

Freedom of Information request 2014-901

Date received 26 February 2014

Date of response 26 March 2014

Information request

The number of people claiming Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance, Employment Support Allowance and Job Seekers Allowance with a main condition of alcoholism or drug abuse for;

A) Great Britain

B) East Midlands

C) Lincolnshire

D) Lincoln City

Could you also please break down the number of people in these areas in 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13 and any information you have for 2014.

DWP response

In response to your request please see the tables below which are based on the latest available information.

The number of Incapacity Benefit/Severe Disablement Allowance (IB/SDA) claimants with Alcohol or Drugs Misuse as main disabling condition by Area: August 2010 - August 2013

	Area	Total claimants	Main Disabling Condition		
			Other Diagnosis	Alcohol misuse	Drugs misuse
Aug 2010	GB	2,082,570	2,002,730	42,360	37,480
	East Midlands	145,720	141,160	2,330	2,220
	Lincolnshire	22,590	22,110	220	260
	Lincoln	3,640	3,460	70	110
Aug 2011	GB	1,887,730	1,817,090	37,600	33,040
	East Midlands	132,830	128,750	2,070	2,020
	Lincolnshire	20,600	20,170	200	230
	Lincoln	3,290	3,130	60	90
Aug 2012	GB	1,265,930	1,225,910	21,980	18,050
	East Midlands	87,680	85,530	1,140	1,020
	Lincolnshire	12,980	12,770	100	110
	Lincoln	1,920	1,840	30	40

Aug 2013	GB	602,350	587,680	8,340	6,330
	East Midlands	39,600	38,960	380	260
	Lincolnshire	6,000	5,930	40	30
	Lincoln	890	860	10	20

**The number of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) claimants with Alcohol or Drugs Misuse as main disabling condition by Area:
August 2010 - August 2013**

	Area	Total claimants	Main Disabling Condition		
			Other Diagnosis	Alcohol misuse	Drugs misuse
Aug 2010	GB	563,980	539,410	14,700	9,870
	East Midlands	37,030	35,730	790	510
	Lincolnshire	5,270	5,160	80	40
	Lincoln	930	890	30	10
Aug 2011	GB	731,950	702,620	18,710	10,620
	East Midlands	47,910	46,310	1,040	560
	Lincolnshire	7,320	7,180	90	60
	Lincoln	1,330	1,280	30	20
Aug 2012	GB	1,286,410	1,233,040	32,760	20,610
	East Midlands	87,260	84,230	1,850	1,180
	Lincolnshire	14,070	13,740	180	150
	Lincoln	2,560	2,450	60	50
Aug 2013	GB	1,871,070	1,797,650	45,540	27,880
	East Midlands	130,210	125,970	2,600	1,640
	Lincolnshire	20,180	19,760	240	180
	Lincoln	3,500	3,370	80	50

Source: DWP Information, Governance and Security Directorate 100% WPLS

Notes:

1. Figures are rounded to the nearest 10, totals may not sum due to rounding.
2. The medical condition recorded on the claim form does not itself confer entitlement to IB/SDA or ESA. So, for example, a decision on entitlement for a customer claiming IB/SDA or ESA on the basis of drugs misuse would be based on their ability to carry out the range of activities assessed by the Personal / Work Capability Assessment. Please also note that where someone has more than one diagnosis or disabling condition, only the predominant one is currently recorded.
3. IB was replaced by ESA from October 2008.
4. Data includes people in receipt of benefit and also those who fail the contributions conditions but receive a National Insurance Credit, i.e. 'credits only cases'.

5. Great Britain total includes a small number of cases who are resident abroad.
6. The area for Lincolnshire includes the following Local Authorities: Boston, East Lindsey, Lincoln, North Kesteven, South Holland, South Kesteven, West Lindsey.
7. The area for Lincoln is Lincoln Local Authority.
8. Data is up to 31 August 2013, which is the latest available.

Information on Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) claimants with Alcohol or Drugs Misuse recorded as a **main disabling condition** is not collected however some general information is recorded for JSA claimants with alcohol and drug abuse problems but we estimate that the cost of complying with this part of your request 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 your request and we will not be processing this part of your request further.