



HM REVENUE AND CUSTOMS
KAI Benefits & Credits

Child Benefit Statistics

Geographical analysis

at Country, Government Office Region,
Local Authority and
Parliamentary Constituency levels

August 2010



A National Statistics Publication
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This and previous issues can be found on the HM Revenue & Customs website:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/statistics/child-benefit.htm>

The next issue, for August 2011, will be published on 29th February 2012.

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Introduction

What is Child Benefit?

Child Benefit is a tax-free payment that you can claim for your child. It is usually paid every four weeks but in some cases can be paid weekly. The payment can be claimed by anyone who qualifies, whatever their income or savings.

Child Benefit is paid to those responsible for children (aged under 16) or qualifying young people. The latter includes:

- a) those in full-time non-advanced education or (from April 2006) on certain approved vocational training courses and who are under 19, or are aged 19 and have been on the same course since their 19th birthdays. (Note: those reaching 19 up to 9 April 2006 ceased to qualify on their 19th birthdays);
- b) those entered for future external examinations, or are in the period between leaving education (or exams finishing) and the week containing the first Monday in September (or similar dates after Easter and in early January, if earlier), and are not in work (there are slight variations for Scotland);
- c) those aged under 18 who have moved directly from full-time education to being registered for work or training with the Careers service or with Connexions.

You can get Child Benefit even if your child doesn't live with you. However, if they live with someone else, you can only get Child Benefit if:

- a) you pay towards the upkeep of your child
- b) what you pay is at least the same as the amount of Child Benefit you get for your child
- c) the person bringing up your child is not getting Child Benefit for them - if you and another person both claim Child Benefit for the same child, only one of you can get it

You can also claim Child Benefit for a child even if you're not their parent, but you have to be responsible for them to qualify.

Awards are also subject to residence criteria being satisfied.

There are two separate amounts, with a higher amount for your eldest (or only) child and a lower amount for each of your other children.

For further information about who can claim please refer to the HMRC website:
<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/childbenefit/start/who-qualifies/index.htm>

What does this publication tell me?

The statistics are as close to real-time as possible and represent the complete picture as at the 31st August, including back-dated awards. As these statistics are classified as National Statistics the exact date of publication is pre-announced at least a month in advance with the month published a year ahead in the previous publication.

This publication includes details of the number of families claiming Child Benefit as at 31st August 2010, the number and ages of children within those families and their geographical location. Population counts at Country and Government Office Region level are shown, as well as by Local Authority and Parliamentary Constituency (Westminster and Scottish).

This publication includes detailed analysis of the Child Benefit population as at 31st August 2010, as well as headline time series figures for each August back to 2003, this is because HM Revenue & Customs took over the responsibility for Child Benefit from April 2003.

Previously and up until April 2003, Child Benefit was administered by the Department of Social Security (now the Department for Work and Pensions), statistics for previous years are available on the DWP website:

<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/cb.asp>

We also aim to publish more detailed small area statistics for Great Britain, at Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) for England and Wales, and Data Zone for Scotland. These statistics are based on the same source data and totals for higher level geographies will match up. The timescales for producing the small area data are longer and therefore the statistics won't be available until some time after the National Statistics release of these statistics. Currently the small area data is not badged as National Statistics and only appears on the Neighbourhood Statistics website.

Further geographical statistics, down to Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) in England and Wales, Data Zones in Scotland and Output Areas in Northern Ireland are available from the following sites:

- [Office for National Statistics: Neighbourhood Statistics](#)
- [Scottish Government: Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics](#)
- [Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency \(NISRA\): Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service](#)

Who might be interested?

The statistics contained in this publication will be of interest for anyone that is looking for the latest possible data on Child Benefit and children. Specifically, there are statistics on the number of children, by age band, in each geographical area. These statistics may be of interest to academics, think tanks as well as Local Government in terms of identifying specific child populations by age for schools entry analysis or wider issues such as comparing the statistics to comparable Tax Credits statistics.

The take-up rate of Child Benefit has held fairly constant over the past few years at around 96/97%, therefore the child population (up to 16) within Child Benefit is a useful proxy for the child population as a whole.

For more information see the published take-up statistics on the HMRC website:
<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/statistics/fin-takeup-stats.htm>

What do the tables contain?

At end-August 2010 there were 7.84 million families, responsible for 13.69 million children and qualifying young people ("children"), receiving Child Benefit (CB). The figures cover backdated awards, and so include all awards now reckoned to have entitlement spanning that date.

Table 1 shows the high level time series for August 2003 to August 2010. It shows the number of families in receipt of Child Benefit in each Country and Government Office Region in England, as well as the number of children.

Table 2 shows further breakdowns of these numbers by the number of children within each family, and separately the age bands of the children within the awards.

Table 3 provides the first detailed view of August 2010 statistics. This table shows the headline figures for the number of children in each family, as well as the number of children broken down by age band, in each Country and Government Office Region in England.

Table 4 provides a detailed breakdown of the counts of the number of children by individual ages for each Country and English Government Office Region.

Tables 5, 6 and 6a provide the same headline figures of the number of families receiving Child Benefit by the number of children, and the number of children broken down by age band for each Local Authority (Table 5), Westminster Parliamentary Constituency (Table 6) and Scottish Parliamentary Constituency (Table 6a).

User Engagement

Bespoke analysis of Child Benefit data is possible although there may be a charge depending on the level of complexity and the resources required to produce. If you would like to discuss your requirements, to comment on the current publications, or for further information about the Child Benefit statistics please use the contact information at the beginning of this publication, or from the HMRC website:

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/statistics/updates.htm>

We are committed to improving the official statistics we publish. We want to encourage and promote user engagement, so we can improve our statistical outputs.

We would welcome any views you have using the link to the feedback form below. We will undertake to review user comments on a quarterly basis and use this information to influence the development of our official statistics. We will summarise and publish user comments at regular intervals.

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/statistics/feedback.htm>

National Statistics Review

We will be carrying out a formal review of our National Statistics publications, covering both Tax Credits (provisional and finalised) and Child Benefit.

It is likely that the 12-week consultation period will start in March 2011, a link to the questionnaire will be sent to current and potential users of our statistics, as well as being made available on a number of appropriate websites, including HMRC, ONS and NeSS.

If you would like to receive notification when the consultation begins, then please contact us using the details at the front of this publication.

Rounding

The figures have been independently rounded to the nearest 5. This can lead to components as shown not summing to totals as shown.

Age bands of data on children

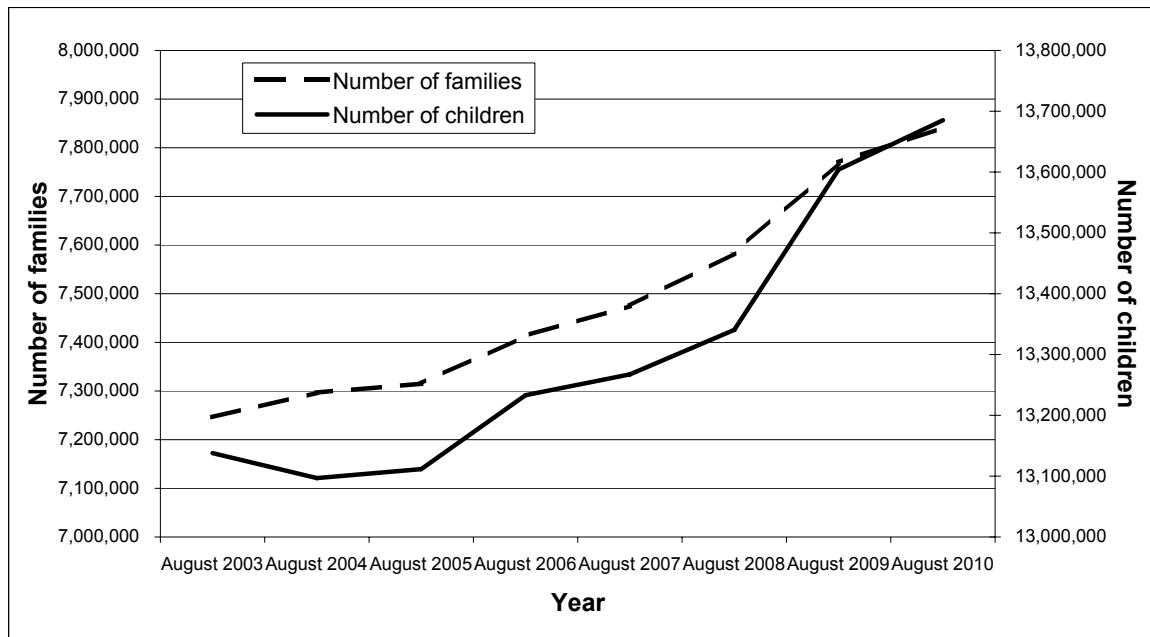
For most tables in this publication, figures showing the age of children for whom CB is claimed have been grouped into four age bands. Figures at a local authority level showing the number of children by single year of age are available in the supplemental publication.

Commentary

Overall Trends in time series of families and children

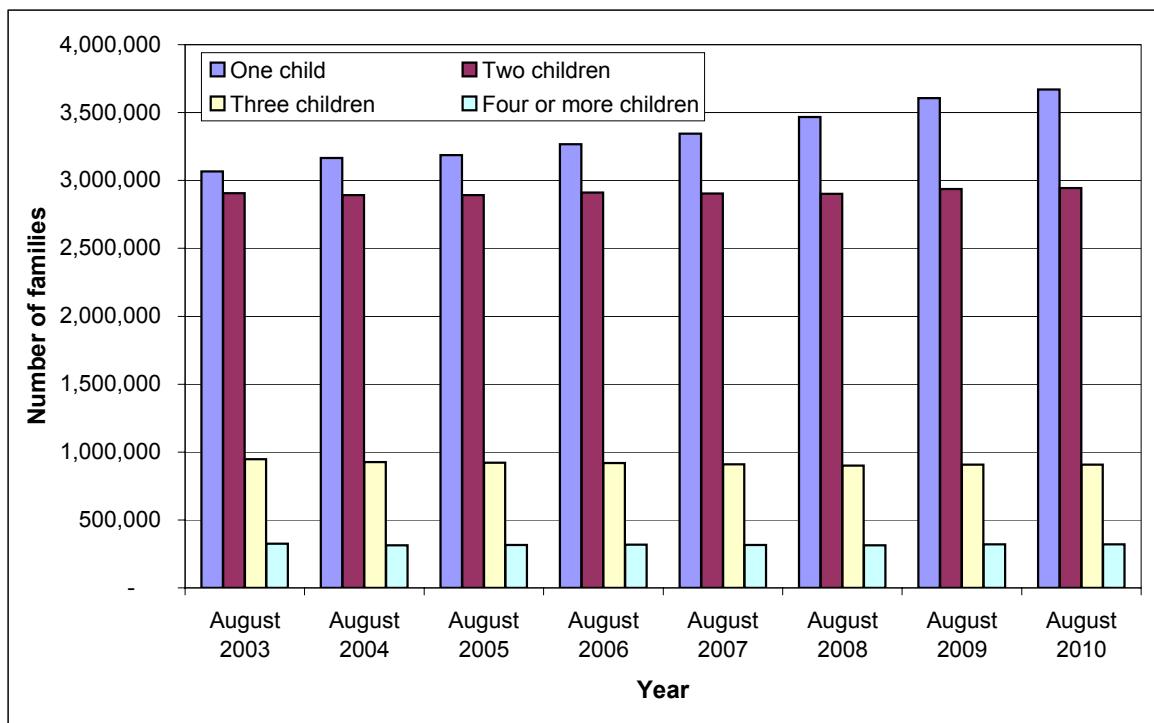
Since August 2007 we have seen significant growth in both the number of families in receipt of Child Benefit as well as the number of children being claimed for. The increases between August 2007 and August 2010 across each of the countries of the United Kingdom are between 1% and 5%, with the number of families and children attributed to Foreign and unknown being quite volatile. We are yet to fully understand the reasons for this but it could be due to inaccuracies in the recorded information and also the net inflow of migrant workers.

Figure 1: The number of families and children in receipt of Child Benefit, 2003 to 2010



The rise between August 2009 and August 2010 continues the general trend, for both claimants and children, seen in the previous year.

Under UK domestic law a claimant is eligible to receive Child Benefit if they are present and ordinarily resident in the UK. For citizens of other countries (such as EEA, A2 and A8 countries) they are able to claim Child Benefit as long as they meet the requirements of the "right to reside" test, which amongst other requirements means that they must generally be in registered or authorised employment (as set out in Home Office transitional regulations), in self-employment or be self-sufficient.

Figure 2: The number of families broken down by family size, 2003 to 2010

The average number of children per family for which child benefit is paid has reduced each year since 2003. The number of families with one child has increased each year since 2003 whereas the number of families with more than one child has been in general decline over the same period, but has risen marginally between 2009 and 2010, this could be due to qualifying young people staying on in education or just a reflection of the general rise in birth rates. The number of qualifying young people has continued to rise and has grown by 2% since 2009.

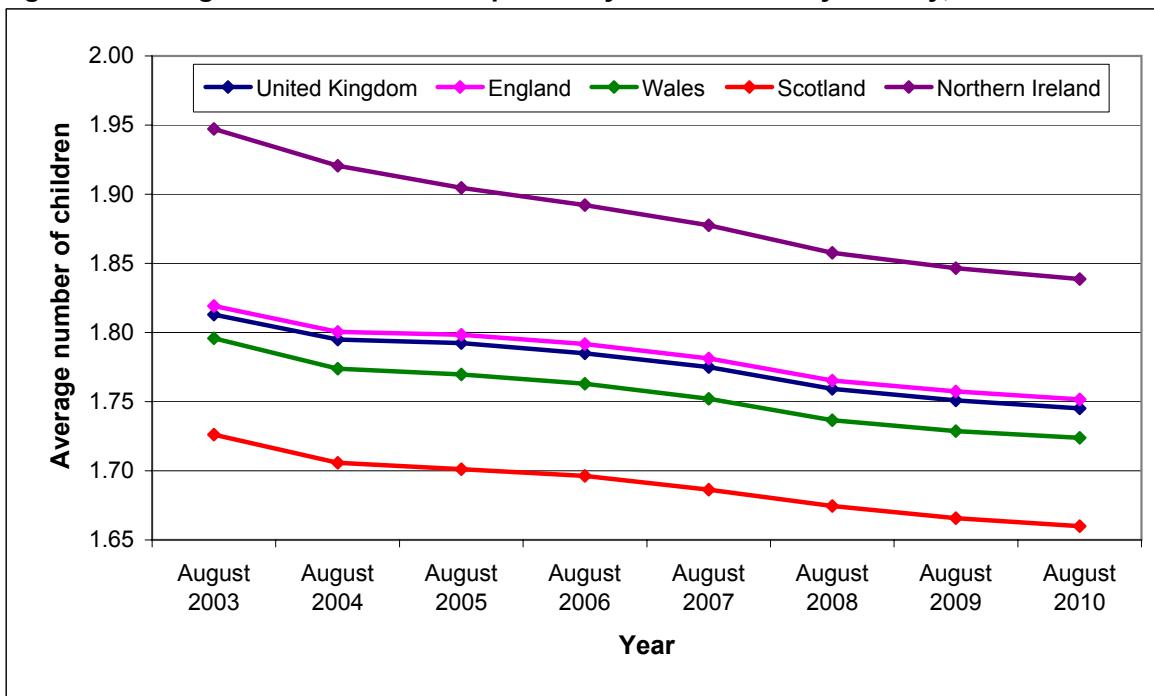
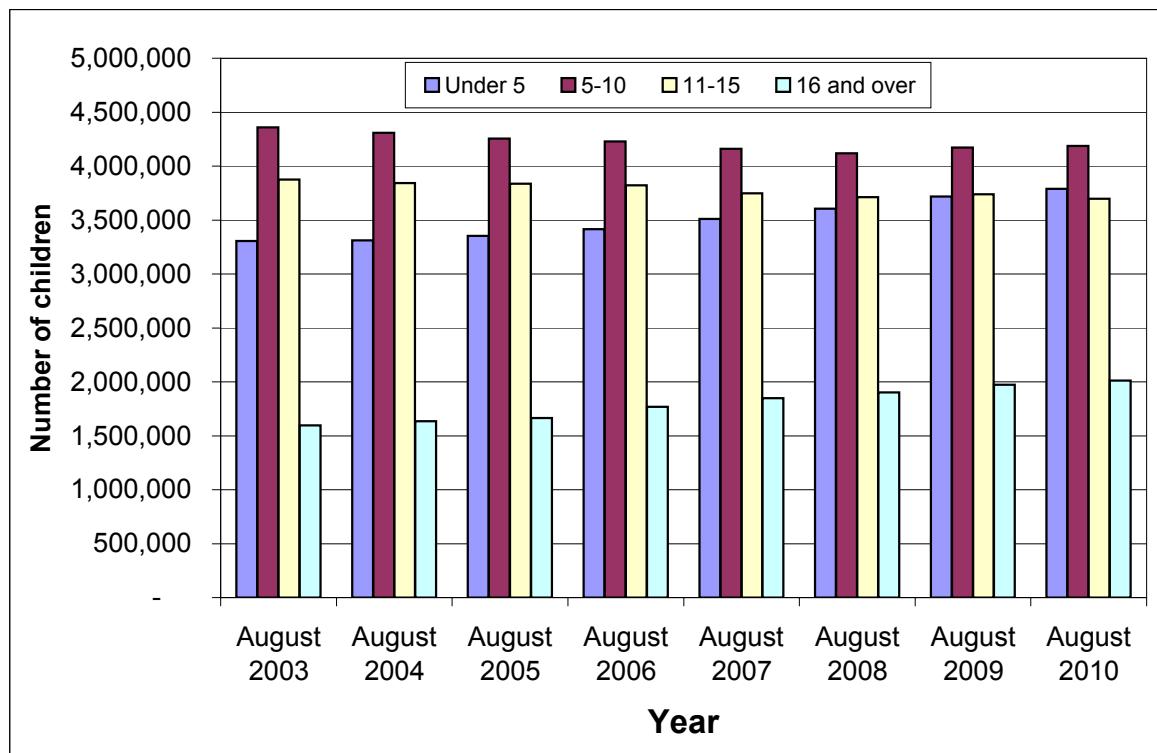
Figure 3: Average number of children per family broken down by country, 2003 to 2010

Figure 4: The number of children broken down by age of child, 2003 to 2010

In terms of the age distribution of children, the number of children and young people aged 16 to 19 has been increasing steadily for some time and continues to do so although it is slowing, including a significant increase between August 2005 and August 2006 following the extension in April 2006 of Child Benefit to qualifying 19 year olds. Again we see rises in nearly all age bands, with the exception of the 11-15 year olds which has fallen slightly, this is likely to be as a result of the size of the 16 year old cohort who have moved out of this group being larger than the 11 year old cohort who have just entered this range.

Analysis of August 2010 Population

There are higher numbers of children in the North West, London and the South East.

Figure 5: The number of families and children broken down by country and region, at 31st August 2010

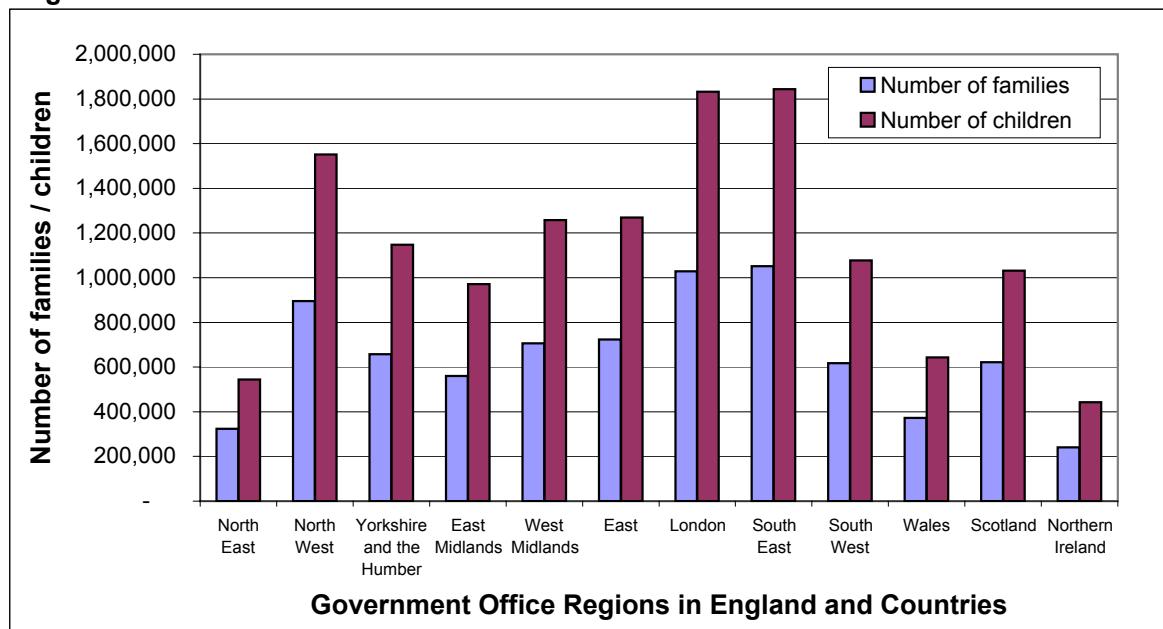
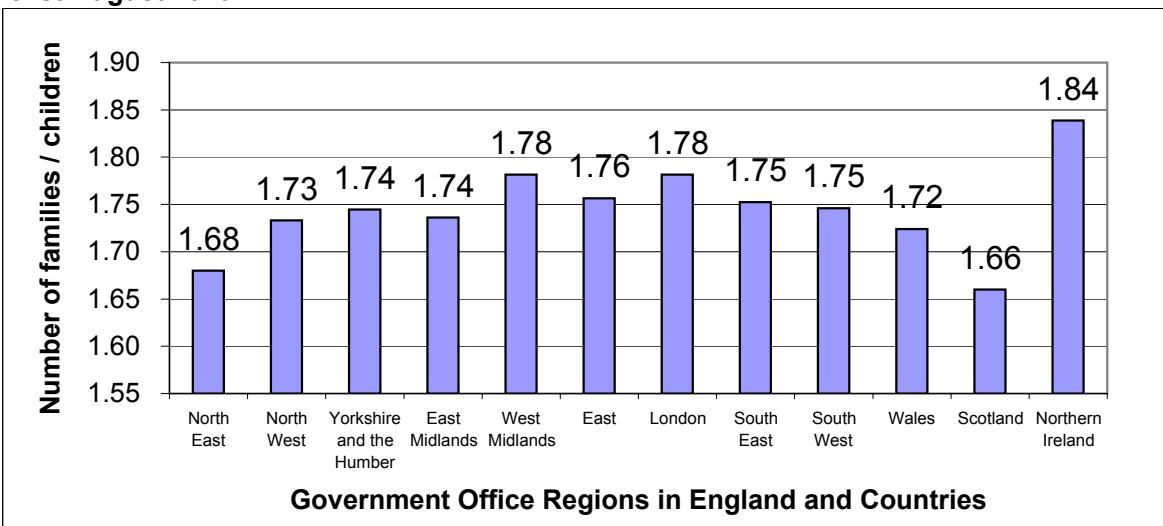


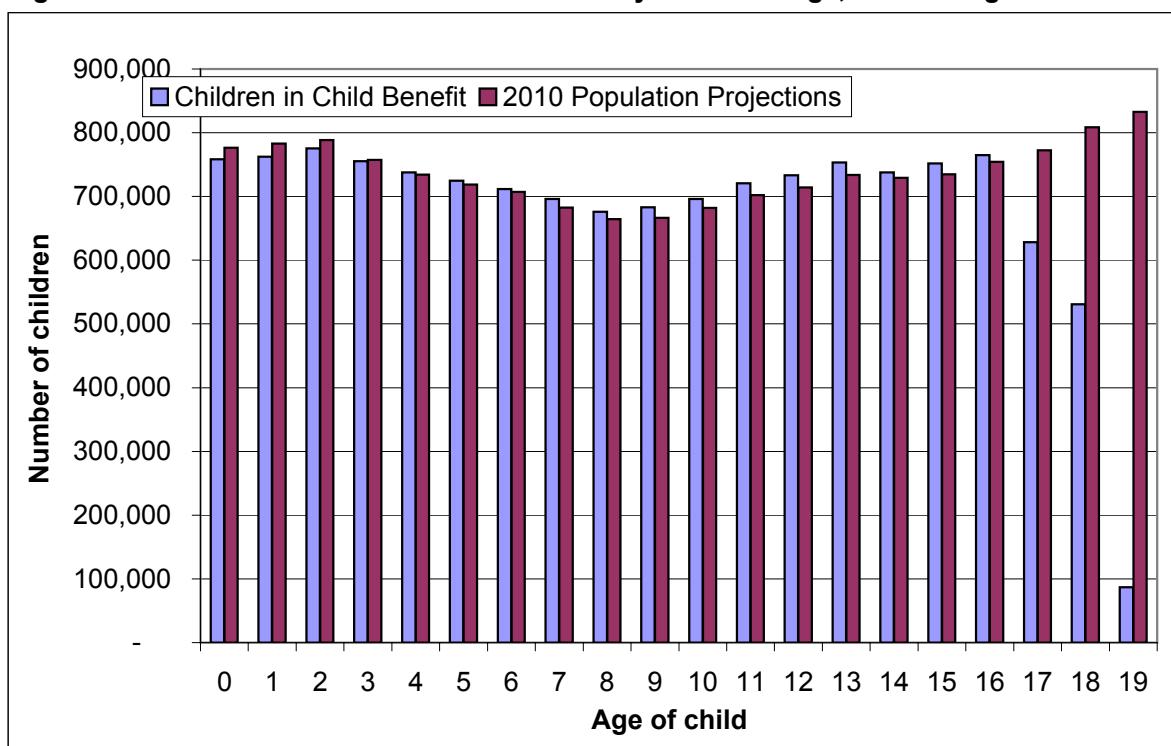
Figure 6 shows the average number of children for whom Child Benefit is being claimed for, per family. The average number of children is fairly consistent across many of the regions, where there is an average of between 1.72 and 1.78, but the North East (1.68), Scotland (1.66) and Northern Ireland (1.84) show a significant difference.

Figure 6: Average number of children per family broken down by country and region, at 31st August 2010



Children aged 16-19 are only included within Child Benefit claims if they meet the eligibility criteria for non-advanced further education or training, therefore you can expect to see the number of children in these categories decline sharply away from the mid-year population projections. This is shown in Figure 7.

Figure 7: The number of children broken down by individual age, at 31st August 2010



The distribution of children in receipt of Child Benefit closely mirrors the mid-year population projections², except for 16-19 year olds, for the above mentioned reasons, and for infants under 1 where we know there is a delay in claiming Child Benefit. Both series show the lower volumes of children aged 8 and 9 compared to the other age groups, and the resulting increase in birth rates since 2002.

Interestingly the number of children recorded in Child Benefit for children aged 5 to 16 is marginally higher in most cases than the latest population projections. One reason for this is the inclusion in the Child Benefit statistics of children within Child Benefit claims who are not ordinarily resident in the UK and are being claimed for under EC Regulations 1408/71 and 574/72. As at July 2010 there were approximately 41 thousand children in this category, marginally down from 42 thousand at roughly the same point during 2009¹.

Notes

¹ Figures taken from Parliamentary Question answers on 21st July 2009 and 6th September 2010. Hansard links are provided below:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090721/text/90721w0049.htm#09072272000004>
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm100906/text/100906w0008.htm#10090745000035>

² 2010 Population Projections are taken from the Office for National Statistics website:

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_population/NPP2008/wUK08singyear.xls

Table 1: Families and children receiving Child Benefit, in each country, and each Government Office Region of England, 2003 to 2010

Thousands

Time Series	Number of families and children															Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	Foreign and not known
	United Kingdom ¹		Great Britain		England and Wales		England	England											
	New Area Codes ²	K02000001	K03000001	K04000001	E92000001	E12000001	E12000002	E12000003	E12000004	E12000005	E12000006	E12000007	E12000008	E12000009	W92000004	S92000003	N92000002	n/a	
Number of families																			
August 2003	7,246,335	7,000,770	6,394,870	6,037,500	318,470	861,775	619,630	517,590	663,400	653,695	876,120	956,080	570,735	357,370	605,900	225,885	19,675		
August 2004	7,296,495	7,055,160	6,448,355	6,087,500	317,515	863,070	622,065	520,870	667,175	660,390	894,090	965,480	576,845	360,855	606,805	226,850	14,485		
August 2005	7,315,165	7,074,665	6,470,575	6,110,190	315,855	860,660	622,475	522,195	667,565	664,155	909,045	970,225	578,015	360,385	604,085	226,800	13,705		
August 2006	7,413,475	7,129,720	6,528,205	6,168,010	316,665	864,650	626,740	527,105	672,220	671,850	926,055	981,015	581,705	360,195	601,515	230,140	53,615		
August 2007	7,475,035	7,212,565	6,605,270	6,241,895	318,020	869,475	631,995	535,775	678,300	683,780	937,480	995,990	591,085	363,375	607,290	230,825	31,650		
August 2008	7,582,990	7,320,990	6,708,080	6,341,345	319,815	876,795	640,670	543,350	686,910	696,485	964,180	1,013,595	599,550	366,735	612,910	233,830	28,165		
August 2009	7,769,880	7,485,730	6,864,935	6,492,290	324,525	892,240	653,645	554,925	701,070	713,455	1,002,815	1,038,010	611,600	372,650	620,795	238,605	45,545		
August 2010	7,841,675	7,557,305	6,935,695	6,562,705	324,265	894,940	657,700	559,645	705,640	723,030	1,028,265	1,051,885	617,340	372,985	621,615	240,985	43,385		
Number of children																			
August 2003	13,138,075	12,670,975	11,625,050	10,983,290	552,970	1,549,900	1,116,630	934,450	1,219,985	1,200,175	1,613,235	1,754,585	1,041,360	641,755	1,045,925	439,870	27,230		
August 2004	13,096,760	12,635,505	11,600,380	10,960,280	544,840	1,534,595	1,109,155	930,920	1,214,695	1,200,175	1,632,425	1,752,995	1,040,475	640,100	1,035,125	435,690	25,565		
August 2005	13,111,665	12,654,135	11,626,490	10,988,765	540,940	1,528,255	1,109,150	932,310	1,215,315	1,204,750	1,658,755	1,758,520	1,040,780	637,725	1,027,640	431,995	25,535		
August 2006	13,233,320	12,706,365	11,685,995	11,050,975	540,980	1,529,585	1,113,190	936,980	1,219,915	1,212,530	1,686,375	1,768,965	1,042,445	635,020	1,020,370	435,485	91,475		
August 2007	13,267,355	12,778,460	11,754,415	11,117,770	540,610	1,529,060	1,117,760	946,090	1,225,025	1,225,485	1,699,215	1,782,530	1,052,000	636,645	1,024,045	433,370	55,525		
August 2008	13,340,565	12,857,555	11,831,255	11,194,420	539,840	1,528,890	1,124,420	951,000	1,231,190	1,235,400	1,732,120	1,795,225	1,056,340	636,835	1,026,300	434,390	48,625		
August 2009	13,604,375	13,088,240	12,054,140	11,409,950	546,125	1,549,625	1,143,245	967,010	1,251,900	1,258,520	1,794,220	1,827,530	1,071,775	644,190	1,034,095	440,570	75,565		
August 2010	13,685,250	13,170,155	12,138,365	11,495,395	544,775	1,551,080	1,147,440	971,690	1,257,180	1,269,870	1,831,965	1,843,465	1,077,930	642,965	1,031,795	443,110	71,985		

Footnotes¹ Includes Foreign and not known² New area codes to be implemented from 1 January 2011; in line with the new GSS Coding and Naming policy.

Table 2: Families and children receiving Child Benefit by family type and age of child, 2003 to 2010

Time Series	Number of families, by size					Number of children in these families, by age				
	Total ¹	One child	Two children	Three children	Four or more children	Total ¹	Under 5	5-10	11-15	16 and over
August 2003	7,246,335	3,067,495	2,907,370	946,875	324,590	13,138,075	3,306,980	4,360,335	3,875,345	1,595,415
August 2004	7,296,495	3,164,685	2,891,065	926,165	314,580	13,096,760	3,311,660	4,308,305	3,842,565	1,634,230
August 2005	7,315,165	3,187,005	2,891,425	920,760	315,980	13,111,665	3,351,660	4,256,145	3,837,840	1,666,020
August 2006	7,413,475	3,266,355	2,910,355	918,920	317,845	13,233,320	3,415,205	4,227,110	3,823,075	1,767,935
August 2007	7,475,035	3,344,655	2,903,800	909,605	316,975	13,267,355	3,511,470	4,159,715	3,747,640	1,848,535
August 2008	7,582,990	3,468,035	2,902,650	899,445	312,855	13,340,565	3,605,790	4,120,005	3,712,970	1,901,800
August 2009	7,769,880	3,606,005	2,935,970	907,535	320,375	13,604,375	3,718,155	4,173,030	3,740,050	1,973,140
August 2010	7,841,675	3,671,115	2,942,985	906,310	321,265	13,685,250	3,789,470	4,187,695	3,697,020	2,011,065

Footnotes¹ Includes Foreign and not known

Table 3: Families receiving Child Benefit nationally, in each country, and in each Government Office Region of England, August 2010

Area names	New Area Codes ¹	Number of families, by size					Number of children in these families, by age				
		Total	One child	Two children	Three children	Four or more children	Total	Under 5	5-10	11-15	16 and over
United Kingdom ²	K02000001	7,841,675	3,671,115	2,942,985	906,310	321,265	13,685,250	3,789,470	4,187,695	3,697,020	2,011,065
Great Britain	K03000001	7,557,305	3,543,380	2,840,610	866,500	306,820	13,170,155	3,650,365	4,032,065	3,558,365	1,929,360
England and Wales	K04000001	6,935,695	3,229,910	2,612,410	803,680	289,690	12,138,365	3,367,825	3,711,025	3,263,120	1,796,390
England	E92000001	6,562,705	3,051,980	2,473,415	761,550	275,765	11,495,395	3,197,030	3,517,020	3,084,565	1,696,785
North East	E12000001	324,265	162,860	117,510	32,930	10,965	544,775	146,480	163,620	149,590	85,085
North West	E12000002	894,940	431,275	324,695	101,075	37,895	1,551,080	422,930	469,840	420,040	238,270
Yorkshire and the Humber	E12000003	657,700	310,775	244,165	73,865	28,895	1,147,440	318,380	349,880	310,080	169,100
East Midlands	E12000004	559,645	261,660	213,595	62,915	21,475	971,690	263,180	295,040	266,250	147,220
West Midlands	E12000005	705,640	325,990	259,290	84,695	35,665	1,257,180	343,525	385,585	339,980	188,085
East	E12000006	723,030	322,945	288,450	85,025	26,610	1,269,870	345,780	388,485	346,465	189,140
London	E12000007	1,028,265	486,995	359,955	126,870	54,445	1,831,965	564,805	572,010	453,975	241,175
South East	E12000008	1,051,885	469,790	421,305	123,370	37,420	1,843,465	505,235	566,705	498,575	272,950
South West	E12000009	617,340	279,685	244,455	70,805	22,395	1,077,930	286,710	325,850	299,610	165,760
Wales	W92000004	372,985	177,935	138,995	42,130	13,925	642,965	170,800	194,010	178,555	99,605
Scotland	S92000003	621,615	313,470	228,195	62,820	17,125	1,031,795	282,540	321,040	295,240	132,975
Northern Ireland	N92000002	240,985	105,190	86,965	35,560	13,275	443,110	119,795	132,410	119,610	71,295
Foreign and not known	n/a	43,385	22,545	15,415	4,255	1,170	71,985	19,310	23,220	19,050	10,410

Footnotes¹ New area codes to be implemented from 1 January 2011; in line with the new GSS Coding and Naming policy.² Includes Foreign and not known

Table 4: Number of children for whom Child Benefit is received nationally, in each country, and each Government Office Region of England, August 2010

Thousands

Individual age of child	United Kingdom ¹	Great Britain	England and Wales	England	Total in receipt (out-of-work and in-work families)										Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland	Foreign and not known
					England													
	New Area Codes ²	K02000001	K03000001	K04000001	E92000001	E12000001	E12000002	E12000003	E12000004	E12000005	E12000006	E12000007	E12000008	E12000009	W92000004	S92000003	N92000002	n/a
All ages	13,685,250	13,170,155	12,138,365	11,495,395	544,775	1,551,080	1,147,440	971,690	1,257,180	1,269,870	1,831,965	1,843,465	1,077,930	642,965	1,031,795	443,110	71,985	
0	758,560	731,870	676,115	642,140	29,465	84,550	64,385	52,720	68,275	68,810	115,825	100,425	57,680	33,980	55,755	24,065	2,625	
1	762,150	733,770	676,655	642,640	29,105	85,045	64,040	52,810	68,990	69,300	115,080	100,800	57,470	34,015	57,115	24,420	3,960	
2	775,505	746,625	688,685	653,470	29,900	86,155	64,765	53,750	70,565	70,890	115,655	103,330	58,455	35,215	57,940	24,625	4,250	
3	755,460	727,325	670,715	636,730	28,985	84,175	62,830	52,325	68,600	69,320	111,710	101,400	57,385	33,985	56,610	23,860	4,275	
4	737,795	710,770	655,655	622,050	29,025	83,005	62,365	51,570	67,090	67,460	106,535	99,280	55,720	33,605	55,115	22,825	4,195	
5	724,530	697,985	643,230	610,150	28,330	81,570	61,055	50,655	66,775	66,495	103,140	96,735	55,395	33,080	54,755	22,635	3,910	
6	711,805	685,705	631,925	599,555	27,715	79,940	59,900	49,725	65,900	65,960	99,705	96,365	54,345	32,370	53,780	22,100	3,995	
7	696,155	670,265	617,445	585,480	27,110	77,675	57,865	48,815	63,950	64,435	96,560	94,545	54,525	31,965	52,820	21,880	4,010	
8	675,980	650,580	598,560	567,120	26,310	75,865	56,775	47,670	62,160	62,760	91,440	91,565	52,575	31,440	52,020	21,740	3,665	
9	683,180	657,405	604,085	571,805	26,720	76,675	56,710	48,255	62,680	63,820	90,480	92,920	53,540	32,280	53,320	21,920	3,855	
10	696,055	670,125	615,785	582,915	27,435	78,120	57,575	49,915	64,120	65,020	90,685	94,575	55,470	32,870	54,340	22,140	3,785	
11	720,540	693,395	636,555	602,305	28,655	81,355	60,005	51,995	65,830	67,410	90,780	98,400	57,880	34,250	56,845	23,385	3,760	
12	733,420	705,695	647,445	612,005	29,335	82,505	61,065	52,865	67,190	68,945	90,810	99,720	59,575	35,440	58,245	23,885	3,845	
13	753,470	725,155	664,690	627,810	30,425	85,940	62,800	53,940	69,545	70,490	92,220	101,250	61,200	36,880	60,460	24,475	3,840	
14	737,970	710,410	651,260	615,645	30,140	84,095	62,530	52,940	68,505	68,930	89,870	98,750	59,890	35,615	59,150	23,800	3,760	
15	751,620	723,710	663,170	626,800	31,040	86,140	63,680	54,515	68,910	70,695	90,300	100,455	61,065	36,370	60,540	24,070	3,840	
16	765,150	736,675	675,930	638,540	31,255	88,240	64,575	55,835	70,120	72,150	90,160	103,445	62,755	37,395	60,740	24,445	4,030	
17	628,115	603,185	557,980	526,695	26,785	73,755	52,680	45,815	58,460	59,100	73,325	84,695	52,075	31,285	45,205	21,985	2,945	
18	530,700	508,120	483,890	457,430	22,825	64,995	44,580	39,150	50,575	50,635	65,745	74,895	44,030	26,460	24,230	19,800	2,780	
19	87,100	81,385	78,585	74,125	4,215	11,280	7,265	6,420	8,930	7,255	11,945	9,920	6,900	4,465	2,795	5,065	655	

Footnotes

¹ Includes Foreign and not known² New area codes to be implemented from 1 January 2011; in line with the new GSS Coding and Naming policy.

Table 5: Families receiving Child Benefit in each local authority, August 2010

New Area Codes ¹	Previous Area Codes ²	Area names	Number of families, by size					Number of children in these families, by age				
			Total	One child	Two children	Three children	Four or more children	Total	Under 5	5-10	11-15	16 and over
N92000002	922	NORTHERN IRELAND ¹⁴	240,985	105,190	86,965	35,560	13,275	443,110	119,795	132,410	119,610	71,295
N/A	95AA	Antrim	7,585	3,155	2,880	1,155	395	14,110	3,925	4,365	3,770	2,055
N/A	95BB	Ards	9,896	4,395	3,840	1,280	375	17,515	4,595	5,355	4,820	2,740
N/A	95CC	Armagh	8,076	3,225	2,870	1,365	610	15,690	4,200	4,665	4,285	2,540
N/A	95DD	Ballymena	4,049	3,475	3,125	1,140	430	14,995	3,925	4,645	4,100	2,320
N/A	95EE	Ballymoney	4,049	1,660	1,545	595	245	7,600	2,030	2,370	2,045	1,155
N/A	95FF	Banbridge	6,588	2,695	2,520	1,010	355	12,290	3,455	3,775	3,270	1,790
N/A	95GG	Belfast	35,455	17,355	12,010	4,460	1,630	61,815	17,555	17,800	16,200	10,260
N/A	95HH	Carickfergus	5,310	2,465	2,040	635	165	9,170	2,255	2,765	2,565	1,585
N/A	95II	Castlereagh	8,596	3,855	3,315	1,100	315	15,135	4,000	4,375	4,230	2,530
N/A	95JJ	Coleraine	7,301	3,210	2,690	1,065	335	13,230	3,280	3,990	3,780	2,180
N/A	95KK	Cookstown	4,976	2,040	1,695	880	365	9,630	2,655	2,890	2,540	1,545
N/A	95LL	Craigavon	13,265	5,845	4,875	1,910	635	24,065	7,150	7,020	6,185	3,705
N/A	95MM	Derry ¹⁵	16,320	7,440	5,660	2,355	865	29,610	7,505	8,740	8,245	5,120
N/A	95NN	Down	9,486	3,905	3,455	1,555	575	17,965	4,735	5,305	4,940	2,985
N/A	95OO	Dungannon	8,026	3,305	2,715	1,375	635	15,570	4,350	4,780	4,005	2,435
N/A	95PP	Fermanagh	7,490	3,005	2,635	1,255	590	14,625	3,915	4,420	3,955	2,335
N/A	95QQ	Larne	4,136	1,885	1,580	505	160	7,270	1,795	2,190	2,075	1,210
N/A	95RR	Lisavady	4,620	2,000	1,655	695	275	8,565	2,220	2,520	2,340	1,485
N/A	95SS	Lisburn	16,885	7,380	6,275	2,440	790	30,665	8,480	9,040	8,275	4,870
N/A	95TT	Magherafelt	5,800	2,320	1,900	1,115	575	12,065	3,335	3,660	3,205	1,870
N/A	95UU	Moyle	2,075	850	715	370	140	3,980	1,020	1,215	1,115	630
N/A	95VV	Nevry and Mourne	13,436	5,305	4,485	2,495	1,155	26,700	7,090	8,130	7,200	4,285
N/A	95WW	Newtownabbey	11,360	5,160	4,385	1,415	400	19,910	5,590	6,040	5,240	3,040
N/A	95XX	North Down	9,685	4,400	3,755	1,245	285	16,855	4,580	5,125	4,470	2,680
N/A	95YY	Omagh	6,795	2,645	2,305	1,230	620	13,615	3,515	4,145	3,715	2,240
N/A	95ZZ	Strabane	5,536	2,320	1,945	910	355	10,465	2,645	3,085	3,035	1,705
FOREIGN AND NOT KNOWN			43,385	22,545	15,415	4,255	1,170	71,985	19,310	23,220	19,055	10,410

Footnotes

- ¹ New area codes to be implemented from 1 January 2011; in line with the new GSS Coding and Naming policy.
- ² Administrative area codes operative from 1 April 2009.
- ³ County Durham UA comprises the former Durham county.
- ⁴ Northumberland UA comprises the former Northumberland county.
- ⁵ Cheshire East UA comprises part of the former Cheshire county (Congleton, Crewe and Nantwich and Macclesfield districts).
- ⁶ Cheshire West and Chester UA comprises part of the former Cheshire county (Chester, Ellesmere Port & Neston and Vale Royal districts).
- ⁷ Shropshire UA comprises the former Shropshire county.
- ⁸ Bedford UA comprises part of the former Bedfordshire county (Bedford district).
- ⁹ Central Bedfordshire UA comprises part of the former Bedfordshire county (Mid Bedfordshire and South Bedfordshire districts).
- ¹⁰ Cornwall UA comprises the former Cornwall and Isles of Scilly county excluding Isles of Scilly district.
- ¹¹ The Isles of Scilly were re-coded on 1 April 2009. They are separately administered by an Isles of Scilly council and do not form part of Cornwall UA but, for the purposes of the presentation of statistical data, they may be combined with Cornwall UA.
- ¹² Wiltshire UA comprises the former Wiltshire county.
- ¹³ Formerly known as the Western Isles.
- ¹⁴ There are no new codes available, at the time of this publication, for the district council areas in Northern Ireland.
- ¹⁵ NISRA have confirmed the term 'Derry' should be used in preference to Derry City.

Appendix A: Background Information

Administrative Data

The data refers to the number of families receiving Child Benefit (CB) (and their eligible dependents) and is derived from two 100% scans from the Child Benefit Computer System (CBCS).

The August 2010 data represents a snapshot at a point in time of all claimants and eligible dependents in England and Wales present on the CBCS at 31st August 2010 plus awards for new families and children made by 30th November 2010 and backdated (CB awards can be backdated for up to 3 months). It excludes a small number of cases that are held clerically.

As well as family counts, the number of children in the family and the age and gender of the children are also given. Counts are provided for Countries, Government Office Regions (GORs) and Local Authorities (LAs).

Although the information is collected for administrative purposes, the data is used for a variety of statistical purposes for example, child population estimations, by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), other government departments and relevant stakeholders.

Further information on Child Benefit

Child Benefit (CB) was introduced in 1977. It replaced Family Allowance, which was a benefit payable to families with 2 or more children whereas CB includes all families with 1 child or more.

CB is designed to help with the extra costs of bringing up a child. It is a universal benefit payable to all parents/guardians in the United Kingdom. The benefit is not income related, is not taxable and is not based on National Insurance Contributions.

CB is payable to one parent or guardian of all children under 16 years of age other than children in local authority care, and subject to residence conditions. Detailed current eligibility conditions and rules for claiming CB are available from the HMRC website. There is a higher payment for the eldest child and a lower rate for each subsequent child. From 2006-07 new eligibility rules were introduced for families claiming in respect of young persons aged 16 to 19.

A further addition, Child Benefit (Lone Parent), was paid for the eldest or only child of a lone parent up until 1998. Since then, new lone parents are not entitled to this extra benefit. However, those who were in receipt of the Child Benefit (Lone Parent) before this time may continue to receive it.

CB is administered by HMRC (formerly Inland Revenue). Prior to April 2003 CB in England and Wales was administered by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP).

Data are believed to be of a high standard as they are based on a scan of the computer systems used to administer and pay CB. If anyone attempts to wilfully supply false information, they may be liable to prosecution.

Definitions

Child Benefit is paid to those responsible for children (aged under 16) or qualifying young people. The latter includes:

- a) those in full-time non-advanced education or (from April 2006) on certain approved vocational training courses and who are under 19, or are aged 19 and have been on the same course since their 19th birthdays. (Note: those reaching 19 up to 9 April 2006 ceased to qualify on their 19th birthdays);
- b) those entered for future external examinations, or are in the period between leaving education (or exams finishing) and the week containing the first Monday in September (or similar dates after Easter and in early January, if earlier), and are not in work (there are slight variations for Scotland);
- c) those aged under 18 who have moved directly from full-time education to being registered for work or training with the Careers service or with Connexions.

Full-time non-advanced education: Full-time education is more than 12 hours supervised study a week in normal term-time, not counting breaks for meals and homework.

Non-advanced is not above the Advanced Level of the General Certificate of Education (GCE A-Level) or the Advanced Higher Grade and Higher Grade of the Scottish Certificate of Education (SCE Advanced Highers/Highers) or SCOTVEC National Certificate/Diploma (ONC/OND) or GNVQ level 3 or equivalent.

Validation and quality assurance processes

Child Benefit data is extracted directly from the Child Benefit Computer System (CBCS) and sent securely and electronically to HMRC. Throughout the transfer process accompanying header and footer records ensure that no records go missing during the extraction process.

When the data is loaded into HMRC's computer environment additional checks are put in place to ensure duplicate records are removed. A further suite of quality assurance takes place to ensure consistent numbers of claimants and children are in receipt of child benefit compared with previous data.

Finally the data is cross checked against other administrative sources, notably registrations of new born children and population estimates compiled by the Office for National Statistics. Quality assurance is carried out at the UK, country, region and local authority level.

Coverage and compilation of the figures

The tables are based on an extract from the Child Benefit Computer System taken on 31st August 2010 and supplemented with additional cases as identified from a further extract on 30th November 2010. This identifies new claims that started between 31st August 2010 and 30th November but are in relation to a child born prior to 31st August 2010.

Geographical allocation

For August 2010, we have remained with the process introduced for August 2007. In publications prior to August 2007 the postcode on the Child Benefit computer system was used wherever possible and, where missing or invalid, was supplemented with postcodes from the previous year.

Due to the increasing demand for low level geographical analysis, greater scrutiny is required when comparing information across different administrative systems. In respect of Child Benefit, as a significant proportion of CB claimants also claim tax credits, it is essential that everything is done to ensure that a family is treated equally within both systems and both sets of small area statistics. From August 2007 we have individually matched the Child Benefit and tax credits data together and in the event that there is a discrepancy we have used the postcode as recorded on the tax credits system in the first instance, and then the postcode as recorded on the Child Benefit system.

At national level this does not have a huge effect, and even down to Local Authority or Parliamentary Constituency level the effect is minimal, but with the increasing demand for very small area statistics, such as Lower-layer Super Output Area (LSOA) and Data Zone (the Scottish equivalent of LSOA), we have done everything we can to ensure that where a family appears in both systems, for the statistics we will be assigning them the same geographical details.

Once the postcode had been identified, the geographical details were obtained from the August 2010 National Statistics Postcode Directory, which reflects geographies and administrative boundaries that were live as at August 2010 and includes the Local Authority changes that were introduced in April 2009 as well as the Parliamentary Constituencies that came into effect for the General Election on 6th May 2010.

Appendix B: Rates of Child Benefit, 1992 to 2010

	£ per week		
	Eldest child	Subsequent children	Lone parent ¹
April 1992	9.65	7.80	15.50
April 1993	10.00	8.10	16.05
April 1994	10.20	8.25	16.35
April 1995	10.40	8.45	16.70
April 1996	10.80	8.80	17.10
April 1997	11.05	9.00	17.10
April 1998	11.45	9.30	17.10
April 1999	14.40	9.60	17.10
April 2000	15.00	10.00	17.55
April 2001	15.50	10.35	17.55
April 2002	15.75	10.55	17.55
April 2003	16.05	10.75	17.55
April 2004	16.50	11.05	17.55
April 2005	17.00	11.40	17.55
April 2006	17.45	11.70	17.55
April 2007	18.10	12.10	-
April 2008	18.80	12.55	-
January 2009	20.00	13.20	-
April 2010	20.30	13.40	-

Notes:

¹. This was payable instead of the standard eldest child rate to most people bringing up children on their own until 6 July 1998. From that date it has continued to be payable to recipients at that date. It is also payable to lone parents who were receiving the lone parent rate of family premium in Income Support or Jobseekers' Allowance and move into work; and lone parents ceasing to receive a "specified" benefit (Child's Special Allowance for the eldest dependent child; the higher rate of Industrial Death Benefit for the child; or an increase for the eldest dependent child with either Widowed Mother's Allowance, War Widow's Pension, Retirement Pension, Industrial Disablement Pension - which includes Unemployability Supplement - or Invalid Care Allowance). In April 2007, this transitionally protected rate of Child Benefit for lone parents was extinguished when the standard rate for the first eldest child increased to £18.10 per week.