

Freedom of Information request 2091/2012

Received 16 May 2012

Published 18 July 2012

Information request

- How many people were granted DLA Fibromyalgia?
- How many people were turned down for the same condition?

DWP response

Disability Living Allowance (DLA) is not awarded based on someone's diagnosis (i.e. the condition that they have) but is awarded based on the needs arising from that condition. Two people who have the same condition may have different levels of care and mobility needs, and therefore the results of their DLA claims could be expected to differ.

In response to your specific question, during April 2011 to March 2012 there were 6,720 New DLA Claims where the claimant's Main Disabling Condition was recorded by Pensions, Disability and Carer's Service (PDCS) as Fibromyalgia. Of these New Claims 1,180 (18%) were awarded DLA and the remaining 5,540 (82%) were not awarded DLA.

Note:

1. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10.
2. Please note that the data supplied are derived from unpublished information which is known to be incomplete. The data has not been quality assured to Official Statistics publication standard and the estimates provided should therefore be treated with caution.

In addition to the information provided above, DWP produces National Statistics on the number of claimants entitled to and in receipt of DLA by their main disabling condition.

Section 21 of the Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you.

Fibromyalgia is included in the main condition group "Chronic Pain Syndromes". You are able to table the main condition group via the Tabulation Tool at:

<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool>.

For example, to produce statistics on how many people are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, scroll down until you get to a section headed **Benefit Caseloads** and click on the **Benefit Caseload National Statistics (WPLS)** link. In the drop down menu that appears, select **Disability Living Allowance – cases in payment**, then under **Analysis** select **Caseload** and under **Row** select **Main Disabling Condition** and then make the further selections you require.