

Address redacted

Information Directorate
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www.dwp.gov.uk

November 2010

Dear name redacted

FoI request 2993/2010

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 31st of October. You asked for the following information:

I read recently that you revealed in an FOI request how 1,070 households across Britain get £800 a week or more in housing benefit.

- 1) I would like to ask how many households get more than £400 a week in housing benefit?**
- 2) I would also like to know how many get more than £290 a week?**
- 3) If possible I would like a regional breakdown of the figures.**

The information you requested is provided in the table below.

Housing Benefit recipients with a weekly award of a) more than £400 and b) more than £290 by Government Office Region, at August 2010.

	All	Recipients with a weekly award of £290 and over	Recipients with a weekly award of £400 and over
All	4,776,660	44,490	10,060
North East	258,330	100	-
North West	604,300	360	30
Yorkshire and The Humber	417,420	100	10
East Midlands	305,710	100	50
West Midlands	440,300	90	10
East of England	370,580	220	40
London	807,220	39,950	9,060
South East	514,490	840	110
South West	353,490	160	40
Wales	237,290	200	10
Scotland	467,530	2,360	710

Source: Single Housing Benefit Extract (SHBE)

Notes

1. Recipients are as at second Thursday of the month.
2. Data is rounded to the nearest 10. Totals may not sum due to rounding

You may also be interested to know that the Department regularly publishes Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit National Statistics on its website at:

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

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

Name redacted

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or by writing to DWP, Central FoI Team, 5th Floor The Adelphi, 1-11, John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HT. Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF www.ico.gov.uk