



HM REVENUE AND CUSTOMS

KAI Benefits & Credits

Child and Working Tax Credits

Statistics

Finalised annual awards

Supplement on payments
in 2013-14

United Kingdom



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This issue, and issues back to 2003/04, can be found on the HMRC website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/personal-tax-credits-statistics>

The next issue, for 2014/15, will be published on 27 May 2016.

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Child and Working Tax Credits Statistics

Finalised annual awards 2013-14

Supplement on payments in 2013-14

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Introduction

What are tax credits?

Tax credits are a flexible system of financial support designed to deliver support as and when a family needs it, tailored to their specific circumstances. They are part of wider government policy to provide support to parents returning to work, reduce child poverty and increase financial support for all families. The flexibility of the design of the system means that as families' circumstances change, so (daily) entitlement to tax credits changes. This means tax credits can respond quickly to families' changing circumstances providing support to those that need them most.

Tax credits are based on household circumstances and can be claimed jointly by members of a couple, or by singles. Entitlement is based on the following factors:

- age;
- income;
- hours worked;
- number and age of children;
- childcare costs; and,
- disabilities.

For further information about who can claim please refer to the HMRC website:

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/benefits/tax-credits>

Tax Credits are made up of:

Child Tax Credit (CTC)

Brings together income-related support for children and for qualifying young people aged 16-19 who are in full time non-advanced education or approved training into a single tax credit, payable to the main carer. Families can claim whether or not the adults are in-work.

Working Tax Credit (WTC)

Provides in-work support for people on low incomes, with or without children. It extends eligibility to in-work support to people who work 16 hours or more a week and:

- are aged at least 16 and are responsible for a child or young person; and,
- are aged at least 16 and are receiving or have recently received a qualifying sickness or disability related benefit and have a disability that puts them at a disadvantage of getting a job.

Otherwise it is extended to people who are aged 25 and over who work 30 hours a week or more.

CTC is made up of the following elements:

- **Family element:** which is the basic element for families responsible for one or more children or qualifying young people;
- **Child element:** which is paid for each child or qualifying young person the claimant is responsible for;
- **Disability element:** for each child or qualifying young person the claimant is responsible for if they get Disability Living Allowance for the child; and,
- **Severe disability element:** for each child or qualifying young person the claimant is responsible for if they get Disability Living Allowance (Highest Care Component) for the child.

Some out-of-work families with children do not receive CTC but instead receive the equivalent amount via child and related allowances in Income Support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (IS/JSA). These families are included in the figures, generally together with out-of-work families receiving CTC. In due course, they will be "migrated" to HMRC and paid via the tax credits system.

WTC is made up of the following elements:

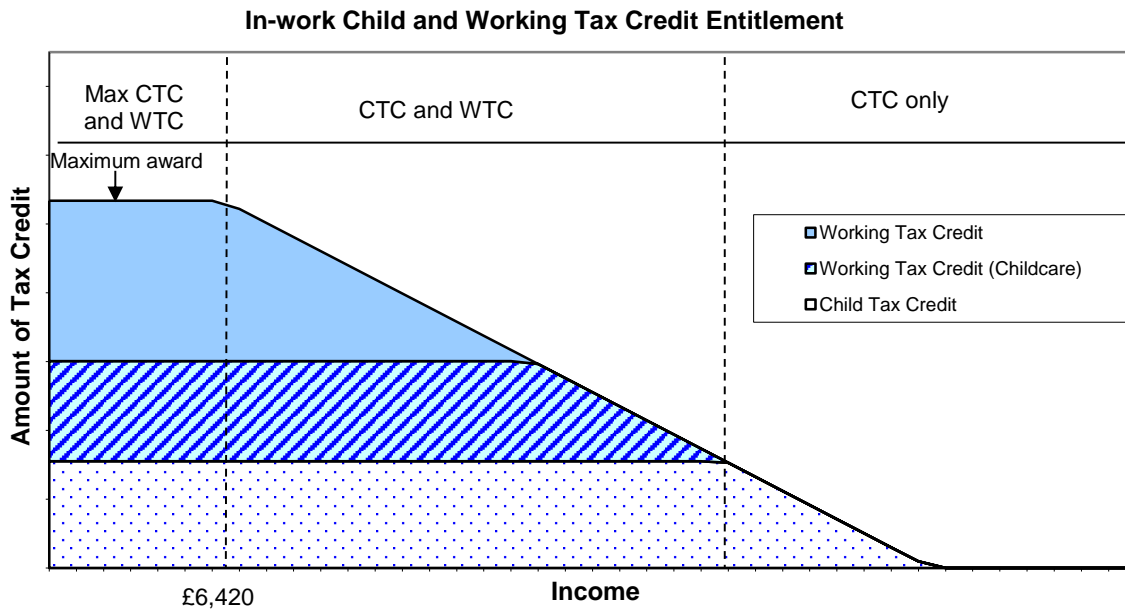
- **Basic element:** which is paid to any working person who meets the basic eligibility conditions;
- **Lone Parent element:** for lone parents;
- **Second adult element:** for couples;
- **30 hour element:** for individuals who work at least 30 hours a week, couples where one person works at least 30 hours a week or couples who have a child and work a total of 30 hours or more a week between them where one of them works at least 16 hours a week;
- **Disability element:** for people who work at least 16 hours a week and who have a disability that puts them at a disadvantage in getting a job and who are receiving or have recently received a qualifying sickness or disability related benefit;
- **Severe disability element:** for people who are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (Highest Care Component) or Attendance Allowance at the highest rate; and,
- **Childcare element:** for single people who work at least 16 hours a week or couples who both work at least 16 hours a week and who spend money on registered or approved childcare.

Tapering: is the amount of the award that will be reduced when the household income exceeds a given threshold. Tapering reduces WTC first and then CTC, then finally the Family Element.

The amount of support an eligible family can receive (known as their *entitlement*) varies depending on their income and which tax credit elements they are eligible for. First, a family's maximum possible entitlement is worked out by adding up all the different elements of CTC and WTC they are eligible for (described on page 2).

A household's actual entitlement is then determined by tapering this maximum amount according to different thresholds. As demonstrated within the diagram below, families eligible for the WTC receive the full entitlement until their annual household income reaches £6,420, after which the amount of tax credits they receive is reduced by 41 pence for each additional £1 they earn beyond this threshold.

If a household is out-of-work and therefore eligible for the CTC only, they will receive the full entitlement until their annual household income reaches £15,910 (2013-14). After this point, the amount of tax credits they receive is again reduced by 41 pence for each additional £1 of income beyond this threshold (note that this is not shown on the diagram below).



Because of the range of possible eligibilities and interactions between the elements, both the maximum award and the shape of the above award profile will be different for every family with different circumstances.

Tax Credits are based on household income. The income used to calculate the award is based on the families' income from the previous tax year, or on their most recently reported circumstances in-year. A family's tax credits award is provisional until finalised at the end of the year, when it is checked against their final income for the year. This publication relates to the finalised position of tax credit support.

What does this publication tell me?

The finalised awards are currently published in May around one year following completion of the entitlement year in question. The delay in publication is the result of the finalisation process built into the Tax Credits system. Most families have until July 31st following the end of the entitlement year to renew their award reporting their finalised income for the year in question. However, families that report income from Self-Assessment (e.g., the self-employed) have until January 31st of the following year to finalise their income. As a result, the full picture is not known until at least February the year after the entitlement year ends and consequently publication is delayed until May. These are National Statistics and the month of publication is pre-announced a year in advance with the exact date being published in the preceding publication.

Each release consists of four publications: the main publication, a supplementary payments publication, and the accompanying geographical publications. The statistics in this release include analysis at

- Country and English Region;
- Local Authority (LA);
- Westminster Parliamentary Constituency; and
- Scottish Parliamentary Constituency;

This series has been produced annually since the introduction of Tax Credits in April 2003.

Small Area Statistics

Estimates are also provided in a separate publication at Lower Super Output Area and Data Zone for England, Scotland and Wales. These statistics are available here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/personal-tax-credits-statistics>

The small area statistics are based on the finalised award position, but using a family's circumstances as at 31st August rather than as an average across the year. This ensures that the statistics are directly comparable to other published small area statistics, such as Child Benefit.

Who might be interested?

The statistics contained in this publication will be of interest for anyone that is looking for the most comprehensive data on Tax Credits. Specifically, there are aggregate statistics on who is getting what level of tax credits support and the amount of that support, as well as breakdowns of both by various sub-categories - e.g., family composition, family income, work status, and geographical analyses. It may be of interest to academics, think-tank's, political parties interested in the twin aims of Tax Credits: eradicating child poverty and improving work incentives. Equally it may be of interest for people considering wider questions on government support systems and/or others designing benefit systems. Finally, the geographical analyses might be of interest at the more local level, giving some indication of the level of government support in each Region/Local Authority level.

Which publication should I use?

Generally, if you are content with less timely statistics, use the finalised awards data publication. If you are more concerned with getting the latest up-to-date information that may not align exactly with finalised data further down the line, use the provisional awards data. Sticking to the finalised award data will also mean the figures will align with other published data on Tax Credits such as information in HMRC's Departmental Accounts.

Provisional awards vs. finalised awards

It is important to recognise that the finalised awards statistics are not a revision of the provisional statistics. The provisional numbers relate to the caseload position at a snapshot point in time, based on the family circumstances we have been informed of by each family prior to that particular time. The finalised awards relate to the complete retrospective picture for the year, based on a finalised view of family incomes and circumstances. The caseload population will be different between the two publications as a result of HMRC knowing the complete finalised picture of the award.

At the start of the year, the tax credit award will be a provisional award reflecting the reported circumstances as at April 6th (the start of the tax year). Over the course of the year, a family's circumstances may or may not change. As and when a family's circumstances change, the provisional award is updated each time with the latest set of circumstances and a new provisional award re-calculated. It is only at finalisation (usually four to nine months after the end of the tax year) that the family's circumstances for the whole year are known and a finalised award can be calculated. As a result, the finalised award statistics are not available until around 12 months after the end of the entitlement year in question. Given this lag in availability of data, there is some value in looking at a snapshot of families' circumstances at any given time to give some indication of the level of support one might expect to see subsequently at finalisation.

To illustrate the difference, let us look at a family that has one change of circumstance throughout the year, moving from in-work to out-of-work in January of any one year:



The snapshot data looking at the provisional award in December will model entitlement for the whole year on the basis that the family is in-work for the whole year (since we do not know about the move out-of-work at that time). It is not until finalisation - and thereby in the finalised award data publication - that the family's entitlement will be modelled on the basis of nine months in-work and three months out-of-work.

So the figures for provisional awards are more up to date, but are subject to retrospective change. The sizes of these changes can be seen by comparing the data for selected dates in finalised awards with data published earlier on provisional awards at the same snapshot dates. The provisional award data tables classify families according to the levels of their entitlement at the reference date, modelled from data on their circumstances and their latest annual incomes reported and processed by that date. The actual amount being received at that date can be lower, due to the recovery of earlier overpayments. The tables describe as "recipients" all families with positive modelled entitlement, though in some cases the payments are reduced to zero. For more details, see the Technical Note.

What information do the tables contain?

These tables show the number of 2013-14 awards, analysed by whether payments etc¹ for 2013-14 and issued in 2013-14 were lower or higher than the finalised entitlement. Such awards are described as underpaid or overpaid at 5 April 2014, respectively. Note that this is known only after awards are finalised.

Tables 1 and 2 show the high level number of awards and amount over and underpaid by type of award for 2013-14. Table 3 provides a breakdown by level of over and underpayment by type of award.

To produce the analysis for Table 4 we have matched to other sample data to provide the profile of the award (i.e. WTC and CTC, CTC only), this table shows the number and amounts of over and underpayments by family type and the award profile position.

The last two tables, Tables 5 and 6, go into further detail about the levels of income reported for 2013-14 and in Table 5 the number and amount of over and underpayments is provided broken down by the 2013-14 income band. Table 6 provides a comparison between the reported incomes in 2012-13 and 2013-14 for the entire tax credits population in 2013-14.

Geographical analyses

A separate publication gives analyses by region, local authority and parliamentary constituency, of the number of 2013-14 awards with underpayments and overpayments and their values.

¹ Payments are scored after adding back reductions made to recover earlier overpayments. Other transactions include the in-year direct recovery and remission of 2012-13 overpayments.

User Engagement

Bespoke analysis of tax credits data is possible although there may be a charge depending on the level of complexity and the resources required to produce. If you would like to discuss your requirements, to comment on the current publications, or for further information about the tax credits statistics please use the contact information at the beginning of this publication, or from the GOV.uk website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs/about/statistics#contact-us>

We are committed to improving the official statistics we publish. We want to encourage and promote user engagement, so we can improve our statistical outputs.

We would welcome any views you have using the link to the feedback form below. We will undertake to review user comments on a quarterly basis and use this information to influence the development of our official statistics. We will summarise and publish user comments at regular intervals.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs/about/statistics#contact-us>

National Statistics Review

A formal review of our National and Official Statistics publications was held between May and August 2011. Over 130 responses were received from a broad range of users.

A report summarising the responses received has been published.

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/statistics/tc-stats-results.htm>

Policy change at April 2013

- the income rise disregard has been reduced from £10,000 to £5,000.

Main aggregates

The figures in the top section of the following table relate to underpayments and overpayments in finalised 2013-14 awards at 5 April 2014 as recorded on the tax credits computer system, and the equivalent figures for 2003-04 to 2012-13. More details are shown in the later tables. The figures of overpayments in the bottom section also take account of certain other transactions. They are approximate, and therefore heavily rounded. No further analysis of these figures appears in the later tables.

	2003-04 awards	2004-05 awards	2005-06 awards	2006-07 awards	2007-08 awards	2008-09 awards	2009-10 awards	2010-11 awards	2011-12 awards	2012-13 awards	2013-14 awards
Underpaid awards¹											
Total number ('000)	713	906	886	838	1,292	1,489	1,601	1,505	1,560	960	866
Aggregate amount underpaid (£ million)	464	556	549	525	798	992	1,024	960	1,007	561	498
Overpaid awards¹											
Terminated awards ² ('000)	30	228	254	208	229	209	185	202	201	195	159
Aggregate amount overpaid (£ million)	8	395	378	307	306	279	261	369	451	355	223
Other awards ('000)	1,849	1,730	1,648	1,083	1,105	1,097	1,267	1,263	1,419	1,350	1,526
Aggregate amount overpaid (£ million)	1,923	1,300	1,195	646	635	638	969	1,062	1,186	1,164	1,630
Total number of overpaid awards ('000)	1,879	1,958	1,902	1,291	1,334	1,306	1,453	1,465	1,620	1,545	1,685
Total aggregate amount overpaid (£ million)	1,931	1,695	1,573	953	941	917	1,230	1,431	1,638	1,519	1,853
<i>Transactions excluded from the detailed tables³</i>											
<i>Off-system and late payments increasing overpayme</i>	<i>£0.3bn</i>	<i>£0.1bn</i>	<i>£0.1bn</i>	<i>£0.05bn</i>	<i>£0.1bn</i>	<i>£0.05bn</i>	<i>£0.1bn</i>	<i>£0.05bn</i>	<i>£0.01bn</i>	<i>£neg bn</i>	<i>£neg bn</i>
<i>Total overpayments including these transactions³</i>											
<i>Terminated awards²</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>£0.4bn</i>	<i>£0.4bn</i>	<i>£0.3bn</i>	<i>£0.3bn</i>	<i>£0.3bn</i>	<i>£0.3bn</i>	<i>£0.4bn</i>	<i>£0.5bn</i>	<i>£0.4bn</i>	<i>£0.2bn</i>
<i>Other awards</i>	<i>£2.2bn</i>	<i>£1.4bn</i>	<i>£1.2bn</i>	<i>£0.6bn</i>	<i>£0.7bn</i>	<i>£0.7bn</i>	<i>£1.0bn</i>	<i>£1.1bn</i>	<i>£1.2bn</i>	<i>£1.2bn</i>	<i>£1.6bn</i>
Total overpayments	£2.2bn	£1.8bn	£1.7bn	£1.0bn	£1.0bn	£1.0bn	£1.3bn	£1.5bn	£1.6bn	£1.6bn	£1.9bn

¹ Excluding awards underpaid or overpaid by less than £10

² See "Terminated awards" in the Introduction. The main classes of terminated awards are those for which the family failed to report, by the specified date, the actual previous year's income or other details; or the latest information indicates that the family ceased to meet the qualifying conditions for tax credits at a date before the start of the year. The first reason did not apply to 2003-04 awards, and the second reason applied to few such awards with overpayments.

³ See "Overpayments arising after the year end, and from unposted payments" in Appendix A. These figures fall outside National Statistics

Table 1 Finalised 2013-14 awards; aggregate entitlement, payments and whether underpaid or overpaid at 5 April 2014

	No. of Awards (thousands)	Entitlement ⁴ for 2013-14 (£ million)	Net paid ¹ in 2013-14 (£ million)	Net overpayment at 5 April 2014 (£ million)
Awards underpaid²				
Made after 5 April 2014 and backdated	7	4	-	-4
Other	859	4,851	4,356	-494
Total awards underpaid²	866	4,855	4,356	-498
Awards neither underpaid nor overpaid	3,014	18,279	18,279	-
Awards overpaid²				
Terminated ³	159	-	223	223
Other	1,526	5,351	6,981	1,630
Total awards overpaid³	1,685	5,351	7,204	1,853
Total 2013-14 awards made³	5,564	28,484	29,839	1,355

¹ After adding back reductions to recover 2003-04 to 2012-13 overpayments. Net of repayments and remissions.

² Awards with underpayments or overpayments under £10 are counted as neither underpaid nor overpaid in this publication. See "Small underpayments and overpayments" in Appendix A.

³ Excluding terminated awards with no overpayment at 5 April 2014. See Appendix A.

⁴ Different total 2013-14 entitlement figure to table 1.2 of 'Child and Working Tax Credits Finalised annual awards'. This is because this publication excludes out-of-work families receiving child support through DWP benefits, plus negligible timing differences in the running of each system scan.

Table 2 Families with finalised 2013-14 awards underpaid or overpaid at 5 April 2014

	Awards (thousands)	Net overpayment (£ million)
Awards underpaid¹		
Families with awards at 5 April 2014	817	-472
Awards made after 5 April 2014 and backdated	7	-4
Awards ceased during 2013-14	42	-22
Total awards underpaid¹	866	-498
Awards overpaid¹		
Terminated awards	159	223
Families with awards at 5 April 2014	1,122	1,311
Awards ceased during 2013-14	403	319
Total awards overpaid¹	1,685	1,853

¹ See footnote 2 to Table 1

Note. The level of under or overpayment at 5 April 2014 for each award is based on the 2013-14 entitlement calculated from the family's circumstances and income in 2013-14 reported by April 2014.

Table 3 Finalised 2013/14 awards underpaid or overpaid at 5 April 2014, by size of under or overpayment

Band of underpayment or overpayment	Underpaid awards¹ (thousands)	Underpayment at 5 April 2014 (£ million)	Overpaid awards¹ (thousands)	Overpayment at 5 April 2014 (£ million)
Terminated awards				
Up to £50	-	-	1	-
£50 to £100	-	-	5	-
£100 to £200	-	-	10	1
£200 to £500	-	-	31	11
£500 to £1,000	-	-	41	31
£1,000 to £2,000	-	-	36	50
£2,000 to £5,000	-	-	30	86
Over £5,000	-	-	6	43
Total terminated awards	-	-	159	223
Families with awards at 5 April 2014				
Up to £50	128	4	65	2
£50 to £100	102	7	77	6
£100 to £200	128	19	117	17
£200 to £500	189	62	228	77
£500 to £1,000	127	91	221	160
£1,000 to £2,000	94	133	216	310
£2,000 to £5,000	44	128	164	492
Over £5,000	5	30	34	247
Total families with awards at 5 April 2014	817	472	1,122	1,311
Other awards²				
Up to £50	8	-	38	1
£50 to £100	6	-	48	4
£100 to £200	8	1	68	10
£200 to £500	12	4	100	33
£500 to £1,000	8	5	63	45
£1,000 to £2,000	4	6	42	59
£2,000 to £5,000	2	6	36	108
Over £5,000	0	3	8	61
Total other awards²	49	26	403	319
All awards				
Up to £50	136	4	104	3
£50 to £100	109	8	130	10
£100 to £200	136	20	195	29
£200 to £500	201	66	359	120
£500 to £1,000	135	96	325	236
£1,000 to £2,000	98	139	294	419
£2,000 to £5,000	46	134	230	685
Over £5,000	5	32	47	351
Total all awards	866	498	1,685	1,853

¹ Excluding awards with underpayments or overpayments under £10. See "Small underpayments and overpayments" in Appendix A.

² Awards not made, or ceased, by 5 April 2014.

Note. The level of under or overpayment at 5 April 2014 for each award is based on the 2013-14 entitlement calculated from the family's circumstances and income in 2013-14 reported by April 2014.

Table 4 Finalised 2013-14 awards underpaid or overpaid at 5 April 2014, by position on profile at that date (and as assessed at that date)

	Underpaid awards ¹ (thousands)	Underpayment at 5 April 2014 (£ million)	Overpaid awards ¹ (thousands)	Overpayment at 5 April 2014 (£ million)
Singles				
Terminated awards ²	-	-	105	151
Positive entitlement at 5 April 2014				
Not in work with children	40	24	81	134
In work with children				
<i>WTC and CTC</i>	150	66	185	270
<i>CTC only</i>	33	18	38	38
In work, no children (WTC only)	67	18	86	60
Eligible at 5 April 2014 but tapered to zero	10	7	60	36
Award ceased during 2013-14	24	13	265	213
Awards made after 5 April 2014 and backdated	4	2	-	-
Total singles	328	148	820	901
Couples				
Terminated awards ²	-	-	54	72
Positive entitlement at 5 April 2014				
Not in work with children	44	34	48	64
In work with children				
<i>WTC and CTC</i>	208	125	219	316
<i>CTC only</i>	200	138	241	267
In work, no children (WTC only)	42	19	43	43
Eligible at 5 April 2014 but tapered to zero	23	22	122	83
Award ceased during 2013-14	17	9	138	106
Awards made after 5 April 2014 and backdated	3	2	-	-
Total couples	537	350	865	952
All families				
Terminated awards ²	-	-	159	223
Positive entitlement at 5 April 2014				
Not in work with children	84	59	129	198
In work with children				
<i>WTC and CTC</i>	359	191	404	586
<i>CTC only</i>	232	156	279	304
In work, no children (WTC only)	109	37	129	103
Eligible at 5 April 2014 but tapered to zero	33	29	182	119
Award ceased during 2013-14	42	22	403	319
Awards made after 5 April 2014 and backdated	7	4	-	-
Total all families	866	498	1,685	1,853

¹ Excluding awards with underpayments or overpayments under £10. See "Small underpayments and overpayments" in Appendix A.

² Includes awards terminated after 5 April 2014

Note. The level of under or overpayment at 5 April 2014 for each award is based on the 2013-14 entitlement calculated from the family's circumstances and income in 2013-14 reported by April 2014.

Table 5 Finalised 2013-14 awards underpaid or overpaid at 5 April 2014, by band of family income

2013-14 income band ²	Underpaid awards ¹ (thousands)	Underpayment at 5 April 2014 (£ million)	Overpaid awards ¹ (thousands)	Overpayment at 5 April 2014 (£ million)
Families with awards at 5 April 2014				
Up to £5,000	74	52	74	113
£5,000 to £10,000	190	112	134	158
£10,000 to £15,000	180	108	186	144
£15,000 to £20,000	128	81	173	167
£20,000 to £30,000	156	77	267	317
£30,000 to £40,000	42	16	122	172
£40,000 to £50,000	5	2	24	43
Over £50,000	-	-	3	8
Not known ³	41	24	138	190
Total families with awards at 5 April 2014	817	472	1,122	1,311
Other awards⁴				
Up to £5,000	7	4	29	19
£5,000 to £10,000	12	7	55	41
£10,000 to £15,000	9	5	45	31
£15,000 to £20,000	5	2	28	20
£20,000 to £30,000	5	2	30	25
£30,000 to £40,000	1	-	9	9
£40,000 to £50,000	-	-	2	2
Over £50,000	-	-	-	-
Not known ³	11	6	207	173
Total other awards⁴	49	26	403	319
All awards				
Up to £5,000	80	56	103	132
£5,000 to £10,000	202	118	189	199
£10,000 to £15,000	189	112	231	174
£15,000 to £20,000	133	83	201	187
£20,000 to £30,000	161	79	297	340
£30,000 to £40,000	43	17	131	181
£40,000 to £50,000	5	2	26	45
Over £50,000	-	-	4	8
Not known ³	52	30	345	363
Total all awards	866	498	1,526	1,630

¹ Excluding awards with underpayments or overpayments under £10. See "Small underpayments and overpayments" in Appendix A.

² For families not reporting 2013-14 incomes they are assumed to fall into the same bands as in 2012-13 for this table. These include "auto-renewal" families with awards at the family element of CTC, or tapered to zero, and who had to report 2013-14 incomes only if it would affect the entitlement.

³ Comprises families receiving out of work benefits not required to report incomes; and others, apart from "auto-renewal" cases, not reporting their 2013-14 incomes by April 2014, so their 2013-14 entitlement was still calculated using 2012-13 incomes.

⁴ Awards not made, or ceased, by 5 April 2014. Based on information reported by 5 April 2014.

Note. The level of under or overpayment at 5 April 2014 for each award is based on the 2013-14 entitlement calculated from the family's circumstances and income in 2013-14 reported by April 2014.

Table 6 Finalised 2013-14 awards underpaid or overpaid at 5 April 2014, by combination of bands of family income in 2012-13 and 2013-14

Thousands

2013-14 income band ¹	2012-13 income band								Total
	Under £5,000	£5,000 to £10,000	£10,000 to £15,000	£15,000 to £20,000	£20,000 to £30,000	£30,000 to £40,000	£40,000 to £50,000	Over £50,000	
Awards underpaid at 5 April 2014³									
Under £5,000	21	34	16	6	3	1	-	-	80
£5,000 to £10,000	23	100	51	17	9	2	-	-	202
£10,000 to £15,000	11	42	78	35	20	3	1	-	189
£15,000 to £20,000	2	5	30	52	37	5	1	-	133
£20,000 to £30,000	1	2	5	27	104	20	2	1	161
£30,000 to £40,000	-	-	-	-	15	24	3	-	43
£40,000 to £50,000	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	5
Over £50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not known	21	10	8	5	5	2	-	-	52
Total awards underpaid at 5 April 2014³	79	193	187	142	192	59	10	3	866
Neither underpaid nor overpaid									
Under £5,000	338	55	5	1	-	-	-	-	399
£5,000 to £10,000	184	485	25	1	-	-	-	-	696
£10,000 to £15,000	20	91	256	13	1	-	-	-	381
£15,000 to £20,000	1	2	59	156	8	-	-	-	227
£20,000 to £30,000	-	-	1	41	195	4	-	-	242
£30,000 to £40,000	-	-	-	-	20	48	-	-	69
£40,000 to £50,000	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	-	7
Over £50,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Not known ²	843	83	32	14	14	5	1	1	992
Total neither underpaid nor overpaid	1,386	717	377	226	239	60	6	1	3,014
Awards overpaid at 5 April 2014³									
Under £5,000	76	22	4	1	-	-	-	-	103
£5,000 to £10,000	48	105	28	5	2	-	-	-	189
£10,000 to £15,000	40	69	91	23	7	1	-	-	231
£15,000 to £20,000	18	41	56	58	24	3	1	-	201
£20,000 to £30,000	8	17	42	73	136	18	2	1	297
£30,000 to £40,000	1	2	4	10	64	46	3	1	131
£40,000 to £50,000	-	-	-	1	4	15	6	-	26
Over £50,000	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	4
Not known ²	209	57	34	17	19	7	1	-	345
Total awards overpaid at 5 April 2014³	400	313	260	188	256	90	15	4	1,526
All awards									
Under £5,000	434	112	24	7	4	1	-	-	583
£5,000 to £10,000	255	689	105	23	11	2	-	-	1,087
£10,000 to £15,000	71	202	424	72	27	4	1	1	801
£15,000 to £20,000	22	49	145	266	69	8	2	1	560
£20,000 to £30,000	9	19	48	141	435	41	5	1	699
£30,000 to £40,000	1	2	4	11	99	118	6	1	242
£40,000 to £50,000	-	-	-	1	4	20	12	1	38
Over £50,000	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	5
Not known ²	1,073	150	74	36	38	14	2	1	1,389
Total all awards	1,866	1,223	824	557	687	210	30	8	5,405

¹ For some families not reporting 2013-14 incomes they are assumed to fall into the same bands as in 2012-13. These include families with awards at the family element of Child Tax Credit, or tapered to zero, and who had to report 2013-14 incomes only if the change in income was sufficient to affect the size of the award.

² Comprises certain families receiving out of work benefits not required to report incomes, and those not reporting their 2013-14 incomes by April 2014, so their 2013-14 entitlement was still calculated using 2012-13 incomes.

³ Excluding awards with underpayments or overpayments under £10. See "Small underpayments and overpayments" in Appendix A.

Note. The level of under or overpayment at 5 April 2013 for each award is based on the 2013-14 entitlement calculated from the family's circumstances and income in 2013-14 reported by April 2014.

Appendix A: Technical Note

Data source, definition and quality

The figures in the table are derived from a scan of the tax credits computer system, taken in early April 2014. For each 2013-14 award, the scan contained the aggregate of each of (a) 2013-14 entitlement postings up to 5 April 2014, and (b) payments and other transactions for 2013-14 posted up to 5 April 2014 (but including, exceptionally, manual payments for 2013-14 issued in 2013-14 and posted during 2013-14). The sums of the posting amounts taken over all awards were consistent with separate aggregates derived from other scans of the system.

Payments received direct from claimants to settle 2013-14 overpayments identified in-year are included at (b) above if they were posted to accounts by 5 April 2014.

These data in the scan were generally those used to issue payments and award notices to tax credits claimants, and to recover overpayments. A small number of awards were handled clerically, and the computer system may have out of date or incorrect data. Some payments made in 2013-14 were not recorded on the computer system, such as manual payments issued in 2013-14 but not posted to accounts by April 2014. However, the numbers and amounts involved are extremely small.

By definition, the data exclude payments made after 5 April 2014, even if these were the sole cause of, or increased, 2013-14 overpayments as measured at a later date.

Incomes

The incomes in Tables 5 and 6 represent the taxable incomes of the family in the year (net of pension contributions), but excluding the first £300 of most income other than earnings and taxable social security benefits. The 2013-14 income used to taper the award is net of the first £5,000 of any increase over 2012-13. Awards are reduced by a proportion of the excess of this income over the relevant threshold. The incomes shown in Tables 5 and 6 are before deducting either disregards or the threshold.

Terminated awards

Terminated awards were identified as those with no entitlement sub-period in the scan used for the main publication "Child and Working Tax Credits. Finalised awards. 2013-14". Only such awards with positive payment postings are included in the tables.

Table 4

The analysis by position on the profile at 5 April 2014 was derived by linking the data in this scan with another data set giving this information. This second data set covers only a sample of one in ten awards to single adults and one in five awards to couples. The figures in this table are therefore subject to small sampling uncertainty

How overpayments and underpayments arise

During 2013-14, payments were based on the latest information reported on the family's circumstances (hours worked, number of children, disabilities, childcare costs) and income. Families were encouraged to report any changes when they occurred, and in-year estimates of 2013-14 incomes. Payments were then adjusted so that, as far as possible, the new calculated annual entitlement was paid by 5 April 2014.

Most underpayments and overpayments arose through no 2013-14 incomes being reported until finalisation in 2013-14¹. They also arose when claimants failed to report changes of circumstances until after the year end; or when changes (or estimated 2013-14 incomes) reducing entitlement were reported in-year but there was insufficient time to reduce payments in the rest of the year to prevent an overpayment. They could also arise through official error.

Terminated awards

2013-14 awards are described as "Terminated" if the families (a) failed to report by the specified date their actual 2012-13 incomes or other details, (b) according to the latest information, ceased to meet the qualifying conditions for tax credits² before the start of 2013-14, or (c) failed to return a signed 2013-14 award notice.

The entitlements of such awards are set to zero. The awards are included in the tables if payments for 2013-14 were made during 2013-14, and not fully recovered (and not remitted) in 2013-14; they are by definition overpaid at 5 April 2014.

Repayments of underpayments, and overpayment recovery

Underpayments are repaid as lump sums. Overpayments are recovered by reducing future payments, or directly if there are no current payments. For further details, see the HMRC Code of Practice 26, "What happens when we have paid you too much tax credits?" This also explains remitting overpayments arising from official error.

Disputed overpayments, remissions and recovery suspension

Overpayments remitted due to official error are included in the tables unless remitted by 5 April 2014. The recovery of overpayments can also be suspended pending investigations or decisions; these overpayments are included in the tables even if the suspension was active at 5 April 2014.

Overpayments arising after the year end, and from unposted payments

The data used to compile the main tables exclude (a) manual payments issued in 2013-14 but not posted to customer accounts by 5 April 2014 and (b) payments and other transactions for 2013-14 made after that date.

Aggregates including these transactions, and the equivalent figures for 2003-04 to 2012-13, are shown in the Main Aggregates page of this publication. They are not measures of overpayments at 5 April at the end of each year. Rather, they approximate the sum of the maximum amounts for each award on or after that date. The figures are heavily rounded, reflecting the fact that they are approximate. They fall outside National Statistics.

¹ Initial awards were based on 2013-14 incomes. The first £5,000 of any increase in income between then and 2013-14 was however disregarded.

² Responsible for children; or including an adult who was a disabled worker or was aged 25+ and worked for 30+ hours per week.

Small underpayments and overpayments

42 thousand awards were underpaid, and 22 thousand overpaid, by less than £10 (excluding amounts under £1). Many of these amounts arose from rounding within the award calculation and payment. We have judged that users would prefer the figures of underpaid and overpaid awards to exclude these cases.

Families and awards

Tax credits awards are made to single adults or couples. No adult can be in more than one current award; when a couple breaks up, or a single adult becomes part of a couple, the award ceases and either or both adults can apply for new awards.

The main publication shows the average number of benefiting families in 2013-14, which is the same as the number of awards with positive entitlement averaged over the year. These tables cover all 2013-14 awards, so individuals can be represented more than once.

To give some information on families, however, several tables distinguish between (a) families with awards current at 5 April 2014 and (b) other awards. The latter comprises awards terminated, ceased by 5 April 2014, or made only in 2013-14 and backdated.

The coverage of out-of-work families with children

The tables in the main publication include out-of-work families receiving their child support via Income Support or income-based Jobseeker's Allowance. This publication is restricted to tax credits awards, and so excludes payments, underpayments and overpayments of these benefits.

Appendix B: CTC and WTC elements and thresholds

	Annual rate (£), except where specified										
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Child Tax Credit											
Family element	545	545	545	545	545	545	545	545	545	545	545
Family element, baby addition ¹	545	545	545	545	545	545	545	545	-	-	-
Child element ²	1,445	1,625	1,690	1,765	1,845	2,085	2,235	2,300	2,555	2,690	2,720
Disabled child additional element ³	2,155	2,215	2,285	2,350	2,440	2,540	2,670	2,715	2,800	2,950	3,015
Severely disabled child additional element ⁴	865	890	920	945	980	1,020	1,075	1,095	1,130	1,190	1,220
Working Tax Credit											
Basic element	1,525	1,570	1,620	1,665	1,730	1,800	1,890	1,920	1,920	1,920	1,920
Couples and lone parent element	1,500	1,545	1,595	1,640	1,700	1,770	1,860	1,890	1,950	1,950	1,970
30 hour element ⁵	620	640	660	680	705	735	775	790	790	790	790
Disabled worker element	2,040	2,100	2,165	2,225	2,310	2,405	2,530	2,570	2,650	2,790	2,855
Severely disabled adult element	865	890	920	945	980	1,020	1,075	1,095	1,130	1,190	1,220
50+ return to work payment ⁶											
16 but less than 30 hours per week	1,045	1,075	1,110	1,140	1,185	1,235	1,300	1,320	1,365	-	-
at least 30 hours per week	1,565	1,610	1,660	1,705	1,770	1,840	1,935	1,965	2,030	-	-
Childcare element											
Maximum eligible costs allowed (£ per week)											
Eligible costs incurred for 1 child	135	135	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175	175
Eligible costs incurred for 2+ children	200	200	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
Percentage of eligible costs covered	70%	70%	70%	80%	80%	80%	80%	80%	70%	70%	70%
Common features											
First income threshold ⁷	5,060	5,060	5,220	5,220	5,220	6,420	6,420	6,420	6,420	6,420	6,420
First withdrawal rate	37%	37%	37%	37%	37%	39%	39%	39%	41%	41%	41%
Second income threshold ⁸	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	40,000	-	-
Second withdrawal rate	1 in 15	1 in 15	1 in 15	1 in 15	1 in 15	1 in 15	1 in 15	1 in 15	41%	-	-
First income threshold for those entitled to Child Tax Credit only ⁹	13,230	13,480	13,910	14,155	14,495	15,575	16,040	16,190	15,860	15,860	15,910
Income increase disregard	2,500	2,500	2,500	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	10,000	10,000	5,000
Income fall disregard ¹⁰										2,500	2,500
Minimum award payable	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26

¹ Payable to families for any period during which they have one or more children aged under 1. Abolished 6 April 2011.

² Payable for each child up to 31 August after their 16th birthday, and for each young person for any period in which they are aged under 20 (under 19 to 2005-06) and in full-time non-advanced education, or under 19 and in their first 20 weeks of registration with the Careers service or Connexions.

³ Payable in addition to the child element for each disabled child.

⁴ Payable in addition to the disabled child element for each severely disabled child.

⁵ Payable for any period during which normal hours worked (for a couple, summed over the two partners) is at least 30 per week.

⁶ Payable for each qualifying adult for the first 12 months following a return to work. Abolished 6 April 2012.

⁷ Income is net of pension contributions, and excludes Child Benefit, Housing benefit, Council tax benefit, maintenance and the first £300 of family income other than from work or benefits. The award is reduced by the excess of income over the first threshold, multiplied by the first withdrawal rate.

⁸ For those entitled to the Child Tax Credit, the award is reduced only down to the family element, plus the baby addition where relevant, less the excess of income over the second threshold multiplied by the second withdrawal rate. Abolished 6 April 2012.

⁹ Those also receiving Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Pension Credit are passported to maximum CTC with no tapering.

¹⁰ Introduced from 6 April 2012, this drop in income is disregarded in the calculation of Tax Credit awards.