



Department
for Work &
Pensions

ESF Support for Families with Multiple Problems - Job Outcome Rates

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Background

1. The European Social Fund Support for Families with Multiple Problems programme (ESF Families programme) was launched in December 2011 and is due to run until March 2015. It supports disadvantaged families, facing multiple barriers to work, to move closer towards and into sustainable employment. The programme is funded by the 2007–2013 European Social Fund (ESF) programme in England, under DWP’s arrangements to act as one of the Co-Financing Organisations. The programme is voluntary and operates across England.

2. Provision is open to any member of a family where one member of that family (not necessarily the programme participant) is on a working age benefit. Participants must be over 16 years old, able to work in the UK, and either be out of work or working few enough hours to be on an out of work benefit. The family of which they are a member must also be regarded as facing multiple problems: the definition for which is determined locally, within guidelines set out by DWP. Eligibility criteria for this provision and for the Troubled Families Programme operated by the Department for Communities and Local Government overlap, but are not identical.

3. The primary referral route for the programme is via Local Authorities. Since September 2012 providers have also been able to identify and refer eligible participants themselves.

4. Once a participant is attached to the ESF Families programme, the relevant provider has twelve months to work with them and their family, as appropriate, to help them move towards and find sustained employment.

5. The ESF Families with Multiple Problems programme pays providers for progress measures and for sustained job outcomes. This publication focuses exclusively on sustained job outcomes. Since October 2012, these are paid when, in the case of a Jobseeker’s Allowance (JSA) claimant, they are recorded as having achieved a total of 26 weeks in employment. For other

participants, a payment is triggered after 13 weeks in work. Prior to October 2012, the relevant spell in employment had to be continuous for a provider to qualify for a payment. Being in work is defined according to whether the participant's employment means they are no longer eligible for the benefit they previously claimed. This will vary according to the eligibility rules of the benefit they previously claimed. Where a participant was not previously receiving a benefit, they are defined as being in work if they work for 16 hours a week or more. Providers may claim only one job outcome payment per participant.

6. Further information about the programme, including the nature of local provision, exact eligibility criteria and all payment triggers can be found here.

<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/supplying-dwp/what-we-buy/welfare-to-work-services/european-social-fund/support-for-families/>

7. Statistics on the performance of the ESF Families programme to date, covering attachments, progress measures and sustained job outcomes, were released as Official Statistics on 21 November 2013. The data in this release supplements those statistics by giving the proportion of attachments that went on to achieve sustained job outcomes within a defined period.
8. The statistics presented here look at cohorts of participants, by month of attachment to the programme, for whom 18 months have passed since they joined and shows how sustained job outcomes have built up over time.

Data and Results

9. The data is taken from the Department for Work and Pension's payment administrative system and is therefore subject to revision. It is rounded to the nearest 10, in line with standard DWP disclosure control policy.
10. There are two tables that present job outcome rates, according to benefit status, for participants for whom we have job outcome data up to 18 months after attachment. There is a third table with the same data for total attachments over this period.
11. Table 1 covers participants who were on JSA when they were attached to the programme. It shows achievement of sustained job outcomes 12, 15 and 18 months after attachment. Attachments for months December 2011 to April

2012 are combined due to low volumes in those months, making the individual months' data unreliable as a guide to performance.

Table 1: Percentage of JSA attachments that achieved a sustained job outcome in the subsequent months following attachment

		December 2011 to April 2012	May 2012	June 2012
Volume of attachments		460	360	420
job outcomes by	12 months	9.3%	7.0%	6.6%
	15 months	12.1%	8.6%	9.9%
	18 months	16.2%	11.4%	13.2%

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding; percentages are calculated on unrounded figures

Source: DWP management information

12. Of the 460 participants who joined the provision between December 2011 and April 2012, 9.3% had achieved a sustained job outcome after 12 months and 16.2% had done so by 18 months.

13. For participants who joined the provision in May 2012, 11.4% had achieved a sustained job outcome by 18 months and for those who joined in June 2012 the figure is 13.2%.

14. Table 2 covers job outcome rates for non-JSA attachments. This is primarily people on other out of work benefits, but may include some people who are not on benefits where eligibility for the programme was through another family member.

Table 2: Percentage of non-JSA attachments that achieved a sustained job outcome in the subsequent months following attachment

		December 2011 to April 2012	May 2012	June 2012
Volume of attachments		780	640	780
job outcomes by	12 months	4.6%	4.5%	3.8%
	15 months	6.0%	5.9%	4.5%
	18 months	6.7%	7.4%	4.9%

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding; percentages are calculated on unrounded figures

Source: DWP management information

15. For the non-JSA group who joined the provision in or before April 2012, 4.6% had achieved a sustained job outcome one year later. By 18 months, this had improved to 6.7%. The figures for the May and June 2012 cohorts after 18 months are 7.4% and 4.9% respectively.

16. Table 3 contains job outcome rates for all attachments. These are virtually all from the groups in tables 1 and 2, but also include those JSA claimants who moved onto the benefit having previously been in receipt of incapacity benefits. Whilst ex-IB JSA participants are recorded as a distinct group within the programme, their volumes are too small to report separately.

Table 3: Percentage of total attachments that achieved a sustained job outcome in the subsequent months following attachment

		December 2011 to April 2012	May 2012	June 2012
Volume of attachments		1,240	1,000	1,210
job outcomes by	12 months	6.4%	5.5%	4.8%
	15 months	8.3%	7.0%	6.3%
	18 months	10.2%	8.9%	7.7%

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding; percentages are calculated on unrounded figures

Source: DWP management information

17. Combined job outcome rates for all attachments in the November 2011 to April 2012 cohort are 6.4% after 12 months and 10.2% after 18 months.

18. For total attachments in May 2012, the job outcome rate is 8.9% after 18 months, and for total attachments in June 2012 it is 7.7%.

Contacts

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