

# **Freedom of Information request 507/2012**

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## **Information request**

How many working age households receive weekly benefits, which when turned into an annual figure are in excess of:

£25,000

£30,000

£35,000

£40,000

£45,000

£50,000

£60,000

£70,000

£80,000

£90,000

£100,000+

## **DWP response**

Entitlement to some benefits is based on the circumstances of an individual, whilst others (including tax credits) are based on the circumstances of a benefit unit, defined as “a single adult or a married or cohabiting couple and any dependent children”. Benefit and tax credit entitlement is not calculated on the circumstances of a household. There will be some households that contain more than one benefit unit where only one of them is in receipt of benefit. Therefore it is often more appropriate for the analysis requested to be presented at benefit unit level rather than household level, and so the information requested has been presented on both a household and benefit unit basis below.

Note that the figures have been rounded to the nearest 100,000. This would result in a number between 50,000 and 149,999 being rounded to 100,000 while a number between 150,000 and 249,999 would be rounded to 200,000.

**Number of households including at least one working age adult, in receipt of benefits or Tax Credits, 2009-10**

Value of benefits and Tax Credits (per year)	Estimate
Over £25,000	200,000
Over £30,000	100,000*
Over £35,000	-*
Over £40,000	-*
Over £45,000	-*
Over £50,000	-*
Over £60,000	0
Over £70,000	0
Over £80,000	0
Over £90,000	0
Over £100,000	0

\* This rounded estimate is included within the figure for the rounded estimate in the row above.

**Number of benefit units including at least one working age adult, in receipt of benefits or Tax Credits, 2009-10**

Value of benefits and Tax Credits (per year)	Estimate
Over £25,000	100,000
Over £30,000	-*
Over £35,000	-*
Over £40,000	-*
Over £45,000	-*
Over £50,000	-*
Over £60,000	0
Over £70,000	0
Over £80,000	0
Over £90,000	0
Over £100,000	0

\* This rounded estimate is included within the figure for the rounded estimate in the row above.

Source: Family Resources Survey, 2009-10

**Notes:**

1. The Family Resources Survey (FRS) is a nationally representative sample of approximately 25,000 UK private households.
2. Data for 2009-10, the latest year available, was collected between April 2009 and March 2010.
3. The figures from the FRS are based on a sample of households which have been adjusted for non-response using multi-purpose grossing factors which align the estimates to Government Office Region populations by age and sex. Estimates are subject to sampling error and remaining non-response error.

4. A household is defined as a single person or group of people living at the same address as their only or main residence, who either share one meal a day together or share the living accommodation (i.e. a living room). A benefit unit is defined as a single adult or a married or cohabiting couple and any dependent children. An adult is defined as those individuals aged 16 or over, unless defined as a dependent child. An individual may be defined as a child if aged 16-19 years old and they are not married nor in a Civil Partnership nor living with a partner; and living with parents; and in full-time non-advanced education or in unwaged government training. A working age adult is defined as an adult below state pension age.
5. Figures have been rounded to the nearest 100,000. '-' indicates fewer than 50,000.
6. The FRS is known to under-record benefit receipt and so the estimates presented should be treated with caution. More information can be found at: [http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/frs/2009\\_10/chapter7.pdf](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/frs/2009_10/chapter7.pdf).
7. More information on the FRS can be found at: [http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/frs/2009\\_10/index.php?page=intro](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/frs/2009_10/index.php?page=intro).
8. The FRS collects information on a range of benefits; for a complete list of these benefits which are included within the benefit income definition please see the Benefits section within the FRS publication glossary found at: [http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/frs/2009\\_10/glossary.pdf](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/frs/2009_10/glossary.pdf).