

Freedom of Information request 2013-1604

Received 2nd April 2013

Published 30th April 2013

Information request

“I would like to request estimates of the number of working-age Incapacity Benefits claimants for Scotland, for the period 1978-1994, defined as follows:

Working age=16-59/64

Incapacity Benefits including the following:

- **Invalidity Benefit (1978-1994)**
- **Non-Contributory Invalidity Pension (1978-1984)**
- **Severe Disability Allowance (1984-1994)**

I think that the information may be published in the historical Social Security Statistics volumes. If it's not available in this format, any advice you can give me about creating a time series for Scotland only would be much appreciated.”

DWP response

In response to your request, the figures that we have been able to locate within the appropriate FOI cost limit are contained in the table below.

Please note that we have not been able to locate figures prior to 1980 and we have not been able to locate Scotland only figures for Non-Contributory Invalidity Pension or Severe Disability Allowance but we have included the overall caseload figures should they be useful for your needs.

Sickness Benefit (SB), Invalidity Benefit (InvB), Non-Contributory Invalidity Pension (NCIVP) and Severe Disablement Allowance (SDA) claimants by Standard Statistical Region, from 1980 to 1994.

Thousands

All Areas	Sickness Benefit	Invalidity Benefit	Total SB/InvB	Non cont IVP 1980-84 SDA 1985-94
31-May-80	450.3	615.0	1,065.3	171.1
30-May-81	410.0	633.1	1,043.1	182.4
29-May-82	469.2	683.5	1,152.7	192.3
02-Apr-83	407.6	736.9	1,144.5	202.2
31-Mar-84	247.5	797.3	1,044.8	219.0
30-Mar-85	225.2	849.3	1,074.6	251.9
05-Apr-86	237.5	899.4	1,136.9	261.3
04-Apr-87	187.2	968.0	1,155.2	260.2
02-Apr-88	227.8	1,047.5	1,275.3	263.4
01-Apr-89	266.4	1,126.1	1,392.5	274.6
31-Mar-90	308.7	1,209.4	1,518.1	284.8
30-Mar-91	372.0	1,306.3	1,678.3	293.7
01-Apr-92	458.2	1,439.1	1,897.3	302.4
01-Apr-93	533.8	1,580.3	2,114.1	316.0
01-Apr-94	567.8	1,681.3	2,249.1	329.6
Scotland	Sickness Benefit	Invalidity Benefit	Total SB/InvB	Non cont IVP 1980-84 SDA 1985-94
31-May-80	54.6	78.1	132.7	-
30-May-81	49.4	88.4	137.8	-
29-May-82	57.2	95.2	152.4	-
02-Apr-83	50.6	102.3	152.9	-
31-Mar-84	-	-	138.7	-
30-Mar-85	31.5	115.8	147.4	-
05-Apr-86	32.0	125.6	157.6	-
04-Apr-87	23.9	135.3	159.2	-
02-Apr-88	28.6	146.9	175.5	-
01-Apr-89	33.7	157.9	191.6	-
31-Mar-90	37.4	169.4	206.8	-
30-Mar-91	50.2	181.4	231.6	-
01-Apr-92	62.1	200.2	262.3	-
01-Apr-93	68.5	215.7	284.2	-
01-Apr-94	72.5	227.6	300.1	-

Source: DWP Information Centre 1% Samples

Notes:

1. Figures are shown in thousands and rounded to the nearest hundred.

2. *Figures for Non-Contributory IVP include Housewives Non-Contributory IVB.*
3. *Figures marked '-' for Scotland are not available for these periods.*

FOI cost limit

We estimate that the cost of complying fully with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request any further than the information that has been provided above.