



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

# DWP benefit expenditure on EEA national-led claims 2013/14

Expenditure on main DWP benefits on EEA  
national-led claims in 2013/14

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February 2016

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## Introduction

The figures in this report present analysis conducted by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to estimate the expenditure on the main DWP working age benefits for EEA nationals.

The existing Departmental benefit expenditure series<sup>1</sup> does not provide a breakdown by nationality of claimants.

This analysis includes expenditure on Housing Benefit, Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Incapacity Benefit and Income Support. It does not include expenditure on some other DWP benefits (such as Disability Living Allowance or Carer's Allowance) or benefits and tax credits administered by HMRC such as Child Benefit or Tax Credits.

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<sup>1</sup> Benefit expenditure and caseload tables 2015:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/benefit-expenditure-and-caseload-tables-2015>

# Methodology

The analysis presented in this report is derived from two administrative datasets: the DWP National Benefits Database containing claims for the main DWP benefits in 2013/14 and the Single Housing Benefit Extract (SHBE) containing Housing Benefit claims in 2013/14.

These datasets were used to produce estimates of the percentage of expenditure on EEA migrants. Percentages were then applied to published DWP expenditure totals.

The datasets were chosen because they are considered to provide the most comprehensive reporting of benefit receipt.

## **Identifying nationality of benefit claimants**

To identify the nationality of benefit claimants, the National Insurance Number (NINO) of the main benefit claimant has been matched with the dataset of nationality at NINO registration. This approach is consistent with the established approach to identify the nationality of benefit claimants in existing Official Statistics series<sup>2</sup>.

This does not represent a complete match for the current nationality of an individual. For instance, it is recognised that some claimants who were a non-UK national at the point of NINO registration may have subsequently become UK nationals.

The EEA consists of the 28 countries of the EU plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway. UK is excluded from the EEA definition here.

## **Identifying in-work claims**

In-work Housing Benefit claims have been identified as those that are not 'passported' and where there is positive evidence of earnings for either the main claimant or a partner.

## **Geographic coverage**

Figures relate to Great Britain or people resident overseas who are receiving United Kingdom benefits. All other benefit expenditure on residents of Northern Ireland is the responsibility of the Northern Ireland Executive.

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<sup>2</sup> Nationality at point of NINO registration of DWP working age benefit recipients: data to Feb 15: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/nationality-at-point-of-nino-registration-of-dwp-working-age-benefit-recipients-data-to-feb-2015>

# Results

## **DWP Working Age Expenditure on selected benefits - By type of benefit**

2013/14 (£m)

<b><u>DWP Working Age Expenditure</u></b> <sup>1,2</sup>	<b>37,655</b>
DWP Working Age expenditure - EEA-led claims <sup>3</sup>	1,700
<i>% of DWP Working Age expenditure on EEA-led claims</i>	<i>5%</i>
<b><u>DWP in-work expenditure</u></b> <sup>4</sup>	<b>4,953</b>
DWP in-work expenditure - EEA-led claims	814
Of which:	
Housing Benefit <sup>5</sup> - EEA-led claims	814
<i>% of DWP in-work expenditure on EEA-led claims</i>	<i>16%</i>
<b><u>DWP out-of-work expenditure</u></b>	<b>32,701</b>
DWP out-of-work expenditure - EEA-led claims	886
Of which:	
Housing Benefit <sup>6</sup> - EEA-led claims	465
JSA - EEA-led claims	216
Other DWP out-of-work benefits <sup>7</sup> - EEA-led claims	205
<i>% of DWP out-of-work expenditure on EEA-led claims</i>	<i>3%</i>

**Source:** 100% National Benefits Database (NBD) and 100% Single Housing Benefit Extract (SHBE).

Figures are rounded to the nearest £1m.

**Notes:**

1. Benefits included in this analysis are: Housing Benefit, Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support, and Incapacity Benefit.
2. Working age has been defined as those under State Pension age.
3. The nationality is at NINO registration of the main claimant.
4. DWP in-work expenditure is defined as Housing Benefit claims that are 'non-passported' and where there is positive evidence of earnings for the main claimant or a partner.
5. In-work Housing Benefit expenditure is defined as Housing Benefit claims that are 'non-passported' and where there is positive evidence of earnings for the main claimant or a partner.
6. Out-of-work Housing Benefit expenditure is defined as all 'passported' and 'non-passported' claims with no earnings.
7. Other DWP out-of-work benefits included in this analysis are: Incapacity Benefit, Employment and Support Allowance and Income Support.

## Contact Points for Further Information

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