

# Freedom of Information request 2013-5400

Date received 14<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Date of response 11<sup>th</sup> December 2013

## Information request

Please can I request a breakdown of state benefits received by people resident overseas, by country of residence.

## DWP response

I can confirm that we hold 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 the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.

However, available within cost we can tell you that in 2011/12, over 97% of overseas spending related to State Pension and Winter Fuel Payments and relevant information is published on the gov.uk website:

State Pension expenditure by country of residence:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/state-pension-expenditure-by-country-of-residence>;

State Pension caseloads by country are available on the Department's Tabulation Tool which allows you to design your own tables. Visit the Tabulation Tool via the link below and follow the instructions provided.

[http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/sp/tabtool\\_sp.html](http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/sp/tabtool_sp.html)

1. Under Analysis, select **Caseload**
2. Under Row, select **Country code for abroad cases**
3. Then make the most suitable selections from the Column, Subset and Date menus, and click **Get Table**.

Winter Fuel Payments expenditure and caseload by country or residence:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/winter-fuel-payments-by-eea-country>;

Other benefit expenditure paid overseas is shown in Local Authority tables, though this is not broken down by country:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/benefit-expenditure-by-local-authority>

In addition, we hold several tables showing the number of people with a non-UK address receiving certain benefits at various points during the past three years. These are in the attached spreadsheet.