

Freedom of Information request 795/2013

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Information request and DWP response

1. *Number of JSA sanctions Bradford City Centre Jobcentres / UK*
2. *Number of sanctions appealed or asked for reconsideration Bradford City Centre Jobcentres / UK*
3. *Number of successful appeals or reconsiderations Bradford City Centre Jobcentres / UK*
4. *Number of people taking Personal Capability Assessment Bradford City Centre Jobcentres / UK*
5. *Number of appeals following refusal of ESA based on PCA Bradford City Centre Jobcentres / UK*
6. *Number of successful appeals for ESA Bradford City Centre Jobcentres / UK*

Reply

Q1, Q2 and Q3

In response to the questions above, statistics on Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) sanctions in Bradford City Centre Jobcentres and the UK is not available.

The Department does not hold this information for Northern Ireland. The responsibility for statistics in Northern Ireland lies with the Department for Social Development (DSD).

More information on how to submit a Freedom of Information request to the DSD can be found at: <http://www.delni.gov.uk/index/freedom-of-information/requesting-information.htm>

However, statistics can be provided for Bradford Local Authority and Great Britain. Section 21 of the Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you.

Statistics on the number of JSA sanctions by Local Authority and Region, including the number of JSA sanctions which have been appealed or asked for reconsideration and whether or not they were successful, are published on the Departments Tabulation Tool at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool> , which allows you to construct tables to your own requirements.

To produce a table of the number of JSA sanction referrals for varied length sanctions in Bradford Local Authority, go to the DWP Tabulation Tool via the link above, scroll down and select **JSA Sanction & Disallowance Decision Stats** in the **Benefit Caseloads** section, and then select **Referrals where a decision has been made for varied length sanctions (by number of referrals)** from the drop down menu and make the following table selections;

1. In the **Analysis** section, select **Caseload (Thousands)**,
2. Next, in the **Row** option, select **Local Authority of claimant**,
3. In the **Column** option, select **Whether a decision was Adverse**,
4. Next, in the **Subset** option, select **NONE**,
5. Finally, in the **Date** option, select the latest available data which, for JSA sanctions, is **October 2012**. Please note that the latest data only goes up to the 21st October 2012.

To obtain the total number of JSA sanction referrals, repeat the process above but select Referrals where a decision has been made for fixed length sanctions and Referrals where a decision has been made for an entitlement decision. The sum of all the three tables will give the total number of JSA sanction referrals in Bradford Local Authority.

To produce a table of the number of JSA sanction referrals – where appealed or reconsidered in Bradford Local Authority, follow the same steps exactly as above but for step 3, select **Reason for referral – where appealed** or **Reason for referral – where reconsidered**, whichever you wish to analyse.

To produce a table of the number of successful JSA sanction referrals – where appealed or reconsidered in Bradford Local Authority, follow the same steps as above up to step 3; in the **Column** option select **Reason for referral – where appealed** or **Reason for referral – where reconsidered**, whichever you wish to analyse, then in the **Subset** option select **Whether a decision was Adverse**, then **Non adverse** in the next Subset option and finally follow the same process as above from step 5.

In response to Q4, Q5 and Q6:

The Department regularly publishes official statistics on Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and the Work Capability Assessment (WCA) for Great Britain rather than the UK. The latest report included number of WCAs undertaken and the number of appeals heard by Her Majesty's Courts and

Tribunals Service was published in January 2013 and can be found on the internet at the link below:

http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/workingage/index.php?page=esa_wca

I have broken tables 1a, 1b and 3 down for Bradford Local Authority. WCA data is presented for claim starts from October 2008 to May 2012, appeal data is presented for claim starts from October 2008 to November 2011. Beyond this date the results are not reliable as many claims are still within the process.

	Bradford Local Authority
Number of initial Work Capability Assessments	15,000
Number of repeat Work Capability Assessments	6,400
Number of appeals heard against FIV decisions	700
Number of appeals where the DWP decision was overturned	300

Notes

1. Numbers have been rounded to the nearest 100.
2. The department only holds information on appeals once they have been heard by HM Courts and Tribunal Service.