

Freedom of Information request 2014-5384

Date received 15 December 2014

Date of response 15 January 2015

Information request

Would it possible to obtain summary Work Programme data on the Referrals, Attachments and Job Outcomes for the following groups:

- ESA (IR) WRAG with 3 months prognosis
- ESA (IR) WRAG with 6 months prognosis.
- ESA (IR) WRAG with 12 months prognosis.
- ESA (IR) WRAG with 12 months or greater prognosis.
- ESA(IR) Ex-IB WRAG with 3 months prognosis.
- ESA (IR) EX-IB WRAG with 6 months prognosis.
- ESA (IR) EX-IB WRAG with 12 months prognosis.
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- Voluntary ESA (IR) Ex-IB Support Group.
- Voluntary ESA (c) Ex-IB Support Group.

DWP response

We can confirm that the Department does hold some information falling within the description specified in your request. However, we estimate that the cost of complying with 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 (FOIA) the Department is not obliged to comply with your request further.

However, available within cost is Work Programme data on referrals, attachments and job outcomes with a combination of prognosis lengths. The table below contains this information.

Work Programme Statistics on referral, attachment, and job outcome figures for detailed Claimant groups in Great Britain: June 2011 to September 2014

Claimant Group	Referrals	Attachments	Job Outcomes
ESA (IR) WRAG with 3-6 months prognosis	112,700	110,670	12,850
ESA (IR) WRAG with 12 months or greater prognosis	107,150	104,210	5,120
ESA (IR) EX-IB WRAG with 3-6 months prognosis	25,560	25,090	1,000
ESA (IR) EX-IB WRAG with 12 months prognosis	28,980	28,260	520
Voluntary ESA (IR) Ex-IB Support Group	120	120	10
Voluntary ESA (c) Ex-IB Support Group	110	110	30

Source: DWP Work Programme Database

Notes:

1. Data are rounded to the nearest 10.
2. **Claimant Group:** Claimant groups are assigned by Jobcentre Plus, on the basis of a claimant's circumstances, and benefit they receive. This data refers to those with a prognosis timescale. A small number of claimants appear in an incorrect group caused by the way information is recorded on the administrative system. See here for further details: <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/wp-pg-chapter-2.pdf>
3. **Referrals:** Referrals shown are 'net' referrals which do not include rejections or cancellations.
4. **Attachments:** The date of the first engagement activity between the provider and the participant as recorded on the payment administrative system.
5. **Job Outcomes:** A Job Outcome payment can be claimed when Employment Duration of 6 months is identified along with other set conditions dependent on Payment Group. Further details are available on the Work Programme Official Statistics homepage at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/work-programme-official-statistics-background-information-note>
6. Data is that recorded up to September 2014, which is the latest data available at the time of the request.
7. As the Official Statistics on work programme do not focus on job outcome figures, the underlying data used to provide the information has not been quality assured to the same level, and should be treated with caution.