

# Freedom of Information request 573/2011

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## Information request

Please could you provide details of the number of patients with multiple myeloma who claim benefits – specifically disability living allowance (for patients aged <65 years), attendance allowance (for patients aged >65 years), income support and incapacity benefit.

## DWP response

Information on the benefit system, the range of benefits available, the rates in payment and eligibility conditions are available on the [Directgov](#) website. You will see from this website that disabling condition is not a qualifying factor for Income Support. Therefore, information is not available for Income Support.

Please also note that Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) replaced Incapacity Benefit for new claims from October 2008.

National Statistics on Income Support, Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Employment Support Allowance and Incapacity Benefits/Severe Disablement Allowance claimants are published on the DWP website via the Tabulation Tool, which allows you to construct tables to your own requirements: <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool> .

In response to your specific question, the information that you have requested is provided below.

It is not possible to break down the number of Disability Living Allowance or Attendance Allowance (DLA/AA) claimants to “Multiple Myeloma”. “Malignant Disease” is available and is provided in the table below. A diagnosed medical condition does not mean that someone is automatically entitled to DLA/AA. Entitlement is dependent on an assessment of how much help someone needs with personal care and/or mobility because of their disability.

## Disability Living Allowance and Attendance Allowance claimants with Malignant Disease listed as the main disabling condition, May 2010

May 2010	All	Claimants with Malignant Disease listed as the main disabling condition
All DLA Claimants	3,157,300	82,300
DLA Claimants: Age under 65	2,313,700	62,400
DLA Claimants: Age 65 and over	843,600	19,900
All AA Claimants	1,614,200	37,900

**Source:** DWP Information Directorate: Sample data (5%)

### Notes:

1. Data is rounded to the nearest 100
2. Figures are adjusted to be consistent with the overall caseload from the WPLS
3. The preferred data source for benefit statistics is 100% Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study. However, the 5% sample data is generally the preferred source for analysis on disabling condition as information is more complete for disabling condition on the 5% sample. Further information is published on the Department's website at:  
<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/tabtools/guidance.pdf> .
4. AA is not payable to claimants under the age of 65. See eligibility information on [Directgov](#) for further information.

To qualify for Incapacity Benefit (IB), claimants have to undertake a medical assessment of incapacity for work called a Personal Capability Assessment. Under the Employment Support Allowance regime, new claimants have to undergo the Work Capability assessment. From April 2011 Incapacity Benefit recipients will begin also to undertake this assessment. The medical condition recorded on the claim form does not itself confer entitlement to Incapacity Benefit or Employment Support Allowance. So, for example, a decision on entitlement for a customer claiming Incapacity Benefit would be based on their ability to carry out the range of activities assessed by the Personal / Work Capability Assessment; or on the effects of any associated mental health problems. It is also important to note that where someone has more than one diagnosis or disabling condition, only the predominant one is currently recorded.

You can access official statistics on the Employment Support Allowance Work Capability Assessment by health condition and function on the Department's website at:

[http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/workingage/esa\\_wca/index.php?page=esa\\_wca\\_arc](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/workingage/esa_wca/index.php?page=esa_wca_arc)

**Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance claimants with Multiple Myeloma<sup>2</sup> listed as the main disabling condition, May 2010**

May 2010	All	Claimants with Multiple Myeloma listed as the main disabling condition
IB/SDA Claimants	2,126,690	610
ESA Claimants	527,120	240

**Source:** DWP Information Directorate: 100% WPLS

**Notes:**

1. Data is rounded to the nearest 10.
2. Causes of incapacity are based on the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 10th Revision, published by the World Health Organisation. Analysis is based on the ICD code Multiple myeloma and malignant plasma cell neoplasms.