

Freedom of Information request 3888/2011

Received 22 December 2011

Published 2012

Information request

1. Please could you tell me how many housing benefit customers receive the following amounts per week? Listed weekly amount bands from £0-99 to £1500 plus.
2. Please provide me with a list of the number of claimants from each local authority area where the value of the claim is in excess of £999.99 per week.

DWP response

The information you requested is detailed in the tables below.

Housing Benefit recipients by Average Weekly Award in Great Britain, September 2011

Average Weekly Award	Housing Benefit recipients
All	4,934,110
£0-£99	3,727,360
£100-£199	1,017,820
£200-£299	122,040
£300-£399	29,430
£400-£499	5,880
£500-£599	3,040
£600-£699	580
£700-£799	680
£800-£899	80
£900-£999	80
£1,000-£1,099	60
£1,100-£1,199	20
£1,200-£1,299	30
£1,300-£1,399	-
£1,400-£1,499	-
£1,500 and over	30
Amount not available ⁵	26,990

Housing Benefit recipients with an Average Weekly Award in excess of £999.99 by Local Authority, September 2011

	All	Average Weekly Award in excess of £999.99
All	4,934,110	130
Kensington and Chelsea	17,870	20
Westminster	28,280	110

Source: Single Housing Benefit Extract 100% individual level data (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.
3. '-' denotes nil or negligible.
4. September 2011 represents the latest data held.
5. Short term Housing Benefit recipients (less than 1% of the caseload) do not have a weekly amount available for this analysis. The amounts were recorded by the individual local authority at the time of the claim, but not recorded within the Single Housing Benefit Extract. Please refer to the published Definition and Methodology documentation for further information: http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/hb_ctb/caseload_meth.pdf.

For information the Department regularly publishes Housing Benefit statistics, including average award amounts, on its website at: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=hbctb>.

Please note that from April 2011 a number of changes have been made to the Local Housing Allowance (LHA). In particular, LHA rates used to calculate Housing Benefit for most households renting from a private sector landlord are now capped. The maximum weekly amount based on household size and bedroom entitlement is capped at:

- £250 per week for a one bedroom property,
- £290 per week for a two bedroom property,
- £340 per week for a three bedroom property,
- £400 per week for a four or more bedroom property.

The changes applied to new Housing Benefit (HB) LHA claimants from April 2011. Existing HB-LHA claimants have up to 9 months transitional protection from the anniversary of their claim. The existing caseload will therefore be moved across gradually from January 2012.