



Department
for Work &
Pensions

ESF Support for Families with Multiple Problems – statistics to January 2014

March 2014

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Introduction

1. The European Social Fund Support for Families with Multiple Problems (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.

Key Findings

2. The key findings on participation are:
 - By January 2014 there were 33,560 participants.
 - Of these, 14,220 started within the last six months.
 - Females made up 61% of all participants.
3. For progress measures, the main findings are:
 - 22,750 progress measures have been achieved by 11,020 participants.
 - Of the 11,020 participants achieving progress measures, 3,650 have got one, 3,000 have got two and 4,370 have got three.
 - Of the 4,370 that have achieved three progress measures just over two thirds, 2,970, of these have been claimed within the last six months.
4. For sustained job outcomes:
 - 1,400 sustained job outcomes have been achieved. Of these, 910 - almost two thirds - were achieved within the last six months.

- Overall job outcomes rates 18 months after joining the programme are 9.8%.
- 18 month job outcome rates are 14.1% for JSA participants and for non-JSA participants they are 7.3%.

Background

5. The ESF Families programme is voluntary and operates across England. There are twelve Contract Package Areas each with a single prime provider. There are eight prime providers as some cover multiple areas. These are listed as table 1.
6. 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 this country, 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.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. The ESF Families with Multiple Problems programme operates on a Payment by Results basis. Providers can claim an interim progress measure payment on agreement of an action plan after 10 weeks with the participant, but apart from that payment triggers fall into two main categories:
 - **Progress Measures:** these are triggered where a participant completes a prescribed set of activities designed to assist the family to resolve or overcome particular problems. The exact activities attracting a progress payment vary across Contract Package Areas to reflect the different approaches taken and are contractually agreed between DWP and providers. Typically, these cover activities designed to address problems

relating to housing, managing money and debt, family communications, community involvement, skills for working or work placements. Progress measures can be claimed from ten weeks after attachment and up to three may be claimed for each participant. Including the interim progress measure, 70% of funding for ESF Families is allocated to progress measures.

- **Job Outcomes:** these are paid when, in the case of a JSA participant, they are recorded as having worked for 26 weeks. For the non-JSA and JSA ex-IB participants, a payment is triggered after 13 weeks in work. Being in work is defined either by the benefit the participant is on, or for those not on benefits as 16 hours a week or more. Weeks in work do not need to be consecutive and providers may claim only one job outcome payment per participant.

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

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

11. The next updates to these statistics will be in September 2014 and March 2015.

Data and Results

12. The data is taken from the Department's payment administrative system. Figures are subject to revision. They are rounded to the nearest 10, in line with standard DWP disclosure control policy. Percentages are calculated before rounding.

13. Performance is reported against the programme's objective to support participants towards and into work. It covers attachments (i.e. the number of individual participants), progress measures and sustained job outcomes. Tables referenced are at the back of the report.

14. Table 2 shows the build up of **attachments** over time. In total there have been 33,560 attachments up to January 2014.

15. In 2012 there were 9,110 attachments and in 2013 there were 22,300. In the first month of 2014 there have been 2,160.

16. All figures are subject to revision but in practice all the major revisions since the November 2013 statistics release have been to the figures for attachments. This is due in part to improved de-duplication of administrative records but mostly due to further claims being made in subsequent months. This is particularly the case for the latest month's attachment figures, which are usually revised upwards when reported in the subsequent month. When we published the November 2013 statistical release, the September 2013 attachments were reported as 1,530 and now table 2 shows they are 2,310.
17. Table 3 shows **attachments by characteristics**. It covers gender, ethnicity and age group.
18. There have been 20,620 female participants, making up 61% of the total.
19. Attachments from ethnic minorities comprise 17% (5,740) of participants. The largest ethnic minority group is Black or Black British, at 8% (2,680). White people comprise 79% (26,630) of participants and 4% of participants prefer not to say.
20. Young people under 25 make up 21% (6,940) of participants. People over 50 make up 13% (4,300) of participants.
21. There have been 22,750 **progress measures** payments, attributable to 11,020 participants. Of the 11,020 participants achieving progress measures, 3,650 had been payments for a single progress measure. There have been 3,000 payments for two progress measures and 4,370 payments for three.
22. The build up of progress measures over time is shown in table 4. This shows the month for which the last payment was claimed for a progress measure for a participant. For example, if an individual had achieved two progress measures by May 2013 but then went on to achieve a third in January 2014 they would only be recorded once in the table, as three progress measures in January.
23. In January 2013 changes were made to allow progress measures to be claimed individually rather than cumulatively. This transition to a new way of claiming introduced uncertainty into the breakdown by month prior to April 2013, so the monthly information for this period has been combined.

24. Of the 4,370 payments for three progress measures, just over two thirds (2,970) were from the last six months.
25. Looking at movement into work, table 5 shows that by January 2014 there were 1,400 **sustained job outcomes**. This includes 770 from JSA participants, 620 from non-JSA participants and 10 from JSA ex-IB participants. Note that whilst ex-IB JSA participants are a distinct group and are included in totals, separate tables have not been included for them due to their small volumes.
26. The majority of sustained job outcomes (1,300) are from the last 12 months and almost two thirds (910) have occurred in the last six months.
27. **Job outcome rates** were first published as ad hoc statistics in January 2014 and have been updated and expanded here. These enable us to see what proportion of those starting earlier on in the provision have gone on to achieve a sustained job outcome by 12, 15 or 18 months after their attachment.
28. Table 6 shows job outcome rates for JSA participants and table 7 shows the same information for non-JSA participants. The total for all participants is shown in table 8.
29. Job outcome rates are shown for participants by month of attachment, with the exception of December 2011 to April 2012. Data for these months is combined due to low volumes making the individual months' data unreliable as a guide to performance.
30. Looking at JSA participants, 8.7% had a sustained job outcome by 12 months, 11.2% by 15 months and 14.1% by 18 months after starting on the programme.
31. For non-JSA participants, 4.9% had a sustained job outcome by 12 months, increasing to 6.6% by 15 months and 7.3% by 18 months after starting on the programme.
32. For the total, combining benefit groups for all participants starting provision up to August 2012, 9.8% had achieved a job outcome within 18 months.

33. The JSA and non JSA tables both have a lot fluctuation in the job outcome rates for individual months. This relates to relatively small monthly volumes and variation in how close participants are to being job ready. The table for total job outcomes is based on larger volumes, and hence has more stability in job outcome rates for individual months. It shows no trend over time in job outcome rates.

34. Attachments for each of the twelve **Contract Package Areas** are shown in table 9. The Contract Package Area with the highest amount was Greater Manchester, with 5,220, whilst East of England had the fewest, with 1,220.

35. West Midlands had the most individuals for whom any progress measures have been paid (1,820), and the most progress measures paid (4,030). The East of England has the fewest, at 290 individuals with progress measures and 530 progress measures paid.

36. Table 10 shows sustained job outcomes by Contract Package Area. Cumbria, Merseyside and Lancashire, with 230, have achieved the most. This included 140 JSA job outcomes and 90 non-JSA job outcomes. Greater Manchester had the second highest JSA job outcomes, at 120, and East London and West London jointly had the second highest non-JSA job outcomes, each with 80.

Tables

Table 1: Provider by Contract Package Area

Contract Package Area	Area	Provider
1	East of England	Reed in Partnership
2	East Midlands	Working Links
3	East London	Reed in Partnership
4	West London	Reed in Partnership
5	North East	The Wise Group
6	Greater Manchester	G4S
7	Cumbria, Merseyside and Lancashire	Reed in Partnership
8	South East	Skills Training
9	South West	Twin Training
10	Cornwall	Paragon
11	West Midlands	EOS
12	Yorkshire and the Humber	EOS

Table 2: Attachments over time

	2012	2013	2014
January	30	1,000	<i>2,160</i>
February	150	1,170	
March	510	1,350	
April	480	1,360	
May	960	1,590	
June	1,190	1,680	
July	1,000	2,080	
August	950	1,970	
September	890	2,310	
October	1,020	2,910	
November	1,200	2,800	
December	750	2,070	
Total	9,100	22,300	2,160

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding; January 2012 includes starts from December 2011; all numbers are subject to revision and in particular the latest month's attachment figure is usually revised upward in the following month.

Source: DWP management information

Table 3: Attachments by characteristics, December 2011 to January 2014

	Attachm ents	%
Gender:		
Males	12,930	39%
Females	20,620	61%
Ethnic Group:		
Asian or Asian British	1,310	4%
Black or Black British	2,680	8%
Chinese/other	920	3%
Mixed	820	2%
White	26,630	79%
Prefer not to say	1,180	4%
Age:		
<25	6,940	21%
25-49	22,320	67%
>50	4,300	13%
Total	33,550	100%

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 4: Progress measures over time

	Attachments	Participants completing progress measures				Total progress measures
		any	one	two	three	
Dec-11 to Mar-13	12,630	990	340	170	480	2,120
Apr-13	1,360	680	300	200	180	1,240
May-13	1,590	620	230	220	170	1,170
Jun-13	1,680	820	300	220	290	1,620
Jul-13	2,080	800	290	240	270	1,570
Aug-13	1,970	870	330	250	300	1,720
Sep-13	2,310	940	300	260	380	1,960
Oct-13	2,910	1,180	330	320	530	2,550
Nov-13	2,800	1,210	360	290	560	2,630
Dec-13	2,070	1,380	410	380	590	2,940
Jan-14	2,160	1,530	460	460	620	3,230
Total	33,560	11,020	3,650	3,000	4,370	22,750

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding; all numbers are subject to revision and in particular the latest month's attachment figure is usually revised upward in the following month.

Source: DWP management information

Table 5: Sustained job outcomes over time

	total	JSA	Non-JSA
Up to Dec-12	70	30	40
Jan-13	30	10	20
Feb-13	40	20	20
Mar-13	70	30	40
Apr-13	50	30	20
May-13	70	40	30
Jun-13	80	30	50
Jul-13	70	40	30
Aug-13	120	70	50
Sep-13	110	60	50
Oct-13	140	80	60
Nov-13	160	110	60
Dec-13	140	80	60
Jan-14	240	150	90
Total	1,400	770	620

Note: Total column includes JSA ex-IB participants not shown separately; numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 6: JSA job outcome rates

Date of attachment	Attachments	Job outcomes by		
		12 months	15 months	18 months
Dec-11 to Apr-12	430	10.6%	13.6%	17.8%
May-12	350	6.9%	8.6%	11.5%
Jun-12	410	6.8%	10.4%	14.0%
Jul-12	370	7.2%	9.9%	12.3%
Aug-12	380	11.0%	14.4%	-
Sep-12	320	7.5%	8.8%	-
Oct-12	430	8.4%	11.7%	-
Nov-12	570	8.3%	-	-
Dec-12	330	6.3%	-	-
Jan-13	500	12.4%	-	-
All	4,090	8.7%	11.2%	14.1%

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 7: Non-JSA job outcome rates

Date of attachment	Attachments	Job outcomes by		
		12 months	15 months	18 months
Dec-11 to Apr-12	740	4.7%	6.3%	7.0%
May-12	610	4.9%	6.6%	7.9%
Jun-12	760	4.1%	4.6%	5.0%
Jul-12	620	6.0%	8.9%	9.9%
Aug-12	560	6.7%	8.0%	-
Sep-12	560	4.3%	5.7%	-
Oct-12	590	5.1%	6.8%	-
Nov-12	630	4.6%	-	-
Dec-12	410	3.7%	-	-
Jan-13	490	5.3%	-	-
All	5,970	4.9%	6.6%	7.3%

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 8: Total job outcome rates

Date of attachment	Attachments	Job outcomes by		
		12 months	15 months	18 months
Dec-11 to Apr-12	1,170	6.8%	9.0%	10.9%
May-12	960	5.7%	7.4%	9.3%
Jun-12	1,190	5.1%	6.7%	8.2%
Jul-12	1,000	6.4%	9.2%	10.7%
Aug-12	950	8.5%	10.6%	-
Sep-12	890	5.5%	6.9%	-
Oct-12	1,020	6.5%	8.8%	-
Nov-12	1,200	6.3%	-	-
Dec-12	750	4.8%	-	-
Jan-13	1,000	8.8%	-	-
All	10,100	6.5%	8.4%	9.8%

Note: Includes JSA ex-IB participants not shown separately; numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 9: Attachments and progress measures by Contract Package Area

	Attachments	Participants completing progress measures				Total progress measures
		any	one	two	three	
East of England	1,220	290	120	100	70	530
East Midlands	3,490	1,330	320	320	690	3,040
East London	2,160	350	140	120	90	660
West London	1,730	380	150	130	110	730
North East	2,000	150	80	40	30	250
Greater Manchester	5,220	1,710	630	450	630	3,420
Cumbria, Merseyside and Lancashire	3,310	1,160	410	310	430	2,330
South East	2,970	920	380	310	220	1,680
South West	1,840	490	280	140	60	750
Cornwall	1,580	730	140	220	370	1,690
West Midlands	4,250	1,820	470	470	870	4,030
Yorkshire & Humber	3,790	1,690	520	380	780	3,640
Total	33,560	11,020	3,650	3,000	4,370	22,750

Note: Numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Table 10: Sustained job outcomes by Contract Package Area

	total	JSA	Non-JSA
East of England	40	20	20
East Midlands	60	30	30
East London	150	70	80
West London	140	60	80
North East	60	40	20
Greater Manchester	200	120	70
Cumbria, Merseyside and Lancashire	230	140	90
South East	140	80	60
South West	40	20	20
Cornwall	70	40	30
West Midlands	130	70	60
Yorkshire & Humber	160	100	60
Total	1,400	770	620

Note: Includes JSA ex-IB participants not shown separately; numbers are rounded to the nearest ten; totals may not sum due to rounding.

Source: DWP management information

Contacts

Press enquiries should be directed to the Department for Work and Pensions press office:

Media Enquiries: 0203 267 5129

Out of hours: 0203 267 5144

Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/dwppressoffice

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to:

Bruce Byrne (bruce.byrne@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

National Statistics publications, and general information about the official statistics system of the UK, are available from www.statistics.gov.uk