

# Freedom of Information request 326/2011

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## Information request

Please provide the total number of claimants of Incapacity Benefit or Employment and Support Allowance in SCOTLAND. Please also provide a breakdown of those figures, to include the number of claimants and the length of time they been receiving support – one year or less, one-to-two years, two-to-three years, three-to-four years, four-to-five years, five-to-ten years, ten-to-20 years and 20 years or more.

## DWP response

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

Further information on the benefit system, the range of benefits available, the rates in payment and eligibility conditions are available on the [Directgov](#) website.

Section 21 of the Act allows us to direct you to information which is already reasonably accessible to you.

The Department publishes a wide range of statistics on benefit claimants on its website via the Tabulation Tool at <http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/index.php?page=tabtool> and on the NOMIS website <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/Default.asp>, which is the Office for National Statistics' official website of labour market statistics. Both websites allow you to construct tables to your own requirements. For example you are able to construct caseload statistics, including claim duration for Scotland.

In response to the second part of you question, the following table builds on the published information in the links above to further breakdown the analysis of those with durations of over 5 years in Scotland. Please note information is not available to identify claims in the 'Over 20 years' category. This is because when IB was introduced to replace Sickness/Invalidity Benefit all existing claimants transferred over to IB were given the start date of 13 April 1995. I have therefore provided a table to show ten years and up to fifteen years and fifteen years and over.

## IB/SDA and ESA Claimants in Scotland by Duration, May 2010

<b>IB/SDA</b>	<b>Scotland</b>
Total	233,150
Up to 1 year	3,820
1 year and up to 2 years	12,040
2 years and up to 3 years	18,600
3 years and up to 4 years	16,290
4 years and up to 5 years	14,030
5 years and up to 10 years	63,220
10 years and up to 15 years	49,520
Over 15 years	55,630

  

<b>ESA</b>	<b>Scotland</b>
Total	54,010
Up to 1 year	43,580
1 year and up to 2 years	10,430

SOURCE: DWP Information Directorate: Work and Pensions Longitudinal Study.

Notes:

1. Caseload figures are rounded to the nearest ten.
2. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

You may also be interested to know that the Department has recently published Ad Hoc analysis on IB/SDA and ESA claim duration at GB level on the website at:

[http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/adhoc\\_analysis/2011/esa\\_ibsda\\_durations\\_may10.pdf](http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/adhoc_analysis/2011/esa_ibsda_durations_may10.pdf)