10 to 49 staff) |  |
|  |  |
| Micro business (up to 9 staff) |  |
|  |  |
| Other, please describe:  |  |  |  |

**Your use of Claimant Count statistics**

To help us understand your needs, please tell us a bit about what you use the claimant count statistics for, including any decisions the statistics will inform and questions you are looking to answer.

**Question 1**

Which of the options presented in the research paper for a new statistical series do you prefer?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Options** | Tick one Box | **Why would you find this useful?** *for example do you have a very strong or a marginal preference for a particular option* |
| Option 1 |  |  |
| Option 2 |  |  |
| Other  |  |  |
| Neither |  |  |

**Question 2**

What geographical information would be useful to include?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of information** | **Ranking**1-4 | **Why would you find this useful?** |
| UK level |  |  |
| GB level |  |  |
| Country level |  |  |
| Regional level |  |  |
| Local Authority |  |  |
| Parliamentary Constituency |  |  |
| Other (please explain) |  |  |

**Question 3**

What other key breakdowns are required?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of information** | **Ranking**1-4 | **Why would you find this useful?** |
| Gender |  |  |
| Age  |  |  |
| Duration  |  |  |
| Off-flows |  |  |
| Other (please explain) |  |  |

**Question 4**

How important is the frequency of release and timeliness of statistics to you?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of information** | **Ranking**1-4 | **Why would you find this useful?** |
| Monthly publication |  |  |
| Quarterly publication |  |  |
| Other (please explain) |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Statistics relate to a count at the previous month *e.g. statistics published in Oct18 have a count date of Sep18* |  |  |
| Statistics relate to a count at the previous quarter *e.g. statistics published in Oct18 have a count date of July18* |  |  |
| Other (please explain) |  |  |

**Question 5**

What are your views on removing JSA Credits Only and/or Universal Credit cases awaiting Work Capability Assessment (WCA) from new statistics?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of information** | **Agree/Disagree** | **Why?** |
| Remove JSA-Credits only |  |  |
| Remove UC WCA  |  |  |
| Other please explain) |  |  |

**Question 6**

What statistical products would best support you?

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of information** | **Ranking**1-4 | **Why would you find this useful?** |
| Stat-xplore[[2]](#footnote-2). *DWP releases most benefit statistics via this web tool which allows users to generate their own stats outputs & supports use of A*PIs |  |  |
| A Statistical Release *i.e. a traditional statistical summary report accompanying released statistics* |  |  |
| Summary excel tables |  |  |
| Interactive storyboard maps[[3]](#footnote-3) |  |  |
| Dashboard style summaries |  |  |
| analytic reports on Labour Market analyses |  |  |
| Other (*please explain e.g. NOMIS*) |  |  |

Do you have any other thoughts or comments?

Thank you for taking the time to give us your views. We do not intend to acknowledge receipt of individual responses unless you tick the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply

We carry out our research on many different topics and consultations. As your views are valuable to us, do you agree to us contacting you again from time to time, either for research or to send through consultation documents?

Yes No

Please send us your responses in an email to: STATS.CONSULTATION-2018@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK

or by post to:

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1. <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/about/statistics#dwp-statistics-and-contacts-by-theme> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://stat-xplore.dwp.gov.uk> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <http://dwp-stats.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=f90fb305d8da4eb3970812b3199cf489> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)