

Freedom of Information request 1604/2011

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Information request

I would like to make a Freedom of Information request for the following statistics: the number of people claiming a disability premium (basic, enhanced, or severe) on top of the following benefits: Income Support, Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance, or Employment and Support Allowance (Work Related Activity Group and Support Group). If possible, I would like the information to be broken down by benefit.

DWP response

The figures for Income Support (IS) are shown in the table below.

Number of IS claimants, Great Britain: November 2010

Total IS claimants	1,778,240
All with Disability Premiums	1,005,430

Source: DWP Information Directorate 100% Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study

Notes:

1. Figures have been rounded to the nearest ten.
2. Claimants may be entitled to more than one disability premium.
3. Figures exclude residual MIG claimants.

Claimants of Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance in receipt of a disability premium will receive it as part of their Income Support claim.

Figures on Employment and Support Allowance disability premiums are not centrally collated, and we estimate that the cost of doing so would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with this part of your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.